

STM CAVALIER CHRONICLES



Welcome, New Faculty, Staff and Students

Get to know them MORE...

by Baxter Meyer and Ethan Oleson

There are nearly twenty new faculty and staff who you will see in the RCCSS buildings this year and more than 150 new Cavalier students!

**“DEVELOPING
PERSONAL
AND
ACADEMIC**



**EXCELLENCE
IN THE
CATHOLIC
TRADITION”**

**“YOU WERE
BORN TO
BECOME THE
BEST VERSION
OF
YOURSELF!”**

M. KELLY

St. Thomas More High School		St. Thomas More Middle School		St. Elizabeth Seton Elementary School	
Kathleen Kovarik	Religion	Amy Dyke	Religion	Gloria Allen	Kitchen
Tibor Wood-Crosby	Spanish	Michele Julian	Math	Timothy Kozlik	Kitchen
Jordan Miller	Campus Ministry	Alaina Wheeler	Literature	Kelly Larson	Kitchen
Sarah Heubner	Campus Ministry	Angela Wagner	Library	Donald Oskey	Custodial
		Pete Petersen	Maintenance	Katelyn Bradford	2nd Grade
				Bre Kveene	5th Grade
				Megan Smidt	Kindergarten

Jordan Miller, a 2012 graduate, says that she is excited about the opportunity to come back and serve here in a different capacity. “I love the community and wanted an opportunity to do ministry full time.” She also said that she is looking forward to getting to know the students and to provide retreats that will use each student’s encounter with Christ to create a greater Catholic culture within our school.

Miller is one of two new members to the Campus Ministry team. The other is Sarah Huebner who also graduated from STM in 2012. Huebner says that the best advice that she can give the students is, “God’s mercy is new every day. There’s nothing you can do that would make Him stop loving you, so run to Jesus. If you’re mad, tell Him. If you’re happy, tell Him. If you’re sad, lonely, lost, scared, or confused—tell Him. He wants to partake in EVERY part of your life.”

Tibor Wood-Crosby, the current High School Spanish teacher, states, “I am excited for the development that happens at the beginning of the year.”

The new Religion teacher for the High School, Kathleen Kovarik, says, “My hopes for my students are that they would grow in the love of the Lord as the highest priority in their lives. Secondly, I hope that they can enjoy this journey through high school and become all that they are called to be (in body, mind and spirit)!”

On behalf of the students of the Rapid City Catholic School System we would like to welcome all of the new students to our family and please welcome all of the new staff and faculty members to our schools!

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school! What a joy it is to see familiar faces and a blessing to have so many new families join us!

My heart is filled with gratitude upon reflection of all those who have worked tirelessly to prepare for this year. Our school administrative assistant, Shannon Long spent many a warm summer day getting all the paperwork ready to begin the year! Our custodial staff, Jim and Mary Ellen Newman and their crew work tirelessly to make our building sparkle. Our teachers attended workshops and conferences this summer preparing to guide our learners.



Please welcome to the staff Amy Dyke: 7th/8th Religion; Dennis Fivecoate: 7th/8th Computers; Michelle Julian: 7th/8th Math; Tonia Maher: 7th/8th Grammar/Composition, and Alaina Wheeler: World Languages and 8th Literature. Meagan Brown is now the 6th Religion/Social Studies and Mr. Flores is 7th/8th Social Studies.

We hit the ground running with Magazine and Cookie Dough sales! This fund raiser goes directly to our general budget, so please know that we are grateful for your participation! Cookie dough will be delivered Friday, Oct. 27 and students will have to deliver to their customers. Magazines will be mailed directly to customers. Thank you to our Magazine Volunteer Crew: Mrs. Kandolin, Mrs. Post and Mrs. Kinyon!

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, Oct. 5 from 8:00-11:00 and 12:00 to 4:00.

Conferences are held in the STM MS gym. The teachers will be present at that time for you to visit on a first come, first serve basis. If you find that you need to visit with a teacher for longer than five minutes, please ask them for a separate appointment. Students are encouraged to come with parents to conferences. I can't begin to tell you how important it is to come to conference! Checking on students' grades is only a small portion of why you should come. Meeting and building a relationship between parents and teachers can only occur in person. I look forward to seeing you. Please know that I appreciate the effort it takes to come to conferences! Friday, Oct. 6 is teacher In-Service and Monday, Oct. 9, we celebrate Native American Day! This means you have four days for family time and rest!

This year, we are blessed to have Mass in our chapel on Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. We started out our first Mass with twenty seven worshipers and we would welcome more! Following Mass, we will have time for fellowship in the Lounge and then the "Mom's in Prayer" groups meets from 8:30-9:30. On the **first Tuesday of the month**, parents are invited to gather for a new initiative called "**Chat & Chew.**" This will be an opportunity to touch base with each other and me and make sure that we are operating at our best for the good of the children. Our first gathering will occur on Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 8:15 a.m. in the STM MS teachers lounge.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your families and have a wonderful month!

Mrs. Olsen

Thanks to all the families who came to the Open House and the Activity Fair.
 Congratulations to Bryan Carrier, father of Alexis Bohndorf, for winning the Activity Fair drawing \$50 gift card!

Nosy Parents

Have you ever heard a parent say something like, “I don’t feel comfortable searching my daughter’s room. I don’t want to invade her privacy.”?

Perhaps you know a child who is severely bent out of shape because their “Neanderthal” parents won’t allow them to keep a computer in their bedroom.

Where do I stand on this issue?

- It’s our job to *do our best* to know what’s going on in our children’s lives.
- It’s our job to know what’s in their rooms.
- It’s our job to *do our best* to know what they are doing on their computers and their phones.
- It’s our job to *do our best* to meet their friends and understand what they are involved in when they are hanging out.
- When we do these things, we send the message that we love them enough to be involved in their lives.

Parents who do such things will likely hear, “You don’t trust me!” If so, respond with the following:

***We love you. Do you think we do these things to be nosy and obnoxious...
or
do we do these things because we love you and want to help you stay safe?***

This question is not designed to change their mind. It’s simply designed to plant a seed within it. When we consistently demonstrate love and concern... rather than a dictatorial attitude... this seed has a chance to grow.

As a society, we’ve lost far too many good kids to drugs, alcohol, pornography, suicide, video game addiction, etc., because we’ve been afraid of invading privacy. In our *Teen Package* you’ll find a treasure chest of ideas for staying highly involved in your teen’s life... without creating massive power struggles and rebellion.

Thanks for reading! Our goal is to help as many families as possible.



Dr. Charles Fay

Stay connected:

Download the RCCSS app from the App Store or Google Play!

Or check us out on social media:



RCCSS School Board

Meetings are open to the public, please contact a board member to confirm the schedule and location

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Terri Hilt ethilt@midco.net

Jennifer Keszler jkiepke@hotmail.com

Rev. Brian Lane brian@blessedsacramentchurch.org

Susan Safford SSafford@diorc.org

Michael Solano mbs810@hotmail.com

LeAnn Wenger leannwenger@gmail.com

August 28, 2017

February 26, 2018

September 25, 2017

March 26, 2018

October 23, 2017

April 23, 2018 4:00 p.m.

November 27, 2017

May 21, 2018

January 8, 2018

June 25, 2018

January 29, 2018

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Oct. 3	Bring a Cake, Buy a Cake
Oct. 5	Parent Teacher Conferences No School
Oct. 6	Staff In-service no school
Oct. 9	Native American Day no School
Oct. 15-21	Homecoming
Oct. 15	Coronation—STM gym
Oct. 18	8th Grade NET Retreat
Oct. 20	End of 1st Quarter
Oct. 21	Homecoming Dance
Oct. 24	All Saints Parade SES (8th Grade)
Oct. 24	Cavalier Cabaret
Oct. 27	Cookie Dough delivery
Oct. 27 & 28	All-State Choir & Orchestra
Nov. 4	Knowledge Bowl Regional @ STM
Nov. 5 & 6	Sophomore Girls Retreat
Nov. 17 & 18	7:30 pm Little Women Play Presented by STM Fine Arts
Nov. 22-26	No school
Dec. 1	Winterfest
Dec. 5	HS Christmas Concert
Dec. 7	MS Christmas Concert
Dec. 18-20	HS Finals week
Dec. 20-Jan. 2	No School

MORE Athletics

by Alyssa Stephens and Vanessa Wittenberg

This month's MORE Athletics shines the spotlight on the golf and tennis teams' juniors and seniors. The golf team is looking forward to their upcoming state tournament at Dakota Dunes in North Sioux City. Last year the Cavaliers took 2nd at State, only losing by two strokes and this year the team hopes to compete again for the State Championship. Senior Nicholas Lust says, "We are getting our golf games figured out and we are growing closer as a team. We need to be as tight as possible at the time of the state tournament, so we can pull for each other and bring home the hardware."



Carter Janssen tees off for the Cavs golf team (STM Journalism Class File Photo)

The girls' soccer team has put in a lot of hard work and determination into this season as they are looking forward to state playoffs and the state tournament. Soccer seniors, Bailey Carlson, Elizabeth Erlandson, Karlie Reagan, Olivia Hill, and Kayla Jacobson, say that their favorite part about this season has been spending time with the team, all the laughs during difficult practices, and the competitive dynamic of the team. The seniors all agree that they will miss their teammates the most.

Tennis juniors, Katherine Achbach and Rachel Schmahl, say, "In the upcoming weeks we are pushing ourselves during practice and taking advantage of the opportunities we have to improve during our matches. We are getting to know the younger players, and it is helping us work together as a team."

The state golf tournament is October second and third at Dakota Dunes golf course in Pierre and Sioux City. The state tennis tournament is October fifth, sixth, and seventh in Sioux falls. The boys' and girls' state soccer tournaments are October seventh. Come out and support your Cavaliers for all they do in and out of the classroom!



Lizzy Erlandson takes control of the ball against Belle Fourche (Photo by Ethan Oleson)

MORE Fine Arts

by Sean Vickers

On Friday, September 8th, Mrs. Weber revealed the highly-anticipated 2017-18 plays. Recently, we have interviewed Mrs. Weber about this year's upcoming plays. She had a lot to say about this fall's drama and the spring's comedy that our high school students will be performing. When asked about what she was looking for when deciding the fall play Mrs. Weber stated how she wanted a play with rich characters, especially ones with strong women leads. She also said she wanted something different. "I really wanted something that would be different from the other dramas that we've done. We have done murder mystery and we've done a courtroom drama and that kind of thing, so this time I was looking for something different and that is what turned me toward a classic story."



The Fine Arts Department Presents "Little Women" at the Terra Sancta Theater.
More information to come.

Mrs. Weber had the same idea when considering the spring play. "Whenever I look for comedies, it's interesting because I was looking for something really 'slapstick' or more physical comedy and I just wasn't finding anything that wasn't cheesy funny" This play also consists of strong women characters as well as men characters and isn't completely cheesy funny.

Mrs. Weber would like to tell the audience, "If you want to belly laugh, if you want to have your heart touched, you may even shed a tear, come and see our shows. They are so sweet and they are so rich in story."

This years plays:

- Fall - Little Women
- One Acts - The Dancers
- Spring - The Curious Savage

Save the Date - Winterfest 2017

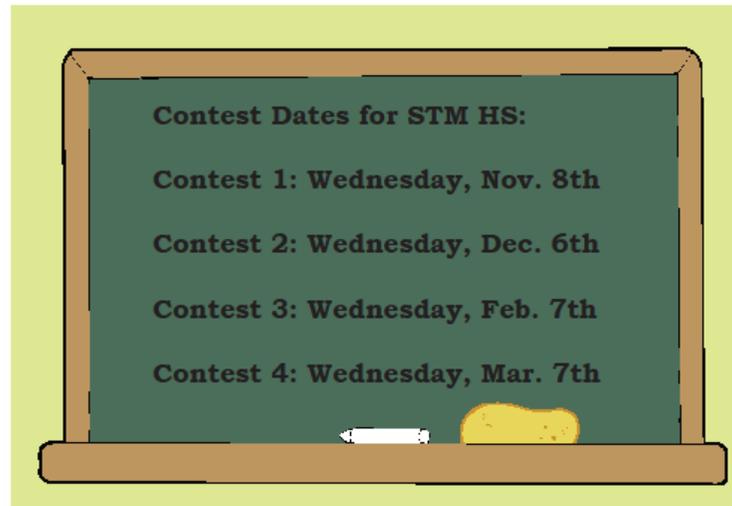
Friday, December 1

Terra Sancta Gym

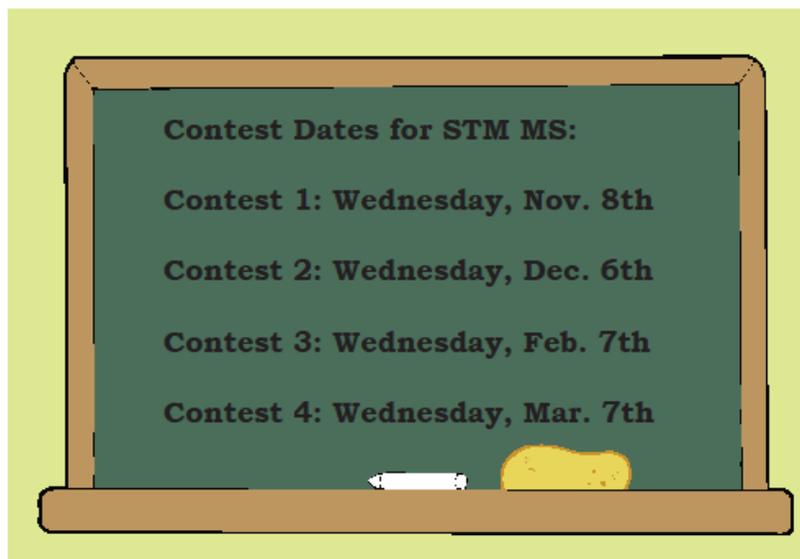
- **Games & Music**
- **Appetizers, Dessert, Beer, & Wine**
- **Raffle Basket**
- **Ugly Sweater attire**

Catholic Math League

Contests will be starting soon! We encourage all students to participate. This is our 8th year of participating in this national mathematics competition. Please note the contest dates listed below. More information will be provided in the upcoming November newsletter.



Algebra I **Geometry** **Algebra II** **Advanced Math**



Math 6 **Math 7** **Pre-Algebra** **Algebra I**



CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM 2017-18 SCHOOL CALENDAR



Aug 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sept 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Oct 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Nov 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Dec 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST	
14	Substitute Mtg.: 8:30am SES Library
16-18	New Staff Orientation
17	Pre-School Orientation: 9am & 1pm Kindergarten Orientation: 11 am 6 th Grade and New Middle School Families Orientation: 5:30-6:30pm
18	Teacher Work Day
21	Elementary Meet and Greet: 4-6pm MS Meet and Greet: 6-7pm HS Orientation (9 th Grade and NEW Families): 6:30-8pm
21-22	Staff In-service
23	½ Day of School-Grades 1 st -5 th Grade SES-Dismissed at 11:00am Full Day of School - 6 th -12 th Grade
24	Preschool and Preschool Plus Begins Kindergarten Small Group Child Care Begins

SEPTEMBER	
4	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL

OCTOBER	
5	Kindergarten - 12 th Grade Parent/Teacher Conferences NO SCHOOL 7:45am-4pm
6	NO SCHOOL - Staff In-service
9	Native American/Columbus Day NO SCHOOL
20	End of First Quarter (40 days)

NOVEMBER	
9	End of 1 st Tri-Mester K-5
22-26	Thanksgiving Recess NO SCHOOL
27	Classes Resume

DECEMBER	
18-20	Semester Finals Week (Grades 9-12)
20	Christmas Recess Begins (At end of day) End of Second Quarter (40 days)
21-Jan 2	Christmas Recess - NO SCHOOL

JANUARY	
	Classes Resume
15	Martin Luther King Day NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY	
15	K-5 th Grade Parent/Teacher Conferences SES - 4pm-7pm
16	Kindergarten - 5 th Grade Parent/Teacher Conferences NO SCHOOL 8am-12pm
16	6 th - 12 th Grade Parent/Teacher Conferences NO SCHOOL 7:45am-4pm
19	President's Day - NO SCHOOL
20	NO SCHOOL - Staff Retreat
23	End of 2 nd Tri-Mester K-5

MARCH	
9	End of Third Quarter (45 Days)
29-Apr 4	Easter Recess - NO SCHOOL

APRIL	
Mar 29-4	Easter Recess - NO SCHOOL
5-6	NO SCHOOL - Staff In-service
9	Classes Resume

MAY	
21-23	Semester Finals Week (Grades 9-12)
23	STM MS 8 th Grade Graduation
25	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL Full Day - 6 th -12 th Grade Early Dismissal - Pre-5 th Grade SES - Dismissed at 11:00am End of 3 rd Tri-Mester K-5 End of Fourth Quarter (48 days)
27	STM Graduation

Jan 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Feb 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

Mar 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Apr 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

This school calendar is composed of 180 teacher duty days: 173 student contact days including parent teacher conferences, 5 in-service days, 1 Staff Retreat and 1 teacher work days. PLEASE NOTE: If school is closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies, these days will be made up at the discretion of RCCSS Board of Directors