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Kenneth W. Soistman, President  
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## **Frequently Asked Questions 2018-19**

### **Why choose All Saints Catholic School?**

All Saints Catholic School provides superior academics and values in a safe and supportive environment. We are a regional school with a diverse student body--religiously, racially and socio-economically. We offer pre-K through Grade 8 and an After School Program. All Saints is staffed by a faculty of whom over 50% have advanced degrees. High school credits are available for Algebra 1, Earth Science, Spanish 1 and World History. We have a championship LEGO Robotics program, and actively integrate technology, STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and hands-on learning in our classrooms, curriculum and extracurricular activities. We offer a variety of extracurricular activities like Environmental Action Club, 4-H STEM club, choir, drama, basketball, and soccer. 100% of our students have graduated from high school, including several valedictorians and 95% have gone on to college. Why not visit us and see why All Saints is an invaluable investment for your child's future?

### **Do you have to be Catholic to apply?**

All Saints Catholic School is a faith-based school that is open to both Catholic and non-Catholic families. Mass is held weekly and Religion class is held daily. About 40% of our current student body is Catholic. We invite you to request to see the Religion curriculum during your tour if you have questions.

### **What grades are offered?**

We offer pre-K through eighth grade. Pre-K is full day, five days a week.

### **What are school hours?**

- Early drop-up begins at 7:30 a.m.
- 7:50 a.m. to 3 p.m.; monthly early dismissal days
- Pre-K and kindergarten are full day
- After School Program is available until 6 p.m. (Additional cost)

### **Is financial aid available and how/when do I apply?**

Need-based financial aid is available. All applications for aid are made online at [www.online.factsmgt.com](http://www.online.factsmgt.com) and must be submitted between January 1 and June 1 each year.

## **Do you have resources for children who are above grade level or need extra help?**

Middle school students have the opportunity to graduate with high school credits in Algebra I, Earth Science, Spanish I and World History. Our dynamic faculty, of whom nearly half have masters degrees, focus on providing individualized attention for students. We are fortunate to have extremely qualified teacher aides who provide additional assistance in the classroom in pre-K through Grade 2, as well as a licensed Title 1 Resource teacher for qualifying students.

## **Where do graduates typically attend high school?**

The majority of our students attend public high schools offering challenging specialty baccalaureate programs. Our graduates also attend both Saint Gertrude High School and Benedictine College Preparatory, in addition to other private schools. 100% of All Saints graduates have graduated from high school.

## **How do I apply to your school?**

- Schedule a tour of the school with the president by calling 804 329-7524. Schedule a testing and “shadow” day for your child.
- Complete the application form and return it to the school with the \$150 registration fee. Enrollment Applications for the 2019-2020 school year can be received starting November 19, 2018; please check the [Admissions Process](#) page for updates.
- Schedule an interview with the principal. You will be informed about acceptance within two weeks or once transcripts are received.
- New parent packets will be provided in the summer.

## **What is a “shadow” day?**

Students in Grades 4 or higher may benefit from a “shadow” day where they spend a full day at All Saints in the classroom. The student will meet fellow students, the teachers and staff and get a feel for All Saints’ schedule and atmosphere. Shadow days are typically scheduled at the time of a tour of the school.

## **Do students have access to current technology?**

All grades have access to current technology. Teachers and students access the Internet wirelessly via Google Chromebooks which provide one-to-one computing in grades three through eight. Google Apps for Education is used by students and teachers for ease of file sharing and collaboration. Younger students have computer centers for skill reinforcement. Our classrooms are technologically-integrated with SMART boards, large screen TV’s, and Google Chromebooks.

## **Are there opportunities for parents to get involved?**

We have an active PTO. All parents are asked to provide 10 hours of volunteer time during the year. These may be spent as a field trip chaperone, one-on-one reading with students in classrooms, PTO functions such as the Carnival, assisting with after-school clubs, assisting in the office, etc. All volunteers who work with children are required to take the “Protecting God’s Children” training provided by the school. See more on the [PTO](#) page.

### **What about the uniforms?**

All Saints values education and not materialistic things, objects or fads that would interfere with the learning process. Adherence to the dress code is mandatory. Students are required to wear school uniforms each school day. Uniforms are purchased from a specific vendor. P.E. uniforms can be purchased from the school office. For more information, please see the [Uniform Info](#) page.

### **How is All Saints accredited?**

All Saints Catholic School is accredited by AdvancEd whose accreditation process has been approved by the Virginia Council for Private Education Committee on Accreditation as authorized by the Virginia State Board of Education. All Saints adheres to the policies and guidelines set forth for Catholic schools in the Catholic Diocese of Richmond.

### **What is the curriculum?**

All schools of the Richmond Diocese use the Consensus Curriculum. Each grade's curriculum can be viewed at <http://richmonddiocese.org/office/catholic-schools/>. These are the minimum standards and often our excellent teachers prepare additional creative activities and learning experiences. In addition to the regular curriculum, All Saints offers weekly courses in P.E., Spanish, Art, Library, and Music in all grades.

### **What are the teachers' qualifications?**

All teachers have degrees in the discipline they teach and over half have master's degrees. The dedicated faculty includes new graduates and veterans of 20+ years. All Saints is fortunate to be a partner with Notre Dame's ACE (Alliance for Catholic Education) program, which provides college graduate teachers for two years.

### **Does my child need to bring a lunch?**

Most days students will need to bring a lunch from home. All Saints offers a simple lunch for \$2 on Tuesdays and Thursdays; we also offer milk daily and ice cream on Fridays. Parents will be given the opportunity to purchase these items in advance. Please visit the [Lunch Info](#) page for details.

### **What extracurricular activities are currently offered?**

All Saints offers LEGO Robotics, 4-H STEM Club, soccer, basketball, choir, student government, Yearbook Club, Drama Club, Environmental Action Club, and Digital Productions Club. We also offer cooking club, Legacy Chess, Run Club, Art Club and swimming. The school also participates in community service projects throughout the year. For the latest offerings and schedules, please visit the [Extra-Curricular](#) page.

### **What about the After-School Program?**

All Saints offers an after-school program for its students from the end of school to 6 pm each school day. The After-School Program operates ONLY when school is in session, and is only open to enrolled All Saints students. The cost is \$50/person. The program is supervised by program coordinators and our

teachers and includes physical fitness, help with homework, snack time and activities. For more information, please visit the [After-School](#) page.

### **What about transportation?**

Transportation to and from school is on your own. Transportation to field trips, after-school activities, etc. is generally offered by the school for a nominal fee.

### **What is the administrative structure at All Saints?**

In 2013, Ken Soistman, principal of All Saints for 17 years, was appointed president, and Wanda Wallin was named principal. As principal, Mrs. Wallin administers the everyday operation of the school. As president, Mr. Soistman oversees: finance, development, marketing, enrollment, building and grounds, and governance. All Saints is currently seeking an assistant principal; the assistant principal oversees performance testing, PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) rewards, teacher evaluations, student services, and also serves as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade guidance counselor.