



St. Francis School
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March 25, 2022
Solemnity of the Annunciation of Mary

Dear SFS Families,

I write to you as both the School and the Parish Finance Council are already looking towards next year with the budgeting process. The school is strong, and there are so many good things happening here that continue to make this ministry of Saint Francis Parish viable and thriving!

I wish to write to just give you a heads up on a new Tuition Scale that will go into effect this upcoming '22-'23 Academic Year.

I have alluded to you over the years in previous correspondences about my frustration with the current scale, as it appears to be a smattering of arbitrary numbers which feels almost impossible to predict what the cost will be for your children from year to year. Fixing this has been a challenge because, after decades of using the current scale, it makes it hard to simplify and have a single rate without gouging some with high increases, so it's remained a challenge. Of late, though, because of our financial health and the enormous increase of financial assistance available to us to give out, new opportunities for a simple straightforward rate have come about, and this is what I want to explain here.

Before I begin, keep two things in mind: 1) these are top-line numbers before any aid is distributed, and 2) there will be a subsidy given – in addition to any aid – to any practicing Catholic family attending the school.

The rates for all Full-time Students (attending 180 Days of School) from PS3 – 8 is as follows:

1 Full-time Child	\$4,500
2 Full-time Children	\$6,750
3 Full-time Children	\$7,875
Fourth Child	Free

Where did these numbers come from? Simply, it is based on a flat rate of \$25/day.
So, for 1 child, $\$25 \times 180 \text{ days} = \$4,500$.

For 2 children, the second child gets 50% off (\$12.50). So, $\$25$ (1st child) + $\$12.50$ (2nd child) = $\$37.50$ / day x 180 days = $\$6,750$.

For 3 children, the third child gets 75% off. So, $\$25$ (1st child) + $\$12.50$ (2nd child) + $\$6.25$ (3rd child) = $\$43.75$ /day x 180 days = $\$7,875$.

Saint Francis School, Educating Minds & Empowering Souls

This year we are introducing Preschool as a Full-time option for families! A family with a full-time PK student would simply follow the above tuition scale. Those PK students who choose to go Part-time and attend 3 days a week would have a tuition rate of 3/5th (108 days), or \$2,700. Any PK3 child who only wishes to go 2 days a week would simply pay 2/5th (72 days), or \$1,800. Part-time PK students will go full days.

Lastly, there will be applied, before any aid, a subsidy to all practicing Catholic families who are Full-time students. Subsidy money to the school is provided from two sources: Saint Francis Parish (approx. \$130,000) and from the neighboring parishes in the area (approx. \$20,000). These subsidies are given to the school for the assistance of operations, thereby eliminating the need to increase tuition by another \$150K! This is the reason there has been a Catholic and non-Catholic rate. So that those families who are practicing Catholics can still have the contributions they are making to their parishes assist in their children's education, those Catholic families will receive a subsidy (from those funds) in the following amount:

- 1 Full-time Practicing Catholic Child: \$500 subsidy
- 2 Full-time Practicing Catholic Children: \$750 subsidy
- 3 Full-time Practicing Catholic Children: \$1,000 subsidy

Again, this is applied before any aide is given and is awarded to only Full-time students. As an example, a practicing Catholic family sending 3 Full-time children to SFS would, as a top-line number, have a tuition of \$7,875. Because they have three Full-time children and are practicing Catholics, they would immediately receive a \$1,000 subsidy. Therefore, before any aid is applied, their tuition is already decreased to \$6,875.

Another example for us to walk through would be for a non-Catholic family with a Part-time PK student going 3-days a week, and 2 Full-time students. The part-time PK student costs \$2,700. The 2 Full-time students cost \$6,750. Therefore, $\$2,700 + \$6,750 = \$9,500$ before any aid. You can think of that as \$20 / day for each of those kids. But, if that PK student went Full-time, tuition would be for 3 Full-time students, \$7,875, or about \$15/day for each kid! In this same example, if the family was practicing Catholics, the scenario where the PK child is Part-time, this family would receive the \$750 Catholic Subsidy for they have 2 Full-time students: $\$9,500 - \$750 = \$8,750$. But, where the PK child is Full-time, they would be charged for 3 Full-time students and receive the \$1,000 subsidy: $\$7,875 - \$1,000 = \$6,875$.

Some of the guiding principles behind this Tuition Scale are that it costs the same to educate a child regardless of religious belief and grade level. Secondly, clean numbers, like \$25/day are easy to visualize and understand. For families having two or more children, a clean 50% and 75% discount is also easy to see and understand. And, lastly, parents should be able to have clear numbers as they are planning their annual family budgets, so sticking to clean numbers like these can help families in that. In a world where costs and expenses are seemingly out of control and chaotic, I hope this can bring some clarity and calm to your mind when thinking about, and planning for, the future costs of your family's education!

Sincerely,

Fr. Brandon Kleckner

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