

FAQ St. Peter School Expansion Questions

Is this expansion happening?

We are moving forward with seventh grade in the fall of 2023. The eighth grade will be added in the fall of 2024.

How will the expansion be funded?

This will be funded through a variety of avenues: tuition, the Living Christ diocesan campaign, private donations and other sources of money provided to the school.

Where will the new/other 2 grades go?

Seventh and eighth grade will be located on the top floor. The third-grade classroom will be moving to the main floor in the current Pre-K classroom. The Pre-K classroom will then move to current cafeteria, where a new classroom will be constructed.

Where will we eat then?

The students will be eating in the gymnasium, using a similar format to what we used during pandemic measures. Our cafeteria tables collapse and are mobile.

Will our SPS students be able to play sports at USMS? Will there be extra-curricular activities?

Sports will be taking place at USMS as the school will not offer CYO for seventh and eighth grade. Since the school does not offer those activities, they would be eligible to participate in athletics at the junior high level.

As far as extra-curricular activities, it will depend on the activity and the desire of the students. Some activities like student council would still be here at the school.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

You can connect with the committee chair, Aaron Korte, at 419-310-0868, or the principal, Blake England, at 419-294-1395.

Which school year will 7th grade be offered?

Seventh grade will be offered starting in the 2023-2024 school year. The following year, we will add eighth grade.

Will tuition go up?

Tuition will not increase for the middle school classes. Tuition typically goes up every year for the whole school as the finance committee examines those numbers each spring. Changes to tuition accommodate increased costs to educate. It will not be going up due to the junior high.

Will my child still need to attend evening religious ed classes even if they attend religion classes during the day at school?

No, the expectation is students will be receiving their religious education through their schooling at St. Peter.

Will Confirmation classes be taught in school or separately?

At this time, the plan is Confirmation classes to be held together as a parish.

Are the start and dismissal times the same for the junior high and elementary?

The whole school will start and end at the same time.

Will bus routes/times be affected?

No.

Do you have programs for students on Individual Education Plans?

Yes, we have programs for IEPs. We have a fulltime intervention specialist. We offer OT, PT and speech therapy as well as the Jon Peterson scholarship, which covers those therapies.

Will the Jon Peterson scholarship carry-over into junior high?

Absolutely.

What services are available to students who have special needs?

If they are on John Peterson scholarship, any service they need is covered by the scholarship. As of right now, our building is not ADA accessible.

What standardized testing will be used?

MAP testing is the only standardized testing we use. It's been authorized by the State of Ohio as an acceptable alternative to the state test.

How will students in different grades interact?

The school will still worship together on Wednesday at Mass. Our grades will continue to partner with each other, from having the older grades helping the younger grades with things like Reading Buddies, physical education helpers, etc. We plan to continue to have a younger student lunch and an older student lunch period.

Will there be a bathroom policy to address the large span of ages in students using the same facilities?

We are looking into designated bathroom times for classes to accommodate this concern.

What curriculum opportunities are there for high school placement?

Our goal is to offer high school placement in a variety of subjects, including advanced math, advanced English and a foreign language.

What are the teacher's qualifications?

All our teachers are ODE licensed teachers and highly qualified. Our teachers are regularly pursuing continuing education and professional development to meet the ever-evolving needs of today's students. They are also certified in the subject areas they will be teaching.

How is the school going to handle disciplinary issues with older students?

The handbook will be expanded with differing levels of discipline and recognition dependent on behavior. While we need to make sure students are disciplined when they go astray, we also want to acknowledge students for sharing the light of Christ with those around them.

Will there be financial assistance for tuition?

There will continue to be scholarship opportunities for families. All the current opportunities will still be available to families.

Will older students be allowed to attend extended day or another after school program?

Yes, we will be offering supervised extended day for our seventh and eighth grade students.

What classes will be offered at Union Jr. High?

We will be offering all the core classes within St. Peter School. The only class to be offered outside of our junior high will be band, which will be four days a week at Union.

Will the Jr. High follow the USEVS calendar and schedule?

The junior high will be following the same calendar as the rest of St. Peter School. We will still be following USEVS schedules as far days off, holidays, first/last day of school.

What curriculum will be used in core classes? Electives?

We will be following the diocesan courses of study, which are based on the Ohio state teaching standards. Electives will be based on the same model and offerings and will be based on student/parent interest and availability.

Mixed classes based on ability? (Example: 7th graders taking a higher-level math with 8th graders?)

Yes, we will offer that once eighth grade is implemented in the 2024-25 school year. Decisions on which students can participate will be based on test scores and a collaboration with parents and teachers.

I'm excited about what St. Peter School is doing here. What can I do to get involved?

Prayers are an excellent place to start. If you're feeling led to do so, financial donations for the expansion are being accepted. Donations of labor or supplies would also be welcomed. If you'd like to be a part of the group, please reach out to Korte or England at the numbers above.