

# St. Francis Academy -December 2018

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. I - Issue ii



## *A Message from the Principal: Student Attendance*

St. Francis Academy and all the schools in the Diocese of Allentown have been asked to align their attendance procedures to comply with Act 138, a PA State Code regarding student attendance and truancy. In simple terms, the Act requires schools to:

1. **Notify parents when students have accumulated 3 unexcused absences.**
2. **Convene a Student Attendance Improvement Conference when a student has accumulated 6 unexcused absences or 10 total absences. (This will entail notifying the student's home district.)**
3. **Initiate plans to promote regular attendance, and/or to alert the home district to pursue truancy charges against parents—or students older than thirteen years of age.**

In order to establish a set of protocols to support compliance with the intent of Act 138, St. Francis Academy is asking that parents provide **written notes** for all absences. Teachers will be asked to send excuse notes to the office, where a comprehensive attendance record will be maintained to ensure that all absences are excused and therefore 'legal.'

We are asking for your support and assistance while we make some minor adjustments to our day-to-day procedures. The intent of Act 138 is to ensure that all students are provided access to a quality education, and that parents are held accountable for their children's regular and responsible attendance in school.

If there are extenuating circumstances, such as medical conditions, that have the potential to disrupt your child's attendance pattern, please confer with Mrs. Stull about making provisions to provide appropriate and acceptable excuse notes. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Dec. 3.—HSA Meeting  
Dec. 5—Tree Lighting—9:00 am.  
Dec. 5 — Report Cards  
Dec. 10—First Penance  
Dec. 14—Winter Dance—grades 6-8  
Dec. 15—Parish Open House  
Dec. 20—SFA Christmas Show—6:30 pm.  
Dec. 21—Early Dismissal—Dress Down

## Student Highlights

On Friday, December 7, First Graders will participate in a Pope John Paul II Christmas Party at the HS in Royersford, PA.

Used school uniforms from Flynn O'Hara will be available in the cafeteria from Dec. 3—7 from 8:00-8:30 am., and from 3:00—4:30 pm.

## CYO Basketball—Games

Boys Basketball CYO season continues through January with Varsity and developmental games.

- Dec. 1. @ St. Ignatius
- Dec. 2. St. Peter @ Berks Catholic
- Dec. 3. St. Margaret @ Riverside
- Dec. 8. @ LaSalle
- Dec. 9. St. Ignatius @ Berks Catholic
- Dec. 15. St. Peter @ LaSalle
- Dec. 16. St. Margaret @ St. Catherine

- Directions to Game sites will be posted on the SFA Website.

