

A Message from the PSG Executive

Welcome back to St. Mary's and a special welcome to the new families at the school.

The Parent Support Group (PSG) at St. Mary's School works to raise funds for the enhancement of our school and to encourage involvement in fun events. The funds raised by the PSG allow us to provide materials and opportunities that our students would otherwise be unable to experience.

The PSG is not just about raising money, it also creates a community within the school. Events throughout the year that we sponsor include: Meet the Teacher Potluck, movie theater trip for whole school, Family Fun Night, Halloween Dance, Teacher Appreciation luncheon, Sports day, and activities and food during Catholic Education Week among others.

All parents and guardians of students at the school are voting members of PSG.

A few parents volunteer to make up the executive committee: Chair, vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

We hold a meeting once a month for 1 hour and use that time to update /inform of any upcoming events. We also brainstorm how to improve our current fundraisers or change them and try new fundraisers.

Throughout the year, each grade is responsible for putting together an event or fundraiser:

Kindergarten: Purdy's Chocolates at Christmas. There is a step by step binder to assist the class.

Grade 1: Poinsettia at Christmas and spring flowers in May. We have binders to help.

Grade 2: Teacher Appreciation Luncheon: Held in June. There will be a binder for this event outlining everything to do.

Grade 3: Family Fun Night in April. There is a binder to help.

Grade 4: Silent Auction Dinner and Dance: Held in November. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and with the help of the binder this one needs more advance set up.

Grade 5: Halloween Dance: Held the Friday before Halloween. A binder will be provided for this.

Grade 6: May Calendar Raffle: Donations are collected and tickets sold for this prize a day event.

Grade 7: Fun Food Fridays: We serve hot lunch every Friday and the funds from this event go directly to fund the grade 7 field trip to Camp Maurice with a sweater for them as well. We currently have an electronic system for food orders which has greatly improved this events organization.

So what do we do with the rest of the money we raise?

We donate \$10,000.00 to the school to put towards whatever they like. Each teacher receives \$200.00 towards supplies. We have contributed to the iPad, trolleys for iPad's, new laptop for the principal, new desk for the secretary, new gym mats, new blinds for every classroom, painting the cement outside with games, new outdoor balls and games, new indoor sports equipment, stage extension, new quiet room, busing for events and many more.

The executive are available to answer any questions through email or in person if we see you at the school or an event.

We encourage everyone to attend a meeting to better understand what we do.

Sincerely the current executive of St. Mary's Parent Support Group

Sandy Warmerdam, Chair

Jana Chrisp, Treasurer/Gaming Officer

Danielle Fonseca, Secretary fonsecas@telus.net