SAINT PATRICK’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A PARENTS GUIDE TO

Getting Involved & Giving
St. Patrick’s School is rich in tradition, faith, and academics. Fostering academic, spiritual, and community growth requires partnership between school leadership, teachers, and you, our dedicated families.
There are many ways to get involved at St. Patrick’s School! Parent involvement helps bridge the partnership between school and home and provides the opportunity to meet other families.

St. Patrick’s offers many opportunities for parents to get involved in the School and recognizes that every family has different schedules and demands outside of our community. Your active participation helps our community thrive!
**SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD (SAB)**

The St. Patrick’s School Advisory Board (SAB) is responsible for implementing, overseeing, and revising the School’s Strategic Plan in collaboration with the Principal and our Pastor. The SAB provides the Pastor and Principal with input on overarching academic, financial, policy, planning, and marketing actions. The Board is comprised of 8 to 15 members each serving a three-year term. Members of the SAB are nominated by officers of the SAB and must be willing and able to make a substantial time commitment to the work of the Board during their term. All Board members and officers serve as volunteers. The Board’s work is primarily driven by six committees chaired by individual SAB members: Academic Excellence, Catholic Identity & Service, School Culture & Climate, Recruitment & Retention, Facilities & Campus Improvement, and Financial Planning & Affordability.

**HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSA)**

Our Home and School Association (HSA), under the oversight of the Culture and School Climate Committee of the SAB, is an all-volunteer organization that serves as the communication vehicle between the school and the family home fostering parental involvement in the school community and facilitating many of the volunteer opportunities throughout St. Patrick’s School. The HSA’s responsibilities include planning community-building events, organizing room parents for each grade, overseeing many of the recurring fundraising events that support St. Patrick’s School and sponsoring guest speakers for our parent community. The co-chairs of the HSA share a seat on the SAB and work closely with the SAB Chair of the School Culture & Climate Committee to ensure our community remains vibrant and engaged. The HSA appreciates and values all levels of volunteerism on behalf of our St. Patrick’s community.

**HSA Positions**

- Co-Chairs
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Room Parent Coordinator
- Hospitality Coordinators
- Technology Coordinators
- Alumni Coordinator
- Grade Level Representatives
- Spirit Wear Coordinator
- Class Roomparent
ATHLETICS

St. Patrick’s offers several opportunities through the CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) to coach Pre-K-8th sports including soccer, cross-country, basketball, and track and field.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Hot Lunch Volunteers
Box Tops
Library Volunteers
Spring Musical
Faculty & Staff Appreciation
Grandparents Club
Annual Fund Task Force / Golf Event (See Giving Section)
Service Club
Marketing Committee
The enthusiastic involvement of our families help enrich their connection to St. Patrick's, and many families stay involved long after their children graduate. Through our traditions and events, families enjoy a robust social network and create lifelong friendships.

Please visit our web site for more information!

https://www.stpatrickadw.org/

**FALL**
- BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC
- BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT
- WRAPPING PAPER FUNDRAISER
- COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL
- HALLOWEEN SOCK HOP
- GOLF TOURNAMENT (ANNUAL FUND)

**WINTER**
- GRANDPARENTS' DAY
- TRIVIA NIGHT
- SIP AND SHOP
- KIDS' CHRISTMAS SHOP
- BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
- BOOK FAIR
- READ-A-THON

**SPRING**
- GALA FUNDRAISER
- PUB NIGHT
- 5K / FUN RUN
- JUNIOR HIGH NIGHT
- BINGO NIGHT
- FIELD DAY
- 8TH GRADE DINNER
- ANNUAL FUND LEADERSHIP RECEPTION
To simplify how to best support the students of St. Patrick’s School, the Annual Fund has been established as the primary fundraising effort. This annual campaign is the most efficient vehicle for support as there is no fundraising cost for this effort and 100% of each tax-deductible contribution is used for school needs. Excellence and opportunity are hallmarks of a St. Patrick’s education. Your generosity to the Annual Fund ensures we can continue to guide students to develop their fullest potential through academic, interpersonal and leadership skills and empower them to live out the gospel in their world.

Every year the expenses associated with delivering this type of education increases as does the need for financial assistance for families that desire our faith-based education. The Annual Fund allows us to continue to maintain an affordable tuition rate and bridge the gap between tuition income and the true cost of the excellent St. Patrick’s education.

**MAKE A GIFT**

- Give Online at: [https://stpatrickadw.org/support/annual-fund/](https://stpatrickadw.org/support/annual-fund/)

- Mail a check to made payable “St. Patrick’s Catholic School” with “Annual Fund” in the memo line, and send to:

  St. Patrick’s School  
  4101 Norbeck Road  
  Rockville, MD 20853
THE ANNUAL FUND

GIVING RECOGNITION

Gifts of every amount are important and appreciated. Giving levels allow donors to contribute at the level that is meaningful and appropriate for their family. All donors to the Annual Fund each fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) will be recognized in the Annual Report, unless they wish to remain anonymous.

RECURRING GIVING

Become a monthly donor in support of the St. Patrick's Annual Fund. Donors make their support throughout the year on a monthly basis via an automated credit card deduction. Monthly giving enables families to spread their gift over 12 months, from July 1 through June 30th, each year.

PLANNED GIVING

Include St. Patrick’s School in your will, trust, or other long-term charitable plans. As a young institution gifts of this significance build the foundation for long-term sustainability despite potential changing financial landscapes. For more information, please contact annualfund@stpatrickadw.org

EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Please consider asking your employer about matching or other charitable giving programs. Company partners can either have their family name acknowledged or offer their company marketing access to the community depending on the giving level. All company partner contributions are attributable to the family's giving recognition level.

GIVING LEVELS

Shamrock Society* $5,000 +
2004 Founders Club $2,004 - $4,999
Celtic Circle** $1,000 - $2,003
Benevolent Badgers $500 - $999
Scholars $250 - $499
Friends $100 - $249

*Shamrock Society members will be invited annually to a reception with school leadership to review the results of the Annual Fund Campaign and the way donations will be used.

**Contributors at the Celtic Circle level or more will be invited to the Annual Fund’s Leadership Reception.
WHAT IS THE ANNUAL FUND?
The Annual Fund is money given to support the School’s operating expenses during a given fiscal year. St. Patrick’s fiscal year is July 1 – June 30. Tuition alone does not cover the full cost of providing a St. Patrick’s education. Gifts to the Annual Fund make up the difference between tuition income and the actual expense of running the school. Many schools refer to this difference as their “tuition gap” or “tuition shortfall”. The Annual Fund’s practical equivalent is a checking account that helps the school accomplish its daily work.

WHAT IS A LEADERSHIP GIFT?
Leadership gifts are large donations that set the pace for giving at an early stage of an annual giving campaign – although they may arrive at any time. Gifts or pledges of $1,000+ are considered leadership level at St. Patrick’s School. These contributors are invited to the Annual Fund’s Leadership Reception.

WHAT IS THE SHAMROCK SOCIETY?
The Shamrock Society serves as a cornerstone of financial support for St. Patrick’s School. Gifts from Shamrock Society members at the $5,000+ level to the Annual Fund provide resources that enhance student experience through new technology, faculty professional development, and experiential learning.

HOW MUCH DOES ST. PATRICK’S EXPECT ME TO GIVE?
We hope that St. Patricks families will make the Annual Fund their top philanthropic priority each year as it goes directly to benefit each teacher and student. We ask each family to decide on an amount that is meaningful to them. St. Patricks Annual Fund success relies on gifts of all sizes and every gift makes a difference. During our last direct giving drive, 92% of families raised over $200,000 through gifts ranging from $10 to $25,000.
WHY DOES MY PARTICIPATION MATTER?

High participation in giving has an impact on gifts from outside sources; most foundations consider parent participation rates before donating funds to a school. We strive for 100% parent participation. This demonstration of strong internal support for the school is a factor in determining the level at which they will, in turn, support the school. Every alumni, grandparent, and parent of alumni gift further helps us tell the story of the impact of a St. Patrick’s education!

WHY GIVE TO THE ANNUAL FUND WHEN MY FAMILY IS ALREADY PAYING TUITION?

Gifts are necessary because tuition doesn’t cover all the opportunities your student receives. While your child is in school, gifts to the Annual Fund translate into more personal attention and increased intellectual stimulation. Donations enable us to recruit and retain talented teachers, offer small classes, provide instructional resources, and upgrade educational technology. Gifts are necessary because tuition does not cover all the opportunities your student receives while attending St. Patrick’s School.

MAY I DIRECT MY GIFT TO A SPECIFIC NEED?

Gifts to the Annual Fund are unrestricted and may be designated to an area within the operating budget including Tuition Assistance, Science & Technology Enhancements, Fine Arts, Faith & Service Development, Faculty/Staff Growth & Development, The Capital Fund, and Classroom Supplies & Materials. If contributions to a designated area exceed their budgeted limit, the School will direct gifts to the Area of Greatest Need category.