2019 – 2020 Faculty and Staff

ADMINISTRATION
Karen Clay
Principal
Debra Duff
Coordinator of School Programs
Lauren Hamilton
School Office Manager
Ester Ackerman
School Nurse
Christine Murphy
School Counselor

TEACHERS
PK – GRADE 8
Jean Zwald
PK
Adriana Yeroushalmie
PK Assistant
Katy Hulette
Kindergarten Co-Teacher
Nicole Pender
Kindergarten Co-Teacher
Alice Hale
Grade 1
Tanisha Raymond
Grade 1 Assistant
Erica Lopez
Grade 2
Mary Kate Mandel
Grade 3
Allison Atherton
Grade 4
Alex Pellegrino
Grade 4 Teaching Aide
Nicole Schaechter
Grade 5
Caroline Mills
Grade 6, Religion, Social Studies, Latin
Daniel Schaechter
Grade 7, English/Literature
Deb Rheault
Grade 8 Homeroom, Middle School Math
Cullen Casey
Middle School Math

SPECIALISTS
Kelley Allen
Physical Education and Health
Trish Blomquist
Art
Robert Crowell
Maintenance
Kim Evans
Resource Instructor, Math
Sara Foresi-Perrotta
Library Aide
Jeni Freed
Librarian
Natasha Greene
Science, Grades 4 - 8

SUSTAINABILITY
Liz Hall
Donna McNamara
Hollis Silverman

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
Erica Lopez

CATHOLIC IDENTITY
Debbie Cushman
Anne Thomas

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

MARKETING/COMMUNICATIONS
Lauren DiPaola
Alex Fouts
Krista Wilmot

AT-LARGE
Susan DePlatchett
Ted Southern
Phyllis Jane Young

2019 – 2020 Pastor/Principal Advisory Board

SISTER GHEENNETH
Religion, PK - Grade 5
SISTER KIDAN
Religion, PK – Grade 5
LESLEY STEPTOE
Evening Maintenance
SHARRONE WASHINGTON
Resource Instructor, Early Childhood

Liz Hall
Donna McNamara
Hollis Silverman

Megan Uzzell
Katharine Wingert
Dear St. Peter School Families, Alumni and Friends,

Greetings to you, as we wrap up a momentous year!

The school year started off with a celebration, as St. Peter School “did it again” – that is, being named a National Blue Ribbon School for 2019 (our first was awarded in 2013). Archbishop of Washington Wilton Gregory came to St. Peter School on a bright and sunny day to offer congratulations in person (see cover and story, p. 6).

But then came 2020, and the rest is history. The school closed its iconic red doors physically on March 13 in our fight against the coronavirus pandemic (see story, p. 8). There’s good news, however. Thanks to excellent planning and execution, we seamlessly pivoted to distance learning and continued virtually, with increased synchronous teaching, through the end of the school year.

The Sisters of the Holy Cross who built our school in 1868 must have weathered so much history, including the 1918 pandemic (I will search for photos!). I bet they would never have expected another public health challenge so relatively soon. Yet I think they would recognize the faith and spirit that has held us together for 150+ years and still holds us up in trying times.

Thank you for the love and support recorded in these pages. With continued blessings from God and the Sisters, we will persevere.

Karen Clay
Principal

Dear St. Peter School Parents,

The 2019-2020 school year certainly is one we will never forget.

It began with fanfare and celebration, as St. Peter School was awarded a Department of Education National Blue Ribbon Award for the second time, making it one of the only ADW schools to repeat awards. The achievement was recognized by Washington’s new Archbishop Wilton Gregory, who personally attended our community celebration, and by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, who toured St. Peter School for the first time and shared her admiration in a congratulatory letter and statement in the 116th Congressional Record.

The excitement continued when, after two years of careful planning, St. Peter School launched the Cornerstone Campaign, a capital campaign to raise funds for a major addition to our historic school building. You responded to the launch of the Cornerstone Campaign as you respond to all things – with enthusiasm, thoughtful reflection, and overwhelming generosity. Unfortunately, the early momentum of the campaign was impacted by the emergence of COVID-19, which upended our plans in every facet of life and resulted in a temporary closure of our campus and temporary suspension of capital campaign efforts.

What COVID-19 couldn’t diminish is the sense of community and camaraderie that permeates St. Peter School. In times of celebration and strife, in-person and virtually, your steadfast support allows St. Peter School to live its mission of providing “an education founded on love of God and service to others.”

On behalf of the Pastor/Principal Advisory Board, thank you for supporting St. Peter School.

Liz Martin
PPAB President
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
Anonymous
Raymond and Julia Bucheger
Mark and Stacey Dion
Timothy and Alexandra Fouts
Philo and Elizabeth Hall
Walter and Dana Lukken
Rich and Betsy McIntyre
Thomas and Donna McNamara
Lindsay and Gail Slater
Peter and Christine Sloan
Pelham and Patricia Straughn
Jason and Anne Thomas
Mark and Nicole Wetjen

**2019 – 2020 Giving**

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

- Biogen Inc.
- Fannie Mae
- Lockheed Martin
- Medtronic
- Raytheon
- Saltchuk
- T. Rowe Price
- Turner Broadcasting System Inc.
- UBS

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

- David and Paula Brennan
- Keith and Amanda Catanzano
- Micaela Corkery
- Robert and Anna Ehrich
- Michael Fleszar and Christie Derwin
- Nicholas Fontana and Matthew Coakley
- Robert and Anna Ehrich
- Michael Fleiszar and Christine Derwin
- Nicholas Fontana and Wanda Ng
- David and Mary Ann Fox
- Andrew and Joan Goldfrank
- Booth and Jennifer Jameson
- Gregory Klebes and Danielle Liquori (past parents)
- Kurt and Kathy Kovarik
- Thomas and Jill Kozeny
- Timothy and Elizabeth Moran
- James and Suzanne Nelson
- John and Rebecca Nolan
- Frank Rinaldi
- Brett and Nina Schaefer
- Justin and Dana Shum
- David and Hollis Silverman
- Scott and Michelle Slusher
- Fr. Gary Studniwski

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

- Kathleen Amacio
- David Arsenault (alumnus)
- Dale and Eleasah Banks
- Mark and Michelle Bekkerening
- Eric and Kathy Bergren
- John Bidwell and DeLania Hardy
- Andre and Danielle Bierzynski
- Giovanni and Amanda Bonita
- Robert Bonner and Kris Dellapina
- Peter and Christine Brooks
- Paul and Lauren Cancienne (friends)
- Gary Carpentier (past parent)
- Christopher and Julie Carrigan
- Andre and Sarah Castro
- Jose and Kelly Ceballos
- Scott and Alison Cernich
- Dan and Erin Chow
- Foundation (friends)
- Nicholas and Elizabeth Cioffi
- John and Jennifer Coffey

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

- Christopher Coakley and Elizabeth Martin
- Mark Kane and Marta Mirecki
- Jack and Stephanie Lester
- Christopher Lobb and Paola Barbara (past parents)

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

- Pete Andres and Joanna Romero
- Craig and Elizabeth Cookson
- John and Marilyn Cookson (current grandparents)
- Daniel and Katie Corrigan
- Denis and Erica Cosgrove
- Mary Cosgrove (current grandparent)
- James and Erin Courtney
- James and Michael Cuthbert
- Crowell
- Christopher and Deborah Cushman
- David Delcher and Roxanne Wallace
- Gerald Del Rosario and Claudia Kim
- Andrew and Lauren DiPaola
- Kevin and Tara Dwyer
- John and Michelle Easton
- Ecolab, Inc. (friend)
- Christopher and Kathryn Eden
- Mark and Amanda Edwards
- Edward Ertel and Jennifer Squires
- Marc and Prim Escalona
- Steven and Rachel Fall
- Brooks and Lorena Farnsworth
- Noan Fissehazion and Helen Mesfin
- Peter Flynn and Dana Klatt
- Eric Frater and Piyayan Nakarat
- Timothy Fratto and Johanna Kaplan-Fratto
Michael and Shelley Gaffin
Richard and Debbie Gaffin (current grandparents)
Alexander Geboy and Marta Drzymala
Michael Gibson and Katharine Mueller
Aaron and Lindsay Gilbride
Peter Gotthold and Marisa Ridi
Michael and Meghan Greenfield
David and Lakisha Gregory
Clayton and Stuart Hall
Michael Hansford and Lakeisha Johnson
Chris and Tiffany Hardgrave
Terence Heffernan and Sheila Samaddar
Erik and Katie Heilman
Ronald and Amber Heimberg
Mark and Erica Heusinkveld
Julian Hill and Anne Forster
Robert Holifield and Katherine Klos
Robert and Nancy House
Vincent and Jacqueline Hurley
Chris and Anita Iacaruso
Scott and Meagan Jancy
Bradley and Patricia Johnson
Evon Keeling and Stephanie Butto
Natalie Khawam
Gregory and Kathryn Kiley
James Kilsby and Elizabeth Cronan
Sameena Kluck
Samuel Kluck
C.J. Krizan and Adela Luque
Sergei Kulaev and Emilia Simeonova
Steve and Lisette Kvetek
Tarik and Minnie Larry
Krzysztof Laski and Claire Mooney
Keith Lawrence and Andrea Boron
Matthew and Althea Leddy
Patrick Lyden and Sarah Rittling Lyden
Joseph Mallek and Molly Rowell Mallek
Michael and Misty Marshall
Greg and Lois Mastel
Trent and Genevieve Maul
Andrew and Nona McCoy
Nick and Stephanie McDaniel
James and Rachel McGeevy
Michael and Virginia McMullan
Robert Mercker and Debra Vazquez
Alec and Tosca Metz
Leonel and Raquel Miranda (past parents)
Christopher and Colleen Morton
Kellis and Colleen Moss (friends)
Paul and Elizabeth Murray
Michael and Ramola Musante
John Myers and Megan Uzzell
Steven and Lana Obert
Molly Collins Offner (past parent)
Jonathan and Julie Penndorf
Christopher Peot and Laura Grosso
Robert Peralta
Stephen and Tracey Peranich
Anthony Perez and Yolanda Rodriguez
Richard and Kristin Perry
Mark and Lori Prater
James and Sara Love Rawlings
David and Tara Robertson
Joseph and Jennifer Routh
Timothy Rutten and Kellie Donnelly
Bexi Sanchez
Sonny and Dione Sharmin
Rodney Shelton and Patrice Taylor
John and Stephanie Smedley
Donald and Adriana Smith
Thomas and Kellie Spain
Maurice and Vera Sullivan (current grandparents)
Paul and Sarah Surgenor
Nicholas Tabo and Colleen Durbin
Benjamin Thomas and Leah Pedersen Thomas
Raymond Thorn and Allison Salyer
Christopher and Fay Wallace (current grandparents)
Bianca Waters
Gregory and Sentho White
Christopher and Jeanette Whitener
John and Krista Wilmot
Joseph Wilson and Amy Oberhelman
Kenneth and Katharine Wingert
Caroline Wood
Mark Yucha and Fiona Shanks Yucha

FACULTY AND STAFF
Ester Ackerman
Kelley Allen
Allison Atherton
Patricia Blomquist
Cullen Casey
Karen Clay
Debra Duff
Kim Evans
Jeni Freed
Natasha Greene
Alice Hake
Lauren Hamilton
Katy Hulette
Claire Jolly
Eric Lewis
Erica Lopez
Margaret Lopez
Mary Kate Mandel
Caroline Mills
Christine Murphy
Kay Ossio
Nico Pender
Sara Foresi-Perrotta
Tanisha Raymond
Debra Rheault
Danny Schaechter
Nicole Schaechter
Sonia Vasquez
Sharrone Washington
Adriana Yeroushalmie
Jean Zwald

The 2019 – 2020 Annual Report is a publication of St. Peter School, acknowledging contributions to the Annual Fund from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy and completeness. Please contact Debra Duff, coordinator of school programs (202-544-1618, dduff@stpeterschooldc.org), with questions or comments.
Third Street Champions

School Hits Home Run with Blue Ribbon #2

From celebratory remarks to parents and friends by Principal Karen Clay: “We did it again! 2013 AND 2019! To be named a National Blue Ribbon School is to join other schools whose students are in the top 15 percent of all the schools in the nation in both reading and mathematics standardized assessments.

“This year, 362 schools were honored, 50 of which were non-public schools, and St. Peter School is one of four in the Archdiocese of Washington to receive the honor.

“We are a community of learners, and the National Blue Ribbon School award reflects our commitment to education. We have a supportive pastor; dedicated faculty, staff and administration; enthusiastic students; and a steadfast partnership with our parents.

“With God as our focus, blessings abound.”

Thank you, Archbishop Wilton Gregory, for attending our celebration festivities (see below and cover). It was a happy, happy day. God bless St. Peter School!
Virtual Learning

Take That, Coronavirus!

On Friday, March 13, 2020, St. Peter School, along with all schools in the Archdiocese of Washington and the region, closed as a precautionary measure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These were stressful times, but the SPS academic and spiritual community remained in full force.

Armed with a Virtual Learning Plan, students and families turned bedroom corners, home offices and dining room tables into vibrant satellite classrooms to continue daily work. Thanks to online platforms such as SeeSaw, Rediker and Microsoft Teams, teachers posted lessons every morning, took attendance, tracked progress and left time for recess — even if it wasn’t held in the immediate backyard (see pictures).

After spring break, the steady march towards June brought more synchronous instruction and interactive teacher time. Special classes in art and PE and the addition of Rosetta Stone, for online Spanish language instruction, rounded out the full and productive days.

To cap off their SPS experience, the Class of 2020 experienced a one-of-a-kind and memorable virtual graduation (see box for details).

The COVID-19 pandemic presented a unique set of challenges that St. Peter School met head on.
2020 Graduation: A Virtual Success

What a historic graduation for the Class of 2020! The event, streamed via Facebook Live, included prerecorded elements (Mass, keynote speaker Coach Shack, Rose Ceremony, presentation of awards and student speakers) followed by a live Zoom feed (see photo, right) featuring graduates “receiving” their diplomas, changing their tassels and throwing their caps in the air. SPS friends Adam Belmar and EFB Advocacy donated time and expertise (thank you for this important in-kind gift), and by early June the link racked up 3.8k views on the school website. Not the real thing, but a memorable replacement!
Everything’s Coming Up Rosé

Auction 2020

Oh, what a night! On February 1, a sell-out crowd of 240 parents and friends filled the fabulous District Winery to capacity for the annual Celebration and Auction. Good will was in the air, along with the sounds of a happy bidding and popping corks. Almost $145,000 was raised—a profit jump of $10,000.

HIGHLIGHTS:

■ Fr. Gary’s Call for Tuition Assistance, which raised $40,250;
■ Raise-the-Paddle for Haiti, which netted $20,200 for our sister school, Notre Dame d’Altagrace;
■ Father Brendan’s Live Auction Cooking Class and in-person cooking demonstration;
■ Grade 6 parent Elizabeth Murray winning a Mongolian cashmere coat, donated by parent Tosca Metz from her Georgetown boutique, while playing Heads/Tails; and
■ $11,200 made via the Drinks for Ms. Clay cocktail party.

The coronavirus shutdown quickly quashed the extended festivities (at least for this year), as many Class Parties and Live Auction events were rescheduled. Some good news: Winners of the Outer Banks Vacation claimed their prize, and Grade 5 parents coordinated their 20 Weeks of Meals for early September.

See you next year!
Haiti Stewardship

Arms Around Our Sister School
The Haiti Stewardship Committee (HSC) was founded in 2015 to strengthen the partnership between St. Peter School and Notre Dame D’Altagrâce, its sister school and parish in Cap Haitian, Haiti. School Year 19-20, with all its ups and downs, remained successful on all fronts.

Fundraising
From the Capitol Hill Hilloween bake sale, to the annual Holiday Market, to the Auction paddle raise for Haiti, the St. Peter School community raised $22,745.62 for Notre Dame D’Altagrâce.

Outreach and Education
The HSC sponsored a successful Student Families event in October. Students decorated educational posters about U.S. holidays, and in November SPS parent and Archangel Airborne leader Peter Sloan led the in-person delivery of the posters, school supplies and much-needed desks by plane and ship (see photos, right).

Back home, the students enjoyed a trio of HSC-sponsored speakers. In January, SPS parent Amanda Edwards talked with students about Haitian architecture designed to withstand natural disasters. In February, Peter Sloan shared slides from the November mission trip. And in early March, author Frantz Derenoncourt, Jr. returned with stories about powerful female heroes in the Haitian revolution.

Thank you! Mesi Anpil! Merci pour tout!

Strategic Plan Updated for Next Three Years

The Strategic Plan of St. Peter School serves as a multi-year blueprint by establishing the goals and actions needed to support and strengthen the school across four important areas: academic excellence, Catholic identity, community and sustainability.

During the 2019-2020 school year, a dedicated team of parent volunteers provided thoughtful input and assistance to the administration to create a new Strategic Plan to guide St. Peter School from 2020 through 2023. The plan includes 17 specific Recommended Actions, including instituting new curricula in math, language arts, technology and foreign language; enshrining our Catholic faith in school culture, curriculum, environment and community; providing adequate resources to attract and retain strong educators and to support a strong academic program focused on the unique needs of all learners; and engendering a culture of transparent, consistent and easily accessible communication. For more details on specific goals and actions, a summary of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan is available at www.stpeterschooldc.org, click on About, click on Strategic Plan.
Student Families = Relationship Building + Community Outreach

The ever-popular Student Families Program strengthens ties within the school and extends the goodwill into the neighborhood. Ten inter-grade groups met monthly (this year, through February) to practice leadership skills, learn more about each other and sometimes to carry out a school-wide community service project.

Before being cut short by the pandemic, students made layette bags for the Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center in the fall (see photo, right) and collected cans and boxed items for the annual Greg Gannon Food Drive in December.
St. Peter School Financial Statement

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
<td>$3,171,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish, Regional &amp; ADW Support</td>
<td>179,105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Before/After Care &amp; Summer Camp</td>
<td>364,178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Fund, Auction &amp; Other</td>
<td>317,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations/Donations</td>
<td>73,133</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>123,021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,155,129</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Expense

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Instruction</td>
<td>$1,964,372</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>722,855</td>
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<td>Before/After Care &amp; Summer Camp</td>
<td>210,890</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>266,006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auxiliary/Fundraising</td>
<td>73,133</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,237,256</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SAVINGS:** $917,873

Additional income:
Cornerstone Capital Campaign $10,150
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**
St. Peter School accepts VISA, Mastercard, Discover and American Express. A processing fee is assessed on each gift, thereby reducing the donation by that amount. Please consider covering processing fees per instructions on the site. The school recouped $1,208.00 last year from generous donors picking up credit card fees. THANK YOU!

**Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)**
Good news for federal government employees who prefer this option: We are back in business with the CFC this year! The CFC ID number for St. Peter’s Catholic Church (and thus St. Peter School) remains #39466. When disbursing 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 can be made through a will bequest, a life insurance beneficiary designation or a retirement plan.
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

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