

# PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



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## PROVIDENCE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS,

I am incredibly excited to welcome everyone back for the start of the 2022-23 school year! July and early August allowed me time to move in and prepare for the year, but it didn't feel right until the kids showed up. It has been a blessing to meet the students and see the passion, talent, and excitement they bring our school.

Thank you to all who have welcomed me back to Providence by phone or email, or in person at New Parent Welcome, Back to School Night, Celticbration, or Meet the Teacher Night. I look forward to working with you to serve our students and continue the Providence tradition of excellence.

The first two weeks of school have gone remarkably well. Our 8th grade Math students began their zero hour Algebra 1 Honors course Monday the 22nd, and they have been a welcome addition to our building bright and early. Your daughters and sons have been respectful and polite, they keep the Commons clean at lunch every day, they are delightful in the hallways during passing periods, and they have been patient as I work to learn their names. I particularly enjoyed greeting the students the first two Friday mornings at exit 14 with "high-five Friday." They have been great about participating, but please know they are always welcome to take a pass if they are uncomfortable.

We were blessed with perfect weather for our first All-School Mass as we celebrated the Feast of St. Augustine. Thank you to the parents and family members who were able to join us. It was wonderful to come together to hear the word of God and listen to Father Merk's reflection on "One Mind, One Heart." Personally, the high point of the week was seeing and hearing the students sing "Our God" as the closing song.

As we welcome our students back to the 2022-23 school year, I want to communicate areas of focus and commitment. Providence will be recommitting to the Student Handbook language with respect to attendance. We dedicated to forming partnerships with parents to maintain regular student attendance and to prepare students for work/career expectations. We embrace the philosophy that every student should attend all their classes every day. The primary exceptions are:

- students who test positive for COVID must stay home from school and isolate from all school activities for five days
- students with documented and approved medical absences

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# IMPORTANT UPDATES THIS WEEK

Additionally, it is important that students respect and follow our Providence community rules and behavioral expectations. When I was transitioning to the position of Principal in May and June, I met with student groups, teacher groups, and parents. The single most consistent and emphatic message I heard from all three groups was a desire for consistent enforcement of student behavioral rules, including dress code and hair length. To that end, all students were shown this student-created video in TDT that explained the dress code:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CSbjVaP4ppi>

The Deans presented to freshmen and transfer students at New Celtic Welcome, and Mr. Healy has addressed all lunch periods reminding students of the expectations and providing a “grace period” for hair and dress code, giving students time to get into compliance. We appreciate your support in getting all our students to cooperate with our community standards.

We are off to a great start, and I appreciate all your support!

Thank you,

*Paul Houston*

Paul Houston | Principal

## CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Engineering Physics is working on potential and kinetic energy by designing cars from mousetraps. Utilizing hands-on experiments allows students to take their knowledge from book to action. Check our social media to see which car is best in distance, top speed, and acceleration.



Last week, the Counseling Department visited with students. Our new Social Worker, Mr. Jobe and Intern, Ms. Leitz met with sophomores and juniors to present “Who We Are & What We Do.” Ms. Hamdan and Mr. Senffner, Freshman & Sophomore Counselors, met with the freshman class to introduce themselves and explain counseling services available to them. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Palmasani, met with the seniors to explain the college application process.

## RECRUITING THE CLASS OF 2027

Do you know an 8th grade family? Let them know about Providence Catholic! You are our best marketers, Celtics, and we need your help. Information about Shadow Days, Open House, Junior High Nights and the Placement Exam is available at [www.providencecatholic.org/admissions](http://www.providencecatholic.org/admissions).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 8/30 SENIOR PARENT COLLEGE NIGHT - 7 PM (COMMONS)
- 8/31 MEN'S CLUB FRESHMAN DAD WELCOME - 6 PM (COMMONS)
- 9/1 HARVEST DRIVE - FIRST RETURN DAY
- 9/7 MEN'S CLUB STEAK FRY - 7 PM
- 9/9 FIRST SHADOW DAY FOR 8TH GRADERS
- 9/14 FINAL HARVEST DRIVE RETURN DAY
- 9/16 HARVEST DRIVE OLYMPICS
- 9/20 MASS - COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - 9 AM