

Something **EPIC** is Happening Around Here!

**Educator Parent Improvement Council**

**EPIC Newsletter, Volume 8**

**October 2016 Update**

**St. Peter in Chains School**

*EPIC held its first Community Night of the year on Sept. 27 at Ryan's Tavern. After an opening prayer and brief reflection that emphasized the unique gifts we all bring to our school, updates were given by EPIC president Megan Halverson, committee chairs, and Mr. Collins, who gave his first EPIC Principal's Report. Here are a few updates from the evening and the days since:*

- **The October 7<sup>th</sup> Walk-a-Thon— EPIC's major annual fundraiser for the school— was a smashing success!** Students, staff, and dozens of parent volunteers enjoyed gorgeous weather as they walked, jogged, and raced their way around school grounds and tested their mettle at a variety of fitness-themed stations. A favorite of the day was Fr. Rob showing off his competitive side on the obstacle course!

**Thanks to the generosity of parishioners, parents, staff, and friends, a total of \$39,037 was raised,** which will help to fund the Chromebooks used by our students, classroom supplies, and possible repairs to the HVAC system, among other school needs. THANK YOU!

Corporate sponsors—including local businesses run by parish families—were responsible for a significant portion of the total raised. The names of our sponsors will be displayed in the bulletin and on display boards in the rear of St. Peter and St. Julie Churches. Please patronize our sponsors—and consider becoming one for next year! Contact Michelle Luebbe ([michelleluebbe@gmail.com](mailto:michelleluebbe@gmail.com)) for details!

- With the hard work and talent of EPIC's Education Commission, **St. Peter's students now have access to 75 Google Chromebooks**—technology that is helping to better prepare them for high school and the world beyond. Feedback from teachers and students has been overwhelmingly positive. Ongoing support from the school and parish communities will ensure that our technology program can keep pace with today's educational standards.

- The EPIC Campus Improvement Committee has a new name and a new charge: the **Campus Beautification Committee will focus on projects that improve curb appeal and the atmosphere within the school**, such as last year’s bathroom painting and landscape upgrades. Fr. Rob has created a Building and Grounds Committee to tackle larger and more costly projects, including plumbing updates and repairs to the parking lot. All parties agree this is a more efficient model.
- As Catholic schools around the country face declining enrollments, **EPIC is ramping up its marketing efforts to attract new families** to our school. New initiatives include a stronger emphasis on digital marketing, improved outreach to St. Julie’s and St. Peter’s parishioners, and tuition discounts for referrals.

Word-of-mouth remains the very best advertisement for our school. So please help us to spread the good news! Parishioners are encouraged to contact the School Office (863-0685 or [schooloffice@stpeterinchains.org](mailto:schooloffice@stpeterinchains.org)) with the names of families who might benefit from receiving information about our upcoming Open House.

- Dozens of school families attended the EPIC-sponsored **Family Night at Neiderman Farm** on October 14. It was a chance for parents and kids alike to share the warmth of fellowship and fun—and a bonfire!—as they strengthened the Christ-centered community that is a hallmark of St. Peter in Chains School.

**DON'T FORGET ABOUT THESE EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!**

Please send in **Campbell’s** and **Tyson** labels and **General Mills** box tops.

And don’t forget to sign up for **Kroger Rewards** and the **Target Red Card**.

These fundraisers generate thousands of dollars for the school every year. Check out [www.stpeterinchains.org/fundraising](http://www.stpeterinchains.org/fundraising) to learn more.

**Looking Ahead**

*Nov. 14*

**Book Fair  
Grandparent Party**

*Nov. 15*

**EPIC Community Night**

*Jan. 22*

**Open House  
for Prospective Families**

**The next EPIC Community Night is scheduled for Nov. 15 at Ryan’s Tavern.** Please plan to attend. Parents, staff, and parishioners are all welcome. These evenings begin with a business meeting, often feature a brief program on a fun or relevant topic, and always end with social time. Community Nights are a wonderful opportunity to find out what is happening in our school and to further build the community upon which St. Peter’s thrives. Remember: **WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!**