



**SCECINA MEMORIAL
HIGH SCHOOL**

July 18, 2024

Dear Seccina families,

Summer greetings! I hope that the past several weeks have been relaxing and rejuvenating. The staff at Seccina has been working hard to prepare for the new school year. The halls have been much too quiet; we are ready to welcome back our returning students as well as our new students and staff members!

There are three changes I would like to make you aware of as we start the 2024-25 school year.

1) Orientation Days

- a. The New Student Orientation will be similar to past years. Held on Monday, August 5 from 8:30-1:30pm, all incoming freshmen and new students transferring to Seccina will have an opportunity to learn about the school, receive computers and schedules, and practice finding classrooms and opening lockers.
- b. Orientation for sophomores, juniors and seniors will be held on Wednesday, August 7. This is the first day of school and is a mandatory attendance day for these students. The schedule is as follows:

Seniors	8:30-10:30
Juniors	10:30-12:30
Sophomores	12:30-2:30

- Students only need to attend during their time slot but should plan to be there for the entire two hours. Activities include receiving schedules, computers, lockers and interaction with classmates and staff. Students can enter Door 1 or Door 3 and should report to the gym.
 - If students will be parking on-campus this year, parking tags can be purchased for \$10 during orientation. They will also be available throughout the school year.
 - Dress code on August 7 is Spirit Wear (uniform pants or shorts with a Seccina-branded T-shirt or polo shirt).
- c. All students begin with Red day classes on Thursday, August 8 at 8:00am. Regular dress code begins on that first day of classes, August 8. Lunch will be served.

2) School Hours

The school day at Seccina will end 15 minutes later than last year on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday beginning on the first day of classes, August 8. School still begins at **8:00am every day** and will end at 2:45pm every day except Wednesday. Wednesday's release time remains at 1:45pm so that our faculty and staff can engage in weekly professional development.

3) Cell phones and Electronic Devices

A new law passed by the Indiana Senate enacts a ban on all cell phones and wireless devices in schools, with the exceptions of emergencies or teacher permission for specific classroom projects. The purpose of the law is to lessen a growing addiction to cell phones among our teens; reduce distractions during the school day and promote productivity; and diminish opportunities for cyberbullying and excessive screen time. While the new law does not directly affect non-public schools, the Office of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, in consultation with the



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high school administrations, has recommended that all archdiocesan high schools enact the same policy within their buildings.

To that end, *“Students may not use cell phones or electronic devices at any time during the school day unless given specific permission from their teacher. Cell phones may be used before 8:00am and after 2:45pm but may not be used during lunch periods or in the hallways during the school day”* (Scecina 2024 – 25 Parent-Student Handbook). Consequences for using a cell phone without permission may include having the phone confiscated and serving a detention.

Further information about this policy and others can be found in the Parent-Student Handbook located on the website (scecina.org) under “Parents”. All families are asked to complete the Parent sign-off for the Handbook found on School Admin.

Students will pick up their class schedules at their respective orientation days and time will be provided if changes need to be made to their schedule. Additionally, Scecina-branded hoodies may be worn as part of the daily uniform this year and Scecina polo shirts do not need to be worn under sweatshirts as long as the sweatshirt is not taken off during the school day.

Please contact the school if we can help with any questions. Enjoy the last few weeks of the summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you in August!

Blessings,

Dr. Peg Dispenzieri

Principal

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