



# OPELOUSAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

428 E. Prudhomme St. | Opelousas, LA 70570 | (337) 942-5404 / Fax: (337) 942-5922 | [www.OCSvikings.com](http://www.OCSvikings.com)

February 1, 2018

Dear Viking Parents:

For over 160 years, Opelousas Catholic School and the Catholic institutions that came before have provided the students and families of St. Landry Parish with access to a Catholic education. Opelousas Catholic School is much more than an academic program, an athletic program, an extracurricular program. We are a Catholic program dedicated to enriching the lives of our students through the knowledge of and practice of our Catholic faith, instilling morals and values that will last a lifetime. It is that emphasis on our Catholic faith that sets us apart from other schools, public and Christian alike. Opelousas Catholic School provides a quality, Catholic education at a lower cost than most of our sister schools in the Diocese of Lafayette.

We were faced with tremendous financial challenges this year, challenges that were met by our dedicated faculty and staff. However, as the price of utilities, textbooks, insurance, and required costs continues to increase, so must our tuition. We are tuition-based; there really is no other source of funding for our school, so our goal always has been and will continue to be to balance the need for an increase in our tuition with what it costs us to educate your children. Once again, our teachers will forego raises for the 2018-2019 school year, so that we can keep our tuition increase to a minimum and still meet those ever-rising costs of educating our children. In addition, we have added incentives to our tuition program to help you offset the cost of a Catholic education.

We continue to use RenWeb and FACTS for online enrollment and tuition payment plans. Current families do not need to create an online application – only the RenWeb online enrollment and FACTS payment plan. You will access the re-enrollment process through your ParentsWeb account. However, please remember that you must apply for admission for any student not currently enrolled at Opelousas Catholic prior to registration. This applies to new Pre-K students with older brothers and sisters already enrolled at Opelousas Catholic.

Our tuition and fees will increase \$25 per month for each student. Although most schools in the diocese have elected to drop the discounted rate for the second and third child, we will continue the program at Opelousas Catholic School. We have also added the following incentives that can reduce your tuition bill:

- If tuition is paid in full by June 30, 2018, the tuition is discounted by \$250. The net result would then be a tuition increase of slightly over \$4 per month.
- If paying the entire year is too difficult, the parent may elect to pay the first semester in full by June 30, 2018, earning a \$125 credit.
- To further reduce the tuition payment and to help us attract new students, we are offering a \$200 credit for referring a new family to Opelousas Catholic. The new family may not have applied for admission or contacted the school. The referring parent must make the initial contact and the new family must be accepted and enroll by July 30, 2018 and be current on tuition as of January 31, 2019. The \$200 credit would then be applied to the referring parent's March 2019 tuition bill. Parents would be allowed to refer up to three families for credit.

**It is possible that a parent who pays tuition early or who helps us enroll new students could end up paying less in tuition in 2018-2019 than they did in 2017-2018.**

## Tuition Schedule for 2018-2019

<b>Year Paid in Full by June 30, 2018</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child One Payment</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child One Payment</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child One Payment</b>
PK-Grade 5	\$5,645	\$5,349	\$4,949
Grades 6-8	\$5,765	\$5,469	\$5,049
Grades 9-12	\$6,175	\$5,879	\$5,459
<b>Two Semester Payments by June 30, 2018 and December 30, 2018</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child Two Payments</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child Two Payments</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child Two Payments</b>
PK-Grade 5	\$2,885 (\$5,770/2)	\$2,737 (\$5,474/2)	\$2,537 (\$5,074/2)
Grades 6-8	\$2,945 (\$5,890/2)	\$2,797 (\$5,594/2)	\$2,587 (\$5,174/2)
Grades 9-12	\$3,150 (\$6,300/2)	\$3,002 (\$6,004/2)	\$2,792 (\$5,584/2)

<b>12 monthly payments</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child Annual</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child Monthly</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child Annual</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child Monthly</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child Annual</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child Monthly</b>
PK-Grade 5	\$5,895	\$492	\$5,599	\$467	\$5,199	\$434
Grades 6-8	\$6,015	\$502	\$5,719	\$477	\$5,299	\$442
Grades 9-12	\$6,425	\$536	\$6,129	\$511	\$5,709	\$476

Enrollment for current students begins February 5, 2018. The registration (enrollment) fee will be \$230 per student for the first three students and must be paid at the time you complete your online enrollment by March 4, 2018. (You actually pay for all of your students and we will apply a credit of \$230 for any payment made after the third child.) A late fee of \$100 per student will be assessed to returning families who enroll after this date. As a reminder, the tuition fee includes tuition, textbooks fees, yearbook fee, activity fees, class dues, facility fee, and athletic fee. The retreat fees for all grades except 12 will also be included in the tuition this year. Not included in this amount are lunch fees (currently \$34/month for PreK-5 and \$40 for 6-12), parish subsidy (\$60/student) if you do not belong to one of the five (5) owner parishes and miscellaneous items such as graduation fees, dances, senior retreat, some field trips and other personal items.

The registration must be submitted and the registration fee must be paid in full in order for any student to try out for any of the 2018-2019 programs/activities (i.e. Cheerleaders, Vikettes) or to participate in any spring practices. Either your tuition must be paid in full prior to July 1, 2018, or arrangements must be made to pay the tuition in installments. Installment payments for next year begin in June 2018 and will continue until the tuition has been paid in full for the year.

We have continued to successfully weather a challenging operating environment because of the ongoing generosity of our benefactors, the hard work of our teachers and administrators, and the very limited growth of expenditures across the campus. We are confident that our future efforts will allow us to maintain the fiscal strength that we have enjoyed in the past.

The 2017-2018 school year has been a fulfilling year of commitment to growth, renewed enthusiasm for our school and spiritual service to our family and community. We are proud of the commitment to our motto, "Service before Self" and the way our OC family responded to help the victims of Hurricane Harvey. Our commitment to weekly Mass, prayer services, and special religious events has not wavered. As our students have noted, we even party with a purpose, as we have included a full prayer service

with every awards presentation. We renewed our commitment to our heritage this year with Founders' Day and began a new tradition of recognizing our students for their academic success with our Academic Pep Rally and our quarterly student incentives as part of our commitment to continued excellence in academics. Growth in reading scores is already apparent halfway through our adoption of the new reading series and at the high school level, the dual enrollment program tripled in participation and overall it became much harder to earn an A in many courses. We are looking forward to the adoption in 2018-2019 of a new science series that will extend from Kindergarten through the senior electives of Physics and Biology III. Our commitment to success in athletics and extracurricular activities continued with a trip to the football state playoffs, the state swim and cross country meets, and the basketball playoffs. That success is expected to continue with our spring sports. Yes, we dealt with a decrease in enrollment, financial cuts, instructional days lost to hurricanes and snow, and personal loss and grief within our OC family -- but we are emerging Viking strong.

We value the trust that you have placed in us to provide a quality Catholic education for your children. I hope you will continue to show your support of the vision, goals, and dreams we all have for Opelousas Catholic. Thank you for giving so much of yourself for your children.

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marty Heintz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small accent mark over the 'i' in "Heintz".

Mrs. Marty Heintz,  
Principal