

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

St. Joseph C-STEM School

November 2020

Annual Fund 2020-21

We kicked off the Annual Fund drive for 2020-21 in July by raising over \$25,000 which enabled us to receive a matching grant from the Schultze Family Foundation and begin the fiscal year with \$50,000 toward our goal of \$100,000. We are so grateful to our donors and the SFF for their commitment to growing enrollment in our Catholic Schools, and in particular, St. Joseph C-STEM School.

In August we held our "Fore the Students" golf tournament that had been delayed from its initial June date. It was a beautiful day and 50 golfers gathered to raise funds that were used to purchase COVID safety equipment and supplies that eventually enabled us to open our school in September with in-class learning! In a scaled down tournament, golfers and donors helped us raise nearly \$12,000. The winning team was Matt Turek, Joe Kelly, Kurt Siebert, Pete Klatt. Our thanks to Eagle Sponsor Kwik Trip, our Birdie Sponsors and Hole Sponsors for their wonderful support. I'd also like to recognize parents and staff members who volunteered their time to make the day a success – Olivia Doeden for her work on our program and registration table, Blair and Katie Mueller for their expertise, donation of time and volunteerism the day of the event, Home Town Bank for providing two volunteers to help us with the day, volunteer SJS Staff members Bonnie Triplet, Brooke Maciaszek, Amy Gallus and Virginia Gelhar, and John Short and Shawn Sutherland for their work organizing the tournament and helping to solicit sponsorships.

September brought us a great surprise from the Catholic Community Foundation. They responded to the needs of our Catholic School by providing us with a grant of \$7,360 during these unprecedented times through their MN Catholic Relief Fund. We are blessed to have their support.

In October we applied for a grant offered through the Carver County CDA program for non-profits. We received notice in late October that we had been awarded the \$10,000 grant to help offset expenses related to COVID. I am grateful to SJS Board Member, Tom Battis, who led us to this grant opportunity.

Annual Fund Gift Catalog

I am excited to announce the creation of our inaugural Annual Fund Gift Catalog. The catalog will be available online for you to peruse and decide how you can help us purchase new classroom or school items or provide budget relief for services already purchased. Donors and friends of St. Joseph School continually ask what our school specifically needs? The catalog not only provides specifics, but we have categorized those needs into areas that people may have interest or passion in supporting. Whether it is the Arts, Classroom learning, Technology, Sports and Activities, Food Service/Kitchen, Budget Relief, Financial Aid or Area of Greatest Need, there is something for everyone. **We look to launch the catalog on our website in November.**

Memorial Gifting Program

Is there a special person in your life that you would like to have recognized at our school Mass? Maybe it is a special relative you would like to commemorate; someone who has passed; a teacher or coach that made a difference; a relative or neighbor who is serving in the Armed Forces; or someone celebrating a special birthday or anniversary. Are you aware we have a Memorial Gifting Program? Envelopes can be found in the Church or requested by contacting our school office.

Board Development Committee

How lucky we are to have SJS Board Members who work with me and other volunteers to grow our school and help us attain resources necessary to provide a first-class Catholic education for our students. **Jeff Kaczrowski** and **Tom Battis** are co-chairs and are always eager to enlist your help. We engaged nearly 50 people this summer to brainstorm on a Strategic Development Plan that will be a roadmap to grow our school and its resources. You are invited to be a part of the Board Development Committee to continue our work. If interested please contact me at

rbell@stjosephwaconia.org .

Rob Bell, Director of Advancement at St. Joseph