

Fall Campaign 2018 Kick-Off

Power of families, faith and community

As we launch into this year's Fall Campaign, it's people like Johnny M who have helped us keep the spirit alive and given so much of themselves to support our school.

For his family, the yearly school fundraising campaigns were simply part of a long-term commitment to support construction of the new school.

When Johnny brought his son Alex to St. Augustine's in kindergarten eight years ago, he knew that there would also be demands on him as a new school parent to rack up those participation hours. "How could I say no to Cathie (Oberndorf), or to Donna (O'Hara) or to fellow parent Mary Margaret Bentley who leaned on me to join the Yard Crew," said Johnny. "I was hooped."

"So I just started showing up every Sunday morning to clean up the school yard," he said. But over time, Johnny saw the work as much more than that: it was really about keeping the kids safe. It might be needles strewn on the ground, broken glass, weeding, raking leaves, checking the playground equipment and fencing around the property, shoveling snow and applying salt.

It even extended to escorting some of the senior citizens through the ice and snow to Sunday mass.

About four years ago, he was asked to lead the Yard Crew and since then has organized a parent crew of about 20 – 25. "Unlike my predecessor who ran the group with an iron fist, I was the world's worst delegator but I just kept showing up every week."

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Former school Yard Crew leader Johnny M.

Fall Campaign Weekends

Week 1: October 20/21

Kick-Off

Children participate in liturgies

Week 2: October 27/28

Video presentation

Children participate in liturgies

School tours

Week 3: November 3/4

Testimonials

Children participate in liturgies

Campaign Goal
\$500,000

Raised:
\$210,000

Power of families, faith and community

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“Coming to this school was the best choice we ever made when we moved into Kitsilano,” he added. “It was a very personally fulfilling time for me as I was confirmed by Father Brioux and came to admire the work of the teaching staff. I learned that you need to keep your children accountable and that together as families and a community we can do so much more.”

Another transition begins as his son enters grade 8 at Vancouver College and a new leader of the Yard Crew has been named, Jens Sigvardt.

“It’s a perfect fit. Jens has the experience and motivation to take the crew to the next level of care. I couldn’t be happier,” said Johnny.

His final advice to all Yard Crew members: first, know that this is the place where



Jens Sigvardt, new Yard Crew leader

your kids play so we need to keep it safe and second, have a sense of pride as you work alongside like-minded people.

Farewell to Grade 7 Graduates

by Donna O'Hara

St. Augustine School has, once again, said good-bye to a wonderful group of young men and women. Throughout the year, the students have grown in their skills and abilities and developed a strong work ethic. They are creative thinkers and their use of technology in their daily work and projects was impressive.

These 25 students have made many notable contributions to both the school and parish communities. As leaders in the school, they have been excellent mentors and role models for the younger students.

Whether it was leading seasonal retreats and Family groupings, running an extra PE class on Fridays for their Kindergarten partner class, walking their grade 1 neighbors to school masses, supervising during inside rainy days, helping their grade 3 reading buddies or captaining the Fun Day teams, their love for the younger students was witnessed in all that they did. It is not just the younger students that the grade 7 students enjoyed being with.



They helped to prepare and serve 4 seniors luncheons and, in doing so, connected personally with our elders and became prayer partners, were hosts at the Faith and Foundation events, honoured our parishioners by attending funerals and supported the CWL with their Fairs and activities. Being of service and using their time and talents in the community has helped them to develop their confidence and become more resourceful, responsible, humble, unselfish and independent people. Their kind acts and generosity have been appreciated by all.

We are proud of everything that they have accomplished and all that they have grown to be. As they go off to a variety of different high schools – Vancouver College, Little Flower, St. Patrick Regional, Crofton House, Kitsilano Secondary, Lord Byng, Ideal Mini School, St. John’s and John Oliver Digital Immersion program – we wish them well and we look forward to seeing and hearing about their new adventures and achievements.



Grade 7 students help host Seniors' Luncheon.

School Year Opens with 328 Students

Making everyone feel that they belong

We're blessed with a growing school but we need to act with even more intention to make sure every single person feels that they belong," said School Principal Michael Yaptinchay.

When the new school was being planned, the parish wanted to offer Catholic education to more students and their families. In this part of the Lower Mainland, the only way to accommodate more students is to rebuild older parochial schools with capacity to double-stream.

This year, St. Augustine's welcomes more students, including seven new teachers and staff. For Michael, it also includes his daughter who entered Kindergarten to be followed by his son in a couple of years. "Like any new school parents, I am as excited to have my daughter become part of and feel the embrace of this community."

While the new school year brings challenges as it adapts to the new provincial curriculum, incorporating more technology and building the capacity of our teachers to take on all of these challenges, it's also about relationships.

"I see many strong relationships throughout the school but we need to be constantly looking for ways to connect."

One of the opportunities that Michael will present is some time and space for parents to mingle in a more casual way during the school day, much like what happened in the previous school building and area.

Starting in October, he will start "Mornings with Michael" where parents can join him for coffee in the multi-purpose room for at least one morning per month. "It's just one small and purposeful way to engage with our parents without the pressure of a meeting or a formal event but really to get to know each other a bit better."



Bill Miller and granddaughter Savannah

Generation connection

Savannah Sigvardt adores her grandfather, Bill Miller, and she's excited about starting kindergarten at St. Augustine's just like he did in the 1950s. But it doesn't end there. Her great grandfather (also named Bill Miller) attended in the first school building at St. Augustine's after it opened in 1911.

"This really felt like home to us when we received word that we had been accepted in the school," said Savannah's mom, Rebecca Sigvardt.

"We were looking for a strong community, respectful for each other with empathy and compassion in addition to receiving a strong education," she added.

"We were very much drawn by the sense of community and spirituality, and reflection of our values at home. Parents are welcomed to become involved and it shows up in the people and school that has been created."

Family to family

Sometimes the connection is strongest between families - like Marco Mujica and Gigi Jiminez da Silva who joined their siblings at St. Augustine's in September.

For moms Catherine Mujica and Marcia Jiminez da Silva, it started when their eldest daughters, Gabby and Adriana, started school together and became best friends. Now they are entering Grade 7.

"We met when our children entered kindergarten and we started volunteering, car pooling, and depending on each other. We're also part of a very connected Spanish-speaking group of families," said Marcia. "It's really wonderful getting to



Catherine Mujica, Marcia Jiminez da Silva & students Marco and Gigi

know the families and that you can rely on the help from others; it just makes life much easier."

"We feel very fortunate to have found this community," said Catherine who also has been involved in the parish's refugee family committee.

While both mothers worry how their children will take to the uniforms, they know they will be together and in good hands.

Facts & Figures

- 328 Students
- 41 Staff (7 new)
- K – Grade 3 double-streamed
- 76 students in choir and band
- 105 students in cross-country running club
- 75+ students in after-school club
- 98% of families contributed to Fall Campaign in 2017

A Few Words From Our Pastor

Dear parishioners and friends of St. Augustine:



Welcome back to another school year and greetings to the children and families who have joined us at the school for the first time. I also want to acknowledge all of the new staff members at

St. Augustine's this fall. We are so pleased that you have joined us.

We are blessed to have a growing school with a vibrant faith community extending to our weekend masses where we experience so many families and their children. It's such a sign of hope for the future.

Please join us throughout the year at our many social activities in the Parish, such as the upcoming Harvest Dinner at the end of October and our popular Pancake Breakfasts hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

We are grateful to all of you who give so generously of your time, talent and treasure. It's only by working together as school families and the broader parish that we will eventually complete all phases of our new school.

I commend everyone for their commitment to this important cause and for the efforts you make every day to raise your children in this environment of faith.

Fr. Andrew Stenzina, OMI
Pastor

From Our Principal



It's been a great start to a new school year!

Where has September gone?

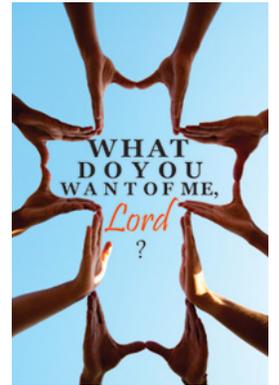
In the few short weeks that have passed since school started, I have already witnessed so many wonderful things that make our school community what it is.

The one thing that stands out, however, is love. One cannot help but feel the love that exists at St. Augustine's - a love for our work, a love for our classmates, a love for our teachers, a love for our students, a love for our friends, a love for our families, a love

for each other, and, above all, a love for God. I am so grateful to be part of such a loving community rooted in our faith.

As we explore this year's CISVA theme "What Do You Want Of Me, Lord?", I know that the remainder of the year will continue to be marked by this love and passion for all that we do and all that we are.

This year, let us celebrate and rejoice in what we are called to do as disciples of our faith by listening to Jesus and seeking out and living what He wants of us: to live our lives with love and bear witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. He wants us to be holy — in our school, in our homes, in our parish, in our communities, around the world, and in our lives.



To Father Andrew, our friends at the parish, all the students, parents, teachers, and staff, thank you, as always, for your undying support and commitment! I am forever grateful for all that you do. I am looking forward to another incredible year with all of you!

God bless,

Michael Yaptinchay



STAY CONNECTED: www.faithandfoundation.com

THANK YOU

Total Donations and Pledges*:	\$ 9,401,808
Pledges Outstanding:	\$ 309,350
Total Donors:	1151
Total Gifts:	3952

*Faith and Foundation Funds are held in a separate Parish/Archdiocesan account strictly for the purpose of building a new school at St. Augustine's.

2018 Financial Report

This Financial Report provides donors to St. Augustine's Faith and Foundation Campaign with a full record of our gifts and pledges, other income and costs incurred during 2017.

We thank all of our donors for their faithful support over the past 17 years as we build and complete all phases of our new school. Our combined fundraising efforts during 2017 yielded \$904,350.

The start of our Campaign

St. Augustine's campaign to build a new school commenced in 1999 when then-Pastor Father John Brioux, OMI assembled a group of parish leaders to study the needs of our aging elementary school. This review included an engineering feasibility study that found that it would be more cost-effective to replace the school than repair or renovate the existing structure. A fundraising campaign was launched in 2000.

Management of funds

Building Funds are held in a joint Parish/Archdiocesan account with the Bank of Montreal (banker to the Archdiocese) for the sole purpose of building a school at St. Augustine's. Today, all funds are directed at fulfilling the monthly mortgage payments and paying down the debt as quickly as possible.

Role of the provincial government and Archdiocese in funding a new school

The Provincial Government funds operating expenses for independent schools like ours equivalent to 50 percent of the cost to educate a child in the public school system, with the remainder financed through school tuition, and fundraising. Provincial funding is not available for capital costs, such as building a new school. The Archdiocese will provide some interest subsidies.

Campaign administration costs

In 2017, we spent \$54,500 to administer the Campaign from funds that were raised through our annual Pass the Torch event. Our administration costs represent approximately 6 percent of total donations and is considered very low when compared to other philanthropic organizations in Canada.

We are fortunate to have so many people who volunteer thousands of hours of their time to the Campaign. There are some activities that require paid part-time support to undertake the weekly and detailed administration require to process, track and manage hundreds of donor transactions. There are also expenses for financial service charges, mailing, printing, equipment and general office costs.

Campaign financial accountability

The Faith and Foundation Campaign is accountable to the Pastor, finance committee and the parish pastoral council. We report on all activities.

We have many checks and balances in our donation management system between the Campaign, Parish and Archdiocese. Donations are received and accounted for according to Canada Revenue Agency requirements. All donor information is held in strict confidence with access limited to the very few people required to manage this work. We maintain the accuracy of our records by ensuring the health of our pledge commitments.

Parish Debt on New School Construction



Mortgage Facts Debt down, gym up

After completion of the first two phases of the new school which concluded with construction of the third floor in the fall of 2017, the parish assumed a final mortgage of \$4 million. Monthly mortgage payments (principal and interest) are approximately \$28,000.

Thankfully as a result of school families, other parishioners and friends of St. Augustine's that have sustained us for nearly 20 years, we're able to meet these financial commitments.

It's through initiatives like the Fall Campaign, Pass the Torch, and the generosity of other significant gifts that we can now focus on becoming mortgage-free as quickly as possible. This will allow us to initiate construction of phase three of the new school which will include a new gymnasium, underground parking and other amenities.

We are making progress in reducing our debt and we expect to make further gains by the end of 2018.

Financial Report January - December 2017

New School Construction

Outstanding loan amount as of December 2017	\$3.97million
Amortization Period	20 years
Average Monthly Interest and Principal Repayments	\$28,300

Faith and Foundation

Statement of Fundraising Receipts & Expenditures Actual For the Year Ended December 31, 2017 2017

Receipts

Annual fundraising	\$ 601,050
GST Rebate	34,650
PTT event	200,500
Loan interest rebate	31,700
Other	36,400
Total Fundraising	904,350

Expenditures

Loan interest	110,950
Administration (salaries, office, bank charges)	54,500
GST Expense (third floor completion)	45,700
PTT expenses	38,550
Total Expenditures	249,700
Excess (Deficiency) Before Other Items	654,600

Other Expenditure Item

Fund-a-need purchases	43,050
Excess (Deficiency)	\$ 611,550

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Linda Arnold, Director of Administrative Services
604-736-4455 Ext. 229

Faith & Foundation Office
604-736-4455 Ext. 231

Left-right: Lawrence Pillon, Nick Maile, Robert Napoli, Colleen Vinnick, > Vic Vela, Helen Velazquez, Brian Poston, Douglas Clarke, Brian Moylan, Mary-Margaret Bentley, Adam Beaudin-Ball, Christine Guzman
Seated (l-r): Geri Fujisawa, Linda Cormano, Marta Beynon, Linda Arnold, Cathie Oberndorf, Donna O'Hara.
Missing: Jennifer Ingham, Mark Wan, Jenneh Kearns, Michael Yaptinchay

Our Partners:

Sisters of St. Ann Celebrate 160 years in B.C.

On June 2, 2018 the Sisters of St. Ann celebrated 160 years of service to our Province with more than 500 of their friends in Victoria – including representation from St. Augustine's.

Over these decades, the Sisters founded 17 schools, 10 hospitals, trained hundreds of medical professionals and cared for hundreds of orphans. Their work eventually expanded to the Yukon, Alaska, Washington, and latterly in Haiti.

While there are only 27 Sisters remaining in British Columbia and are well into retirement, they have been thinking long-term. Their focus is not on leaving a legacy or a memorial of what they have done. Rather, they are working to continue their mission through the communities and partners with whom they have worked with over the years – primarily in the fields of social justice, health and education.

St. Augustine school, for example, was also a recipient of their charity as the Sisters helped found our school in 1911 and taught and administered here for more than 70 years. In more recent years, the Sisters have contributed generously to our fundraising efforts to build a new school in addition to their significant moral support.

“Our school and parish have an enormous debt of gratitude to the Sisters for their courage and perseverance. They see us as extension of their mission, to form young men and women who will love the Lord and help change the world,” said Father Andrew Stendzina, pastor at St. Augustine's.

THE FAITH & FOUNDATION TEAM:

