



**ST. AUGUSTINE
PREPARATORY
SCHOOL**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ST. AUGUSTINE PREPARATORY SCHOOL ADDS EIGHTH GRADE FOR 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

September 23, 2020, Richland, NJ – St. Augustine Preparatory School is pleased to announce the opening of admission for the first class of eighth-grade students in the 60-year history of the institution. Scheduled for the academic year 2021-2022, the addition of an eighth-grade to the educational footprint of the school provides students with an additional year of a personalized, values-based learning experience within the Prep Community. Through meaningful relationships with fellow students, faculty, staff, and alumni, the eighth-graders will be welcomed into the Hermits Brotherhood one year sooner.

Current educational models and research indicate eighth grade as a critical point in a young man's educational development. Preparing eighth-graders to maximize the benefits of high school and place them on-target for success in college, and career readiness is pivotal.

“The unexpected shift in learning caused by COVID-19 will affect, and potentially delay, the development of every student. We believe that exposing eighth-grade students to the academic rigors, innovative learning opportunities, and spiritual development at St. Augustine Prep will better equip these young men for success in high school, college, and in life,” said Head of School, Father Robert J. Murray, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Beyond the classroom, the additional year of education at St. Augustine Prep will provide dynamic learning opportunities, including exposure to education in nutrition and health, etiquette, and culinary experiences that are rarely, if ever, offered in any other school in South Jersey. Also, eighth-grade students will have one additional year to build the bonds of brotherhood with fellow students and alumni that will serve them throughout their lifetimes.

St. Augustine Prep's unique formula of research-based education, enriched with character development, and experiential learning opportunities have resulted in a 99 percent college matriculation rate. St. Augustine Prep currently educates hundreds of young men in grades nine through twelve, with students representing eight New Jersey counties, including Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean, and Salem. For more information about St. Augustine Preparatory School or the new eighth grade, visit hermits.com/admissions or contact the admissions office by phone at 856-697-2600 x149 or admissions@Hermits.com.

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