



## Letter from the Head of School July 2019

Dear parents,

We have been enjoying the summer and also preparing for your return. While we enjoy the slower pace of the summer, we miss the smiles and laughter of our students and are looking forward to seeing everyone. We will be welcoming quite a few new students and I know you will do so, in San Jose style, with open arms.

In order to receive a classroom assignment, **health forms and online emergency forms must be submitted by August 2.** Health form information is on the enclosed checklist. An email from [sanjoseepiscopalap@sjeds.org](mailto:sanjoseepiscopalap@sjeds.org) with a link to complete your online emergency forms will be sent at the end of July. If you have any questions or if you do not receive this email, please contact the school office at (904) 733-0352 or email [office@sjeds.org](mailto:office@sjeds.org).



Our staff has been busy making improvements to our campus and getting ready for your return. Here are some highlights:

- Our new library renovation is underway and we are hoping it will be ready for the start of school. We are grateful to the Henry and Lucy Gooding Endowment for making this possible.
- For added safety, security cameras have been installed in the front hallways and the back parking lot.
- The bathrooms have received an uplift with a fresh coat of paint.
- New backboards that convert to junior height when needed have been installed in the gym thanks to a generous donor.
- A new and improved phone system has been installed that has security features as well as other functions.
- A new fence will be installed in the back of the school allowing students to walk the entire length of the building behind a secured area.

In an effort to provide increased professional development and collaboration for faculty and staff we will continue to have one early release day each month. The school will dismiss on the first Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. Extended Day will open at 2 p.m. and afterschool activities will begin at their normal time. The early dismissal dates are below:

- September 5
- October 3
- November 7
- December 5
- February 6
- March 5
- April 2
- May 7

(Please note there is no early release day in January)



Here are some important dates to put on your calendar:

- We hope to see everyone at our annual **Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 11 at 9:30 a.m.** Bring your backpack and receive a special blessing to start the school year off right.
- **Meet Your Teacher Day is Monday, August 12.** We invite you to join your child and drop in between 10 and 11:30 a.m. to meet his or her teacher and drop off school supplies.
  - The Parents' Association (PA) will have a used uniform swap and you'll be able to sign up for volunteer opportunities during this time in the gym.
  - Fall Afterschool Activities will be on display and Bears basketball and cheer registration will be open in the gym.
  - Extended Day will be open beginning at 10:30 a.m. and will continue until 5 p.m. Reservations are required. Please email Ms. Blumstein at [ablumstein@sjeds.org](mailto:ablumstein@sjeds.org) to secure your spot.
- **The official first day of school is Tuesday, August 13.** Early arrival begins at 7:30 a.m. in the gym for students registered for Extended Day. Morning drop-off begins at 7:45 a.m., and classes start promptly at 8 a.m. The tardy bell will ring at 8:05 a.m. After this time, parents will need to walk their student(s) to the office and obtain a tardy slip.
- The first **Jeans Day** is Friday, August 16. Bring a dollar, and wear your school-appropriate jeans. All students should plan to wear the new **indigo** spirit shirt. If your child does not want to wear jeans, they may wear the indigo spirit shirt with uniform bottoms.
- The **Parents' Association Volunteer Breakfast** is Friday, August 23.
- **Open House** is Tuesday, August 27 at 6 p.m.
- **Early Explorers Chapel** is each Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. and **Lower School/Upper School Chapel** is each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.

Get involved! Our PA, under the leadership of Jennifer Hoover, will be sending more information to you soon about volunteer opportunities. The PA does a tremendous job and is part of what makes SJEDS such a special place. We are so blessed to have amazing, involved parents and are truly grateful.

This upcoming school year has wonderful things in store for our students. We look forward to helping each child continue to develop their own unique talents and gifts as they become the person God has created them to be. We can't wait to see your child's smile and hear about their summer adventures. Here's to another great year!

With Blessings and Peace,

*Lori G. Menger*

Lori Menger  
Head of School



*Inspiring a passion for learning, a life of integrity, and a heart for Christian service*

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