

2022-2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

It's hard to believe we are just a few days away from summer break! Before the year comes to a close, I wanted to recap some of the wonderful things we accomplished as a school community and thank all of those who made it happen. Thanks to your generous donations to Pot of Gold, as well as our volunteers who donate their time and talent, below are just a few of the things the PTO sponsored this year:

Fall Festival. In October, we had an amazing turnout for our annual Fall Festival. Families enjoyed the bounce houses, carnival games Cake Walk, great food cooked by our Dad's club and more! Thank you to Erin LiVecchi, Eileen & Josh Bishop, Danielle Burger, Jocelyn Hoefling, Miranda Daniel, Lindsay Stewart, Joanna and Nate Kalons, Scott Weigman, Will Thach and the Dad's Club.

STEAM Night. This year STEAM night was held in the fall and families got together for a fun night of learning and experimenting. Families enjoyed working on various science and craft projects all over the school. Thank you to Beth Angstadt, Amy Davis, Anna Tivnan, and all of the day-of volunteers.

Spirit Rock. We are so excited about the new addition of our Spirit Rock located in the parking lot along the carpool route. So many families took advantage of renting the rock for a day to wish their child a happy birthday. Thank you to *Lindsey Sheedy and Katie Nelson* who were instrumental in having the rock approved by the Dilworth Historic Society and donated to the us by Blue Max Trucking and delivered by Parker's Crane Service. And Thank you to *Meghan Olin* for managing the reservations and *Ashly Ely* for the inaugural painting of Kindness Rocks!

Parent Party and Silent Auction. In November we all got together at Sugar Creek Brewery for a great night of child-free fun. It was nice to see so many parents getting to know each other. After a few years off, this year's auction was a huge success! Thank you, parents, for bidding on and donating items. A big thank you to Stephanie Crowe, Katie Nelson, Lindsey Sheedy, Carson Halbrook, Meghan Olin, Sabrina Gratch, Kristin Mancia, and Cathy Deese for running the event.

Catholic Schools Week. In January, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week, which was a great week full of faith, service, and fun! Each class completed a service project helping our community, the teachers enjoyed a special appreciation lunch, and all the kids enjoyed some special activities and treats including a high energy performer, bingo and popcorn Thank you to Paula Roark, Lindsay Stewart and Niki Alkire for planning such a wonderful week!

Pancake Supper & Bingo Night. Everyone was excited to bring back a classic family event with our annual kick off of the Lenten season, the Pancake Supper. Thank you to **Eileen Bishop** for planning the evening and to all the pancake chefs that made it a success. And WOW was Bingo a popular event! This may have been the largest turnout ever. Thank you to **Danielle Zingale and Ashly Ely** for calling the numbers and making it a fun night for all.

We've had quite a busy spring! We celebrated *St. Patrick's Day* as a school, which is always so special. We enjoyed a performance by Irish Dancers, filled the halls with the sounds of bag piping, played indoor putt putt, and many other St. Patrick's Day themed activities. Thank you to *Eileen Bishop, Tori Thach* and their team of volunteers for planning such a memorable day! And we were thrilled to welcome back the uptown St. Patrick's Day parade. Thank you to all the 5th grade students who rode on the school float and all the 4th grade students and parents who walked the parade route.

Also in the spring, the St. Pat's little ladies and their dads danced the night away at *Girl and Her Guy Dance* and the boys challenged their moms to a bowling match at the *Mother-Son Event at Park Lanes*. Thank you to *Janet Moody, Laura Mullins and Lindsey Lonnen* for planning such great events.

Teacher Appreciation Week. In May, we showered our teachers and staff with a farmer's market themed week. In addition, through your generosity for the Kids Rule the School auction and the Teacher Gift Fund, we paid the teachers and staff well-deserved Spring bonuses. Thank you to Katie Hildebrand, Lindsey Sheedy, Josh and Eileen Bishop, Michelle Crist, Linsey Zalecki, Rhonda Pridemore, Sara Shenoha, Lindsay Stewart, Greta Hord, Carson Halbrook and Sabrina Gratch for all their time and hard work putting on a wonderful TA Week!

Throughout the year, the school community was able to attend several *Sports Spirit Nights*, including a Checkers game and a Charlotte FC game. Thank you to *Keiko Pace* for making those happen! Additionally, the students experienced several cultural and educational assemblies sponsored by the Arts and Science Council. Thank you to *Kristin Mancia and Beth Angstadt* for organizing those events! *Junior Achievement* is always a favorite enrichment activity for the kids. Thank you to *Kristin Mancia* for coordinating JA this year. And a big thanks to *Lindsey DeBorde and Jamie Fenwick* for pulling off all the great *New Family* events our school offers.

A special thank you to our wonderful garden mom, *Kathleen Kramer*. She has lovingly cared for the school garden for many years but will be moving on to Holy Trinity next year. We all appreciate her knowledge and dedication and will miss her tremendously! The garden will be in good hands as she passes the clippers to her garden partner, *Sarah Reen*.

A big thank you to those volunteers who help to run projects behind the scenes. Thank you to *Jen Meacham* for managing the *Pot of Gold* fundraiser in the fall. Thank you to *Laura Hill* for keeping the *Shamrock Shop* so organized and running smoothly year after year. This year we made some big changes to the *Spirit Store* and a lot of time and effort went into streamlining the purchasing process. Thank you to *Katie Nelson, Katy VanDoninck*, *and Lindsay Stewart* for managing the spirit shop. Thanks to *Alexa McCrea* for coordinating the *Art By Me* fundraiser and to *Jamie Cullin* for organizing the PTO closet. We also love our family restaurant *Spirit Nights*. Thank you to *Brittany Lee* for adding some great new options this year!

We were thrilled to bring back the grade level service focuses that had been put on pause during covid. *Sara Miller* was instrumental in the planning for each grade. Big thanks to *Sara Miller, Heather Moeller, Jackie O'Connor, and Mandy Jamison* for all their hard work on the *Service Committee*. And who doesn't love all the wonderful after school clubs St. Pat's has to offer? Thank you to *Joanne Murphy* for continuing to coordinate so many great clubs and for bringing in fresh new offerings each season!

Large Projects. We completed several long-term projects this year. First, a big thank you to Colleen Terschluse and Anna Tivnan for working together to add great new projects to the STEM room including KEVA planks for building, coding robots from the National Inventor's Hall of Fame, code & go mouse games for K-2 classrooms, a new white board, additional storage for the Maker Space, and a large-scale electrical upgrade including a new fuse box and additional outlets. The PTO also purchased an outdoor storage box for the blacktop and filled it with loads of new playground toys for all grades to enjoy. With your donations, we were able to purchase new basketballs, a portable PA system and other equipment for coach topper, math and reading enrichment programs for several grades, and books for the St. Jerome Battle of the Books Club. Additionally, we funded new AV equipment for the music department to record performances and new costumes and storage for the Kinder Nativity play. We also funded a beautification project in the front of the school this fall. Finally, we were able to assist the teachers more than ever this year with purchases of additional classroom supplies in both the fall and spring, Occupational teacher training for grades K-2, as well as an increase in staff bonuses. All this was made possible because of the immense generosity of our St. Patrick's parents. Your Pot of Gold donations have had a direct impact on the academic and social enrichment of your children in so many ways. So THANK YOU PARENTS!

Finally, THANK YOU to our outgoing board members for your service and dedication to St. Patrick: *Lauralee Lawley, Erin Livecchi, Paula Roark, and Katie Hildebrand.* Each of you was incredibly valuable and you will be missed!

Please welcome your new PTO Board for the 2023-2024 School Year. I hope you will support them not only through fundraising initiatives, but also by volunteering, sharing your ideas, and attending PTO sponsored events!

2023–24 St. Patrick Catholic School PTO Executive Board

Colleen Terschluse, President Lindsey Sheedy, President-Elect Katie Swanson, President Ex Officio Linsey Zalecki, Secretary Natalie Foy, Treasurer Elizabeth Angstadt, VP Academics Eileen Bishop VP Community Katie Nelson, VP Fundraising Heather Moeller VP Outreach Kristin Mancia, VP Teacher Support Hannah Lynch, Teacher Liaison Mr. Nicholas Calametti, Principal

Have a wonderful summer! Katie Swanson 2022-2023 PTO President