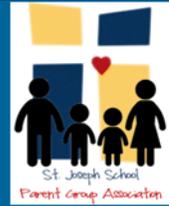


PGA Year in Review



What is PGA?

The Parent Group Association (PGA) supports St. Joseph School's mission through the efforts of dedicated parent volunteers. These parents participate in committees to enhance the SJS educational experience, including social events, incoming student hospitality, fundraisers and enrichment.

Through a strategic planning process, PGA has identified the following as primary organizational goals:

- To represent SJS parents and students and provide feedback and direction to SJS staff and administration
- To facilitate and support an enrichment program that includes activities that promote the development of confident and well-rounded children and a strong sense of community that reflects the values of SJS.
- To contribute to and support the finances of the general operations of SJS.

Have fun and get to know other St. Joseph's School families by volunteering with PGA! See details in attached file.

Survey responses called for 2015-16 changes



The PGA sought out parent input through the survey because declines in fundraising revenue have made the current fundraiser structure unsustainable.

According to the survey:

- Sixty percent opted for a change in the current fundraising structure.
- The changed structure with the most support was a combination of a lead fundraiser and a support fee.
- Of all the fundraisers currently offered, the two fundraisers SJS families prefer are the magazine drive by 72 percent, and the Niagara candy sale by 48 percent.
- Alternatives suggested were a revitalized magazine drive featuring online books or other items, school carnival, family fun event, walk-a-thon, raffle and various small fundraisers.

This spring we asked our families to participate in a survey on the fundraising structure of the Parent Group Association (PGA SJS). About 90 people generously responded. [Thank you](#) for sharing what fundraisers you enjoy and wish to support.

PGA to adjust fundraising based on response

As requested via the survey, the PGA will work to adjust our fundraising efforts. The organization will also continue to provide enrichment opportunities to our school community. Below is a summary of plans for the coming year, based on the survey feedback.

- Continue with two major and established fundraisers: the fall magazine drive and spring Easter candy sale.
- Consider the implementation of a PGA support fee.
- Discontinue the plant sale
- Add a homecoming party (Sept 18th) – This new event will celebrate the magazine drive and bring our community together for a new school year. Celebration will offer food, family kick-ball games, music, fall farmer's market, and family and kids' activities.
- Research and offer such new family events as a father-daughter dance, mother-son dinner and a school talent show
- Continue to add new enrichment programs for students and families.



Student chefs cooked up pasta, pizza, sushi and cookies in the culinary program.



Students explored new things in enrichment

This year was an amazing year for our children at SJS. They participated in so many different activities.

We offered many of our traditional programs: music classes, choir, tone chimes, Scouts, Lego First, robotics, chess and more. We also added in new programs.

Our partnership with the YMCA has proven to be very successful. Our families were able to participate in YMCA programs at the Eastside location at member prices, including flag football, soccer, archery, swimming, and more.

Karate came back to SJS, and some of our newly added programs were: a four-week kids' culinary program, Eagle Vale golf lessons on site and Spanish classes with SJS parent Mrs. Claudia Reyda. Drama Kids also put on an end-of-the-year performance that was a hit for students and their families.

Next year promises to offer even more. We are looking into adding life skills programs, wellness classes and possibly parent education programs around child safety issues, such as technology issues and substance abuse. We welcome new class teachers and volunteers.



A committee will be meeting this summer to plan the Sept. 18 Homecoming Party. Meetings are the second and fourth Mondays of July, August and September at 7 p.m. at the seating area of the Penfield Wegmans, Route 441, Penfield. For details, contact Debbie McCue at 716-870-0234 or pga@sjspenfield.com.

Community and family activities will expand

In the past year, the Parent Group Association continued to offer our flagship events: Halloween Sock Hop and Winter Carnival. We had fabulous groups work so hard to organize the events!

These events will continue to be hosted by your SJS PGA in the coming years, and events will be added next year. We believe it is imperative to gather our school community to strengthen our bonds and celebrate our children

and school. To add new events, such as the homecoming party, father-daughter dance, mother-son dinner and school talent show, we need volunteer support.

Our request to you is simple: We need you to respond with how you can help us strengthen SJS. The attached flyer lists our events, volunteer needs and open leadership positions. All are welcome at PGA meetings at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of each month. Thank you!