

September 18, 2007

Dear St. Michael School Families,

How exciting it is to know that you will be joining us tonight at 6:30 for our “**Back to School Night for Parents.**” School doors won’t be open much sooner than 6:20. You will go directly to classrooms at that time. We will not be using the cafeteria for anything tonight. As I mentioned, you will have a chance to go to different classrooms at 6:30, 6:55, and 7:20. Our evening will end at 7:45. Remember that this is not an evening when you can conference with teachers about your child; however, you can always arrange for a phone call or a meeting time in the week to come. **If you have not completed the Free and Reduced Lunch Form and you know you that your children are eligible, will you kindly fill out the form and return it to us even if your children bring their own lunches? The school receives federal monies for every child that is eligible, and these monies are used for programs for and materials for all of our school students.** Mrs. Solis, our Food Service Director, will be at a desk in the hallway on the first floor so that you can pick up these forms and complete them. Thank you so much for your cooperation.

Today our gym classes began with Mr. Ociepka. Gym will be on Tuesdays and Fridays **only**. Gym uniforms are worn only on those two days. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays all students will be in their school uniforms. If you have not already ordered uniforms, please do so. You can request an order form from the office. We will be placing another order for uniforms within the next few days. Students have been asked to follow these guidelines for wearing the gym uniform: 1) drawstrings on pants must be tied tightly so that no one is walking around with sagging pants; 2) no t-shirts worn beneath the school t-shirt may be showing; 3) only the school sweatshirt may be worn if students are cold. On Friday we will begin to use Russell Square Park at which time all students must have their Park District Form completed and returned to the classroom teacher. We truly want every student to have a chance to participate in gym classes.

I am sorry to say that far too many students are arriving **late for school each morning**. Just as you and I would not arrive late for work each day, students are to be here prior to the late bell at 8:00 each morning. There are some students who have been late almost every day of the school year. Since you are the driver, they are at your mercy. If students continue to be late, I will ask to meet with parents so that we can be certain that every student is here on time. Thanks in advance for your willingness to make the necessary changes in your schedule so that your child can arrive on time. Being punctual—**on time**—is a quality that every worker needs. We are preparing our students for the life skills they will need in the future.

Over the next 4-6 weeks, we will be naming the **Leader of the Week** chosen by each classroom teacher. These are students who model good behavior, show a willingness to help others in their learning, are respectful at all times, follow school rules without being reminded. Please join me in **congratulating our Leaders of the Week**. They are:

**Victoria Jeroski
Egypt Harden
Kara Watts
Breana Ramos
Jackie Neri**

**Adenike Adejini
Aliyah Head
Christian Gamez
Roodmerlyn Pierce
Alicia Sandoval**

**Genesis Bynum
Adrian Monroy
Bryan Behnke
Esteban Tevenal**

We will celebrate these students’ accomplishments on Friday. Blessings on us all!