



SALES TALK

FOR THE PARENTS OF SALESIANUM SCHOOL

OCTOBER 6, 2014

A THOUGHT FROM ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

**Those who have made great progress will constantly press ahead,
never for a moment thinking that they have reached their goal.**

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Fr. Chris Beretta, OSFS – principal@salesianum.org

The Week Ahead: On Friday, the school will observe Founder's Day with Mass at school. Throughout the Oblate world, Founder's Day recalls the life of Blessed Louis Brisson, and his leadership and vision to found the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales in 1875. As Fr. Brisson sent three French Oblates to found Salesianum in 1903, we will remember not only the founding of the Oblates, but our own history.

Columbus Founder's Day Holiday and PSAT Next Week: A reminder that there are no classes on Monday, October 13 and Tuesday, October 14 (when the faculty and staff will be engaged in professional development). On Wednesday, October 15, all freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be in school to take the PSAT – seniors have another day "off" for a 5-day weekend. We hope their extended weekend is a good college visit time for seniors and their families!

Digital Question Box and Student Emails: Some excellent questions and feedback came in last week through the [Digital Question Box](#). Some questions will be answered under the appropriate sections of Sales Talk. Other questions will be addressed by responding to the individual parent directly, or be placed on the agenda for a future Parent Association "Town Hall" meeting. Feel free to submit questions via the link above or on the Parent page of the website.

I did want to address one question that has come up regarding the new format for Daily Announcements. As you know, at the end of last school year we assigned school email accounts to all students, who receive the daily announcements each night to help them plan for the next day. This email provides them with club meeting locations, service due dates, volunteer opportunities, and other information. We believe this encourages students to be responsible for announcements and deadlines, and plays an important role in their maturation and college readiness.

A handful of parents have asked if they can be included in this daily e-mail blast, but I have mixed feelings about this request. First, the daily announcements are already posted on the Parent page of the website, so that parents can check the announcements if needed. But more importantly, it is your son's responsibility to check his email each day. My concern for emailing announcements to parents is that this will serve to relieve students of the responsibility to check it themselves. We are trying to start a new routine with 1,000+ boys, and one thing that I have learned working with high school students over my career is that if you get in the habit of doing something for them, they will certainly let you. We encourage you to ask your son about the daily announcements as a means of reinforcing the importance of the information disseminated to them. If your son has questions for a specific staff member, encourage him to email the appropriate school personnel directly with questions about programs, deadlines, or assignments. These approaches prepare him well for the "next step" when he continues on to college.

The weekly Sales Talk parent newsletter, in addition to other emails with important information for parents, will continue to be sent directly to you. I prefer that the emails you receive from us contain important information specifically for parents! And for those concerned that their son may not yet be as responsible as we all hope he will be eventually, the link to the Daily Announcements remains a click away on the Parent page of the website. We can certainly review this process again in the months to come and re-evaluate. But for now, I want to keep the responsibility squarely on students, and I appreciate your understanding!

Fr. Chris Beretta, OSFS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Mr. Jude Szczerba, Dean of Academic Affairs – juszcz@salesianum.org

NetClassroom

We have about 13 class days left in the 1st academic quarter. Please review NetClassroom with your son, being especially careful to note assignments with a grade of “M.” It is possible that these assignments or assessments were missed due to absence, and your son must take care to make these up as soon as possible. In addition, as the last tests of the quarter are scheduled, please help your son plan ahead so that all studying is not attempted the night before the tests.

Extracurricular Eligibility

1st quarter report cards will be posted to NetClassroom on Tuesday, November 4th. On this date, a list of academically ineligible students will be circulated to activity moderators (coaches included). If your son is in danger of being ineligible to participate in activities for the 2nd quarter, there is still time to address this issue. Please carefully review the eligibility requirements on page 24 of the *2014-2015 Student Handbook*, [found online](#) or on the student iPad. Some requirements differ by school year; for example, a senior can become ineligible by failing 1 course required by the State of Delaware for graduation, regardless of his 1st quarter GPA. Students who become ineligible will not be able to try out for winter sports in November and December.

Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences

In an effort to improve the effectiveness of our Parent-Teacher conferences, we have separated the Fall conferences into two separate sessions. The 1st session, on October 8, is exclusively for the parents of freshmen; the 2nd session (November 19), is exclusively for the parents of sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Please keep in mind the following as you decide whether or not to sign-up for an appointment:

1. Most freshmen teachers have 20 or more freshmen. Carefully consider your son’s performance in each class. It may be best to only schedule a meeting if your son is doing poorly on assessments or struggling with work.
2. The conferences are designed for parents to discuss rather urgent academic issues with teachers. We do not want to discourage anyone from attending, but we also do not want to prevent parents from scheduling meetings that may be more urgent. If your son has made a good adjustment and seems to be doing well in a particular class, we would ask that you refrain from scheduling an appointment. In grade school, many parents are able to make it to conferences with all teachers, even if their children are performing well. In high school, because students have 7 or more teachers, it may not be feasible or necessary to meet with all teachers. Parents should not feel obligated to meet with the teachers. Keep in mind that conferences can be scheduled on other days throughout the school year if necessary.
3. If a particular teacher’s time slots fill online and you would still like to schedule an appointment, I would encourage you to email the teacher to request an appointment at another time.
4. On the evening of our conferences, it will be important for everyone to be faithful to the appointment schedule. If you are late to a scheduled appointment, it may be impossible for the teacher to reschedule it that evening.

For the first time, we will use an **online appointment system** to structure our conferences. The 10-minute time slots are designed for 5-7 minute meetings. If open slots remain, teachers will be available for “walk-ins.” A teacher’s schedule will be posted outside of his/her doorway on the evening of conferences. If you have trouble scheduling an appointment, please email the specific teacher or teachers.

1. Go to <https://salesianum.acuityscheduling.com/schedule.php>
2. Choose the calendar of a teacher of choice from the scroll down menu.
3. Choose October 8 using the calendar.
4. Choose an available appointment time. Appointment slots that have been taken will not show.
5. After the 1st appointment, quickly setup an account if you would like email reminders of your appointment(s).
6. Select “New Appointment” to schedule additional appointments for the evening.

STUDENT LIFE

Mr. Mike Gallagher, Dean of Student Life – mqallagh@salesianum.org

Mr. Bill Dinardo, Assistant Principal for Student Discipline - wdinardo@salesianum.org

Mr. Dan Jackman, Director of Student Activities – djackman@salesianum.org

Homecoming Dance

The Homecoming Dance will be held at Salesianum on Saturday, October 18 beginning at 7:30 PM and ending at 10:30 PM. We host this event outdoors in a tent placed between the Gym and Auditorium. Tickets are \$30 per couple and will be on sale during lunch periods on October 9 and 10. Tickets on sale during lunch periods on October 16 and 17 are \$40 per couple. Homecoming is a closed dance, so all guests must come as the guest of a Salesianum student. Please email Dan Jackman, Director of Student Activities, with questions about Homecoming.

Dress Code Guidelines for the Homecoming Dance: It is the responsibility of all students and guests to be appropriately and modestly attired for the dance. Students or guests who are not properly attired, or who change or modify their attire during the dance, will be sent home. We appreciate parental support of these policies both for their sons and their guests.

- **For boys:** Dress is business casual with a button down dress shirt, dress pants, and dress shoes. Young men are to be clean-shaven, meet school guidelines regarding length and style of hair, and are not to wear earrings.
- **For girls:** Our guests come from a number of different schools, and we want them to enjoy their experience. Understanding the expectations for attire and behavior in advance will help. Guidelines for the homecoming dance are more formal than open dances, and attire should as always reflect expectations consistent with a Catholic school event. Attire or dresses that are immodest, expose midriffs or cleavage, or are too short in length are not appropriate and will not be permitted.

Yearbook Senior Ads and Baby Pictures

Senior Yearbook Ads are now available for sale. Parents can include pictures and well wishes for your Sallies grad. All ad sales and designs are completed via the [Josten's website](#). The Yearbook team is also looking for senior baby pictures; upload baby pictures to [Josten's ReplayIt website](#).

GUIDANCE

Mr. Will Yarnell, Director of Guidance – warnell@salesianum.org

Early Action College Applications

Early action deadlines are quickly approaching (October 15 – November 15). If you have any questions about requesting transcripts please have your son see his college counselor.

PSAT Preparation

On Wednesday, October 15 we will have a special schedule as all underclassmen will sit for the PSAT. The PSAT is a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT. The test has [five sections](#) that measure critical reading skills, math problem-solving skills, and writing skills. This week the Guidance department met with freshmen, sophomores, and juniors to discuss the test and distribute a practice booklet. Read more [PSAT strategies](#).

Two 25-minute critical reading sections	Two 25-minute math sections	One 30-minute writing skills section
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 13 sentence completions• 35 critical reading questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 28 multiple choice math questions• 10 student produced responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 14 identifying sentence errors• 20 improving sentences• 5 improving paragraph questions

Students need to report to their assigned classrooms before 8:15 AM in full dress code with lanyard, jackets are not required. The test will end around 11:30 AM. Students must bring several #2 pencils and a calculator. There are no make-up days for the PSAT test as it is a National exam, it is important that all underclassmen are in school for testing.

ACT and SAT Registration

Students may file a late registration for the November 8 [SAT](#) by October 28 with payment of a late registration fee. The Deadline to register for the December 6 SAT is on November 6. The registration deadline for the December 13 [ACT](#) is November 7.

College Visits

We have 11 college visits next week, including the Ohio State University. A full listing for the week can be found on the [Daily Announcement](#) page. Seniors should log into Naviance to register.

FROM THE NURSE

Mrs. Suzanne Mansi, RN – smansi@salesianum.org (302)356-2637

Cold and Flu Season

With the onset of cold and flu season upon us, please encourage your son to wash hands regularly, avoid sharing drinks, and cover coughs and sneezes. Flu shots are recommended by the CDC for everyone 6 months of age and older. They are available from your physician or from many pharmacies and locations in your community.

SmartDrive

SmartDrive, a local non-profit organization dedicated to decreasing the number of teen driving injuries and deaths, is offering a free online Defensive Driving course for students in Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. This program would make you eligible for an insurance discount and give your son an opportunity to enroll in a scholarship incentive program. For more information or to sign-up, please go to www.smartdriveusa.org or call 1-888-553-6543.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Fr. Mike Vogt, OSFS, Pastoral Care Coordinator – mvogt@salesianum.org

We keep in prayer this week all members of our extended School Community:

For health, healing, and well-being:

- Gregory Quercetti '89, in treatment for leukemia
- Frankie Olivere recovering from surgery, a cousin of Junior Chris Argo

For all the faithful departed:

- Alexis Saville '56, father of Steve Saville '84, father-in-law of Mrs. Barb Saville of our main office staff and grandfather of Junior Stephen Saville
- Phyllis Peterson, grandmother of Senior Andrew Peterson
- **For all the names listed in our Salesianum Book of Remembrance kept in the school chapel.**

ALL LOVE, NO FEAR

SALESIANUM SCHOOL WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week of October 6 - 12

Monday October 6	<u>A-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u>
Tuesday October 7	<u>B-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u>
Wednesday October 8	<u>C-DAY: WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Faculty Meetings• Freshman Parent-Teacher Conferences, 6:00 – 8:30 PM
Thursday October 9	<u>D-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u>
Friday October 10	<u>E-DAY: AM ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School Mass, 9:00 AM, Birkenheuer Gym• Cross Country UD Invitational, 3:00 PM, White Clay Creek State Park• Varsity Football at Martin Luther King HS, 6:00 PM
Saturday October 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cross Country Manhattan Invitational• Varsity Soccer vs. St. Benedict's Prep, 7:30 PM, Caravel Academy
Sunday October 12	

SALESIANUM SCHOOL WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week of October 13 - 19

<p>Monday October 13</p>	<p>Columbus Day - No School</p>	
<p>Tuesday October 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Professional Development - No Classes • Varsity Soccer at Appoquinimink, 6:00 PM 	
<p>Wednesday October 15</p>	<p><u>SPECIAL SCHEDULE: PSAT TESTING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Classes for Seniors • Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors PSAT Testing, 8:15 AM - Noon 	
<p>Thursday October 16</p>	<p><u>G-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varsity Soccer vs. St. Mark's, Alumni Field, 8:00 PM 	
<p>Friday October 17</p>	<p><u>A-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Country - Joe O'Neill Invitational, Bellevue State Park, 3:00 PM • Varsity Football vs. St. Mark's, Baynard Stadium, 7:30 PM 	
<p>Saturday October 18</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varsity Soccer vs. William Penn, Alumni Field, 1:00 PM • Homecoming Dance, Salesianum, 7:30 PM 	
<p>Sunday October 19</p>		
<p>Looking Ahead...</p>	<p>Wednesday, Oct 22 Friday, Oct 24 Monday, Oct 27 Wednesday, Oct 29 Monday, Oct 3</p>	<p>NHS Induction, 7:00 PM, Birkenheuer Gym Underclassmen Picture Make-up Day End of 1st Quarter Encounter Retreat Begins Spirit Week Begins School Mass, Birkenheuer Gym, 9:00 AM</p>