

St. Croix Catholic School
Tuition and Scholarship Assistance Overview for 2011 – 2012

***\$3,695 per child is the Regular Family tuition contribution.
(\$2,800 for ½ day Kindergarten).***

Families paying the Regular Tuition rate should complete and return the yellow Tuition and Family Commitment Agreement – Regular Tuition.

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Our supporting tri-parishes are committed to keeping tuition affordable and to assisting any family desiring a Catholic education for their children by also offering the following “Participating Parent Scholarship” options:

Option 1: Multiple Student Scholarship Plan

Families with two or more students in Kindergarten through 8th grade may elect to take advantage of the following scholarship amounts. These scholarship awards are contingent upon performing Parent Participation Service Hours between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012. The requirement is 30 hours for one scholarship student up to 50 hours for 2 or more scholarship students. This program does not require a formal application - only a signed Tuition and Family Commitment Agreement – Multiple Student Scholarship Plan (the green form). The chart below details the tuition per student and the family total as each additional student is added for those families taking advantage of the Multiple Student Scholarship Plan.

Number of Students	Tuition Due (per student) if Participating Parent - Multi-Student Option is selected	Total Tuition Due for a Family for all Students
First Student	\$ 3,695	\$3,695
Second Student	\$ 3,395 (\$300 Scholarship)	\$7,090
Third Student	\$ 3,395 (\$300 Scholarship)	\$10,485
Fourth Student	\$ 2,515 (\$1,180 Scholarship due to the multi-student Family Cap of \$13,000)	\$13,000
Fifth Student and up	\$0 tuition (\$3695 Scholarship due to the Multi-student Family Cap)	\$13,000

Families with more than one child at SCCS who do not wish to participate with service hours may choose to pay the full family tuition contribution of \$3,695 per student for all of their children. These families should complete a Tuition and Family Commitment Agreement – Regular Tuition (the yellow form).

Option 2: Financial Need Scholarship Assistance

Any family with one or more children at SCCS may apply. This program is for families needing more financial assistance than is provided by the Multiple Student Scholarship Plan detailed above. ***This program requires completion of a Scholarship Assistance Application.***

The Financial Need Scholarship Assistance Application requires a verification of annual income by submitting tax records, a detailed list of expenses, and a letter to Father Michael Miller, SCCS Canonical Administrator, explaining the financial need and describing how the family is active, or intends to become active, within the tri-parish community.

It is beneficial for families seeking Financial Need Scholarship Assistance to apply as soon as possible. **The deadline for currently registered families to apply for Financial Need Scholarship**

Assistance is April 30, 2011. Families applying by the April 30, 2011 deadline will be notified of the scholarship amount awarded no later than May 15, 2011.

The ACTUAL COST of providing your child a Catholic education at St. Croix Catholic School is approximately \$5,400 a year. Our tri-parishes share in meeting this cost by providing a subsidy of nearly \$1,200 for each student attending SCCS. Participation by families and parishioners in programs such as the *Marathon for Non-Public Education*, *SCRIP*, the *Technology Booster Club* and other fundraising events also contributes to cover the cost of educating each child. **It is important to the future of our school that each family: (1) continue your stewardship gifts to your respective parish and, (2) consider paying the full actual cost of \$5,400 of your child's tuition if you are financially able to do so.**

School Community Volunteer and Fundraising Expectations for SCCS Families

Being a part of the St. Croix Catholic School community brings with it certain expectations of **ALL FAMILIES**, regardless of their tuition arrangements. Support of the school community by participation in volunteer and fundraising programs and events is *an expectation for all families*. In some cases, your fundraising expectation may be fulfilled by making a tax deductible donation over and above your tuition commitment.

Volunteering

As members of the SCCS community, parents are asked to commit to volunteering for at least one activity each trimester to assist the school. Archdiocesan Virtus training, a general background check, and a signed Volunteer Code of Conduct are requirements for all volunteers working around our children. Additionally, a financial background check is required for all activities that involve handling cash and SCRIP gift cards.

Participating Parent Service Hours are REQUIRED for families taking advantage of the Multi-Student Scholarship Plan or Financial Need Scholarship Assistance. Participating Parent Scholarship Service Hours must be performed by a parent. This restriction is necessary to establish the program as an earned scholarship and comply with IRS Wage and Tax Regulations.

SCRIP Gift Card Program

Every family is required to generate \$225 in earned SCRIP revenue for the school. This equates to approximately \$7,800 in SCRIP purchases. SCRIP returns depend on the merchant but we anticipate averaging 3%.

For example: by paying \$100 for a Cub Food gift (SCRIP) card through the school, you have the full value of \$100 to spend on purchases at Cub. But the school earns \$4.00 (a 4% rebate) when you buy the card! This \$4.00 applies towards your \$225 required SCRIP revenue. Grandparents, relatives and friends can also help you meet your total SCRIP revenue amount of \$225 by buying SCRIP cards and assigning the rebate amount to you.

If a family spends \$150 a week for groceries, gas, restaurants, etc. at participating merchants using SCRIP Gift Cards, they would generate \$7,800 in SCRIP sales resulting in the required \$225 SCRIP revenue for the school. With an average of 225 families, this program is budgeted to generate \$50,000 in revenue.

Families desiring to "opt out" of SCRIP purchases may simply pay an additional \$225 in total family tuition instead of making SCRIP purchases.

Marathon for Non-Public Education

SCCS families are expected to participate in collecting pledges and/or making a contribution to the Annual Marathon for Non-Public Education taking place in September and October. The expectation for each family is \$250 per student or a maximum of \$750 per family. **Marathon donations are tax deductible.** This Marathon expectation can also be met by matching funds from an employer.

Fundraising Policy

In order to keep tuition as reasonable as possible, SCCS will sponsor or co-sponsor two major fundraisers each year; the Service Marathon in the fall and the Light Their Way Dinner in February. All families will be expected to participate in BOTH fundraisers by raising money and/or volunteering to work. The financial objectives and time expectations will be advertised well in advance of each event.

Technology Booster Club

Started in 2008-2009, this fund is used to enhance the technology environment at SCCS. Currently the fund is designated to replace computers and purchase updated applications for each grade level. Plans for 2011-2012 are to replace the 8 year old eMac computers remaining in the classrooms and provide Smart Boards to those classrooms still without one. The estimated cost of this project is \$15,000. Each family is asked to contribute a minimum of \$100 to this fund each year to facilitate our ability to maintain a first class technology environment. If all 225 families contributed \$100 we would have no issues with providing the technology support our teachers are asking for. ***As a voluntary donation, contributions to this fund are tax deductible. Many companies offer matching funds for technology investment, please check with your company to see if this is a possibility.***

Additional Tuition and Family Commitment Policies

- Each student's initial tuition payment must be received on or before August 15, 2011, *or have prior arrangements made in advance with the Director of Corporations*, before a student begins classes.
- The SCCS budget for the entire year is based on the number of students registered by the end of March, 2011. Families removing students from SCCS *after the school year begins* agree to pay a minimum of \$2,750.00 per student regardless of when the student(s) leave SCCS. Should the removal occur after March 1, 2012, the tuition due will equal the full-year amount due. Requests for an exception to this policy will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the Director of Corporations.
- All returned checks for tuition, field trips, extra-curricular activities, etc., will be assessed a \$25 fee to cover bank and handling costs.
- Scholarship assistance awards will be applied in May 2012 after both service hours and remaining tuition due have been fulfilled. For example, a family requested \$1000 per student in scholarship assistance and was awarded that amount; this family also met the service hour requirements which are mandatory to receive scholarship assistance. The \$1000 scholarship per student will not be applied until the family has paid the balance due of \$2595 per student and fulfilled their service hour requirements. (See Scholarship Assistance information)
- SCCS considers the registration of students to be both a moral commitment to the school's mission of nurturing mind, body and spirit as well as a binding financial agreement. Individuals signing the Tuition and Family Commitment Agreement acknowledge this relationship and agree to pay any costs incurred by St. Croix Catholic School to collect past due tuition.
- If an unexpected financial hardship occurs during the school year, please notify the Director of Corporations immediately so that adjustments can be made to the Tuition and Family Commitment Agreement.