

Hello St. Ignatius Parish School Parents,

Back in October you all received an email from me introducing you to our school’s Catholic School Advisory Council (“CSAC”) and the important role it serves in advising our Pastor (Fr. Mike Moynahan, S.J.) and Principal (Ms. Patty Kochis) on school-related matters. CSAC has been meeting regularly since, and we would like to take this opportunity to update you on various matters CSAC is involved with and to highlight various accomplishments.

**Marketing/Communications Committee Update**

CSAC’s Marketing/Communications Committee is headed by Jason Wister and Debbie Payant. You have likely witnessed this committee’s numerous contributions to the school over the past few months, which include the creation and distribution of classroom posters and magnets for current and prospective students (and soon, flag pole banners) highlighting our Schoolwide Learning Expectations – i.e., that St. Ignatius students are *Religious, Loving, Open to Growth, Intellectually Competent* and *Committed to Doing Justice*.

The Marketing/Communications Committee has also been (1) working on updates to capture recent changes to the Capital Campaign Donor Wall, (2) preparing a packet of information that will be shared with prospective new families marketing St. Ignatius Parish School, and (3) begun brainstorming the theme for the 2019/2020 Annual Report.

Additionally, the Marketing/Communications Committee has been actively involved with the Fund-a-Need for this year’s Gala fundraiser (see more below). The committee prepared the flyer that went out to all families raising awareness about the project and has been designing the Tiger Field Donor Wall that will acknowledge all those who contribute to this great project. In this respect, the committee would like to remind all parents that we are *oh so close* to raising all the funds necessary to complete the new Tiger Field; any amount you contribute to the project is tax deductible and will count towards your fundraising commitment (due April 15), and if you contribute at least \$2,500.00, your name will appear on the Tiger Field Donor Wall.

**Annual Fund/Development Committee Update**

CSAC’s Annual Fund/Development Committee is headed by Vanessa Olmstead and Darrell Parsons, with the valuable assistance of Debra Russell, the school’s Director of Advancement. They have been busy coordinating the collection and reporting of your Annual Fund contributions throughout the year.

As of March 4, 2020, the Annual Fund shows a total collection of \$161,140.20, as compared to \$140,667.13 collected around this time last year. School-family participation in this year’s Annual Fund is at 78%, with the rates of participation for each class as follows:

<b>TK</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
67%	83%	82%	93%	86%	75%	83%	78%	76%	85%

Of course, we would all love to see a full, 100% participation in the Annual Fund by the end of this school year. Remember that any discerned contribution will count!

### **Catholicity/Mission Effectiveness Committee Update**

CSAC's Catholicity/Mission Effective Committee is headed by Kyle Hansen. The goals of this committee are to promote Ignatian Spirituality at the school and to promote synergy and cooperation between the school and parish. To that extent, the committee has worked towards keeping school families aware of parish activities in hopes that they will become more integrated in the life of the parish.

In particular, the committee has worked to promote Parish Work Days, the New Hospitality Minister Program, Magis Dinner, Super Bowl Square Fundraiser and the weekly cleaning of the church. In kind, the parish has helped promote Amazing Grapes and the Gala Dinner and Auction through bulletin advertisements, announcements at Mass and letting the school sell tickets and promote school functions after Masses. Additionally, thanks to the efforts of the school's Magis Club, we have seen an uptick in school families participating in the monthly Feeding God's Bounty dinners. All of this is done with the goal of becoming a closer-knit community and promoting a "oneness" between the parish and school.

The committee encourages each family to visit the church's website or read the weekly bulletin to become aware of all the wonderful and important ministries St. Ignatius Parish is engaged in to assist the greater community at large. The committee also welcomes any suggestions to promote greater mission effectiveness between school and parish.

### **Parent Club Update**

This year's Parent Club representative on CSAC is Erin Levi, and she is proud to report that all of the school's fundraisers so far this year have brought in more money than originally budgeted. These events (that were and are organized by the Parent Club) include Amazing Grapes, Spooktacular and Breakfast with Santa. Fundraisers that are still to occur are next week's Gala Dinner and Auction (Saturday, March 14) and the Jog-a-thon later this month, both of which are also expected to exceed expectations.

Speaking of the Gala, school parents Ditta Reed, Megan Hohlbein, Veronica Borrego and Meghan Marino have been working tirelessly to provide a wonderful event for our families that will benefit all our children. Remember that the Fund-a-Need for this year's Gala is again the new Tiger Field, with the hope of achieving the project's final fundraising goal. Shovels will hit the ground on this project in mid-May, with the expectations that the new field will be ready by August 1, 2020.

Principal Kochis also met with the current and past presidents of Parent Club this week to discuss ways to improve communications and hospitality. A survey will be shared soon with all school families regarding Parent Club for your feedback regarding how it can better serve our school community. Principal Kochis is also excited to share that Sarina Fat and Angel Hernandez have agreed to serve as co-presidents of Parent Club for the 2020-2021 school-year.

### **Enrollment Update**

Enrollment in the school continues to be solid, with about 2-3 tours for prospective families held each week. Also, just this past week we had a new 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student join us. Currently, we have space for students in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

For the 2020-2021 school-year, the administration just concluded with admissions for Kindergarten and will have a full class. We are currently expecting about 33 students for TK. Overall, the administration anticipates 22 new families joining the school next year. We anticipate a few openings in several grades. Anyone interested should contact Katrena Paine [kpaine@stignatiussacschool.org](mailto:kpaine@stignatiussacschool.org).

### **Curriculum Update**

Teachers in our school's TK through 6<sup>th</sup> grades are considering adopting updated English Language Arts text- and workbooks for next school year. Our science program is also viewing updated texts that better address the Common Core.

### **Staffing Update**

All faculty have expressed their desire to return next school year by signing their letters of intent, except for our 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Mrs. Green. Mrs. Green has informed us she will not be returning, and as a result, applicants are currently being screened to fill this position.

### **General Administration Updates**

- The administration is in the midst of budget planning for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Our school's Academic Decathlon team will participate in our Diocesan contest this Saturday at Jesuit High School.
- Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Paine and Principal Kochis will attend the Ignatian Elementary Schools Network conference March 11-13 in Los Angeles, which will be the fifth annual conference that invites all administrators and staff at Jesuit elementary schools located in the United States to convene and share best practices in Jesuit education.
- Finally, led by our member-at-large Erin Weeden, CSAC will continue working on developing a long-term Strategic Plan for our school – a big goal now that the new school has been built.

As you can see, CSAC and its various committees have been quite busy throughout the school year. If you have any questions about the above or CSAC in general, please feel free to reach out to myself, any other CSAC member or Principal Kochis.

Kind regards,

Josh Baker

CSAC President (2019-2020)