



SAINT RAPHAEL ACADEMY

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www.saintrays.org

August 2025

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and Students:

Welcome to our 2025-2026 school year! Our school year is set to begin on **August 28 for freshmen and transfer students** and will include the distribution of new computers and class schedules to all students, along with pictures taken for student IDs. **Students in grades 10-12 are expected to attend during designated times on August 29.** Please see the **orientation schedules** to verify the dates and times your student needs to be on campus. **Bus transportation does not begin until September 2, 2025, which is our first official day of classes,** so you will need to provide transportation for the students for these very important meetings.

We will be welcoming seven new faculty members along with more than 130 new students including freshmen, transfer students and international students. Additionally, Mrs. Morgan Gallagher, who previously was our English department chair will be joining me as an assistant VP of academics. Mrs. Rebecca Nelson will become our new English department chairperson.

We are anticipating another productive and exciting year for our Saints community. We will continue to provide numerous learning and teaching strategies while maintaining a strong focus on rigor, ensuring all our students are college-ready upon successfully completing all course requirements. Each of our faculty members may be reached via email and always respond in a timely manner, as do our guidance counselors. Your child's success is our foremost priority and communication is key to this happening.

Please note: Students in all math classes are reminded that they will need a graphing calculator (TI-84 or 84+) as we do not provide them.

Additionally, please make sure you and your student review the student handbook carefully regarding all policies pertaining to dress code, mandatory study, as well as eligibility criteria for students to participate in athletics and/or activities at Saint Raphael. These were created to ensure that *all* our Saint Raphael students are held accountable for their choices in an equitable and just manner.

Regular attendance and being on time for all classes are essential to your child's achievement in school. Saint Raphael Academy has detailed attendance and tardy policies, and all families are responsible for reading and understanding both as written in the Student Handbook, which are on PlusPortals under School Resources (www.plusportals.com/saintrays). All students should be in their first period classes

by 8 a.m. with the school day ending at 2:09 p.m. Excessive tardiness will result in a loss of points from the student's semester average. **Finally, family vacations are NOT considered excused absences**, so please plan accordingly. Your support for the school's policies helps students become successful in the classroom and beyond!

Thank you for entrusting your child with us, and please reach out to me should you have any questions regarding your child's academic success.

Sincerely,

Judith D. Baxter
Vice Principal of Academics