



August 1, 2025

Dear St. Paul's School Community,

The 2025-2026 school year is just around the corner, and we have been very busy getting everything ready for our students! We have many exciting things for the new school year, especially in the area of technology.

The Joe W. and Dorothy Dorsett BROWN FOUNDATION 2025-2026 SupportSTEM Program Grant awarded St. Paul's \$12,538.00 for the purchase of LEGO Education SPIKE Essential Sets. This will provide for 38 new SPIKE Essential robotics kits, added to our 3rd and 4th grade, as students learn and explore through a STEM focused curriculum. This will also allow expansion of our robotics curriculum into our 2nd grade level with the WeDo 2.0 Legos, giving them the opportunity to code and build at an early age. These additions enhance our STEM plan, using our 'Makerspace' lab for grades 2nd- 8th!

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, and we will gather for a special event to remember this milestone. We are so grateful to all who helped St. Paul's rebuild and grow into the strong community we are today. The event will take place on Friday, August 23 at 5:30 PM in O'Ferrall Hall.

We are happy to welcome new members to our already outstanding faculty, who remain the very best in the city, and can't wait to greet their students soon.

Baby/Toddler Saints:

Courtney Folse continues as the coordinator of Baby/Toddler Saints. **Miriam Salinas, Jamila Moujir, and Annie Hasney** return as teachers in the Baby program. **Ty Smith** and **Cassady Vanhooose** continue as our toddler teachers.

Little Saints:

Edie Martinez returns as Director of Little Saints. **Stacey Hayden, Rachel Davis, and Lauren Brennan** will remain as teachers of our two-year-olds. **Edie Martinez, Grayson Moll, and Laura McLean** are the teachers of our three-year-olds. **Marcie Nunez** will teach part-time in the threes' class and assist with Little Saints music, Spanish, and P.E.

Lower School:

Melissa Pearson is our Lower School Principal. One section of Pre-K will be taught by **Jessica Nuss** and **Lisa Bonano**, who for the last few years taught kindergarten, while

the second section will be taught by **Andrew Doyle and Jan Friend**. Jan will continue to teach art to Pre-K and kindergarten. In kindergarten, **Kelly Swiatkiewicz and Taylor Jennings** will each teach a section, with Melissa Pearson assisting in kindergarten. Taylor previously taught Little Saints 3 and last semester, assisted in kindergarten.

Sarah Perez and **Katie Brent** return as our first grade faculty. **Abigail Bledsoe** and **Meghan Lavie** continue as second grade teachers. **Melanie Vernon and Carson Thomassie** return as third grade homeroom teachers, and **Katie Evans** and **Summer Carney** return as our fourth grade homeroom teachers.

Middle School:

Middle School principal, **Dr. Andrew O'Brien**, will teach Latin to 5th – 8th grades. **Aimee Menard** and **Jeanie L'Hoste** will return as a fifth grade homeroom teachers. We are excited to welcome two new 6th grade homeroom teachers – **Laura Campagna** and **Tyler Gardner**. **Laura Campagna** (Spanish 5-8) brings many years of experience teaching Spanish and leading language programs, most recently as ELD Department Chair at Young Audiences School in Gretna. We are excited to welcome **Tyler Gardner** who will also serve as the new computer teacher for grades 1st-6th and IXL to middle school. He brings many years of experience teaching technology and science at St. Edward the Confessor, where he also led the robotics club. **Tanya Olivier** (language arts 6 – 8) and **Ron Carrier** (science 6 – 8) continue as 7th grade homeroom teachers. **Shannon del Corral** (6 – 8 social studies) and **Rudi Dunn** (math 6, pre-algebra 7, algebra 8) are 8th grade homeroom teachers.

Enrichment:

The Rev. Carrie Wright will join us as the Chaplain and religious studies teacher for Little Saints – 8th. She is an ordained priest with a Ph.D. in Mathematics and an M.Div. from Seminary of the Southwest. She brings years of teaching experience and a passion for guiding students in their faith. **Seamus McMenamin** remains our art teacher for grades 1 – 8. **Molli Davis** continues as the music teacher for grades 1-8. **Allison Bunnell** returns as music teacher to pre-kindergarten and kindergarten. **Heather Farnsworth** will teach Little Saints music and Little Saints through 4th Spanish. Our Learning Specialist, **Julie Fremin**, serves the students of Little Saints – 8th. **Beth Edrington** continues as part-time learning specialist. **Dale Duronslet** and **Kim Irons** will again teach physical education. **Chris Chopin** is the director of our Technology Department and also teaches a section of 8th grade algebra. **Steve Thompson**, our Outdoor Education Director, teaches computer classes for 7th and 8th grades, and directs the St. Paul's Studio Band. **Leah Woods** remains our Sustainability Coordinator, working with grades Little Saints through 8th. I will continue to teach Project Panther, a character education program for grades Pre-K - 4th and a weekly speech class to 8th grade. After-care will continue to be led by **Lauren Brennan** and her dedicated crew.

Staff:

Dr. Kellie Camelford remains our School Counselor. She will continue to work with all the students of our school and serve as a wonderful resource for our teachers and parents. **Kelli Thomas, BSN, RN**, returns as our School Nurse.

Vanessa LeBlanc remains Executive Assistant to the Head of School. **Melissa McGuffee** continues as our Registrar. **Hillary Alread** is the Development Director. **Sylvia Parks** is our Admissions Director. **Rachel Schmidt** is the Business Manager and **Shannon Waguespack** is the Assistant Business Manager. **Karol Tassin** assists in the Business Office, Admissions and Development. **Darlene Chopin** assists with events and in the development office. **Linda Bogacki** is our Facilities Manager. **John Joseph** is our Custodian.

What an incredible St. Paul's Team!

Charleen Schwank
Head of School