## St. Mary's Academy Charter School

"Learning is the key to unlocking the world"..... Oprah Winfrey

Welcome Back! Glad you're here as one of our SMACS Family members!

As we start the new school year together on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, the staff at St. Mary's Academy Charter School (SMACS) looks forward to working with you and your child. SMACS strongly believes that the education of children is a partnership between home, school and parent involvement which is crucial to the success of each child's education.

Please mark your calendars for the following Open House dates, August 21<sup>st</sup> (K & 1<sup>st</sup>), August 22<sup>nd</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>), and/or August 23<sup>rd</sup> (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>).

**Student Drop-off and Pickup** ......Our school day will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:35 p.m. Monday through Friday. **Daily attendance and on-time entry are extremely important to learning.** Breakfast will begin at 7:00 in the cafeteria and lunch will be served according to individual grade level schedules. A menu may be viewed online at <u>www.smacs.net</u> and one will also be sent home with your child. The school provides before school care starting at 7:00 a.m. in the cafeteria for grades 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and Kinder in their own building. Remember any student picked up before 2:45, parent or guardian must go to the front office with your photo I.D. to sign them out. No student will be released after 2:45 through the front office. Pickup permission will be granted to only those listed on the emergency contact form; otherwise, parent/guardian must have given pre-authorization.

**Student Supplies** ......We are requiring that all students carry clear (see-through) backpacks and purses. Class supply lists are available at Walmart and HEB in Beeville.

Student Handbook ...... Please review student handbook for NEW rules on grooming and uniform attire.

**Laptops/IPADS** ......We assign laptops or IPADS to our students. They are taught proper care of their equipment in the classroom. If they break it beyond repair, then parents are responsible for the replacement.

**Beginning of Year Paperwork** ....... Your child will bring home a packet of forms the first week of school. Please be sure to fill out ALL forms, including food allergies and photo permissions, then return to your child's homeroom teacher. We have a number of students with dietary issues and we do have a procedure in place about not bringing any outside food. Your student may bring their own lunch, but cannot share with anyone. Food related lessons and events in the classroom will be organized by your child's teacher based on the dietary/allergy issues of the classroom. Families will be notified about any of these special classroom events. Some students are not to be photographed, therefore no cameras or phones may be used to take pictures at these events.

**In conclusion** ...... Let this new academic year be a shared commitment to excellence in education with teachers, parents, and students sharing the passion, dedication and hard work! As a team, we can make a positive impact on our children preparing them for a brighter future. This year, our theme is LEVEL UP, GAME ON!

Kind regards,

## Hirma Elizondo

SMACS Principal

St. Mary's Academy Charter School 507 N. Filmore St.

Beeville, Texas 78102 361-358-5601 ext. 1080 helizondo@smacs.net