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St. Pius X / St. Leo School

Newsletter

September 17, 2015

ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLANNING

What is Strategic Planning?



Our Catholic Schools Office personnel say, "The strategic planning process is intended to help guide our schools to a greater level of success. Soliciting feedback from all community constituents on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (concerns) of the total school program, followed by analysis and conversation on that feedback, will allow the institution the ability

to define realistic and targeted (strategic) goals, along with strategies to said goals, such that the school advances its mission and more clearly serves its community."

Why are we working on a Strategic Plan?

In the last few years we have been hearing much about our schools needing a strategic plan from the leaders in our Catholic Schools Office as well as our Archbishop Lucas. The Archbishop wants us to work on strategic planning so that we are always trying to improve our schools. As an accredited school in the state of Nebraska, which St. Pius X / St. Leo School is, we can stay the course and continue to be evaluated so that we are sure we remain accredited, or, we can try to achieve a higher accreditation. The Nebraska Department of Education recognizes and encourages a higher level of accreditation that is titled AdvancED certification. Our Catholic Schools Office personnel are also encouraging many, if not all, of the Catholic schools to reach this level of certification.



In This Issue

[Strategic Planning](#)

[SPSL Fundraiser](#)

[Your Child's Grades](#)

[Dress Down Day](#)

[Chess Club News](#)

[Education Committee](#)

[Yunkers Community Day](#)

[Golf Tournament](#)

[Baker's Plus Card](#)

[Birthday Treats](#)

[Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program](#)

[Application Deadline](#)

Part of this AdvancED certification is for the school to have a Strategic Plan.

In future parent newsletters, we will share with you more of the details in our process to have an effective Strategic Plan for St. Pius X / St. Leo School.



ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO

School Fundraiser
Saturday, October 17th at 5:30 p.m.
at Creighton Prep High School in the Sullivan Center.

Please visit the school's website at www.spsl.net for more information on the 2015 fundraiser. Please call the school office at (402) 551-6667 if you have any questions.

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.

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 29th. 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 in the 'For Parents' section).

[Soda Bread Sales](#)

[C.A.R.E. News](#)

[Culver's Night](#)

[Fazoi's Night](#)

[Visitors and Volunteers](#)

[Parking Lot Concerns](#)

[Health Hint](#)



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.



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 3rd they brought loaves of soda bread to SPSL School so that each



DRESS DOWN DAY 'White Out'

Friday, September 25th has been designated as a dress down day. Let's make the day a "white out" in honor of the Pope who will be in the United States between September 22 to 27th. All faculty and students are asked to wear white on top and whatever they want on bottom that is appropriate for a dress down day. "Dress-down" means casual attire including jeans, sweatpants, shorts, t-shirts, sweatshirts and blouses. We ask that the t-shirts are in good taste without offensive language/graphics. They may not display musical groups, advertise drugs/alcohol or display guns, weapons, or violence. Sleeveless shirts and bare midriffs are not allowed. Jeans and sweatpants must be without holes and tears. Girls may wear leggings, but they must be accompanied with an extra long sweater, blouse or skirt. Capri pants may be worn by girls only. Flannel pants and/or pajama pants may NOT be worn. Students should not wear any clothing that is too tight or too short. As with any school day, the sock, shoe and jewelry code are in effect, except that students are allowed to wear any color of socks and any shoes that have the heels and toes closed. Please check the Family Handbook if you have questions regarding these policies.

EVENTS

- September 18 - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS** - Staff Development Day for Teachers
- September 22 - Mass - Gr 1, 2 & 3 at 8:30 a.m.
- September 23 - Mass - Gr 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.
- September 24 - Mass - Gr 4, 5 & 6 at 8:30 a.m.
- September 25 - *Dress Down Day - White Out In Honor of the Pope*
- September 27 - SPSL Church Choir at St. Leo Church - 10:00 a.m.
- September 30 - Grade 3 Reconciliation at 1:30 p.m.
- October 6 - Mass - Gr 1, 2 & 3 at 8:30 a.m.
- October 6 - Grade 2 First Reconciliation Parent Meetings at St. Leo and St. Pius X at 7:00 p.m.
- October 7 - Mass - Gr 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.
- October 8 - Mass - Gr 4, 5, 6 at 8:30 a.m.
- October 11 - SPSL Church Choir at St. Pius X - 9:30 a.m.
- October 13 - Mass - Gr 1, 2, 3 at 8:30 a.m.
- October 13 - Culver's Night at 120th & Miami from 5:00-9:00 p.m.
- October 14 - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS** - Staff Development Day for Teachers
- October 15 - Mass - Gr 4, 5 & 6 at 8:30 a.m.

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 \$13,000 was made to SPSL School for the purpose of helping students who are in need of tuition assistance.



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, Bakers, 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 C.A.R.E. information can also be found on the school website (www.spsl.net) in the 'Ways To Support' section.



CULVER'S NIGHT

**Tuesday, October 13th,
from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. is
SPSL night at Culver's**

October 16 - *Optional Dress Down Day to benefit the school fundraiser*
Students/staff can dress down with a \$1 or more donation.

October 17 - SPSL School Fundraiser at Creighton Prep H.S. - 5:30 p.m.

October 20 - Mass - Gr 1, 2, 3 at 8:30 a.m.

October 20 - School Board Meeting - SPSL Library - 7:00 p.m.

October 21 - Mass - Gr 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.

October 21 - Fazoli's Night at 80th & Cass from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

October 22 - PreSchool - Gr 7 Picture Day

October 22 - Mass - Gr 4, 5 & 6 at 8:30 a.m.

October 23 - Gr 8 Picture Day

October 23 - End of 1st Quarter

October 25 - SPSL Church Choir at St. Leo - 10:00 a.m.

October 28 - *Last day to wear uniform shorts until April 1, 2016*

October 28 - Gr 7 Reconciliation - 1:30 p.m.

October 29 - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - Parent-Teacher Conferences 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 - 6:30 p.m.

October 30 - NO SCHOOL - FREE DAY FOR ALL

CHESS CLUB NEWS



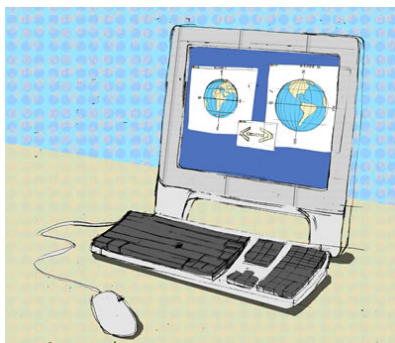
The SPSL Chess Club is registering players for the 2015/2016 season. We meet Wednesday afternoons from October 7th to March 16th. Registration forms can be obtained by clicking [here](#), from the school office or downloaded from the school website in the "Clubs, Sports & Activities " section. We teach 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 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. High school kids needing volunteer hours are welcome.

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



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.



FAZOLI'S NIGHT

Join us on Wednesday, **October 21**, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at SPSL night at the Fazoli's restaurant at **80th & Cass Streets**. When you place your order, please tell the cashier that you are with SPSL. Fazoli's will donate 10% of that night's sales to SPSL. Join the fun - including crafts for the kids! 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.



VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

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

contact the school office at (402) 551-6667 by Thursday, October 1st.

YOUNKERS COMMUNITY DAY

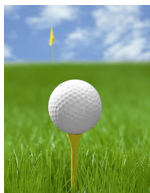


St. Pius X / St. Leo School is participating in Younkens Community Days. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 11th to Saturday, November 14th at all Younkens locations. With the purchase of your \$5 packet you will receive:

- \$10 off one item per ticket.
- Community Day coupons, which can be used on Bonus Buys!
- 25% all day savings pass
- 30% early bird coupon is good Friday and Saturday from open to 1:00 pm
- All coupons can be used for pre-selling (pre-sale begins on Sunday, November 8)

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 Younkens C.A.R.E. (sold in \$25 increments).

SPSL GOLF TOURNAMENT 2015



Last May 84 golfers came out to Tara Hills Golf Course to "Swing for St. Pius X / St. Leo School"! Over \$14,000 was raised to support SPSL School. Thank you to all of the golfers, sponsors, and prize donors for helping to make the 11th 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.
- 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

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.

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!



H2O MAKES YOU GO!

Water makes up to 60% of your body weight, and plays crucial roles in transporting nutrients

enter our school code 39528.

BIRTHDAY TREATS



SPSL 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.

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: http://www.psc.nebraska.gov/ntips/ntips_ntap.html.

For more information, please call:

Lincoln area: (402) 471-3101
Toll free: (800) 526-0017

and waste products between our major organs and helping regulate temperature.

- Thirsty?
- Radiant Skin
- Lose Weight
- Further, Stronger
- Hello Einstein
- Healthy Kidneys

Drink water so you can feel and perform better.

(Source information: click [here](#))

SPSL ON THE INTERNET

Please visit the SPSL website (www.spsl.net) to learn about our school and activities.



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