



## SACRED HEART OF JESUS SCHOOL

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*“Steeped in Catholic tradition, Sacred Heart of Jesus School is a diverse community dedicated to educating the mind, body, and spirit.”*

Dear Sacred Heart Parents and Prospective Parents,

Catholic Education in America has deep roots. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton is credited with establishing the foundation of the American parochial school system in the early 1800s through the ministry of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Joseph. Similarly, Sacred Heart of Jesus School has deep roots firmly planted in the 1920s by Reverend Dominic Blasco, first pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. Rev. Blasco, a strong advocate of parochial schools, placed a priority on building a new school before the construction of a larger church. Thus, in 1929, Sacred Heart of Jesus School became the first school built by a church parish in Baton Rouge. The Sisters of St. Joseph agreed to direct the school and the legacy of Sacred Heart began. Although the landscape of Catholic education has changed and evolved since 1929, the rich traditions of Sacred Heart of Jesus remain steadfast today, including the continued presence of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

As current families and prospective families anticipate or consider enrollment and re-enrollment at SH, I wish to reiterate our mission and commitments. Foremost, our purpose is clear: we are a diverse faith-centered community dedicated to the evangelization and education of our children in fulfillment of the school mission of the Catholic Church. We exist to partner with parents to instill Christian core values, such as witnessing the gospel message, serving one another, and passing on the light of faith. We value having good character, being a good citizen, and doing little things with great love. We care for one another as a family does. We are inspired by the Sacred Heart of Jesus and aspire to have a heart like His. Simply stated, this is who we are.

Speaking of “who we are,” integral to the completeness of our program as a whole is the vast number of current and former “Tigers” who enrich our school family. Sacred Heart students are our strength and inspiration; all that we do focuses on them. Our pastor, faculty, and staff commit to the implementation of the school’s mission, while parents, parishioners, and alumni support the vision through volunteerism and partnership. We are #SacredHeartProud and the greatest source of that pride is our family.

So, in conclusion, whether you are a new family or a current family who is considering enrolling or re-enrolling your child at Sacred Heart of Jesus School, consider this: who we are drives what we do, and the faithful execution of the Sacred Heart of Jesus mission pays life-long dividends for the children we are blessed to serve. Sacred Heart is *the small school making a big difference* and is truly a gift for life.

Sincerely,

Joanie Hutson, Principal