



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

From the Office of the Principal

www.catholichigh.org

September 1, 2016

BROTHERS OF THE SACRED HEART: On September 30, the Brothers of the Sacred Heart will observe the 195th anniversary of their founding. This is a special day in the history of the Brothers and we are privileged to share the occasion with them. We will commemorate "Foundation Day" with a school wide Liturgy at 9:47 a.m. You are welcome to join us for this celebration.

SPECIAL SCHEDULES: ([CHS Calendar](#))

Monday, September 5: Labor Day holiday. No school for students.

Tuesday, September 6 – PLEASE NOTE: This is a regular day of school for all students.

Friday, September 9: Honor Board Assembly at 9:50 a.m. Regular dismissal.

Wednesday, September 14: Faculty Meeting. Dismissal at 1:27 p.m.

Friday, September 30: School wide Liturgy at 9:47 a.m. Regular dismissal.

CATHOLIC HIGH FLOOD RESPONSE: Over the past two weeks, I have received numerous emails from those affected by the flood who want to let me know how much help our students, faculty, and families have given to those in need. The words of praise are heartfelt and full of gratitude. Thanks to all of you who have given your time, talent, and energy to help those affected. And thank you for your sons who have represented their families and school so well. I am so proud of our Bear Nation and their willingness to serve. They are living examples of the Gospel values that Catholic High strives to instill in our students. Please watch the short-video informing our community on the Catholic High School relief efforts: <https://vimeo.com/180423415>.

In addition, I know that many of our own families experienced flooding in their homes and many are now displaced. I also know that many families now have additional family and friends living with them while their homes are being repaired. Our prayers are with all of you during this difficult time. I am also aware that many of our students are experiencing anxiety and stress because of these situations. If you feel that your son is experiencing difficulty, please do not hesitate to contact his school counselor or teachers to let them know about his situation. We certainly want to be compassionate and address the needs of our students due to the turmoil and uncertainty that so many are experiencing at this time.

CALENDAR ADJUSTMENTS: Last week I sent an email to all families with information about the adjustments we have made in the school calendar due to the days missed because of the flood. I am including the information again in this newsletter.

The adjustments made are to make up three of the six days lost due to the flood. We are only adding three days to the calendar and we have rescheduled some of the events that were postponed during that week. The changes are shown below. In particular, please note the new date for Back to School Afternoon: Sunday, September 11. We have also rescheduled the Catholic High Habitat build. Information about the build will be given to students in the next few weeks.

I do realize that some families may have already made travel plans for the adjusted dates and your son may not be able to be in attendance on the changed dates. If this is your situation, please email Dr. Eldringhoff, assistant principal for discipline, at teldringhoff@catholichigh.org to let him know of your circumstances.

DATE CHANGES ON CALENDAR DUE TO SCHOOL DAYS MISSED BECAUSE OF FLOODING: (Also see the attached revised school calendar)

Professional Development Days Cancelled – School Will Be in Session

- September 6 (Day After Labor Day)
- September 26 (Original Faculty Day of Experience)
- January 4

Events Rescheduled

- Honor Board Assembly – September 9
- Back to School Afternoon – Sunday, September 11
- Back to School Social/Dance – Thursday, September 22: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
 - Friday, September 23 – No assessment day (no homework, quizzes or tests will be due or given)
- CHS Habitat Build
 - October 22 & 23
 - October 29 & 30
 - November 11, 12 & 13

BACK TO SCHOOL AFTERNOON: Back to school afternoon has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 11, from 3:45 – 6:26 p.m. This afternoon is intended for parents only. We ask that you report directly to the gym for announcements and a brief presentation containing significant information for the 2016-2017 school year. This is an important presentation and we ask that you be in the gym no later than 3:45 p.m. on September 11. Following the presentation in the gym, our schedule will include 7-minute classes with 5-minute transit times. The brief class sessions provide you an excellent opportunity to meet your son's teachers and to preview the academic and behavioral expectations in each of his classes. After 3rd period, we will have another brief presentation in the gym for all parents to attend. Following the presentation, classes will resume. Attached is a blank student schedule which you should ask your son to complete for your use on September 11. Please be sure to use the schedule issued to your son at orientation as it will be the most current.

Because of the large number of parents attending "Back-to-School Afternoon," I suggest you plan to arrive no later than 3:30 p.m. Parking will be available in the Main Parking Lot and Westmoreland Shopping Center in the

part of the lot closest to CHS property. Security will be provided. Please do not park along the streets in the neighborhood. Understand that homeowners in the neighborhood can have cars ticketed or towed if they are in violation of city parking ordinances.

The Mothers' Club invites you to have refreshments in the Union during your son's lunch period.

SCHOOLWIDE LITURGIES: We gather as a school community approximately once a month to celebrate the Eucharist or to participate in some other form of communal prayer. The dates for our liturgies are as follows:

	Friday, September 30
Tuesday, November 1	Friday, March 17
Thursday, December 8	Thursday, April 13*
Wednesday, January 25	Wednesday, May 3
Tuesday, February 21	Friday, May 19
	*Prayer Service

Parents are welcome to join us for these gatherings held in our gym. Also, priests from around the diocese will be on campus on Thursday, September 15, and Friday, September 16, to give all students the opportunity to participate in the sacrament of reconciliation.

COURSE FEES: The fee for students enrolled in our Band courses is \$185.00. An explanation of the band fee is on page 57 of the [2016-2017 Student Handbook](#). The fee for Advanced Placement courses is \$95.00. All course fees are billed to the tuition account and are due on October 1, with the exception of freshmen taking the AP U.S. Government and Politics test. Freshmen parents will be billed in February for this test.

SENIOR EXAMS AND EXEMPTIONS: Seniors only may be exempt from final exams so it is important for seniors to begin the school year with an end goal in mind, including exemption from final exams. The exemption policy for seniors is as follows: for full year courses, a student who has a first semester A, and a third and fourth quarter A, is exempt from the final exam. In addition, seniors can be exempt from their semester senior religion course exam in either semester. Students must have an A for the first quarter and an A going into the final exam of the given semester religion course.

Out of fairness to students, a student who qualifies to be exempt from an exam should know by the beginning of "dead days" that he is exempt from the exam. Mid-term exams are December 13-16. December 12 is classified as a "dead day," which means that no assessments are due and no tests, quizzes or homework are to be given. Seniors in first semester senior religion classes should

know no later than Monday, December 12 if they are exempt from the exam.

STANDARDIZED TESTS: All students in grades 8 through 11 will take standardized tests on October 17, 18, and 19. The ACT Aspire Test will be administered to grades 8 through 10 on October 17 and 18. Students must attend school both days for testing. The PSAT will be administered on October 19 to all 11th graders, and to 9th and 10th graders who apply. Regular classes are not held during testing days.

This is the second year that Catholic High is administering the Aspire tests. They are computer-based tests and are part of the ACT family of tests. 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students will take reading and science on Monday, October 17 and English and math on Tuesday, October 18.

These tests are very important for your son and very important for our school. While test scores do not drive instruction, they do help determine the course of action for your son's academic success. Each of your son's teachers receives the results of his tests and uses these scores to determine what skills he needs in order to be prepared for college.

Please encourage your son to take these tests seriously and be proactive in analyzing your his scores. You should see an increase in his individual subject area scores from year to year. We view standardized testing as one more opportunity to partner with you in your son's education.

Test times will be posted in the October *Newsletter*. Please see page 49 of the [2016-2017 Student Handbook](#) for additional testing information. Results of these tests will be given to you later in the school year through your son. Please contact Mr. Chris Redden, testing coordinator, if you have any questions.

PSAT/NMSQT: This test is used to determine National Merit and National Achievement Semifinalists. It is required for all juniors and will be given on Wednesday, October 19. Regular classes are not held during testing days.

IMPORTANT CARPOOL GUIDELINES: Student safety is our primary concern as students are dropped-off and picked-up each day. The only locations allowed for drop-off and pick-up before school and after dismissal are the horseshoe drives on Claycut and Hearthstone. Students may not be dropped-off or picked-up in the senior parking lot or the Westmoreland parking lot. School proctors located in these areas are instructed not to allow drop-off or pick-up in these areas. Please follow

these guidelines in order to facilitate our transportation efforts. In the afternoon, we ask that you wait until at least 3 p.m. to pick up your son.

Parents may pick up their son in the senior parking lot at the conclusion of practices or meetings after 4:00 p.m. Please park in the designated parking spaces in the parking lot. Do not line up in the fire lane, handicapped areas, or driving lanes to pick up your son.

CELLULAR TELEPHONES: The school recognizes the convenience, logistical, and safety advantages of cellular phones. A student may have a cell phone in his possession while on campus, but it must remain turned off and be kept stowed away throughout the academic day (7:25 a.m. until 2:47 p.m.). Before 7:25 a.m. and after 2:47 p.m., a cell phone may be used only outside of buildings. Violations of this policy may result in confiscation of the cell phone and/or other corrective action. Confiscated cell phones are subject to search by the assistant principal for discipline. Please see the Student Handbook for further policies regarding cell phones. If a student needs to make a phone call during the academic day, it must be made through the assistant principal's office or main office.

STUDENT CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES: It is important to remember that school attendance is a priority and students should only check out in the event of illness or for appointments that absolutely cannot be scheduled after school hours. Parents should make every effort to schedule appointments that do not take students out during the school day.

On those rare occasions when a student does need to check out, he should bring a note either the day before or the morning of the appointment. The attendance secretary will give the student a note to leave class at the designated time and report to the assistant principals' office to sign out.

If an unforeseen and necessary circumstance occurs and a student must check out and he did not know about it, parents must call the school in advance. This situation should only occur in the rarest of circumstances. Please do not just show up at school to check a student out. It is also important to remember that not all absences are excused and consequences may be given to a student in those circumstances. Please consult the *Student Handbook* for further details. Thank you for your help in this important matter.

STUDENTS ON CAMPUS: The [2016-2017 Student Handbook](#) (page 26) addresses when students may and

may not leave campus: "From the time he arrives until the end of his last scheduled class period, a student must remain on campus. The assistant principal for discipline is the only person who can give a student permission to leave campus or to enter a restricted area." Students having 8th period unassigned may leave school following their 7th period class and return later to participate in extracurricular activities. However, students are not allowed to linger in the parking lots. Students with 1st period unassigned are allowed to arrive to school in time for 2nd period. Special schedule days should be noted so that unassigned 1st period students are not late for school.

In addition, once a student leaves the CHS campus, Catholic High School is no longer responsible for a student's safety. Students who walk in the neighborhood to get dropped off or meet a ride are no longer under our supervision and are responsible for their own safety. We highly discourage such action.

STUDENTS AFTER SCHOOL: Because of extracurricular activities or carpool arrangements, some students are not picked up until after 6 p.m. Students who stay on campus after school occasionally walk to area merchants between the end of school and the start of practice or pickup time. Because their academic day has ended, students are free to do so. The school is unable to provide any sort of supervision of a student once he leaves the campus. If you are uncomfortable with your son leaving campus after school, please discuss this matter with him. Snacks are available for purchase in the Union every day after school until approximately 3:15 and our library is open until 4 p.m. Please encourage your son to make use of these resources rather than leave campus. Students not involved in extracurricular activities who stay on campus after school in the mall or in the front of school to wait for rides are welcome to do so, but adult supervision is not on campus after 4:00 p.m. For those students participating in extracurricular activities, a coach or moderator should always supervise students during pick-up.

ACADEMIC CONVOCATION: Our Academic Convocation will be Monday, September 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the CHS gym. At this convocation we honor students who had a weighted cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher at the end of the 2015-2016 school year at CHS. Each young man being honored will receive a certificate and a pin recognizing his achievement. Also recognized are students who placed at State Rally in the spring of 2016, students who placed on the National Latin Exam, Cyber Discovery participants, and students being

recognized as National Merit Semifinalists. Five Catholic High School Foundation scholarships will be awarded at the end of the convocation. Qualifying students should receive a letter of invitation in early September. In order that students and their families are able to attend the Academic Convocation without worry of academic responsibilities, Tuesday, September 20, is a no assessment day. This means that students will not have homework, quizzes, or tests due on Tuesday. Families attending the Academic Convocation are asked to park in the Westmoreland parking lot.

FOOTBALL BROADCASTS: Catholic High football games will be broadcast live on 104.5 FM, ESPN Radio, Baton Rouge. Live audio streaming of our games will be available through their website, www.1045espn.com. You can also watch the live video streamed through our student-run Bruin Broadcast Network: www.bruinbroadcast.com

COLLEGE FAIR: The Baton Rouge National College Fair will be held on Monday, October 17, from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Baton Rouge River Center. Sophomores, juniors and seniors, along with their parents, are invited to attend this event. Last year, approximately eighty institutions from around the country were represented. Please make every effort to attend this event.

STUDENT DIRECTORY: A directory of information containing student and parent contacts is available through PlusPortals. To access the directory, log into your PlusPortals account and from the home screen select the "Directory" tab on the menu bar. Parents can also limit the visibility of certain information in the directory by selecting the drop-down arrow next to your name in the top-right menu, then "Directory," then "Listing," and uncheck the information you do not want displayed. For questions or concerns about PlusPortals, please email Jared Cavalier, academic assistant principal, at jcavalier@catholichigh.org.

PROGRESS ON THE CATHOLIC HIGH WEBSITE: In the August Principal's Newsletter, I informed everyone that Catholic High School has launched a new website and that there are still some functionality issues in these early stages. We continue to have some problems with the website. In particular, the "My CHS" tab continues to be problematic for a number of families. We are working to correct the issues, especially with the student accounts. Parents should now be able to see the balance on their son's account but seeing the activity on the account is still unavailable.

If you are having difficulty logging into "My CHS" please email Jay Butcher at jbutcher@catholichigh.org, rather than calling the Main Office. With your email information, Mr. Butcher can quickly resolve the problem. If you are having problems applying payment to your son's student account, please contact Pinney Johnson, Bookstore Manager.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to resolve the issues with our new website. I am confident that in the near future our website will become a primary source of information to assist you while your son is a student.

DUPLICATE MAILINGS: Information addressed and mailed home to students are sent to the address in our database designated as the student's primary address. We do make an effort to send information to parents who do not reside with their son(s). If you would like such information to be sent to you as well, please email Kathie Smith, registrar, at ksmith@catholichigh.org.

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<p>Important Dates 2016 86</p> <p>Aug. 1-2 Faculty & Staff Prof. Development</p> <p>Aug. 3-4 Student Orientation</p> <p>Aug. 5 1st day of school for 8th & 9th grades</p> <p>Aug. 8 1st day of school for all students</p> <p>Sept. 5 Labor Day holiday</p> <p>Oct. 7 1st quarter ends</p> <p>Oct. 16-17 Senior Retreat</p> <p>Nov. 21 - 25 Thanksgiving holidays</p> <p>Dec. 13-16 1st semester examinations</p> <p>Dec. 16 1st semester ends</p> <p>Dec. 19 - Jan. 2 Christmas holidays</p>	<p>Important Dates 2017 88</p> <p>Jan. 3 Faculty & Staff Development</p> <p>Jan. 4 2nd semester classes begin</p> <p>Jan. 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday</p> <p>Feb. 27-Mar. 3 Mardi Gras holidays</p> <p>March 6 Prof. Dev. (no school for students)</p> <p>March 10 3rd quarter ends</p> <p>April 3 Faculty & Staff Retreat</p> <p>April 14-21 Easter holidays</p> <p>May 5-10 Senior final examinations</p> <p>May 20 Graduation</p> <p>May 22-25 2nd semester examinations</p> <p>May 25 2nd semester ends</p> <p>May 26 Record Day 174</p>																																																												

Legend: **Circles** indicate holidays for students and faculty **Orange** Testing Days **Light Green** Special Schedules
Squares indicate holidays for students; professional development for faculty and staff
 Days Out - Flood Exams Faculty Meetings
 Professional Development Liturgy Retreat Days
 Standardized Test Prep Classes

- September 9 - Honor Board Assembly
- November 10 - Open House Schedule
- November 11 - Freshman Retreat/no school for other students
- December 12 - Christmas Concert
- March 20 - Junior/Sophomore Retreat & Job Shadow Day for seniors
- March 21 - ACT/PSAT Testing/Field Trip for Seniors
- April 7 - Challenge Pep Rally
- April 13 - Holy Thursday Prayer Service

Math Lab will be open at all lunch periods in room 125. ANY student is welcome to come by for math help during their lunch period.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4th	P. Patout	MacDowell	Summerville	P. Patout	MacDowell
5th	Bonine	Messenger	Robinson	Bonine	Messenger
6th	N. Patout	LeBlanc	Rhodes	N. Patout	LeBlanc

SCHEDULE FOR: _____

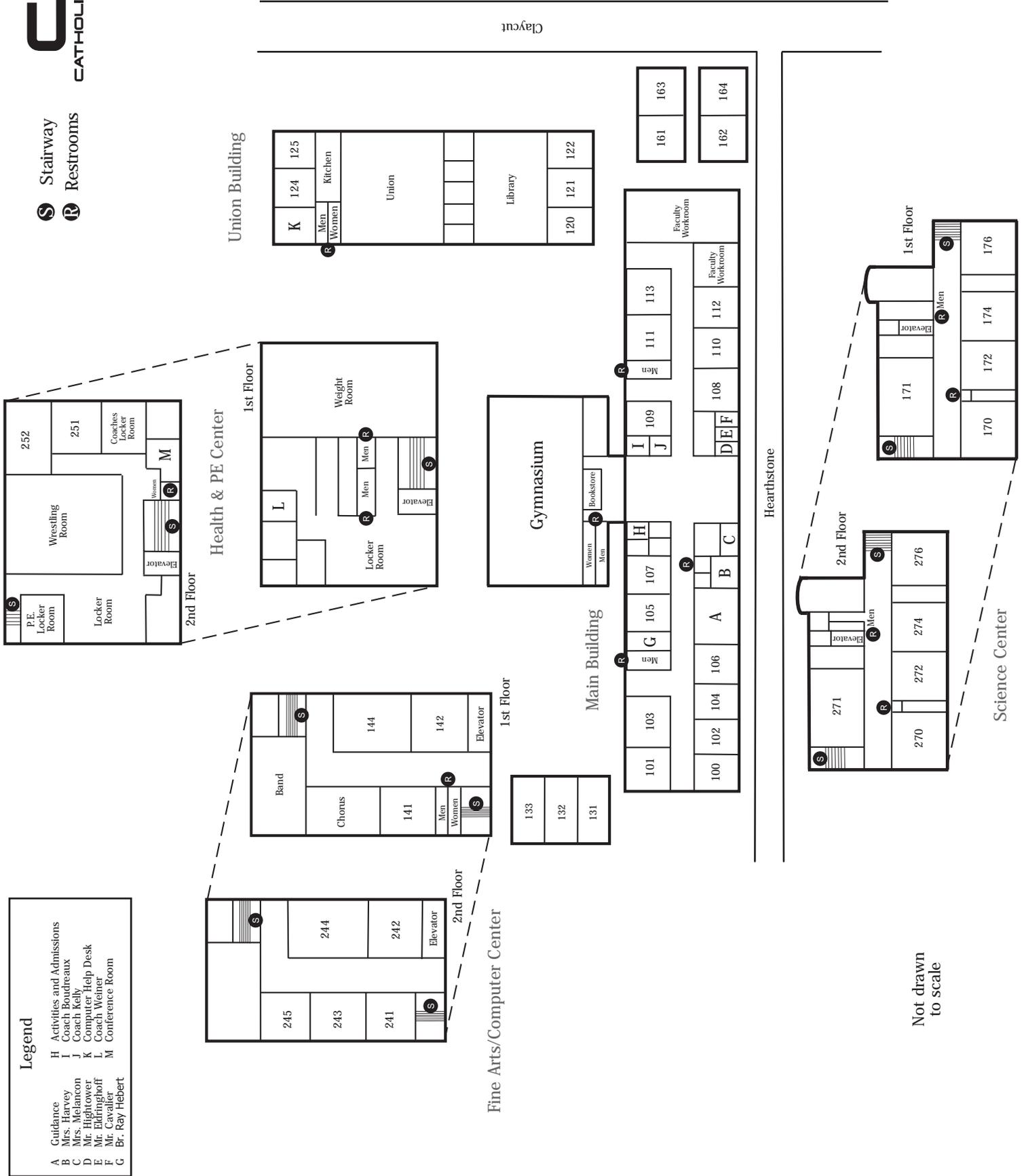
Use schedule from orientation.
Only classes for Semester 1 (S1) meet today.
Classes at SJA do not meet today.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Room</u>
Assembly (Gym) 3:45 - 4:15				
(A) 1st	4:20 - 4:27	_____	_____	_____
(B) 2nd	4:32 - 4:39	_____	_____	_____
(C) 3rd	4:44 - 4:51	_____	_____	_____
Assembly (Gym) 4:56 - 5:26				
(D) 4th	5:31 - 5:38	_____	_____	_____
(E) 5th	5:43 - 5:50	_____	_____	_____
(F) 6th	5:55 - 6:02	_____	_____	_____
(G) 7th	6:07 - 6:14	_____	_____	_____
(H) 8th	6:19 - 6:26	_____	_____	_____

S Stairway
R Restrooms

Legend

A	Guidance
B	Mrs. Harvey
C	Mrs. Melancon
D	Mr. Hightower
E	Mr. Eldringhoff
F	Mr. Cavalier
G	Br. Ray Hebert
H	Activities and Admissions
I	Coach Boudreaux
J	Coach Kelly
K	Computer Help Desk
L	Coach Weiner
M	Conference Room



Claycut

Hearthstone

Not drawn to scale