

## *St. John the Evangelist School Home and School Association*

August 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to St. John the Evangelist (SJE)! We look forward to working with our faculty, staff and families in the upcoming school year. The SJE Home and School Association (HSA) seeks to create a community where all parents and guardians feel welcomed, engaged and included in the school's mission to integrate Catholic philosophy with academic excellence. We are here to help implement the objectives of the HSA:

### **Building Community**

SJE is known for its strong sense of community and emphasis on serving others. We are ever thankful for the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters and their example of joyful, loving service. Beginning in preschool, the faculty and staff consciously teach our students the importance of imitating Christ by serving others as He did. By participating in a variety of social and fundraising events throughout the year, we parents and guardians can dovetail with that instruction and help the message really hit home with our students.

What time, talent or treasure can you share with our community? Please review the attached information on volunteer opportunities and see what interests you. There are many ways to help and no experience is necessary—just a positive attitude and sense of fun! Each family is asked to sign up for no less than three volunteer roles over the course of the year.

### **Raising Funds to Help Keep Tuition Affordable**

We have worked hard to maintain the family fundraising obligation at the same level for another year, which remains set at \$370. With so many ways to meet that obligation, last year we had many families exceed their obligation, which is a great help as we pursue our annual fundraising goal of \$55,000. We are also continuing the program to reduce the financial obligation for chairpersons of fundraising events that reach certain benchmarks. That means that if an event raises over \$2500, the chair receives a \$150 credit toward their outstanding obligation, and if an event raises over \$5000, the chair receives a \$300 credit toward any outstanding obligation. (If there are co-chairs the credit could be split evenly). This past year, three fundraisers met one of these benchmarks.

### **Fostering Communication**

Throughout the year, we provide an avenue of communication among parents, guardians, school staff, and the School Advisory Board (SAB). Our SJE e-bulletins contain the most current, up-to-date information and are sent out each week throughout the school year. If you are not receiving them or wish to add an additional e-mail to the distribution list, please contact Kate Comello at [news@sjte.org](mailto:news@sjte.org).

We would also like introduce our new families to a Mentoring Family. We have many veteran families who would love to answer questions and help you and your children feel at home. To be introduced to a Mentoring Family, please contact Cathy Tramontana at [ctramont010510@gmail.com](mailto:ctramont010510@gmail.com).

If you have any questions, please let us know—we are here to help and look forward to working together to make St. John's a better place because we were here each and every day.

Warmest regards,

SJE Principal: Mrs. Margaret Durney, e-mail: [mdurney@sjte.org](mailto:mdurney@sjte.org)

HSA President: Cathy Tramontana, e-mail: [ctramont010510@gmail.com](mailto:ctramont010510@gmail.com)

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