



September 20, 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to your child's 8<sup>th</sup> grade year - whether this is your 1<sup>st</sup> child to graduate, your last, or your only - it promises to be a fun year ahead! Many of you were able to attend our Parent Night break-out sessions and were able to begin hearing about the high school application process. If you were not able to attend or simply would like to see the information shared in print, please see the school website for more details. Mrs. Drewes has included a detailed spread sheet of "Important Dates" for you as we begin to navigate the Catholic High Schools Admissions process together. This fall, we will be visiting these schools with your 8<sup>th</sup> graders. I highly encourage you to visit the schools you and your student are considering as well. Attend their Open Houses, meet their staff, walk their campuses, and ask questions! Please be aware that due to these high school visits we take as a school, we do not excuse our students for separate shadowing days. We are blessed with so many wonderful school choices in Houston and we are happy to help you in making the decision if needed.

Open House, Admissions, and testing dates are noted on the spreadsheet, but I also strongly encourage you to visit individual websites for more detailed information. Be aware the entrance test(s) vary in choice depending on the high school to which your child is applying. Be aware of the registration dates for the HSPT and ISEE as your child will need to register in advance of their testing date. For students who qualify for testing accommodations, please contact the school where you will be testing to learn more about what paperwork needs to be completed ahead of time to make this happen. Some schools, who offer learning resource support, require the student to take their entrance exam AT their school if they wish to be considered for this support upon acceptance.

Make-up entrance exam testing dates are offered at some high school locations. See individual websites for further information.

The high school application process can feel rather overwhelming, but we are here to help you through it all. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you'd like to talk more about your child and their high school aspirations.

In Christ's Love,  
Betty Costantini  
StJPII Middle School Counselor