

From the President

Dear Parents, Students, and Friends of St. Patrick School,

I am Todd Davlin, the new president of St. Patrick's Athletic Association, in 2015-2016. The Athletic Association is more than a "booster" group, while 100% of the school budget goes to academics, allowing the school to focus on what they do best---teach our children, the Athletic Association provides the funding for the entire athletic program at St. Patrick School. The work we do gives our students the opportunity to participate, at no additional costs to families, in 8-man football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball, track, golf, bowling, cross country, track and the Shamrock Quiz Bowl team. We are proud of what we do as a group, and I'd like to take this opportunity to tell you a little more.

THE STATE OF THE SHAMROCK THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM 2015-16

FINANCES and NO PAY-TO-PLAY AT ST. PATS

Our operating budget for athletics last year was in excess of \$120,000. St. Patrick athletic programs have been blessed with a generous community and plenty of volunteer labor, which once again enabled us to generate enough revenue to meet our budget. Because of this, and in keeping with our tradition, there will not be any fees to play any sport at St. Patrick School again this year.

2014-2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- This summer the St. Patrick gymnasium received a face lift. A beautiful new floor was installed in August, and new fan friendly bleachers are being added later in September. Donations for the gym floor and bleachers were raised at the Shamrock auction. The generosity of that event was truly remarkable!
- Volunteers came out in force to help clean up after much of Father Flohe Field was damaged and scattered over Portland. Within short order the fields were cleaned up, equipment recollected, and as a testament to so many volunteers Summerfest was held as scheduled. Equipment has been purchased to proceed with fall sports, insurance claims are being processed and plans are being formulated to reconstruct facilities with considerations for the future.
- We continued with semi-annual fundraisers, collected scrap metal, and had a very successful sports raffle.
- We hosted a Lenten Soup Supper in March.
- We held the annual athletic pass prices to the same price again this year.

TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The varsity football team qualified for play-offs for the 3rd straight year, and won their Central Michigan 8-Man Conference.
- The varsity girl's basketball team won the district title.
- The varsity girls bowling team qualified for states as a team, with two girls and one boy bowler qualifying for states as individuals.

- The track team had one girl and one boy qualifying for states as individuals.
- The varsity girl's softball team won the Fowler Invitational.
- The 5th/6th grade girl volleyball team won the CYAC end of year tournament.
- The 5th grade girl's basketball team won the CYAC basketball tournament.

THANK YOU

There are many people to thank.

- Great parish leaders in Father Larry and Deacon Don
- Administrators who lead with faithfulness and with integrity
- Teachers who work with our student athletes, teaching them how to balance academics and sports, and who also consistently teach our Catholic faith;
- Coaches who give their time to teach and coach our children and incorporate prayer into athletics;
- Parents who set great examples for our student athletes by supporting our teams;
- Business community who financially support our athletics year after year;
- Pat Russman and Sarah Townsend our Athletic Directors who spend countless hours behind the scenes coordinating our athletic programs.
- We truly are blessed to have such a devoted group!

PARENTS - HOW YOU CAN HELP?

- 1). Join the Athletic Association.
- 2). Help work at our major fund raisers (Fall Festival, Shamrock Auction, and Sports Raffle).
- 3). Help with game-day activities (operate the clock, keep book, clean up after the event, sell concessions, work at the gate, etc.).
- 4). Work on field and facility improvement projects.
- 5). Buy and sell the raffle tickets for all our fund raisers.
- 6). Buy a sponsorship sign for our spring sports, both individual and business sponsorship is welcomed.
- 7). Buy an Athletic Sports Pass and attend as many events as possible.
- 8). We are in need of bus drivers, if you have any interest please contact the school office.

Please consider attending one of our meetings and becoming an active member. Currently our meetings have 25-30 people in attendance and we need even more help. We're a group of hardworking, dedicated people, but we also have a lot of fun. Many hands make light work. Meetings are usually the first Sunday of the month at 6:30 pm, in the parish hall. The meeting schedule is posted on the school web site. If you attend 8 meetings per year you will earn a free family sports pass for the following year (a \$200 value). Feel free to contact me by home phone at 517-647.6858 cell/text at 517.896.9728 if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you to everyone who supports St. Patrick athletics!

At St. Patrick School (and at all sport activities), We Pray! We Learn! We Achieve!

Todd Davlin
Athletic Association President