



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL FAQ

Does my child have to be Catholic to attend St. Mary's School?

No. Currently, 23% of our student population is non-Catholic. All students will participate in religion classes and all spiritual activities as part of our curriculum.

Are scholarships available for tuition?

The full cost of educating a student at St. Mary's School is approximately \$6,600 annually. By the generosity of our parishioners, the parish invests in each student resulting in a base tuition rate of \$4,264 per child. Additionally, families are given parishioner and multiple student discounts. Financial assistance is available for income-eligible families. A complete tuition schedule and scholarship information can be found on our website.

Are there any other tuition discounts?

All new families receive a one-time, new-family tuition discount. Any family referring a new family to SMS will receive a referral discount.

Are payment plans available?

Yes. Tuition and fees may be paid in one, two, ten, or twelve installments. All payments are made to FACTS Management.

How do I get up-to-date information or calendar changes?

A weekly bulletin is emailed to each family every Thursday. You will also receive texts and emails from our Facts Parent Alert System.

What are the hours of the school day?

Our day begins at 8:00 and we dismiss at 3:00. Students who ride the bus will be escorted to Central School at 2:15.

What door do I drop my child off at in the morning?

Parents will enter the parking lot on Chicago Street, stop at the gym doors to drop off their child, and exit onto Howard Street. This is a one-way driveway.

What is the dress code?

Students may wear navy or khaki bottoms and white or navy tops.

- Boys will wear pants. Shorts may be worn during hot weather.
- Girls may wear pants or skirts. Girls in grades K – 3 may wear jumpers. Shorts or capri pants may be worn during hot weather.

Please refer to our handbook (available on our website) for a complete list of uniform options.

Are P.E. uniforms required?

P. E. uniforms are required for students in grades 4 – 8.

Are masks required?

Masks are required at this time.

Are hot lunch and milk available to students?

Students will be divided into three lunch periods and eat in the MPR (multi-purpose room). Students may bring a sack lunch or order hot lunch from Central School. Milk is available to students in the MPR. From time to time, student will have the opportunity to sign-up for special hot lunches, gondola lunches, and pizza lunches. All charges for milk and lunches will be billed to your FACTS account. Lunch money should be paid online to FACTS.

What is required to be a volunteer at the school?

All volunteers must complete the requirements of the Safe Environment Program as mandated by the Diocese of Peoria. There are many opportunities to volunteer at St. Mary's School. Some of these include being a room parent, reading to kindergarteners, walking students to speech classes at Central School, and helping in the library. Please note, for the 2020-2021 school year, families will be notified when we are able to allow volunteers into the building.

Updated 8/17/21