

In this week's edition of Curriculum Corner, I wanted to address our move away from regents from a governance perspective. St. Mary's High School has always been a registered school with NYSED. That will not change!

This registration has always maintained that we follow the academic standards of the state... including course requirements, curriculum, and regents' exams. Although we are deviating from their mandates... Our move toward a more progressive curriculum and a 21^{st} century approach to learning allows us to far exceed the state standards. Our new standards are actually higher than the state.

Although still registered with the State of New York, St. Mary's is also now pursuing an internationally recognized accreditation known as Middle States. The Middle States Association is an outside agency that will serve as an independent voice assisting us in a self-study and helping us to align our curriculum with our goals for self-improvement.

The process for Middle States Accreditation is done in several stages and will involve many of our stakeholders, including students, teachers, members of our school board, and parents. We have already created a School Improvement Team to help facilitate the process, collect data, and communicate findings. The process is expected to take about a year.

The accreditation process will undoubtedly yield very positive results. Our school is in the midst of a period of tremendous growth and positive transformation. The Middle States accreditation process will help to ensure that we are growing responsibly and at an appropriate rate. At St. Mary's High School, we pride ourselves on being the preeminent leader in education and preparation for what comes next... Middle States accreditation helps us continue on that pathway!

If you have any questions about this process, please feel free to send them to me at kjunik@smhlancers.org

GO LANCERS,

Additions to last week's comments...

In last week's SCOOP I had posted our new graduation requirements, including the additional work needed to complete our new "Marian Honors Diploma" I forgot a key component! In addition to Honors and AP courses, in addition to more community service hours…an Honors diploma recipient must also complete:

- A three-year Foreign Language sequence.

Or –

- 4 High School credits in the Fine Arts
 - (8 1-semester classes in art/music/varsity chorus)

Monday, September 23 rd	(A Day)	
LET°S GO BUFFALO Rec	\$2 Charity Dress Down (see below)	
	MUST wear Bills Gear!	
Tuesday, September 24 th	(B Day)	
	Academy Schedule	
	Regular Dress Code	
Wednesday, September 25 th	(C Day)	
	Regular Schedule	
	Regular Dress Code	
Thursday, September 26 th	(A Day)	
	Academy Schedule	
	Regular Dress Code	
Friday, September 27 th	(B Day)	
	Regular Schedule	
	Regular Dress Code	

Last week, our charity dress down went to Stitch Buffalo as they help us with a quilt project the students worked on the first day of school. More about Stitch Buffalo can be found here: <u>https://www.stitchbuffalo.org/</u>

This week, our charity will go to a St. Mary's graduate in need. Mary (Bittner) Gutierrez, Class of 2011, has had a tough go of it... I will let you read more at



Looking to get a few service hours early in the school year?

Looking to get out there and get involved?

We have the perfect opportunity...

We are looking for students to help us during our 7 $^{\rm th}$ and 8 $^{\rm th}$ grade OPEN HOUSE.

Sign up in the Main Office with Mrs. Drabik! Come and be a greeter, a tour guide, help a teacher in a classroom, or represent your sports team.

Open House is Sunday, September 29th from 9 am-12 pm & Monday, September 30th from 5 pm- 7pm.







Welcome to our newest page in the SCOOP... THE PICTURE PAGE! Our Content Creation Academy will send photos every week as they capture the goings on around school!

- Deacon Robb and the Blessed Mary (Top Left)
- A freshmen pose during academy of the first year (top right)
- Mr. Dormann rocking Health Science professional's academy (middle right)
- A Lesson Plan with Mrs. Walh-Henshaw in Education (middle left)
- And... our Principal posing outside the school on a gorgeous September day (bottom right)



To the neighbor who wrote us a \$50 check...

A neighbor of the school, Mrs. Faulhaber, observed Mrs. Powers and her classes on a "Faith Walk" last week. She said she is always so impressed with our students and wants to give a little to help out!



On behalf of the entire school... **<u>THANK YOU</u>** Mrs. Faulhaber! Your words inspire and your donation will make a difference!



FAFSA Presentation

Richard Pomeroy from Grand Canyon University will be giving a presentation on FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on Wednesday, Oct. 23rd, at 6:30 p.m. in the school Auditorium. Though this presentation is designed for Senior Parents as they begin to fill out forms for Financial Aid for next year, all parents are invited to learn more about Scholarships and the College Application Process.

Senior Classes

Mrs. Kimpel continues to visit all Senior Religion classes, assisting students with filling out their Common App and the SUNY App, discussing how to obtain scholarships, and answering their post-St. Mary's questions.

College Visits

Representatives from the following colleges will be visiting St. Mary's in the upcoming weeks: - Thursday, Sept. 26, 10:00 a.m. - SUNY Geneseo

- Friday, Sept. 27

- 10:45 a.m. Keuka College
- 1:00 p.m. Golisano Institute
- Monday, Sept. 30, 10:00 a.m. University of Scranton
- Tuesday, Oct. 1, 1:00 p.m. SUNY Brockport
- Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1:30 p.m. Canisius
- Thursday, Oct. 3, 12:45 p.m. St. Bonaventure

Juniors & Seniors - please contact Mr. Kidder to sign up to visit with any of these representatives.



Upcoming events...

Monday, October $7^{th} - 10^{th} \dots$	Homecoming Week	ITUIDD
Tuesday, October 8 th	Walk-a-thon	ITHIRD GOD. OTHERS. SELF.
Thursday, October 10 th	Homecoming Dance	
Friday, October 11 th	NO SCHOOL (Professional Development Day)	
Monday, October 14 th	NO SCHOOL	
Wednesday, October 16 th	Standardized Testing Day (9 th – 11 th grade) Senior Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral	
Thursday, October 17 th	The Lancer Cabaret (Flyer above) 7pm	
	Picture Retakes	
Thursday, October 24 th	Freshmen Retreat	
Thursday, October 31 st	Halloween Dress-up day	
Friday, November 8 th Saturday, November 9 th	Fall Musical	
<i>November</i> 15 th – 18 th	Senior Trip to Disney World	
November 21 st	Sophomore Retreat	
November 27^{th} – Dec. 1^{st}	Thanksgiving Break	
December 2 nd	National Honor Society Induction Ceremony	
December 19 th	St. Mary's Christmas Show	

