

Dear Parent and Students:

In conjunction with its first annual chess tournament on Saturday, June 23rd 2018 The Montfort Academy we be offering a unique learning opportunity open to all incoming students and their parents. Dr. Liebowitz, the chairman of our History department and our chess club coach will be available to teach you chess. We have set aside from 1:00 to 2:30PM for this free activity.

Dr. Liebowitz is an accomplished tournament player and chess teacher who has served on the Education Committee of the United States Chess Federation. He has studied with some of America's finest players including Bobby Fischer's chess teacher, Jack Collins, and Grandmasters William Lombardy and Yasser Seirawan. In addition to teaching the basics of the game he will also explain the educational value of chess and offer some suggestions about effective opening and end game strategies.

For many years educators have recognized the benefits of chess to life-long learning. Benjamin Franklin was an avid chess player who write an essay entitled "The Virtues of Chess." He wrote that young people learn about patience and fortitude and develop both a sense of responsibility as well as a sense of possibility through the study of chess. Some of America's leading private and public schools have a long tradition in promoting the learning of chess as an educational tool. Studies show that students who play chess perform well academically. Vocational training specialists encourage young people to learn chess because it helps them to adapt to change. In a continuously changing job market the ability to adapt to change can provide students with a huge competitive advantage.

Chess can be a very enjoyable game. It is a game that is played throughout the world by men and women, girls and boys. It has a notation system that allows players to record their games. Knowledge of this notation system allows one to play out the games of the world's great chess players. One can even play out the games of Pope Leo XIII and Pope John Paul II---both very serious and accomplished players.

Please let me know if you can come and join us for this very special event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Greco, Jr." in a cursive script.

Richard Greco, Jr.

President