



# St. Pius X / St. Leo School

Newsletter

September 23, 2016



## AdvancED School Accreditation Process

This school year, St. Pius X / St. Leo School will undergo its first-ever AdvancED accreditation review. After hosting a readiness visit by the Nebraska Department of Education last spring it was decided that St. Pius X / St. Leo School was ready for an external visit and is now part of the AdvancEd community. An independent team of experienced educators will conduct an external visit to the school from April 23rd to April 25th, 2017 to determine if SPSL is worthy of AdvancED accreditation (our school is already state accredited). After three days of reviewing school documents, conducting interviews and observing teachers, the team will present a report that details what we do well, what we can do better and what we have to change to provide a stronger academic experience for our students.

## Who is AdvancED?

AdvancED is the largest community of education professionals in the world. They are a non-profit, non-partisan organization that conducts rigorous, on-site external reviews of Pre-K-12 schools and school systems to ensure that all learners realize their full potential. AdvancED serves as a trusted partner to 34,000 schools and school systems-employing more than four million educators and enrolling more than 20 million students-across the United States and 70 other nations. We are excited to have the opportunity to be



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affiliated with, and accredited by, this esteemed organization.

### What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools. AdvancED uses a balanced, systematic approach to accreditation that combines academic standards, stakeholder feedback and student performance to evaluate the quality of the school. By combining internal reviews with independent, external reviews we can be confident that St. Pius X St. Leo School will continuously improve the quality of the educational experience for all learners.

We will continue to include AdvancED and accreditation information in upcoming newsletters. If you have any questions, please contact the school office (402) 551-6667.

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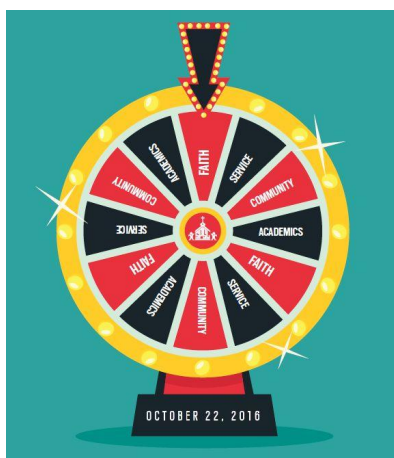
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**School Fundraiser**  
**Saturday, October 22nd at 6:30 p.m.**  
**at Creighton Prep High School in the Sullivan Center.**

Please visit the school's website at [www.spsl.net](http://www.spsl.net) for more information on the 2016 fundraiser. Please call the school office at (402) 551-6667 if you have any questions.



### APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications for families who would like to apply for the Free/Reduced Lunch Program for the current school year should be returned to the office now. Applications were sent home at the beginning of the school year. If you are in need of an application, please contact the school office at (402) 551-6667.



### LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Help our school win \$10,000. The Labels for Education® Grand Stand for Schools Sweepstakes is giving away \$10,000 to 100 schools through a random drawing. All you need to do is visit [here](#)

### YOUR CHILD'S GRADES



For children in **Grades 3 - 8**, parents should check PowerSchool for grades. You will need your User ID and Password to view your child's grades in PowerSchool. If you do not have an account or have forgotten your User ID and Password, please email Mrs. Nelson at [marykay.nelson@spsl.net](mailto:marykay.nelson@spsl.net).

Please remember that Progress Reports are no longer sent home with

your children. For children in **Kindergarten - Grade 2**, teachers will share your child's progress at Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 27th. Lunch account balances can be checked in PowerSchool for all students.

For more information about PowerSchool, please click [here](#) (link is available on the school's website: [www.spsl.net](http://www.spsl.net) in the 'For Parents' section).

## EVENTS

September 26 - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS** - Staff Development & School of Faith Day for Teachers  
September 27 - Blue Mass - Grades 5 - 8 at 10:00 a.m.  
September 28 - Grade 3 Reconciliation at 1:30 p.m.  
October 4 - Mass - Gr 1, 2 & 3 at 8:30 a.m.  
October 4 - Grade 2 First Reconciliation Parent Meetings at St. Leo and St. Pius X at 7:00 p.m.  
October 5 - Mass - Gr 6, 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.  
October 5 - School Board Meeting - SPSL Library - 7:00 p.m.  
October 6 - Mass - Gr 4 & 5 at 8:30 a.m.  
October 11 - Mass - Gr 1, 2, 3 at 8:30 a.m.  
October 11 - Culver's Night at 120th & Miami from 5:00-9:00 p.m.  
October 12 - Mass - Gr 6, 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.  
October 13 - Mass - Gr 4 & 5 at 8:30 a.m.  
October 14 - *Optional Dress Down Day to benefit the school fundraiser*  
*Students/staff can dress down with a \$1 or more donation.*  
October 17 - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS** - Staff Development & School of Faith Day for Teachers  
October 19 - Fazoli's Night at 80th & Cass from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
October 20 - PreK - Gr 7 Picture Day  
October 20 - Gr 7 Reconciliation at 1:30 p.m.  
October 21 - Gr 8 Picture Day  
October 21 - End of 1st Quarter  
October 22 - SPSL School Fundraiser at Creighton Prep H.S. - 6:30 p.m.  
October 25 - Mass - Gr 1, 2, 3 & 4 at 8:30 a.m.  
October 26 - Mass - Gr 5, 6, 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.  
October 27 - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - Parent-Teacher Conferences 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 - 6:30 p.m.**  
October 28 - **NO SCHOOL - FREE DAY FOR ALL**  
October 31 - *Last day to wear uniform shorts until April 3, 2017*

## CHESS CLUB NEWS



The SPSL Chess Club is registering players for the 2016/2017 season. We meet Wednesday afternoons from October 12th through the end of March. Registration forms can be obtained by clicking [here](#), from the school office or downloaded from the school website in the "Clubs, Sports & Activities" section. We teach chess to beginners, coach intermediate players, work on theory with our advanced players, play friendly games against each other, and participate in local scholastic tournaments. The kids are organized by age

and enter your email address and contact information to help us out. Once your contact info is entered you can visit the site each day to increase our chance of winning! The contest ends October 31 so make sure to enter today and as often as you can in the next two months. Be sure to share this with anyone who wants to help us win - family, friends and co-workers. Thank you for helping SPSL!



## SODA BREAD SALES

The Knights of Columbus from St. Leo and St. Pius X Parishes and the St. Pius X Men's Club baked and sold delicious soda bread for eight weeks during this past Lent. On February 9th they brought loaves of soda bread to SPSL School so that each student, staff and faculty member could receive a loaf and have an opportunity to make a donation. Because of their tremendous work making and selling this delicious bread, a donation of \$14,000 was made to SPSL School for the purpose of helping students who are in need of tuition assistance.

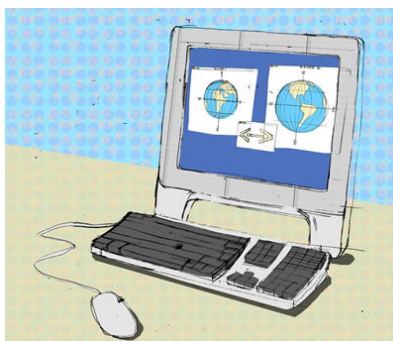
and ability, so Grades K through 8 are welcome. Chess is a great way to make friends, learn sportsmanship and develop brainpower. The younger you get started, the better you become!

We need adult volunteers to help out at the club. You do not have to know how to play. If you can play, we will use you to referee and teach. If not, we still need parents to supervise the classrooms.

Students will be released from Chess Club at 4:15 p.m. to the West parking lot or to Extended Care (if arrangements have been made ahead of time).

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Parent emails will be given to the Grade Level Representatives on the Education Committee to be used for school purposes only. If you do not want your email address shared with the Education Committee, please contact the school office at (402) 551-6667 by Friday, September 30th.



## YOUNKERS COMMUNITY DAY

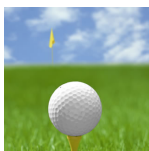


St. Pius X / St. Leo School is participating in Younkers Community Days. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 9th to Saturday, November 12th at all Younkers locations. With the purchase of your \$5 packet you will receive:

- \$10 off one item per ticket.
- 30% all day savings pass
- 30% off an online purchase

St. Pius X / St. Leo School will receive 100% of the \$5 ticket sales if purchased through SPSL. You can purchase your tickets in the school office during the school day. **SELLERS WANTED:** Please stop by the office if you are interested in picking up some booklets to sell. Take them to children's games and activities and school functions. Don't forget to purchase Younkers C.A.R.E. (sold in \$25 increments).

## SPSL GOLF TOURNAMENT 2016



Last May 100 golfers came out to The Knolls Golf Course to "Swing for St. Pius X / St. Leo School"! Over \$17,000 was raised to support SPSL School. Thank you to all of the golfers, sponsors, and prize donors for helping to make the



## C.A.R.E. NEWS

Remember to buy C.A.R.E. for all of your grocery needs. C.A.R.E. is available for Target, Wal-Mart/Sams, Bag 'N Save, No Frills and Whole Foods. C.A.R.E. is available after weekend Masses, in the school office and during office hours at St. Leo's office. Click [here](#) to see the full list of vendors. The information can also be found on the school website ([www.spsl.net](http://www.spsl.net)) in the 'Ways To Support' section.



## CULVER'S NIGHT

**Tuesday, October 11th, from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. is SPSL night at Culver's at 120th & Miami Streets.** When you place your order, please tell the cashier that you are with SPSL. Don't forget your Culver's C.A.R.E.







12th annual St. Pius X / St. Leo School Golf Tournament a success and a lot of fun!

### BAKER'S PLUS CARD NEWS



Baker's has changed the way they participate in our C.A.R.E. program. Please enroll your Baker's Plus card and designate St. Pius X / St. Leo as your school.

To enroll your Baker's Plus card for our school, follow these steps:

- 1) Visit [www.bakersplus.com/communityrewards](http://www.bakersplus.com/communityrewards).
- 2) Create an account.
- 3) Enroll your current Baker's Plus card.
- 4) Click COMMUNITY near the top of the screen. Select Community Rewards and enter your information. Click Save and choose the option to enter our school code 39528.

### FAZOLI'S NIGHT

Join us on Wednesday, **October 19**, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at SPSSL night at the Fazoli's restaurant at **80th & Cass Streets**. When you place your order, please tell the cashier that you are with SPSSL. Fazoli's will donate 10% of that night's sales to SPSSL. Every third Wednesday of the month will be Fazoli's Night at the Peony Park location. Mark your calendars! Remember to buy Fazoli's C.A.R.E.

### BIRTHDAY TREATS



SPSSL students may bring treats to celebrate their birthdays with their classmates. We ask that parents talk with the teacher about what is appropriate for treats. Please remember the time restraints and learning environment of the classrooms. Also, please do not send pop for birthday treats, because we do not allow pop in the cafeterias or classrooms.

### STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART THANKS PARTICIPATING FAMILIES

Straight from the Heart would like to thank the following families for their kindness and generosity. This is a parent sponsored program that provides the opportunity to show their appreciation to the faculty and staff by providing treats. We send our thanks to the following families providing monetary donations to Straight from the Heart. Earlier this month, faculty and staff were treated to ice cream and toppings, with the theme centered around the book Should I Share my Ice Cream by Mo Willems. (Every effort is made to include the name of all participating families, but apologies to anyone that was inadvertently excluded.)



### VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Please remember that visitors and volunteers must check-in at the school office.

We ask that you sign your name in our log and wear a name tag inside the school. The name tag shows faculty, staff and students that you are authorized to be in the building.

When you volunteer for **lunch duty**, please check-in in the cafeteria where you'll receive a name tag.

Aguilar	Ferguson	McCarthy	Romano
Albin	Gallegos	McKamy	Rudden
Abbott	Garcia	McMahon	Schartz
App	Geiselman	Melkus	Schmidt
Baysa	Geske	Morris	Shaal
Bluvas	Gish	Morrow	Sierawski
Bope	Hans	Mueller	Slater
Brannen	Hansen	Nelson	Smith
Bressani	Harr	Nubel	Strehle
Brink	Heaney	O'Hare	Sullivan
Britt	Heiman O'Gara	Ortner	Swinarski
Buechler	Hennessey	Osborn	Tollo
Chattin	Herek	Ostronic	Turbes Graham
Christen	Houghtaling	Pakiz	VoorVart
Coté	Jensen	Patch	Vosika
Coyle	Jordan	Peter	Walters
Crossley	Kocmich	Phelps	Weaver
C & M Drew	Kolli	Preston	Weist
C & S Drew	Mangan	Raabe	Wharton
Engel	Martens Chapman	Ramsey	Wiens
Ericson	Martens-Stricklett	Rohatsch	Zotoglo



Straight from the Heart sincerely thanks you!



## THANK YOU!



## PARKING LOT CONCERNS

We know that the parking lots are crowded at dismissal time. Please be considerate. Watch for persons in cars and on foot. If you leave your car to meet your child, please park in a parking stall. Do not double-park when you meet your child. Thank you for your cooperation!

## NEBRASKA TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Nebraska Public Service Commission administers the Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program.

Are you participating in one of the following programs?

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance
- National School Free Lunch Program
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as Food Stamps Program)
- Kids Connection: SAM, MAC or EMAC (Children's Health Insurance)
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (also known as Aid to Dependent Children)
- Or is your income at or below 135% of the poverty level?



If you answered YES, you are eligible to apply for the Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program (NTAP). NTAP reduces the cost of local telephone service by \$12.75 per month. To learn more, please visit the website [here](#).

For more information, please call:

Lincoln area: (402) 471-3101

Toll free: (800) 526-0017

## SPSL ON THE INTERNET

Please visit the SPSL website ([www.spsl.net](http://www.spsl.net)) to learn about our school and activities.



St. Pius X / St. Leo School, 6905 Blondo, Omaha, NE 68104

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