## Service Dogs of Virginia Tag Day



"Because life can change in an instant."



## Thurs, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> Comfy Clothes \$1 Tag Day

## Bring \$1 to class and follow the handbook rules for comfy clothes

During Catholic Schools Week this year, our St. Louis Students will have an opportunity to see service dogs in action! An afternoon assembly will feature a guest speaker from **Service Dogs of VA** and at least one of her canine friends in training!

Service Dogs of VA does not charge the individuals who receive a service dog. Instead the organization works on a "pay it forward" model and raises money through many fundraisers to support the cost to train the dogs. St. Louis School will be participating in "paying it forward," with a **TAG DAY**, sponsored by the Student Council, with all proceeds going directly to **Service Dogs of VA**!

Taken from the Service Dogs of VA's website,

"Our Mission is "to raise and train exceptional dogs and match them with individuals with disabilities to create greater independence." Service Dogs of Virginia, Inc. (SDV) was founded in 2000. Service Dogs of Virginia is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that raises, trains, and places dogs to assist people with disabilities. Highly trained dogs perform a multitude of tasks that allow greater personal freedom and independence. We place dogs throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. The support we receive from individuals, foundations, businesses, and the community is critical to helping us raise and train service dogs to assist people with disabilities. SDV receives no support from the government and service dogs are not covered by medical insurance. It costs approximately \$40,000 over a two-year period to raise, train, and place a successful service dog. Through the generous support of caring individuals, businesses, and foundations, Service Dogs of Virginia is able to provide service dogs at no cost to those in need."