

St. Andrew's Episcopal School Parent's Club, 2020-2021

Fall Report

Officers:

Frank Towers, President
Danielle Brinson, Vice-President
Myke Yest, Treasurer
Gretchen Ledet, Secretary

Introductory Comments

In lieu of a Zoom meeting, the Parent's Club officers decided to provide an official "State of the Parent's Club" report for all parents. Please remember that all parents with children at St. Andrew's are automatically members of the Parent's Club and your voices are important! We've love hearing from so many of you with creative ideas for us to try to support the teachers and students at St. Andrew's. Please keep them coming! Reach out to any officer, or use our email address, SAESparentsclub@standrewsepischool.org.

With Covid19 safety protocol still in place, the 2020-21 academic year has limited the events that the Parent's Club can sponsor. That being said, a lot of work is still being done, the energy of the school is wonderful and families have been engaged (virtually!) and supportive during this unusual year. We hope that next year will allow for more fun events to bring our families together in support of our St. Andrew's school community!

Summary of Activities

1. **Home Room Parents** – We are thrilled to have such engaged parents who are willing to work with their child's teacher as Room Parent. We continue to offer guidance to the Room Parents through the year regarding their class projects and the school events that their grade level sponsors.
2. **Newcomers Welcome Gift Bags & Yard Signs** – Having to cancel the traditional large Newcomers Party actually allowed us to try a more personalized approach to welcoming our new families! Brilliantly chaired by Amanda Fennell & Amber Sanchez, the 4th Grade parents organized and hand delivered welcome gift bags that included a St. Andrew's door hanger, St. Andrew's swag like fans and magnets, plus special notes of welcome from the Head of School and Admissions. These gifts were hand delivered to each family's home. Two weeks later, the 4th Grade recruited drivers to deliver "St. Andrew's Family" yard signs to each new family. The feedback was amazing and we are thinking about adopting this new model for future years, even when in-person events are possible! THANK YOU 4th GRADE and all the drivers!

3. **Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day Care Packages** – St. Andrew's created special magnets and bookmarks for Grandparents/Special Friends of the children at St. Andrew's. The Parent's Club helped with some of the cost of these items.
4. **Faculty & Staff Appreciation @ Starbucks** – Who doesn't like Starbucks?? The Parent's Club bought each of the 57 faculty, staff, administrators and church leaders a cup of Joe! Brightly colored gift bags with a \$5 gift card surprised everyone on campus during September. Without the efforts of each of these talented people, St. Andrew's could not have come back to life so quickly with in-person learning. We wanted to remind them that we all appreciate them so much!
5. **Pizza Day** – Almost 100 families stepped up and helped the Parent's Club raise over \$1,000 in this one event! Extra special thanks to the families that ordered 5 or more of the 160 pizzas we sold (the Bishop, Rowland, Lepetich & Schlosser families). We hope to have another 1 or 2 pizza days during the year where we can help you erase one day of meal planning off your calendar, while also supporting the school. Special Thank You to Dominique Chauvin, Meg Blevins, Lisa Witter & Kathryn Fitzpatrick for being our inside operations to help distribute the pizzas. Next time, we might offer an optional later pizza pick up time for those Cottage Families who might have a full day of school while the School families only have a half day.
6. **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** – A big THANK YOU to the 7th and 8th Grade classes and their families for putting together this week's luncheon for our amazing faculty at St. Andrew's!!
7. **Technology Upgrades** – One of the biggest achievements made this year is our efforts to automate and digitize the Parent's Club. Special Thanks to our Technology Chair, KJ Carstarphen, who has brought us into the 21st Century! Our projects include:
 - a. Established credit card payment system using Square & QR scanning for all PC Events (like Pizza Day!)
 - b. Moved our accounting system to QuickBooks Online
 - c. Established paperless banking records for monthly reconciliation
 - d. Established our own email address at the school for parent inquiries:
SAESparentsclub@standrewsepiscopalschool.org
 - e. Moving Box Tops to an online App instead of physical clipping (in process)
 - f. Digitizing Old PC Paper Files and Moving them to the Cloud (in process)
 - g. Creating a digital "PC Process & Procedures" manual to help Future Officers (in process)
8. **Short Street Play Yard Space** – The PC is honored to be able to donate \$1,000 towards the upcoming renovations to be done to the "front" of our school on Short Street. The Parent's Club of 2020-21 will be recognized for our small part supporting such an important project for the school. Not only does this space give first impressions to all

visitors of the school, it is also where so many of our little ones play each day. They will have a safer, more engaging outdoor learning and playing space.

9. **Cancelled Events** – We look forward to them being back on the calendar next year!
 - a. Fall Fest
 - b. Parent’s Orientation Coffee
 - c. Bingo Night (in the Fall)

Parent’s Club Financial Summary

Beginning Balance, June 20, 2020	\$ 3,339.76
Revenues Received:	
Parent’s Club Dues	\$ 6,895.00
Payout from St. Andrew’s Endowment	\$ 4,500.00
Pizza Day	\$ 3,485.72
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 0.00
Residual Expenses, 2019-20 Academic Year	
Graduation 2020	\$ 106.80
Current Expenses, 2020-21 Academic Year	
Newcomer’s Welcome Baskets	\$ 1,276.05
Pizza Day	\$ 2,406.70
Starbucks Faculty/Staff Appreciation	\$ 328.42
Grandparents Magnets/Bookmarks	\$ 250.00
Donation towards Short Street Play Yard	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Balance, October 15, 2020	\$ 12,852.51

Future Plans for the Remainder of the Academic Year

- **Pumpkin Show** (flyers going home with students soon). This beloved event will be held on campus. All students are invited to participate! Halloween Class Parties will also happen. Please look for more information to come.
- **Bingo Night for the Spring?** We are hoping, but will be mindful of all COVID19 protocols to determine if this is possible.

- **Pizza Day(s)** – We are trying to find one or more days to hold these events. There is another ½ day next Spring, but we'd love to find a regular school day to help families with an easy dinner as well. Details to come!
- **Crawfish Boil** – This is a big question mark still. We will continue to work with Dr. Fitzpatrick and her team as to what is possible once we know more about the COVID19 guidelines this Spring. Thank to you to Andrea Morris for volunteering once again to chair this wonderful event.
- **Sports Banquet** – We will be working with Coach Juhas regarding this even once we get through the holidays.
- **EOY Class Parties** – We will be ready to financially support some fun to close out each class's academic year.
- **Graduation Reception** – We will be ready to put on a wonderful event! Last year's ceremony was lovely, and done within the COVID19 guidelines of social distancing.
- **And more...!** We continue to brainstorm new ideas to help our community feel together while we stay 6 feet apart. Thanks for contributing any ideas you might have!

Summary Remarks from the Parent's Club President

The effort from Pizza Day yielding \$1,000 to be donated by the Parents Club to the Short Street Play Space is one of just a few worthwhile endeavors the PC will continue to support and promote throughout the year. We all know that families here at St. Andrews like everywhere else are contending with a myriad of challenges posed by Covid-19 and everything related to this being 2020, which has now become a descriptor for anything unpleasant or lugubrious. What makes St. Andrews unique and sets us apart from any other elementary school community is our commitment to each other, to our teachers, staff and administrators, and the recognition that the best way to overcome these challenges is to do so together. We welcome all parents to reach out to us and contact us with any ideas and suggestions on how we can safely gather while adhering to CDC guidelines without compromising our sense of community. In the meantime, the Parents Club would like to leave all of you with the teaching of St. Paul, which we believe will serve all of us well as we get through 2020 together: "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11