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St. Barnabas School Open Enrollment Begins January 31st

When St. Barnabas announced it would return in-person, 5 days a week and offer a tuition discount for new families last summer, many parents began looking at St. Barnabas School as an education option for their children. By the time school began in September, most of the classrooms had waitlists, something the school hadn't seen since the 1990s. With uncertainty in many school districts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Barnabas quickly became one of the top new enrollment schools in the Cleveland Diocese with 63 new students this past year.

"We are so happy with our decision to move our kids to St Barnabas!" Parent Mary Ann Cordiano said. "They have provided a safe environment allowing kids to thrive academically. It is such a welcoming community and we appreciate the wonderful principal, teachers and staff." The Cordiano's reside in Brecksville, where schools have been virtual or hybrid since September.

Getting the students back in the classrooms, where they thrive not only academically but socially and emotionally, was top priority for Principal, Erin Fateanini. Guided by a COVID-19 Reopening Committee, composed of staff, medical professionals, and parents, the school created a Reopening Plan that allowed students and teachers to safely return to the classroom or choose a virtual at-home learning option. St. Barnabas virtual learners have received real time, live-streamed instruction all year and are very much a part of their classes.

"I thought we would enroll a few new families, but I had no idea we would have waiting lists for almost every class! The addition of these new families to the school has truly been a blessing." Mrs. Faetanini said. "Part of our differentiator has always been our small class sizes. We've been able to successfully keep our teacher-student ratio small with the help of additional teacher aides in each class, even with the new students in the classroom."

St. Barnabas School has had few COVID-19 cases since the beginning of the school year, and it is clear the reopening plan and safety measures put in place have been working well. All cases have been contact traced and confirmed as community spread originating outside the school. Governor Dewine has also announced this month, that students do not need to quarantine if there is a positive COVID-19 case within a school, when masked and socially distanced, as school is a safe place to be during the pandemic.

"In a school year with great uncertainty, St. Barnabas teachers and staff are a rock of stability for our family. Despite the challenges of this academic year, our boys have thrived not only in their education, but also in their social and spiritual development." Amanda Tagliaferro, a parent of two St. Barnabas



students, remarked. "We couldn't imagine getting through this academic year without our St Barnabas family!"

Open enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year begins January 31st for St. Barnabas School. All new students will be required to fill out an online application which can be found on the school website. Kindergarten applications are due by Friday, February 19, 2021. Kindergarten Screening dates are scheduled for March 2nd and 3rd. The Admissions Office recommends that you don't wait to complete your application as available spaces are limited.

Tuition assistance is available for those who qualify. The Diocesan Tuition Assistance program and St. Barnabas tuition assistance offers needs-based financial assistance to families with K-12 students attending a Catholic school in the Diocese of Cleveland.

"St. Barnabas School is unwavering in our commitment to offer the very best in in-person learning now and in the future. We are committed to making a Catholic education available for those who desire it. Our teachers are passionate about educating the whole person: spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and safely. We can't wait to meet you and welcome you to our family," said Faetanini.

For more information about admission for the 2021-2022 school year, please visit: <u>www.sbcatholicschool.com</u> or contact 330-467-7921.

St. Barnabas School is a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence K-8 Catholic grade school located in Northfield, Ohio. St. Barnabas School follows the educational curriculum developed and supported by the Catholic Dioceses of Cleveland. This curriculum meets and exceeds the requirements for the State of Ohio learning standards. For more information about St. Barnabas School, please visit <a href="http://www.sbcatholicschool.com">www.sbcatholicschool.com</a> or contact us at <a href="http://www.sbcatholicschool.com">admissions@barnabasohio.org</a> or 330-467-7921.

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