

August 29, 2022

Dear Parents,

As we enter in to the 2022-2023 school year, the School Advisory Board would like to extend a warm welcome to all of St. Martin's School's new and returning families! We are honored you chose to be part of our community and entrusted our parish and school with your child's spiritual and academic development.

Our primary objective is to provide advice and support to the parish administrator, Fr. David Wells and, school principal Mr. Stephen Lamont, while they plan and develop school-related policy and long/short-term goals to bolster school operations.

We have partnered with members of our community (school parents, faculty, parishioners, and alumni families) to create an outline for a Strategic Plan. Conducting surveys and facilitating focus groups allowed us to gather data pertaining to four areas: Catholic Identity, Academic Excellence, Viability, and Governance. We used this information to develop strategic goals, objectives, and initiatives for leadership to review, and we hope to share with everyone by the end of this year.

Additionally, the School Advisory Board oversees several committees for families to join and offer their knowledge and expertise regarding school activities. These committees are key to our school's success and include:

- The Religious Life Committee collaborates with both the parish and school to plan events that support our students' catholic identity and spiritual enrichment. These events include the "First Friday Rosary" where families can pray the Rosary together, and the live scenes from the "Story of Christmas."
- Bingo, our biggest school fundraiser that helps keep tuition low for all students. Volunteers only need to commit one Friday night every five weeks to fulfill all service hours for the school year. The only qualification needed to join a team is enthusiasm!
- The SMS Gala, which is an exciting night for families to win amazing items during our "Silent" and "Live" Auction, while raising monies for our school! As our second largest fundraiser-- preparation begins months before the event to ensure it goes off without a hitch. So, if you love event planning, this committee is perfect!

If you have a special talent, or if you are interested in assisting on one or more committee, we encourage you to join! Also, do not hesitate to contact us at schoolboard@smsmd.org for more information. Finally, be sure to monitor our school's communication platforms (i.e., the school's newsletter, school's website, social media, Homeroom Parent emails, etc.) for updates.

Thank you and we look forward to having a wonderful school year with you!

God Bless,

Nekiera Woodland, Chairperson

Karl Bejo, Vice-Chairperson

Vivian Abudayeh

Marc Antonetti

Catherine Cooksey, Parish Representative

Susan Feudale, Faculty Representative

Bryon Leroux

Mark Little

Emily Molloy

Jeff Melia

Eunice Patron-Galeana

Sue Yeates, HSA President