

Dear St. Paul School Family,

Greetings! I pray that you are all having a holy Lenten season. The season of Lent puts a highlight on the three disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All three of these disciplines help guide us during Lent and throughout our lives.

We know how important almsgiving, in this case charitable giving, is to our St. Paul School. Our community has worked tirelessly at keeping St. Paul School strong. Think of all the countless hours of service you have given to St. Paul School, especially through all our fundraisers, which help fund our operating budget. The PTA is paramount in subsidizing our school budget.

The PTA took up the challenge before the 2015-16 school year began to significantly subsidize the operations of St. Paul School. What does that mean? It literally means subsidizing, over and above tuition and other revenues, the day-to-day operations of our school. Operations include salaries, benefits, insurance, utilities, technology, cleaning services, care of grounds, maintenance, advertising, and supplies etc – basically the running of the school. To date, the PTA has provided \$570,750 to the St. Paul School operating account during these past four school years including this school year (with more needed to subsidize the rest of the current school year). This is what all your hard work - the appeals, beef and beers, Casino night, blingos, Super 50/50 raffles, lego raffles, breakfast with Santa's, meals at restaurants and so many more events that we have throughout the year - is being used for.

Continuing to keep St. Paul School strong will rely on a two-pronged approach – increasing enrollment (this is most important) and continuing to raise funds. Both are needed to keep our school strong. I know families in our school have recruited students to our school – that is great and what we continue to need. Keep spreading the word to families you know about St. Paul School.

Thank you for all your hard work over the years to keep St. Paul School strong. St. Paul School provides a great Catholic Education and has been, and will continue to be, a big part of the Burlington community.

God Bless,



Fr. Chris Picollo