



February 9, 2022

Dear SCS Parent,

This morning, a young Lower School student, who adores the Providence College Friars, got out of his car in the *car line* and spontaneously said, '**Go Friars**' to me in lieu of *Good Morning!* It took me a moment to catch on but I then celebrated our shared family alma mater; my husband is a proud graduate of PC. I asked the student if he was going to attend PC too and he pointed to the Middle School and said, 'Is that college?' I shook my head and he affirmed his desire to eventually attend PC like his Dad but first SCS Middle School! Lol.

With that joy on my heart, I headed inside to Morning Prayer and then, back to the school office. That is not my usual path, but I had to welcome a "new" face. Our office is definitely a bit brighter this week because **Amy Campbell** has officially become our new *SCS School Secretary*. Many of you may know that Amy was most recently one of the secretaries in the Parish Office. After spending some time helping us in the last few weeks, Amy has decided to cross the parking lot and become part of our school professional community. Thank you for welcoming her the next time you are at school. Amy comes to us after 13 years in the Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Office, raising 4 amazing children with her husband, Paul and with a Degree in Education from Westfield State College.

Sadly, though, we did receive another Music resignation this week. Please know that Miss Alana Sennett, who has been our Middle School Music Teacher this year albeit as another employee of YOUNG WORLD has resigned effective February 15th to take a full time Music Teacher job in Brockton Public Schools. On Tuesday, February 15th, Young World is sending a candidate, Miss Alex Smith to shadow Miss Sennett on Alana's last day. Miss Smith may become our new Middle School Choir Teacher. We will keep you posted. Again, as with Mr. G, YOUNG WORLD is disappointed for us as well and has promised that they will continue to interview more candidates for our *Lower School Music Teacher* position. The transitions will definitely impact our use of *Young World* for next school year. In the meanwhile, we thank you for your patience and understanding while they work to hire replacement music teachers for us.

Lastly, just a quick note to let you know that we are currently averaging about 7 to 10 cases of Covid-19 per week. However, as we stated in our policy and as directed by Norwood Department of Health, we are only messaging out cases that have been determined to be cases by the Covid-19 PCR test. We do absolutely report rapid and PCR cases to the Norwood Department of Health though. This is true for faculty and staff as well as students. Additionally, as noted in our Policy updated on February 1st and shared with you at that time, we are also no longer *contact tracing*. Ending contact tracing was recommended by the Massachusetts Department of Health & Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Thank you for your understanding as we made that change in appreciation of their guidance. Associate Superintendent, Mrs Goslin in the Catholic School's Office let us know that some SCS parents



SAINT CATHERINE of SIENA SCHOOL

have called and emailed with concerns this week. Please know that ALL cases are reported to the Norwood Department of Health and Catholic School's Office. PCR cases are reported to the classroom families and also the entire school community. I report cases to the classroom as quickly as possible and do my best to do that within 8 -12 hours of receiving the information and/or the next school day in order for parents to test their student within the *5-day* time frame if they would like. I thank you for your patience and understanding as I work through unprecedented times.

I am blessed to experience the joy of your children each and every day in little & big ways, 'Go Friars! As most of you know, Saint Catherine herself was a Dominican like the friars at Providence College. I pray for her intercession as together, we work to navigate this ever evolving unusual time. *See Christ in others. Be Christ for others.*

Yours in Christ,

Beth