



Est. 2001 Principal's Message – June 2018 – #3

Visit Us on the Web At: [www.icsannandale.org](http://www.icsannandale.org)

### **From Mr. Stone's Desk**

Greetings Immaculate Conception School Community,

Good luck. So long. Aloha. Go with God. Adios.  
See ya later. Fair thee well. God bless. Peace out.

There are many ways to say goodbye, to part ways. Sometimes we do so under difficult circumstances even as we realize that we must forge ahead. Sometimes we do so simply as a matter of closing an event or a chapter in our lives. Moving on can be sudden or it can linger for a bit over time. Choosing a path less traveled can be exciting even as we leave behind the familiar, the known, perhaps even the cherished.

For schools, most folks probably view the month of June as a time whereby we collectively wrap up a school year while appreciating a sense of earned accomplishment – we made it through the year! Then the natural tendency may involve looking forward to spending time with friends and family members as we engage in summertime activities. Will the parent(s) have any vacation time available? Will the youngsters go to camp or to the local Boy's and Girl's Club perhaps? How about time with extended members of the family? You know grandma and grandpa are good for some yummy ice cream during summer, maybe even a trip to a local fair. Let the good times shake, rattle and roll!

It's natural. September-June represents such a large chunk of the year that our lives become consumed with school, lessons, volunteer responsibilities, work, etc. Thus, when Alice Cooper's "School's out, for, the summer" anthem finally comes around we know that it's time to take a break. We can look ahead to a new school year down the road, when the latter part of August arrives.

I, however, look at June through somewhat bittersweet lenses, as a time of transition, a time of saying goodbye. In my admittedly biased opinion, I believe that our staff worked hard on behalf of kids.

Yes, there were a few challenges. There are always challenges here and there to deal with, yet I believe "student spiritual growth, academics, and moral integrity" were well served. I believe this primarily because of the care, effort, faith, talent, and love given by our families, teachers and staff members, Fr. Jay, Fr. Edgar, Sr. Anna, volunteers, etc., all of whom recognize that we are here to selflessly serve students via the mission of our Catholic school.

Now, as our school year ends and summer looms, I realize that changes will also be on the horizon. We know that some families will be moving for job transfers, geography, or other family-based decisions. Folks, including returning families, our dedicated clergy, and school personnel will be striving to help spread the word about Immaculate Conception School, recruiting new folks. A number of new school staff members will be hired.

Then, as the warm and perhaps more relaxed days of summer start to wind down, new and returning folks alike will get together for the orientation and ice cream social events at the end of August, renewing and charging up a new sense of school community, looking ahead to what should be a great year of school here at Immaculate Conception.

There's a lot going on, changes are inevitable, yet a commitment to providing a quality academic program that is infused with Catholic values will continue to remain the foundation of ICS.

Such is life. Time marches on inexorably, changing of the seasons, changing of the guard. Good luck to those of you within our school community who will be making a transition. Fair thee well and God Bless all of you in your future endeavors. Aloha to both you who are joining the community as well as those of you who recently celebrated completion of your ICS education. Spending time together as a community allows us to develop a common bond, knowing that we can put our trust and faith in God both now and with respect to whatever the future may hold.

Thank you for all that you do. Peace Out, -David

# REMINDER

06/19 – Last Day of School – Dismissal at 12:15p.m.  
No After Care – **Happy Summer Break** ☺

06/20-24 – **Parish Festival** – Woo-hoo!

07/25 – HSA Used Uniform Sale Event, 9a.m.-1p.m.

08/30 – **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL** (K-8)

**ICS Summer Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday,  
9:00a.m.-1:00p.m., starting June 25<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome.



## Transitions and Updates – 2018-2019

Colleen Tropeano – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Robin Bloom – 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math and TV Tech

Rebecca Fickas – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math and Science

Monica Sharp – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade LA and Social Studies

Rebecca Fickas and Karen Smith  
– Student Council Staff/Teacher Advisors

# Help Wanted

## 2018-2019 Employment Opportunities at ICS

FT Music Teacher  
FT 4th Grade Teacher  
PT PreK4's Teacher - 5 days/week  
PT Art Teacher - 3-1/2 days/week  
PT School Counselor - 3 days/week  
PT Technology Teacher - 3 days/week  
PT Spanish Teacher - 3-1/2 days/week  
PT Early Childhood Education Aide / After Care

To be considered interested candidates need to submit a cover letter, resume, completed diocesan application form, and copy of teaching certificate. Applications will be reviewed as received.



## **School Uniform Matters – Dear ICS Parents,**

A dedicated group of parents and teachers met to discuss modernizing the school uniform. A survey was sent out to parents with a great response rate, and after a few hours of discussion and debate, the following decisions were made. Thank you for all of the feedback!

There will be no changes to the dress uniform. A hoodie is being phased in for the gym crewneck sweatshirt. There will be a transition period of (2) years where students can wear their previously purchased crewneck sweatshirts. We strongly encourage you to purchase the hoodie, as the crew neck sweatshirts are no longer offered on the Flynn and O'Hara website as an option.

Grades one through four girls will now have a warm weather skort available in the blackwatch pattern as an alternative to the jumper. This will only be worn during the autumn and spring months where the students can have the option of shorts.

A hunter green polo shirt will now be offered as an option for the boys and girls daily uniform, since nearly 80% of respondents reacted very positively to this change. The white polo will still be an option for the daily uniform. Thank you to everyone who took the time to meet and/or give feedback.

[Thank You Mrs. Smith for facilitating matters!]

## **Prayer for Immaculate Conception School:**

Dear Lord, bless our Catholic school. Help us to continue to be a humble source of wisdom, always yearning to learn more about your tremendous love for us. May all who enter Immaculate Conception School be filled with the gift of your Holy Spirit, coming to know you in a more meaningful way. Guide us as a community that respects and welcomes everyone. May Catholic education continue to grow so that your good news can be taught to children throughout the world. In your son Jesus's name we pray, Amen.





## HOPE

*"Even now I know it, yes, all my hopes will be fulfilled...yes, the LORD will work wonders for me, which will surpass infinitely my immeasurable desires." – St. Therese of Lisieux*

"How strange that the nature of life is change, yet the nature of human beings is to resist change. And how ironic that the difficult times we fear might ruin us are the very ones that can break us open and help us blossom into who we were meant to be." – Elizabeth Lesser

**17<sup>th</sup> Annual** Immaculate Conception Parish  
**Festival**  
**June 20-24**  
**316 Old Allerton Road, Annandale**

Date	Time	Event
June 20	6pm-10pm	Fireworks Night
June 21	6pm-11pm	Wristband Night
June 22	6pm-11pm	Pig Roast
June 23	6pm-11pm	Fireworks Night
June 24	4pm-9pm	Wristband Day

**Fireworks Nights – June 20, 23**  
(Rain date for June 23 is June 24)  
**Nightly Entertainment**  
**Pig Roast – June 22**  
**Rides, Games**  
**Tricky Tray, Super 50/50**  
**Food Tent Open Rain or Shine**  
**Information: 908.735.9564 or icfestival.org**  
**Sponsored by Immaculate Conception Parish.**