What is re-enrollment?

Re-enrollment is an annual data collection process that schools use to update enrollment records of the current student body. This information is used as the school makes plans for the following school year. Basically, the simple question is: “Are you coming back to school next year?” For our leadership team at St. John the Baptist, we need to know how many students we will have on the first day of school.

Why does re-enrollment matter? And why do we go through this every year?

SJB leadership does a lot of planning to ensure that we are prepared to fulfill our mission excellently every year. Until SJB families “sign on the line” that they are coming back each year, we cannot make solid plans for staffing, programs, materials, curriculum, and facility usage. We take the stewardship of tuition dollars entrusted to us every year very seriously. We want to invest these tuition dollars wisely so that we can provide the best education possible for our students.

I have no plans to change schools and almost everyone comes back every year anyway. Can’t I just stay at SJB until I notify the school otherwise?

Up until this point, re-enrollment has been an “opt-in” program. We annually ask every family, “Are you coming back?” In a sense, we have been penalizing the vast majority of families by forcing you all to go through this process every year. Last year, for instance, we retained almost all of our Montessori students. So EVERYONE had to go through re-enrollment for the sake of the few that, for one reason or another, left our school community.

By signing your Continuous Enrollment contract, you will be flipping that script. Rather than an opt-IN annual re-enrollment process, SJB’s annual re-enrollment will become an opt-OUT process. In other words, if you’re coming back after signing your “Continuous Enrollment Contract,” you’ll never have to worry about this again.

So, after this year, what will the “Re-Enrollment Season” look like?

Once all of our families are on the “Continuous Enrollment Program,” the typical re-enrollment season (January through March) will simply be a communication with updated tuition and reminder from the school, informing the families that might be thinking about leaving our school to notify us prior to March. If last year is any indication, this means that the vast majority of SJB families will have the convenience of ignoring this message and doing absolutely nothing!

What is the penalty if I break this contract?

It is easy to avoid the penalty. When you let SJB know that you are withdrawing before the March 1 deadline, no fee is charged. Otherwise, the fee is one month of tuition. SJB families that are re-enrolled, but break the contract by dis-enrolling their students after March 1 will be contractually obligated to pay one month of tuition. While the penalty may seem steep, many schools require a semester or even a year of tuition once a family is enrolled for the following year.

What about unique circumstances? I’m planning on keeping my children at SJB until graduation. What if God has other plans for my family?
We’ve built flexibility into this contract. So, for major life changes/unique circumstances, if SJB can no longer meet your child’s educational needs, if we ask your family to leave, or if there is some unforeseen circumstance, there will be no financial penalty.

So, how is “Continuous Enrollment” different from regular re-enrollment?

SJB’s re-enrollment was convenient, but, under the traditional enrollment model, we would have to keep doing that every year. Continuous Enrollment is a once-and-for-all process. Once you sign your Continuous Enrollment Contract, you will never have to deal with re-enrollment again (unless your family plans change). You sign-up and forget it. In the event that things do change, you will have until March every year simply to notify the school and face absolutely no penalty.

When will Continuous Enrollment take place?

Continuous Enrollment will start in January 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year. By re-enrolling for the 2018-2019 school year, you are signing up for Continuous Enrollment. We look forward to serving SJB families in this way and making the process even more convenient!

What do I get out of this?

Simplicity.

Guaranteed placement. With increasing enrollment, we are either have or soon will have waitlists for our classrooms; placement in next year’s class is increasingly in demand. By opting into Continuous Enrollment, you will be securing that highly desired spot for your child until graduation.