



August 2016

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer vacation and resting up for what looks to be an exciting 2016-2017 school year. I would like to take this time to introduce myself and let everyone know how thrilled I am to be joining the Christian Brothers High School family. I come to Christian Brothers from Kansas City, Missouri. I served as Principal at Archbishop O'Hara High School, a Lasallian high school, for the past five years. I have been involved with Lasallian education for 16 years as a student, teacher, coach and administrator, and look forward to serving Christian Brothers as Principal in the 2016-2017 school year. I look forward to meeting all the CB families and I am eager to share my love for Lasallian education, spiritual growth, outstanding academic excellence, and so much more. I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and look forward to seeing you in the next few weeks.

Each opening of the school year brings new members to the Christian Brothers community. This year *new members* of the family include approximately 300 freshmen, 7 international students, 10 transfer students, 6 new faculty, and 3 new staff members. All of the faculty and staff look forward to our partnership with you this year in providing outstanding educational opportunities for your child.

Please read the following vital information for the start of the 2016-17 school year:

Final **class schedules** with assigned teacher and counselor names, room numbers, and assigned lockers, **are being mailed to new freshmen and transfer students, and available on Power School for returning sophomores, juniors and seniors.** All class change requests must be submitted to Assistant Principal David Desmond. Beginning August 17, class changes require a fully completed course transfer form which is available from your counselor. **No class changes will be permitted after 8:00 am, Wednesday, August 24.** After this date, class schedule changes may only be initiated by a student's teacher or counselor on his/her behalf. **Class change requests based solely upon student preference for a particular teacher will not be considered.**

For those of you new to our community, the [Falcon Family News](#) is a monthly communication from the school to our parents and students that contains important information relative to all areas of school life. The August Falcon Family News will be posted on the CB website under the "About Us" tab.

The 2016-2017 [Parent-Student Handbook](#) is posted on the CB website under the "Parents" tab. The Handbook establishes the parameters of our partnership as a school community. *Please read and review the Handbook carefully.* Particular attention needs to be given to CB's Attendance Policy, our Honor Code, the Responsible Use Policy regarding technology, and the **Dress Code policy that will be enforced beginning the first day of school.** A reminder that submitting registration and enrollment materials for a student at Christian Brothers High School is deemed an agreement on his/her part, and on the part of his/her parents/guardians, to comply with all policies, rules, guidelines, and regulations of the school as outlined in the 2016-2017 Parent/Student Handbook.

The [online school calendar](#) has been updated for 2016-17. It contains important dates, events, and activities for the upcoming school year and the daily rotating schedule for classes. *Always re-check the calendar posted on the CB website for the most up-to-date information!* Changes will also be noted in the *Daily Bulletin* posted each day on the website. Beginning on Friday, August 19, you will continue to receive a **weekly email message** with timely information about upcoming meetings, events and activities that may involve your student.

There are several important items that are available as needed on the CB website under the [Parents tab](#), Information and Forms. These include an invitation to our **Ice Cream Social/New Parent Orientation**; a **letter for seniors** and their parents; a **volunteer sign-up** link; a **confidential request form from our Counseling and Guidance department** regarding specific

requirements your child may need to have addressed while at CB; and information about the [Appryse student medical database required for all students](#) and **voluntary student accident insurance** to cover school –time accidents and/or illness.

Freshmen and transfer parents are cordially invited to our **New Parent Orientation** which takes place on **Friday evening, August 12**. Freshmen students and new parents are invited to an **Ice Cream Social** on the Main Lawn from **6:00-7:00 p.m.**; **9th grade students** will then begin their **Lock-in** experience in the George Cunningham '40 Performing Arts Center, and parents will join us from **7:00-8:00 p.m.** for New Parent Orientation in the Jack Witry Field House. We hope to see you there! **Transfer students** will have their **orientation on August 16** from 12:00-2:00 p.m. in Room 105.

PowerSchool is an important resource for accessing information regarding student attendance and academic progress. You may access this web-based program using your student and parent user name and password which will not change for returning students (unless requested by you). The parent and student portal will go live in August 1. ***User log-in info for all new parents and students (frosh and transfer) will be distributed at the New Parent Orientation on Friday, August 12.*** Questions regarding access to PowerSchool may be directed to our Registrar, Mrs. Jan Warren (733-3632). **Quarter report cards will no longer be mailed home, but instead at the end of each quarter will be finalized on PowerSchool. Semester report cards will be mailed home.**

Our LMS (**Learning Management System**) called **Schoology** is another powerful tool for students to manage and monitor learning. All teachers post homework assignments to **Schoology** on the day the homework is assigned so students may easily access what is due in each class. **Schoology** is a terrific way for students to organize their time (acts as an Agenda/Datebook), check and submit homework, participate in class discussion threads, access resources, communicate with teachers, and more! **For parents, checking for assigned homework on Schoology and grade postings on PowerSchool regularly continues to be the most efficient and accurate way to monitor your child's school progress.**

By this time, all incoming students should have signed up for one of our Freshman **Technology Boot Camps**. Please contact our Educational Technology Specialist, Brittany Williams (733-3646) if you need to register your freshman for one of those sessions. ALL STUDENTS must make sure their iPad is ready for the school year by following the instructions under the iPad Program tab of the school's website. Please note that ALL students will need to reinstall Meraki in order for their device to be able to connect to the campus wireless network.

All parents are invited to a **technology workshop** in the George Cunningham '40 Performing Arts Center on **Monday, August 15 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.** No sign-up is required to attend. The school will also be showing the documentary, "Screenagers", about teaching digital citizenship and appropriate use to our children, on **Thursday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m.**, also in the theatre. We hope you join us for both events as we partner together to enable our students to become healthy and responsible digital citizens.

Back-to-School Night will take place on **Thursday, August 25** beginning at **5:30 p.m.** This is an excellent opportunity for parents to meet their child(ren)'s teachers and learn more about curriculum content and teachers' instructional goals, classroom policies and procedures, assessment methods, etc. We look forward to seeing you there!

We will begin our new school year together celebrating who we are as a community as we ask God's blessing upon all that we will share and experience together. Parents are welcome to remain on campus following the **Welcome Back Coffee on Wednesday, August 17**, and join us for the **opening day of school Prayer Service. All students are to wear CB polo shirts the first day of school for the prayer service** (dress code shorts are permitted).

Live Jesus in our hearts forever!



John O'Connor
Principal