

Dear St. Philip the Apostle School Parents,

Our school community may be physically apart throughout our remote learning experience, but we are blessed to be stronger than ever. The St. Philip the Apostle School Board has met regularly throughout this time, and remains focused on the success of our school.

We continue to be thankful for the incredible work done by our Principal Jennifer Ramirez and all administration and faculty. Our school had a very rapid pivot to remote learning from in-school instruction, and the efforts to teach and support our children during this challenging time have been inspiring. As a parent, I remain amazed by how quickly our teachers and administration were able to create schedules, teach curriculum, and make my children feel constantly engaged.

Our School Board is also thankful to you - our parents! Learning has always been a shared effort, but you have certainly stepped up and done so much to optimize your children's learning experience over these weeks: maintaining a solid Wifi signal, getting out the right gear for spirit days, making signs for social media posts, dishing out daily hot lunch, supervising recess, lunch and PE, dragging kids out of bed to make the long commute to their desks (or the kitchen table), and especially creating a warm homebound learning environment ~ Thank you! We appreciate your attention to your children's remote learning and your support of our teachers.

As we proceed through this time of economic turmoil, we did not furlough any teachers or staff. We rely entirely on tuition collection to make this possible. However, we continue looking for ways to support our families with tuition support and assistance. As a community, we are here to help. Please know that the goal of the School Board is to not lose any students due to financial challenges. If your family encounters a need for tuition assistance, please contact Jennifer soon. All inquiries are confidential. The School Board remains focused on ways to fulfill all tuition assistance requests. We are here to support and keep our community together.

While we focus on those in our community with need, we also celebrate together, remotely, this Saturday at the PTO *Red Tie Bash "Homedown."* I encourage those who can to bid on the PTO's St. Philip Exclusives and to participate in the paddle raise for the Fr. Joe Moniz Educational Fund. The Fr. Joe Fund supports the educational needs of every student ~ including investments in technology, tuition assistance, and support to our music, Spanish, science and art programs.

Our annual budget continues to rely on fundraising via the PTO and BATC to fill the tuition gap of \$1,300 per student. We need your help to fill this gap. By donating to the Fr. Joe Fund, you will help stabilize our annual budget. If your family is in a position to support the Fr. Joe Fund, please join us this Saturday as we ~ remotely ~ raise our paddles to donate.

I pray that your families are all safe and healthy during this unprecedented time.

We stand strong as a community ~ apart yet together as one.

Best,

Jill Longo  
School Board President

