

St. Patrick Academy FAQ'S

➤ **What is the mission and purpose of St. Patrick Academy?**

St. Patrick Academy opened in September, 2010. The mission of the Academy is to provide a quality, Catholic education to all students in the south Sacramento area wishing to experience the unique community that is present in a faith-filled environment.

➤ **What does the term “regional school” mean?**

St. Patrick Academy is considered a diocesan school and is not affiliated with any single parish. All parishes without a Catholic school are encouraged to send their children to St. Patrick Academy.

➤ **What is the governance structure of the school?**

Bishop Jaime Soto has appointed a Board of Directors that will govern the school. In addition, Bishop Soto has hired an Executive Director. The Board of Directors and the Executive Director is responsible for hiring the principal of the school. The principal is fully responsible for the hiring of staff, the day-to-day management of the school, and the planning and vision for the future of the school.

➤ **What will St. Patrick Academy offer my child that our current school does not?**

Keeping in mind that our faith is integrated into all we do throughout the day, students will be given experiences to enhance their current academic skills while learning the skills and expectations necessary to succeed in the 21st century. Counselors are available to assist students in determining their individual learning styles, gifts and talents, and provide children with experiential learning activities that will allow all children to succeed. In addition, an integrative arts program will instill the importance of the arts (both performing and visual arts) as a means of motivation and encouragement to succeed academically.

➤ **With so many children in the school, how can I be sure that my child will receive the individualized help that he/she needs?**

Although it seems that more children in our school will mean crowded classrooms, the opposite occurs. With additional students, more staff are hired to allow for small class sizes and more individualized help. Our Learning Center is staffed by credentialed teachers qualified to assist students with special learning

needs. In addition, our faculty and staff work together to provide each student with the assistance necessary to ensure his/her academic success.

➤ **What qualifications are required of the faculty and staff of St. Patrick Academy?**

Our teaching staff is composed of credentialed teachers with Master’s degrees (or degrees in progress) in their field of expertise. In addition, all staff (teachers and support staff) have their Religious Certification that requires an additional forty hours of study every four years. All support staff have degrees that provide them with the credentials and experiences necessary to meet the high expectations of their job descriptions.

➤ **Is St. Patrick Academy a Catholic school?**

St. Patrick Academy is the Bishop’s school. Our faith is integrated into all we do throughout the day. Students regularly attend Mass, prayer services, and celebrate feast days of our Church. Students attend a formal religion class each day and prayer is integrated throughout our day. Our 2nd grade students prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Our 8th graders prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

➤ **What is the registration fee and what is it used for?**

The registration fee is \$250 per student. The fee is used to purchase textbooks, for activity fees, and for testing fees.

➤ **What is the tuition?**

Tuition is set by the Board of Directors. Additional financial assistance may be available. The tuition schedule below indicates the tuition fees for all students. Again, financial assistance may be available.

**General Tuition Rates
2012-2013**

St. Patrick SUCCEED Tuition Schedule		
CHILDREN	ACTIVE CATHOLIC	NON-CATHOLIC
1 Child	\$ 3,950	\$ 5,530
2 Children	\$ 7,308	\$ 10,231
3 Children	\$ 9,875	\$13,825
4 Children	\$11,850	\$ 16,590

➤ **Are there payment options for tuition?**

Several payment options are available.

- Tuition can be paid over 10 months (July, 2012 – April 2013)
- Tuition can be paid over 11 months (July, 2012 – May, 2013)
- Tuition can be paid over 12 months (July, 2012 – June, 2013)
- Tuition can be paid in full by September 28, 2012 to receive a 4% discount if the family is paying the full cost of tuition. Families receiving financial assistance are not eligible for this additional 4% discount.

➤ **How can I apply for financial assistance?**

Financial Assistance applications are available in the school office or at www.saintpatricksacademy.net to Catholic families at St. Patrick Academy and must be turned in on or before April 1st to be considered for financial assistance. An independent tuition assistance committee determines the extent of tuition assistance that a family may receive based on the availability of tuition assistance money that has been donated for this purpose.

➤ **What is the process for registering my Kindergarten child into the Academy?**

Initial applications should be sent in as soon as possible. Enrollment packages are available at St. Patrick Academy as well as on our website at www.saintpatricksacademy.net on February 2nd.

Dates for Kindergarten Registration:

Tuesday, March 13, 2012 **Registration**
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 and 1:00p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at
St. Patrick Academy

Wednesday, March 14, 2012 **Registration**
1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at
St. Patrick Academy

- **What is the process for registering my child for the 2012-2013 school year if she/he currently attends the Academy?**

May 2nd **Registration Packets will be available online**

May 15th **Registration**
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 and 1:00p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at
St. Patrick Academy in the Science lab.

May 16th **Registration**
1:00p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at St. Patrick Academy
in the Science lab.

- **Will my child prepare for First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation as part of their core curriculum?**

Students receive Sacrament preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion in second grade. Confirmation preparation takes place in eighth grade. Parents/guardians must be involved in the preparation as well.

- **What services are provided for a child that is struggling academically?**

Our Learning Center is available for individualized and small group assistance. Teachers will provide additional testing of students and assist parents/guardians in the process for further educational testing that may be necessary. After school tutoring is available.

- **What services are provided for a child that is above grade level?**

Students needing enrichment activities can join various clubs and organizations, i.e. Student Leadership Club, Social Justice Ministry, Student Council, Religion Decathlon, Academic Decathlon, various choirs, band, orchestra, drama, and Art Club

- **Will there be before and after school care?**

Our Clubhouse program opens at 6:45 a.m. each morning and closes at 6:00 p.m. Students are involved in various activities during their time in the before and after school program. After school hours are a critical time for our children. That time can represent an opportunity to learn and grow through quality after-school programs. These programs keep students safe, improve academic achievement, and help relieve the stresses on today's working families. Students are given the opportunity to begin their homework, work on arts and crafts projects, engage in enrichment activities that align with the school day and interact in social activities that enhance the total St. Patrick Academy experience. Students are encouraged

to participate in after school clubs and activities to enhance their educational experiences (scrapbooking, cooking, poetry, science, nature, health & fitness, photography, beading, sports, reading, drama and more!

Fees:

Before and After School Extension Program	Payments Over Ten Months (6+hours/week) August, 2012 - May, 2013	Yearly Fee
1 Child	\$135.00	\$1350.00
2 Children	\$215.00	\$2100.00
3 Children	\$325.00	\$3250.00
4 Children	\$435.00	\$4350.00

Less than 6 hours \$50.00 per month. No multi child discount.
 Registration fee \$25.00 or \$40.00 per family.

➤ **Is there be a pre-school program?**

St. Patrick’s Preschool offers a variety of schedules and programs to meet the needs of every family. For more information, please contact the preschool office at 421-4963. License # 343616406.

Rate Schedule	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days	5 Days
Full Day 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	\$377	\$480	\$563	\$634
School Day 7:50 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	\$292	\$353	\$434	\$493
Half Day 8:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.	\$232	\$263	\$288	\$315

Registration Fee: \$125.00

➤ **How old does my child need to be to start school or the pre-school program?**

Kindergarten - 5 years old by October 1, 2012
 Pre-Kindergarten – 4 years old by October 1, 2012
 Pre-School - 2 ½ (potty trained) by October 1, 2012

➤ **How will technology be used throughout the day?**

Students have access to a technology lab, computers in their classrooms, and the use of tablets and interactive white boards for instruction. In addition, our science lab provides student lab groups with laptops for research and writing lab reports. Technology Clubs are available for students after school and may require an additional cost to parents.

➤ **Why emphasize the arts?**

God has gifted each of us many gifts and talents –many of which we never have the opportunity to nurture. Our music, dance, and performing arts program is an integrative program that allows students with multiple experiences to develop their talents as well as increase their self- esteem. Students will have the opportunity to participate in instrumental, voice, and theatre programs throughout the year which are incorporated into the daily life of the Academy.

➤ **What will be required for the school uniform? Where can I purchase it?**

Information about ordering uniform skirts will be given to parents at the time of registration. Khaki pants may be purchased wherever A+ brand pants are sold or can be purchased from our uniform supplier, Dennis Uniform. Plain white polo shirts may be purchased wherever they are sold.

Boys: Khaki pants (A+ brand), white polo shirt, dark green logo shirt required for dress uniform days. Khaki shorts may be worn from August – October and from April – June. Athletic shoes are required.

Girls: Uniform skirt/skort or khaki pants (A+ brand), white polo shirt, dark green logo shirt required for dress uniform days. Khaki shorts may be worn from August – October and from April - June. Athletic shoes are required.

Uniform sweatshirts, jackets, and sweaters, will be available for purchase and will be required to be worn in the classroom. No non-uniform sweatshirts, jackets, and sweaters may be worn in the classroom. No non-uniform sweatshirts are allowed on campus.

➤ **What food services will be provided?**

- Breakfast is available at no cost for all students beginning at 7:30 a.m. each morning.
- Lunch is prepared on site and available for purchase. Students may choose single or double, portions; a salad bar will be available each day. Menus will be sent home monthly.
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➤ **What are the school hours?**

Pre-School Program	8:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.
Kindergarten through 8 th grade	7:50 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 7:50 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. (minimum days)

Clubhouse 6:45 -7:50 am. and 3:00-6:00 pm.
12:15 – 6:00 pm. (minimum days)

Before/After Preschool Program 7:00 – 8:00 am. and 12:30 – 6:00
pm.

➤ **When does school begin for the 2011-2012 school year?**

The first day of school is **Wednesday, August 22, 2012** - School begins at 7:50 a.m. and ends at 12:15 p.m. Before and after school extension is available the first day of school.

➤ **Are there additional responsibilities for parents/guardians?**

Parents/guardians are expected to take an active role in their child's education. Families are encouraged to attend weekly Mass with their child(ren). Each family is asked to complete 25 hours volunteering to help with the maintenance and activities of the school. Families that do not participate and do not complete their parent hours will be charged a supplementary registration fee of \$200 upon registering for the 2013-2014 school year.

➤ **How will parents/guardians receive information about the school during the school year?**

Families will receive a bi-monthly envelope that will go home with the youngest child of the family every other Wednesday. Families are asked to sign the envelope, remove the contents, and return the envelope the next day. Additional information will be found on the school website. Alerts will take place by telephone should they become necessary.

➤ **What sports are available?**

Grades 5-8 Volleyball, flag football, basketball, track and field.

➤ **Will students be allowed to go on field trips?**

Students may go on field trips that are educational in nature. As per Diocesan regulations, parent drivers must have fingerprint clearance, Shield the Vulnerable clearance, and the appropriate amount of insurance to drive students.

➤ **How secure is the campus?**

During the school day, our campus is closed. Access can only occur through the front office area. Visitors are required to sign in and will be given a visitor's pass to be on campus. A safety plan and emergency plan has been designed with the assistance of police and fire personnel.