



Spring 2019

Dear Families and Friends of Saint John School,

We are in the midst of such an exciting season at Saint John School. In the past few weeks we have hosted the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, taken students to the Museum of Fine Arts-Boston, celebrated Ash Wednesday, and walked through the Stations of the Cross. As we reflect on all we offer our students, we must remember that tuition and fees at non-public schools typically cover 70-80% of operating costs for a given year, leaving a monetary gap to educate each student. Based on the data presented in the 2017-2018 St. John the Evangelist Annual Financial Report, Saint John School's tuition and fees covered 71% of its operating costs, **leaving a gap of \$2,838 per student.**

Saint John School uses a variety of sources to cover this gap and avoid trimming staff or freezing salaries. During non-auction years, our largest fundraiser is **the Annual Fund, which supports the cost of education not covered by tuition and thus benefits all Saint John School students, families, teachers, and staff.** Donations are for unrestricted use and support a wide range of programs at Saint John School. In the past, contributions have supported the Spanish and STEM programs, purchased carts of iPads and Chromebooks, and allowed the SJS to begin offering need-based financial aid and more competitive faculty/staff compensation packages.

While annual giving is always critical, the school faces additional fundraising needs this spring as a result of long-overdue capital spending. Over the past two years, the school has completed numerous capital improvements critical to the safety and sustainability of our school building. These projects include:

- replacing the original school boiler to improve energy efficiency and reliability (\$153,562)
- installing a new security system covering all building access points (\$19,380)
- relocating the main entrance and offices to control building access (\$59,147)
- replacing the original light fixtures to improve energy efficiency and aesthetics (\$32,444)
- sprucing up classrooms with projectors, paint, carpets, desks, blinds, and whiteboards (\$36,308)

Rather than raise money through a capital campaign, the school spent \$300,841 of reserve funds to finance these important and necessary projects. Because of this, we need your help not only covering this year's tuition gap but also rebuilding our strategic reserves. To inspire more and greater giving, this year's Annual Fund will include the opportunity for donors to purchase customizable bricks as we prepare to resurface the walkway between the main entrance and the church over the summer.

Every gift makes a difference, and we ask that you consider making this critical investment now that will provide the operational support needed to sustain the legacy of Saint John School and help **Pave the Way** for its future success. Please visit www.saintjohnschool.net and click on "Annual Fund" under the "Support" tab for more information.

Thank you for your generosity and continued faith in Saint John School.

Heartfelt Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rev. James Laughlin'.

Rev. James Laughlin
Pastor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Liz Ganley'.

Mary Liz Ganley
Parent Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Dibbert'.

Michael Dibbert
Head of School/Principal