



School Board Newsletter

Educator Spotlight

A little bit about...

Meagan Conley - Music Teacher

Why she loves STP: The students are amazing! They are capable of anything.
Her favorite teaching strategies: Repetition and games. Repetition sharpens the skill and games engage the students.



Kristen Blackton - 8th ELA

Her commitment to Professional Development: I have been given another great opportunity for professional development in the field of Holocaust Education. I was nominated to be a part of the Alfred Lerner's Fellowship Program through the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous (JFR) this summer. I am one of 26 educators nationwide this summer who will be part of an intensive Holocaust Education program through JFR. I'm excited!



Bob Jacobsen - 7th & 8th Grade Science

Shares his expertise: I believe I have a PASSION for whatever I teach and/or coach. I find teaching FUN, and whenever it stops being fun, I better take a hike!

His commitment to Professional Development: A lot of what has come from professional development is simply methods to "reinvent the wheel." The increase of technology has provided much expansion of research and topic matters, but I believe it must be used in moderation. The best learning still involves student and teacher interactions.



Heather Reidy - 2nd Grade Teacher

Why she loves STP: St Peter's is our parish and my children's school - I wanted to be able to teach and not miss out on any Mom time ;)

Her commitment to Professional Development: I've been taking courses in Inclusive Education and am really learning how to make sure I'm teaching EVERYONE! I'm looking forward to becoming certified in Orton Gillingham over the next year as well.



Nicki Salido - Preschool Teacher

Her teaching philosophy: So much can be learned by playing alone and with friends. The teacher is a guide to this play and can help to create play opportunities, but it is a child's work to play. I love the quote from Fred Rogers, "Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children, play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood."



Curriculum Corner

4th graders in Julie Kramer and Tricia Elmore's classes recently completed their study of Life Science and created their own animals that had adaptations and camouflage, as well as a representation of the animal in its habitat. They explained how their adaptations helped them to survive, grow and respond to the environment. Students applied their knowledge of animal adaptations in a creative way and learned how to plan a project out and present their own information. Some made 3D models, some drew, some used pastels, and some made dioramas. At the end, they had a Gallery Walk and saw their fellow fourth graders' work!



Pete Burnett's 6th Graders have started an end of year project researching a historical figure from Ancient World History. They're writing an essay and creating a puppet to present in a "puppet living museum." This project will allow students the opportunity to further research someone they learned about earlier in the year and practice time management, public speaking skills, and writing skills at the same time!

School Fast Facts

438 students attend St. Peter's ECLC - 8th Grade

St. Peter's teachers and staff successfully navigated teaching as many as **62** virtual learners at one time

14 students are new to St. Peter's in 1st - 8th Grade

Three teachers/staff are new to STP this year - and **two** returned after moving out of state

47 8th graders are graduating this year

School Board Perspectives

We asked members why they volunteered to serve on School Board and what they're most grateful for in the STP community. Here's some common opinions:

- "I am so grateful to the StP faculty and staff, who made more changes and adaptations than anyone can count. Thanks to the StP teachers, our kids had a great year of learning and building community with each other!" - Kim Warren
- "I volunteered for School Board because of my daughters. SPS has provided them (and my wife and I) a strong, supportive community since we moved here in 2014. We have always admired the time and energy Angie, Mary, and the faculty and staff devote to our children. I wanted to provide support to SPS leadership to help them provide a strong and evolving learning environment and curriculum." - Rodney Miller
- "Last spring, the overwhelming issue became Covid and the school's response. There were many meetings last summer on how we can open and many, many people stepped up to advise a plan as best we all could. In that uncertain time, I got to witness staff, faculty and fellow school board members work tirelessly to make sure our kids would have a great school year. The planning to include all students and family preferences was a tough puzzle to work on and I am very grateful that the year has gone as smoothly as it has and for what our teachers have done for our kids." - Sean Smith

Board Members

Rodney Miller, President
rodney.k.miller@gmail.com
Betsy Bartell
beuston@gmail.com
Nicole Christy
nicole@nchristyconsulting.com
Michael Judy
mjudy@dysarttaylor.com
Jessie Kelley
jessiekelly21@gmail.com
Sean Smith sean@afwkc.com
Kim Warren
warrentrio@gmail.com
Brad Wilders
wilders@stuevesiegel.com



Silver Ball Auction

A HUGE thank you to Laurie Schmidt, Gwen Hoefer, and all the volunteers who helped put together a wonderful virtual auction. Goals were exceeded, we netted more than we ever have, and the cash call was extremely successful. There were 642 YouTube viewers including members of the St. Peter's community, families and friends across the country, and Brookside residents with no affiliation with St. Peter's! That's pretty amazing! Well done, Auction Committee!

FIRE Foundation

St. Peter's was awarded \$60,000 from the FIRE grant this spring! **Janet Iliff, Inclusive Education Coordinator**, along with the help of **Principal Angie Meyer** and **Assistant Principal Mary Stewart** put so much work into preparing and presenting this grant. Congratulations! 17 staff members and administrators also attended the virtual FIRE Inclusion & Action Conference. Attendees had the opportunity to learn from national inclusion experts about many topics designed to inspire, educate and provide practical strategies to build a more inclusive learning environment at St. Peter's.



ECLC Summer Camp

St. Peter's ECLC is offering its first-ever summer camp thanks to the wonderful preschool teachers! The summer program will be offered to current preschool families and is 4 full weeks long. Weekly themes include The Great Outdoors, STEM, Amazing Art and Wild, Wonderful Water. Preschool teachers are already hard at work planning all the fun and learning!



Thank You...
To our fearless leader!



The past 14 months have been unlike any other and Principal Angie Meyer has shown immeasurable perseverance and faith through so much unknown. We are beyond thankful for her leadership and all her years of dedication to St. Peter's School & Parish... and we know you're looking forward to (what has to be!) a much smoother year next year!.

With gratitude, School Board Members