
PARENT INFO PACKET 2026-2027

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HELLO & WELCOME!

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to a new school year at St. Paul's Lutheran School! We are so thankful that your family is part of our Christ-centered school community. Whether this is your first year with us or your tenth, we begin this year together in faith, excitement, and anticipation of all that God will do in the lives of our students.

At St. Paul's, we are committed to nurturing each child academically, socially, and most importantly, spiritually. With Christ at the center of all we do, our teachers and staff walk alongside your child in faith, helping them develop a strong foundation built on God's Word and grace.

As we begin this new school year, we invite you to stay actively involved in the life of our school through communication, worship, fellowship, and service.

Please plan to attend our Back-to-School worship service on Sunday, August 23 at 8:00 am. Our pastors will pray a blessing over the children and teachers as they prepare to start the school year. Following the church service, families may move their students' items into the classrooms. We encourage everyone to stop in the gym for a treat and a cup of coffee and invite you to stay for Bible study.

We will host an all-school orientation meeting on Thursday, August 27 at 5:30 pm in the church. The first 30 minutes will be for all families, the second half will pertain specifically to families with children participating in afterschool athletics.

We are honored to partner with you in your child's education and faith journey. Thank you for trusting us with this important role. May this year be filled with learning, laughter, friendships, and a growing love for Jesus—our Rock and Redeemer.

Anchored in Christ,

Jill M. George



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Resources for checking grades online, staying in touch with our school and the PTO, and starting the year on the right foot.

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Reminders and Handbook Updates

Start-of-year reminders and updates to policies found in the Parent Handbook.

03

Frequently Asked Questions

Find answers to some of the most commonly asked questions-- covering topics such as hot lunch, Extended Care,

04

Lower/Upper Grades Essential Info

Learn more about what to expect as your child progresses through the elementary or middle school programs.



PARENT RESOURCES



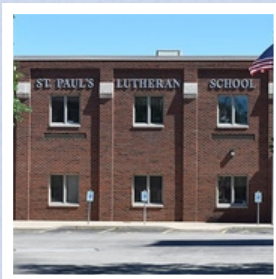
Gradelink:

Gradelink is our online student information system. You can log in here to view your child's grades, incident reports, and lunch account balance. This is also where teachers communicate with families, and send out their class newsletters. Login at <https://secure.gradelink.com/>



Warrior Review:

Every week during the school year, the main office sends out the Warrior Review-- our school's primary newsletter. Information about everything from athletics, to re-enrollment, upcoming events, and important school notices are shared here, along with exclusive looks inside the classroom and our students' achievements. Links to the academic calendar, lunch menu, and spirit wear store are also always posted here.



PTO Facebook Page:

The St. Paul's PTO Facebook page serves as another important way to stay up to date on school news and information. Parents and school staff regularly post everything from event reminders, to snapshots from the classroom.

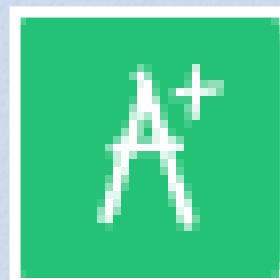
Check it out here:

www.facebook.com/groups/StPaulsLutheranOconomowocPTL



Back to School Service & Orientation

Our Back to School Church Service (8/23 @ 8am) and All-School Orientation (8/27 @ 5:30pm) are our way of kicking off the school year and welcoming all our St. Paul's families. Families are encouraged to attend both as we will go over important information for the school year.



TADS

TADS is our primary billing site. This is where enrollment and re-enrollment is handled, as well as where tuition, extra fees, Extended Care, and lunch account balances are billed. Although invoices are billed here, it is also possible to pay these invoices in the office with cash or check, as long as that is done before the automatic withdrawal date.

REMINDERS AND UPDATES

01

Soda and caffeinated drinks are not allowed at school.



02

Dress Code Reminders: Academic Dress reflects our commitment to excellence, respect, and purposeful learning. Students dress in neat, school-appropriate attire that promotes a focused learning environment while encouraging pride in themselves and our school community. See page 9 for details.

03

Walking permission slips are required for students to be allowed to walk home after school. Turn these in to the main office as soon as possible.



04

Phones, smartwatches, and similar electronic devices are not used in school. They are collected and kept in safe, locked boxes and returned to students at the end of the day. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please contact the main office.



FAQS

01

How do I log on to Gradelink?

You will receive your login credentials on paper from your child's teacher during home visits, and an email copy will be sent to you before the school year starts, and periodically throughout the year.

02

How does the hot lunch program work?

Hot lunch charges are recorded and visible to parents on Gradelink in the financial tab. Every month, accounts that owe \$30 or more will be billed through TADS. Parents may also pay by bringing cash or a check into the office to avoid charges through TADS. We are also part of the National Free and Reduced Lunch program. You can pick up an application in the office if you'd like to apply.

03

Where can I find the school calendar and events?

Links to the school calendar and a monthly event calendar are always available in the Warrior Review. We do also have a Google Calendar on our website that you can add to your phone or email.

04

Where can I find info on school rules?

The Parent Handbook, which all parents receive an electronic copy of, contains in depth school rules and practices on everything from dress code to discipline reports. If you have specific questions about a school rule or policy, reach out to the school office or your child's teacher.

05

What is Extended Care?

Extended Care is our after-school child care program. If a child isn't picked up by 2:50 pm, he/she will automatically go to Extended Care until they are picked up, no later than 5:30pm. In Extended Care, kids get an after school snack and time to play. Extended Care services are \$5/hour per child, and it is billed monthly through TADS.

06

What is the difference between TADS and Gradelink?

Gradelink is our student information system-- it holds things like grades, lunch account balances, and school-parent communication. Hot lunch is also paid through this site. TADS holds all other billing info and invoices. TADS is also where you apply and enroll for school every year.

07

Where can I find school supply lists?

School supply lists for all grades are posted on teacherlists.com. You can search for our school, or use the direct link below.
<https://app.teacherlists.com/schools/86668-st-paul-lutheran-school>

08

Who should I contact with further questions?

Always reach out to our Parish Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Codi Peschek, first. She handles the bulk of the school's administrative work and can quickly get you the info you need, or put you in touch directly with the person who can.





LOWER GRADES

4K-4TH

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Lower Grades FAQs

What makes St Paul's curriculum special?

The lower grade years are filled with new experiences and growth as our students begin to discover who God has created them to be, and the many gifts and talents He has blessed them with.

Students learn of Jesus and His love for them as they participate in daily bible readings, classroom devotions, religion classes, and weekly chapel services. In chapel our lower grade students are paired with upper grade students to foster relationships.

We provide challenging and inquiry based learning experiences. Most recently we have adopted Bridges Math curriculum which encourages critical thinking, and allows our students to share unique strategies and thinking in a supportive and joyful environment.

Our lower grade children are also offered distinctive opportunities to enhance their educational experience including STEM, C-Team volleyball and basketball, choir, multi-age learning opportunities, and a spring musical.

At the heart of all we do is Jesus and His great love for us all!

-Mrs. Sara Benes, Head of Lower Grades

At St Paul's we believe in educating and fostering growth in all aspect of our students. We teach phonics and cursive as part of our curriculum, use the highly ranked Bridges math program, and offer music opportunities for all grades: K-4 have two music classes per week and choir, 3-4 learn to play the recorder, and 4th grade has optional guitar classes. All grades have physical education classes, as well as 2 recesses per day.

New for 3rd & 4th Grade: We are excited to introduce the CKLA Amplify English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum, a comprehensive literacy program that builds strong reading, writing, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills through rich literature and engaging, knowledge-based learning experiences.

Is there before and after school care?

Yes! Morning care begins at 7am and is free. Afternoon care is from end of day until 5pm and there is an hourly fee per child. There is no need to register in advance.

How is hot lunch billed? How does my child sign up?

Teacher's check daily to see if a child is hot lunch or cold that day. Lunch is \$4.25/day. Families can also apply for free/reduced cost lunch. Lunch accounts are billed monthly through TADS, if the account owes more than \$30. Parents can also pre-pay their child's account with cash or check in the office.





UPPER GRADES

5TH-8TH

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Upper Grades FAQs

What makes St Paul's curriculum special?

Our middle school program is designed to prepare students for success in high school and beyond by combining rigorous academics with Christ-centered learning. Through challenging coursework, leadership opportunities, executive functioning development, and meaningful service, students grow in confidence, character, and faith. In a supportive Christian community where every student is known and encouraged, they are equipped to think critically, lead with integrity, and live out their faith in every aspect of life.

Our robust music program includes choir, band, guitar, and the opportunity for students to take one-on-one piano lessons during the school day. Most electives are selected in the spring for the following school year, and new families receive enrollment information during their home visit. Contact the school office for more information about personal piano lessons.

What are Camp Luther and South Dakota trips?

Camp Luther and the South Dakota trips are outdoor education trips that the middle school students take each year. Grades 5-7 spend a week in the spring at Camp Luther on team building activities, service work, and growing in their faith.

8th Grade students go on a trip to South Dakota every fall. This trip offers our students a valuable opportunity to develop their faith, challenge themselves, and bond as a class. Cost for these trips varies by year, and is billed through TADS. Students may participate in fundraising for South Dakota through their 7th grade year.

The upper grade years are a meaningful time for students to build lasting relationships, grow as leaders, discover their unique talents, and strengthen their relationship with Jesus.

Upper grade students build connections across all grade levels through activities like STEM buddies, reading buddies, and chapel buddies. These interactions help them develop and strengthen their leadership skills. Students are also given opportunities to help their community through the Lord's Cupboard.

Each day, our students engage with God's Word, attend weekly chapel services, and, in grades 7 and 8, attend confirmation classes led by our pastors.

Our students have access to a wide range of sports, music, and extracurricular activities that nurture and develop the gifts and talents God has given them.

Throughout their time in the upper grades we want to equip students to grow academically while preparing them to use their God-given abilities to serve, lead and share Jesus love with those in their communities.

-Mrs. Megan Shanks, Head of Upper Grades



ACADEMIC DRESS GUIDELINES

the complete guideline may be found in the Parent Handbook

At St. Paul's Lutheran School, we believe that how we present ourselves reflects our respect for God, for our bodies, and for our school community. Scripture reminds us that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). As a Christian school, we hold our students and families to a higher standard than what may be expected in public settings.

Our Academic Dress policy supports our mission of teaching the truth of Jesus, growing as a family, and serving mind, body, and soul. Academic Dress promotes modesty, minimizes distractions, encourages responsibility, and fosters unity and school pride.

General Standards

All clothing must be clean, neat, modest, and appropriately fitted. Clothing that is tight, revealing, excessively casual, or distracting is not permitted.

Students may not wear:

Clothing with inappropriate language, images, or messages contrary to Christian values

Band or concert t-shirts unless the content is explicitly Christian

Low-cut, backless, strapless, cropped, or midriff-baring tops

Short shorts or skirts (length must be modest and appropriate for a Christian school setting)

Distressed, torn, or frayed clothing

Sleepwear, slippers, or pajama-style pants

Excessively tight clothing

Athletic shorts outside of designated P.E. times

Leggings:

Leggings may only be worn as tights under skirts or dresses. Leggings may not be worn as pants.

Hair & Grooming:

Hair should be clean and styled in a manner that is not extreme or distracting. Grooming should reflect self-respect and respect for the school community.

Of Special Note:

(applies specifically to 4th - 8th grade)

Jogger-style pants are acceptable when they reflect the standards of Academic Dress.

Acceptable joggers are tailored, structured, and professional in appearance. *Sweatpants, fleece joggers, oversized joggers, or pants designed primarily for lounging or athletic wear are not permitted.*

Acceptable:

- Woven twill or chino joggers
- Structured performance-fabric joggers
- Tailored ankle joggers with a clean silhouette

Not Acceptable:

- Fleece or sweatshirt-material joggers
- Baggy or oversized joggers
- Joggers with visible athletic branding or side stripes
- Pants that resemble sweatpants or loungewear

Chapel Attire – Dress-Up Tuesdays

Each Tuesday is designated as Dress-Up Tuesday in preparation for chapel. Chapel attire is an outward expression of reverence and respect for worship.

On Tuesdays, students are expected to wear:

- Collared shirts, dress shirts, blouses, sweaters, or modest dresses/skirts
- Dress pants, khakis, skirts, or dresses of modest - length
- Closed-toe dress shoes or clean, appropriate footwear

