

## May 2016

Dear Families,

Below is a summary of the 2015 - 2016 school year and a preview into some things for the 2016-2017 school year. Much of this information may be familiar to you from the weekly newsletters.

**General Information** - The cost to educate each child at SJAS is approximately \$4750. Next year that cost will increase to about \$5050 per child. The school is funded through the following means: parish subsidy, tuition, fundraisers and donations.

**Parish Subsidy** – This is the sum that each pastor/parish agrees to pay per child attending SJAS. Currently that amount is \$2250 per child. It will increase to \$2300 per child next year.

**Parent Tuition** – Tuition is currently \$1650 for the first child, with small breakdowns for succeeding children. Tuition will increase to \$1750 next year for the first child along with the small breakdowns for succeeding children.

**Fundraisers** – There are three major fundraisers for the school: the Marathon (Walkathon), Cookie Bake, and Spring Raffle/Breakfast. Your participation is extremely important at these events! For 2016-2017, about \$1,000 per child needs to be 'earned' at the fundraisers to help keep tuition affordable!

### **Amount raised for 2015 - 2016**

- Walkathon: \$23,609.48
- Cookie Bake: \$9,632.56
- Spring Raffle/Breakfast: \$19,208.29
- Target: \$1,831.86
- Box Tops: \$1,258.50
- Food Club Labels: \$1,925.00
- Loaves4Learning: \$60.00
- Charity Mobile: \$0
- Cartridge World: \$0

With your help, and the fun incentives for the children, we have earned about \$3243.50 collecting box tops & labels this year!! AMAZING!!! Please keep saving those labels over the summer!!

### **Budget**

The operating budget for this school year is \$471,232 and we are operating within that budget. The budget planned and approved by the School Board for the 2016 - 2017 school year is \$480,453.47. This increase is due to building maintenance/upkeep, fees, and program costs.

## **Grants**

This year we were fortunate AGAIN to be awarded 2 large grants! The first grant came from the MN Department of Agriculture (MDA) for Farm to School and a matching grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield for Prevention totaling \$12,274.74. This grant is specifically for the kitchen and lunch program. The items we purchased with the grant money: a new oven, shelving in the cooler, a salad bar, several kitchen storage containers, and kitchen tools.

The second grant that we were awarded was a technology grant from Century Link specifically for technology in the classroom. Four teachers were awarded grants totaling \$19,851.00! The grant money was used to purchase iPads, covers, charging stations, carts, iPad tables, a ceiling mount, iTunes cards, and other technology equipment.

Between the two grants above, our total money awarded this year was \$32,125.74! We are very blessed to receive these wonderful monetary gifts to update our technology and lunch program this year! We hope to apply for grant money again next year!

## **Playground**

We have collected over \$65,000 for our new playground with the help of the community, grants, fundraisers, and donations. We were also able to repair and straighten the fence. We are very excited to have a fun new playground for the children to play on at St. John's!

## **Dates to Remember**

- Open House: September 1, 2016
- First Day of School: September 6, 2016
- Walk-A-Thon: Friday, October 7, 2016

## **Faith, Family, and Fun Group (Home and School)**

Each family is a part of and can be involved in FFF! This group meets 3 times a year. Along with doing fun things for the students and staff at SJAS, they had a few fundraisers this year: A SoupFest and Silent Auction, and the Garage Sale. Proceeds from these fundraisers were used to help pay for fieldtrip busing, student/staff equipment, and Sixth Grade graduation.

## **Stewardship Committee**

The purpose of this committee is to help generate ways and means to promote SJAS. This year, along with some advertisement, the committee is working on putting together a new brochure to help share the good news about St. John's Area School. If you are interested in helping with this committee, please contact the school office for more information!

## **Foley Fun Days Parade**

The parade date is June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The theme this year is "Fishers of Men". If you are interested in helping with the float or taking part in the parade, call Andi Rahm and **wear red!**

## **SJAS Facebook Page and Website**

Please keep an eye on the SJAS website and our Facebook page! We have a very dedicated parent that continually updates and adds pictures/information throughout the school year! Please check it out at: [www.facebook.com/stjohnsareaschool](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsareaschool) and [www.saintjohnsschool.net](http://www.saintjohnsschool.net)

