



St. Peter School

The Key to Educational Excellence Since 1868



Annual Report 2018–2019





Dear St. Peter School Families, Alumni, and Friends,

Upon this rock the Sisters of the Holy Cross built our neighborhood Catholic school and their mission of faith, academic excellence, and community continues today through us.

Because of our collaboration with families, supporting parishes, and community partners and the dedication of our faculty and staff, St. Peter School remains The Key to Academic Excellence Since 1868. We are grateful to you for giving your time, talent, and treasure. Your investments have positioned St. Peter School to provide our students with a 21st century learning environment.

Building on the next 150 years of faith, service, and academic excellence, let us continue to give our students the tools they need to engage even more effectively and authentically in all facets of their lives. In this way, they will grow closer to God – seeing Him in all things and being moved to serve Him in all ways.

May God continue to bless our St. Peter School community.



Karen Clay
Principal

Dear St. Peter School Parents,

As the celebrations for St. Peter School's landmark anniversary concluded last year, St. Peter School families showed that our school will continue to be a Rock on Capitol Hill for at least another 150 years.

You gave generously of your time to ensure the success of school functions and supported teachers and staff in organized ways – like the new monthly teacher appreciation program—and through a palpable spirit of camaraderie. You shared your talents with our students, faculty, and staff, enriching our students' lives. And you gave generously of your treasure. Thanks to your financial support, St. Peter School was able to offer total aid of more than \$100,000 to approximately 14% of our students, ensuring “an education founded on love of God” for numerous students who would not otherwise be able to afford it. In addition, your financial support resulted in upgraded WiFi service, new Smartboards, and additional SurfacePro computers in our classrooms.

St. Peter School is stronger than ever spiritually, academically, and financially. Our graduates are accepted by the high schools of their choice, and our retention rate is one of the highest in the Archdiocese of Washington. Exciting things are happening at St. Peter School, and we have much to be grateful for as we look to the future – including the possibility of improved and updated facilities as a result of the Cornerstone Project, which is launching this year.

On behalf of the Pastor Principal Advisory Board, thank you for your continued support of St. Peter School.

Liz Martin

Liz Martin
President

2018-2019 Faculty and Staff

Karen Clay
Principal

Erica Lopez
*Grade 2/Assistant Principal
PK – Grade 1*

Allison Atherton
*Grade 4/Assistant Principal
Grades 3 – 5/ Extended
Care Director*

Kim Evans
*Middle School Resource and
Assistant Principal*

Lauren Pawlowski
Office Manager

Debra Duff
*Coordinator of School
Programs*

Ester Ackerman
Nurse

TEACHERS PK – GRADE 8

Jean Zwald
PK

Adriana Yeroushalmie
PK Assistant

Nicole Pender
Kindergarten

Katy Hulette
Kindergarten Assistant

Alice Hale
Grade 1

Sr. Tirhas
Grade 1 Assistant

Sr. Ghennet
Grade 2 Assistant

Trish Kelly
Grade 3

Katie Mullins
Grade 5

Caroline Mills
*Grade 6, Religion, Social
Studies, Latin*

Daniel Schaechter
Grade 7, English/Literature

Debra Rheault
Grade 8, Math

SPECIALISTS

Kelley Allen
*Physical Education and
Health*

Patricia Blomquist
Art

Sharrone Brawner
*Grades 3 – 5 Resource/
Resource Coordinator*

Robert Crowell
Maintenance

Sara Foresi Perrotta
Library Assistant

Jeni Freed
Librarian

Dez Hinkson
Science, Grades 4 – 8

Claire Jolly
K – Grade 2 Resource

Eric Lewis
*Music/Children's Choir
Director*

Henry McDaniels
Landscaping

Kay Ossio
*Instructional Technology
Specialist*

Monica Pabon
Spanish

Alex Pellegrino
Aide

James Shackelford
Technology

2018-19 Pastor/Principal Advisory Board

EX-OFFICIO

Rev. Gary Studniewski
*(St. Peter's Church, Capitol
Hill)*

Principal Karen Clay

Rev. William Gurnee
*(St. Joseph's Church,
Capitol Hill)*

Fr. Hyacinth Cordell
(St. Dominic's Church)

PRESIDENT

Elizabeth Martin

SECRETARY

Debra Duff

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Erica Lopez
Allison Atherton

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Michelle Easton
Julie Penndorf

SUSTAINABILITY

Liz Hall
Donna McNamara
Anthony Militello
Joseph Routh
Jeanette Whitener

MARKETING/ COMMUNICATIONS

Genevieve Maul
Nicole Wetjen
Krista Wilmot

HOME/SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Megan Uzzell
Co-Chair

Katharine Wingert
Co-Chair

PARISH FINANCE MEMBER

Ted Southern

AT-LARGE

Susan DePlachett
*(St. Peter's Capitol Hill
Parishioner)*

Phyllis Jane Young
(Community Member)

2018 – 2019 Giving

We are grateful to those supporters who amplified their annual giving by requesting matching gifts and contributions from the following employers:

Anthem, Inc.
Fannie Mae
Lockheed Martin

Medtronic
Raytheon
Saltchuk

T. Rowe Price
UBS

Turner Broadcasting
System Inc.

Gift Circles

Thank you to our generous donors (current families, unless otherwise noted). Your giving and high-level participation make all the difference to St. Peter School's students, program, faculty, staff and facilities.

1868 CIRCLE **\$2,500 and above**

Clarence and Berta
Browder (*current*
grandparents)
Raymond and Julia
Bucheger
Edward and Susan
Corrigan
Mark and Stacey Dion
Philo and Elizabeth Hall
Chris and Anita Iacaruso
Walter and Dana Lukken
Rich and Betsy McIntyre
Brian and Marliiss McManus
Maureen Moreau (*friend*)
Lindsay and Gail Slater
Peter and Christine Sloan
Scott and Michelle Slusher
Robert Southern and Karin
Rodgers
Pelham and Patricia
Straughn
Jason and Anne Thomas

THE KEYS TO SUCCESS CIRCLE **\$2,000 to \$2,499**

Pete Andres and Joanna
Romero
Christopher and Marie Cox

Timothy and Alexandra
Fouts
Jack and Stephanie Lester
Terence Sullivan

THE ROCK ON THE HILL CIRCLE **\$1,500 to \$1,999**

Michael and Tracy Caudill
Christopher Coakley and
Elizabeth Martin
Nicholas Fontana and
Wanda Ng
Gregory Klebes and
Danielle Liquori
Christopher Lobb and
Paola Barbara (*past*
parents)
Patrick and Giulia McHenry
Thomas and Donna
McNamara
John and Rebecca Nolan

SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS CIRCLE **\$1,000 TO \$1,499**

David and Paula Brennan
Keith and Amanda
Catanzano
Jim and Erin Courtney
Robert and Anna Ehrich
John and Kerry Feehery

Michael Fleszar and
Christine Derwin
Andrew and Joan
Goldfrank
Booth and Jennifer
Jameson
Robert and Christina
Justus
Thomas and Jill Kozeny
Daniel and Jessica McFaul
James and Rachel
McGreevy
Frank Rinaldi
Brett and Nina Schaefer
Sonny and Dione Sharmin
Justin and Dana Shum
David and Hollis Silverman
Nicholas Tabori and
Colleen Durbin

ST. PETER PANTHERS CIRCLE **Up to \$999**

Paul and Stephanie Ahern
Kathleen Amacio
Anonymous (*friend*)
Anonymous (*friend*)
Bradley and Nicole
Appleman
David Arsenault (*alumnus*)
Eric and Kathy Bergren

John Bidwell and DeLania
Hardy
Andre and Danielle
Bierzynski
Robert Bonner and Kris
Dellapina
Peter and Kristine
Brookes
Bruce and Angelita
Buelken
Gary Carpentier
Brendan and Machalagh
Carr
Andre and Sarah Castro
Jose and Kelly Ceballos
Richard and Susan Cernich
(*current grandparents*)
Nicholas and Elizabeth
Cioffi
John and Jennifer Coffey
Rosalyn Coleman
Craig and Elizabeth
Cookson
John and Marilyn Cookson
(*current grandparents*)
Robert and Julie Corn
Daniel and Katie Corrigan
Christopher and Deborah
Cushman
David Delcher and
Roxanne Wallace
Gerald Del Rosario and
Claudia Kim

Andrew and Lauren DiPaola	Robert Holifield and Katherine Klos	Michael and Ramola Musante	Christopher and Fay Wallace (<i>current grandparents</i>)
John and Michelle Easton Ecolab, Inc. (<i>friend</i>)	Robert and Nancy House Adam Howard (<i>friend</i>)	James and Suzanne Nelson	Gregory and Senth White
Mark and Amanda Edwards	Vincent and Jacqueline Hurley	Todd and Sarah Novascone (<i>past parents</i>)	Christopher and Jeanette Whitener
Edward Ertel and Jennifer Squires	Scott and Meagan Jancy Leonard and Maura Jeffords	John Myers and Megan Uzzell	Kenneth and Katharine Wingert
Steven and Rachel Fall Brooks and Lorena Farnsworth	Evan Keeling and Stephanie Butto	Temesgen and Hanna Negussie	Caroline Wood
David and Ann Fisher	Wendy Kennedy	Steven and Lana Obert	Mark Yucha and Fiona Shanks Yucha
Peter Flynn and Dara Klatt	James Kilsby and Elizabeth Cronan	Molly Collins Offner (<i>past parent</i>)	FACULTY AND STAFF
David and Mary Ann Fox	Theron Korsak	Jonathan and Julie Penndorf	Ester Ackerman
Eric Frater and Piyawan Nakarat	Kurt and Kathy Kovarik	Christopher Peot and Laura Grosso	Kelley Allen
Timothy Fratto and Johanna Kaplan-Fratto	Steve and Lisette Kvortek	Stephen and Tracey Peranich	Allison Atherton
Michael and Shelley Gaffin	Patrick and Rosemary Lally	Anthony Perez and Yolanda Rodriguez	Trish Blomquist
Richard and Debbie Gaffin (<i>current grandparents</i>)	Krzysztof Laski and Claire Mooney	Richard and Kristin Perry	Sharrone Brawner
Michael Gibson and Katharine Mueller	Patrick Lyden and Sarah Rittling Lyden	James and Sara Love Rawlings	Karen Clay
Aaron and Lindsay Gilbride	Greg and Lois Mastel	Trevor Raymond and Karen Guillory	Debra Duff
Jorge Gonzalez and Margaret Ebrahim	Trent and Genevieve Maul	David and Tara Robertson	Alice Hale
Peter Gotthold and Marisa Ridi	Andrew and Nona McCoy	Joseph and Jennifer Routh	Kim Evans
Michael and Meghan Greenfield	Nick and Stephanie McDaniel	Timothy Rutten and Kellie Donnelly	Jeni Freed
David and Lakisha Gregory	Michael and Virginia McMullan	John and Lucia Serra	Dezra Hinkson
Clayton and Stuart Hall	Joseph and Sandra McSorley (<i>alumnus</i>)	John and Stephanie Smedile	Katy Hulette
Michael Hansford and Lakeisha Johnson	Anthony and Giuseppina Militello	Cabrina Smith	Claire Jolly
Erik and Katie Heilman	Harish Mirchandani and Fionelle Fonseca	Maurice and Vera Sullivan (<i>current grandparents</i>)	Trish Kelly
Ronald and Amber Heimberg	Brian and Rhonda Moore	Paul and Sarah Surgenor	Eric Lewis
David Hermann and Joanne Gilles	Timothy and Elizabeth Moran	Raymond Thorn and Allison Salyer	Erica Lopez
	Christopher and Colleen Morton		Caroline Mills
	Paul and Elizabeth Murray		Katie Mullins

The 2018-2019 Annual Report is a publication of St. Peter School, acknowledging contributions to the Annual Fund from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy and completeness. Please contact Debbie Duff, coordinator of school programs, at 202-544-1618, dduff@stpeterschooldc.org with questions or comments.

Celebration and Auction

Red or White? No matter the preference, parents and friends all raised a glass and bid cards for the St. Peter School cause.



Almost 240 parents, friends, parishioners and supporters gathered at District Winery on Saturday, February 9 for a night of fun, fellowship and fundraising for a great cause -- St. Peter School.

Profit: About \$132,000! Class-sponsored parties continue to grow in popularity, earning about \$16,000 – more than double the income from the previous year. It's official: SPS parents like to party. Guests also generously donated more than \$38,000 to Fr. Gary's Raise the Paddle for Tuition Assistance and \$23,800 for our sister school in Haiti. Friends of the school donated almost \$16,000 in sponsorships.

District Winery is booked for next year. Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 1, 2020.

Photos courtesy of SPS parent Patricia Johnson.





Haiti Stewardship

The Haiti Stewardship Committee (HSC) was founded in 2015 to strengthen the partnership between St. Peter School and Notre Dame D'Altagrace, its sister school and parish in Cap Haitien, Haiti. St. Peter School raises funds in support of teacher salaries, the student food program and infrastructure repairs. Back home, the HSC raises awareness, cultivates empathy and educates the greater SPS community about Haitian culture and traditions. School Year 18 19 was successful on all fronts.



Fundraising

From Hilloween to the annual Holiday Market to the Auction paddle raise for Haiti and our partnership sale at Antiochian Home, the St. Peter School community raised \$26,518.15 for Notre Dame D'Altagrace.



Schoolwide Programs

Last November, to strengthen in-person connections, SPS Principal Karen Clay and SPS parents Peter Sloan, Sheila Samaddar (a dentist), and HSC Co-Chairs Laura Grosso and Danielle Liquori (see photo, left) joined Archangel Airborne's Mission 29 to Haiti. Despite ongoing political unrest on the island, Dr. Samaddar ran a dental clinic serving more than 50 people (see photo, above).

Bringing the Haiti mission to students, parent Stephanie Lester shared the work of The Gap in Haiti; parent Amanda Edwards led a session comparing Haitian and U.S. architecture; and author Frantz Derenoncourt, Jr. returned to school in May to share stories about Haitian heroes in celebration of May's Haitian Heritage Month.

A student flag design contest produced a visual tribute to the SPS/Notre Dame D'Altagrace sisterhood. Grade 8 student Kalei Serra's winning design (see above) now flies on flags proudly hoisted both in Haiti and on Capitol Hill.

Thank you! Mesi Anpil! Merci pour tout!



Extracurriculars

Middle School Speech Contest: Powerful! Engaging! Interactive!



May's first-ever St. Peter School Speech Contest, coordinated by Grade 7 teacher Danny Schaechter and open to all middle school students, was an undeniable success, once again underscoring and highlighting student potential. The audience witnessed top-notch preparation, poise and performance from 33 finalists, along with tears, laughs and even a frightening scare.

Judges honored four winners: Grade 8 students Clare Anna House and Alex Carpentier (left) as solo winners and the teams of Samantha Goldfrank/Olivia Del Rosario and Claire Ahern/Sofia Gonzalez as duo winners. BRAVO and BRAVA to all competitors!

Smart Choice, Smart Lunches

Parent interest in a more frequent, healthy lunch option spurred the arrival of Smart Lunches – a convenient lunch delivery service for students at schools without on-site cafeterias. Both hot and cold options, billed as nourishing AND kid-friendly, were available Monday – Thursday, with Pizza Fridays continuing as a Grade 8 fundraiser. Smart Lunches, headquartered in Boston, MA, prepares local meals at a former restaurant in Silver Spring, MD.

St. Peter School launched the program in September with about 75 of 243 students participating and peaked with almost 100 happy lunchers. The successful partnership continues.



Farm Time

The PK class went on three field trips, including an annual excursion to the farm and time with baby animals.

Band Sustains High Notes

Advanced Band earned an "Excellent" rating for its performance at the Archdiocesan Band Festival at Bishop McNamara High School on March 17.



Excellence in Teaching

Allision Atherton, Grade 4 teacher, was one of ten teachers from around the country honored by the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY) for excellence in teaching students with advanced academic abilities. Mrs. Atherton received her award at the Sarah D. Barder Fellowship Conference held in Baltimore, MD in March.



Sports

All three St. Peter's CYO Basketball teams (U12 Girls, U12 Boys and U14 Boys) enjoyed winning seasons—and added a U18 (alumni from the Classes of 2015-2017) to the mix. Congratulations to players and thanks to all volunteer coaches: Ned Ertel, Tom Kozeny, Brad Mannon, Mike Sewell, Chris Miller, Kevin Lefeber, Walt Lukken, Suzanne Nelson, Scott Cernich, Yolanda Rodriguez and Tony Perez.

Blessing of the Pets

Almost 20 dogs—and one large rabbit—participated in the first Blessing of the Pets in October. Fr. Gary gave thanks for all these companions that enrich students' lives every day.



It's Academic

In only its second year of competition, the SPS Academic Challenge team, coached by Grade 6 teacher Caroline Mills, won second place at the Challenge @ Dematha High School in January.

Wedding Bells!

Grade 1 invited family and friends to the annual “wedding” of the letters Q and U. Once joined together to build words in their growing vocabulary, these constant companions would never be parted. A fun reception followed the big day.



What Are the Chances?

In March, Grade 5 organized a Probability Carnival, working in groups to create games of chance and predict the probability of various outcomes. The entire school participated, and Grade 5 collected valuable data.

Student Families: Community Outreach, Relationship Building

Ten inter-grade Student Families groups met monthly—often to carry out a school-wide community service project but always to strengthen leadership skills and friendships. Working together, students gained an awareness of the broader world and an appreciation for each other.



Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center

In September, Student Families made 55 layette bags for the Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center, a private group dedicated to supporting women and men facing a crisis pregnancy. SPS parents donated clothing, blankets and toys for the layettes, bolstered by the “needlers” of Chevy Chase (DC) Presbyterian Church (CCPC), who made 20 blankets that were blessed at CCPC with Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center director Janet Durig in attendance. “That was one of the most touching volunteer projects ever,” said Durig, “all because of the children of your school.”

Everyone Home DC (formerly Capitol Hill Group Ministry)

SPS Student Families made 180 Easter baskets for distribution to the clients of Everyone Home DC, which works with organizations, businesses and people serving our homeless neighbors and pursuing long-term solutions to homelessness. “The baskets were a HUGE hit with all of our

staff and families,” reported Abby Sypek, EHDC community engagement manager.

Greg Gannon Food Drive

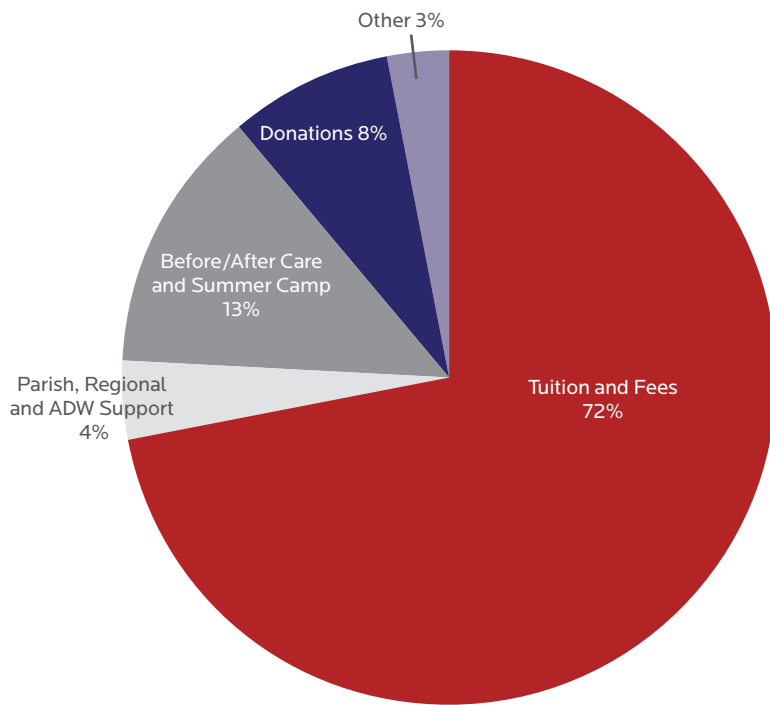
St. Peter School played a pivotal role in the 31st year of the drive’s efforts to serve the hungry in the greater-Washington, DC Metro area. The school collected and donated about 1,300 non-perishable items to once again benefit the Fr. McKenna Center, a day shelter and food pantry serving homeless men and very low-income families in Washington, DC’s Ward 6.

Humane Rescue Alliance

Student Families ended the year by collecting and packaging six large containers of pet supplies for the Humane Rescue Alliance (HRA), an organization that protects, rescues and cares for animals in the District of Columbia. Debbie Duel, HRA’s director of humane education, collected the donations and spoke to students about how they can protect animals every day.

St. Peter School Financial Statement

(July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)

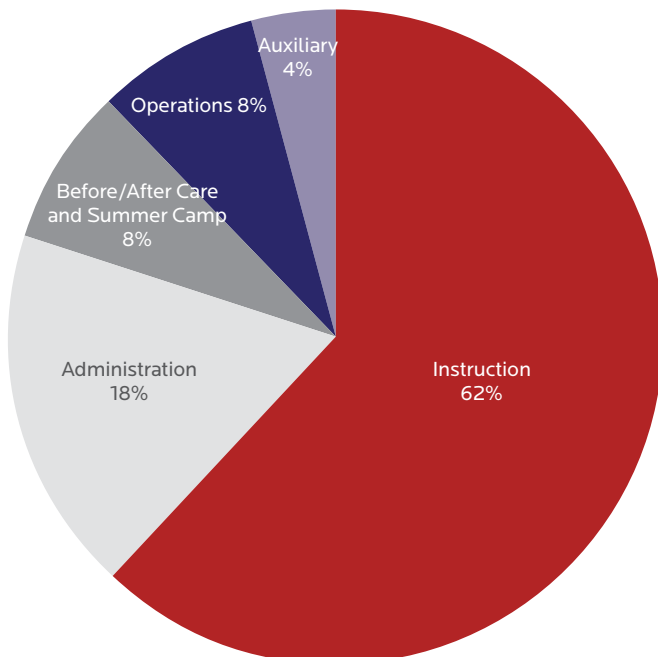


Revenue

Tuition & fees	\$2,952,413
Parish, Regional & ADW Support	\$170,922
Before/After Care & Summer Camp	\$510,027
Annual Fund, Auction & Other Fundraising/Donations	\$343,027
Other (1)	\$106,166

Total Revenues: \$4,082,555.00

(1) Includes lunch programs, school activities and HSA dues.



Expense

Instruction	\$1,929,734
Administration	552,439
Before/After Care & Summer Camp	256,759
Operations & Maintenance	237,170
Auxiliary/Fundraising	115,872

Total Expenses: \$3,091,974 .00

SAVINGS: \$990,581

Ways to make a charitable gift

Cash

Contributions of cash, checks or money orders are accepted and preferred. Checks should be made out to “St. Peter School” with the note, “Annual Giving Campaign.”

Credit Card

Contributions by credit card may be made at stpeterfund19@givesmart.com. St. Peter School accepts VISA, Mastercard, Discover and American Express. A 3.5% credit card fee is assessed on each gift, thereby reducing the gift by that amount. Please consider covering credit card processing fees per instructions on the site. THANK YOU!

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)

Contributions can be made by federal government employees through the CFC. The CFC ID number for St. Peter School is #39466. When dispersing funds, the CFC does not include individual donor names and gift amounts. Please share your donation amount with the SPS Development Office for proper recognition.

United Way (UW)

To support the school through the United Way, donors must clearly specify “St. Peter School” as the recipient. SPS does not have a United Way account number and is considered a “write-in agency.”



Employer Matching Gift

Please consider amplifying your annual giving donation through an employer matching gift. Check participation details where you work

Stocks, Bonds and Other Securities

To transact a securities donation, please contact the SPS Development Office at 202-544-1618, Ext. 13.

Planned Giving

Supporters can ensure the long-term financial security of the school through planned giving. Gifts may be made through a will bequest, life insurance beneficiary or retirement plan.



The Key to Educational Excellence Since 1868

St. Peter School is a family of learners serving the Capitol Hill parishes and community. We provide our children with an education that is founded on love of God and service to others, characterized by Catholic values and academic excellence and dedicated to addressing each child's unique talents and abilities.



422 Third Street, SE • Washington, DC 20003