



# ST. MARK'S SCHOOL

## Parent Involvement and Support

We are fortunate to count parents as an integral part of the St. Mark's community. We are grateful for the gifts of time, creativity, presence, and financial support that our parents contribute to enhance the experience for our students, faculty, and staff members. The success of our community is dependent upon the involvement and support of everyone, including St. Mark's parents.

The relationship between St. Mark's parents and the School is strengthened even more as we add virtual events and remote interactions. Now, opportunities for parent involvement and support extend beyond our campus to across the globe.

Parent activities are intended to be welcoming to all families. We fully support diversity, equity, and inclusion in our programs and offerings. Please consider how you might choose to participate in—and contribute to—the St. Mark's parent community through these opportunities offered through the Advancement Office. You will be rewarded with closer connections to the School and to other parents—your involvement will lead to lifelong relationships with both.

*In the 2020–2021 academic year, we will work together to find the best balance of in-person and remote programs for parents; the following are subject to revision as we adjust to changing conditions.*

### THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Parents of St. Mark's students are automatically members of the Parents' Association (PA). Intended to help parents stay connected to the School, as well as each other, the PA offers events, meetings, and volunteer opportunities that provide insight into the School community as well as ways to support the faculty, staff, and students. The Parents' Association co-chairs participate as full members of the School's Board of Trustees, as well as steering parent programming and opportunities. Each Form has a parent representative and an Annual Fund representative.



### GET INVOLVED!

There are many opportunities to volunteer at St. Mark's ranging from one-time events to ongoing activities. We invite you to join us!

 **Admission Volunteer**—The Admission Office offers many ways for parents to get involved including greeting prospective families, leading tours, and conducting phone outreach.

 **Annual Fund Volunteer**—Parent volunteers reach out to other parents to encourage Annual Fund gifts. This is a great way to connect with other St. Mark's families while also supporting the Annual Fund. Non-local parents are welcome to participate from across the country or around the world.

 **Athletics Volunteer**—Parent volunteers support thirds, JV, and varsity teams by coordinating or participating in any of the following: providing or arranging for snacks, coordinating an end of season gathering, and welcoming and introducing parent spectators.



 **Career Day**—The purpose of this full-day event is for students to realize a tangible connection between their academic pursuits and their future endeavors. Parents interested in sharing their career experience are needed to lead discussions on campus and to be job-shadow hosts.

 **Hospitality Activities**—Throughout the year, volunteers are needed to assist with Parents' Association or School-hosted activities. Volunteers are needed for events such as Casino Night, Athletic Hospitality Tents, and Faculty Appreciation.



## SUPPORT ST. MARK'S

**Support the Annual Fund**—Parent giving is a vital component of the support that makes St. Mark's an outstanding school. Generations of St. Markers and their families have benefited from the gifts of those who came before them, and parents play a critical role in our continued success.

Annual gifts directly support the School's mission, allowing St. Mark's to provide a program that prepares students for lives of leadership and service. Your contribution helps all St. Markers benefit from small classes, dedicated faculty, a diverse student population, financial aid, and outstanding facilities.

**Why Your Gift Matters**—We understand and appreciate that our families already make a substantial investment in St. Mark's through tuition. When you chose to make a gift to the Annual Fund, you will demonstrate your commitment to your student's educational experience and to furthering St. Mark's mission. We rely on alumni, parents, past parents, grandparents, and friends of St. Mark's to contribute to the Annual Fund every year. This generosity was particularly impactful as the School prepared both programs and facilities for the start of the 2020-2021 academic year.

**How Much Should I Give?**—All parents, regardless of the rate of tuition they pay, are asked to make a gift to the Annual Fund every year. When we calculate the rate of participation, all gifts are equal, and broad participation is a vital indicator of the strength of our parent community. We strive for 100 percent participation. Each year, gifts range between \$10 and \$100,000. We encourage you to make a meaningful gift commensurate with your family's financial ability.

### Ways To Give

- Online at [www.stmarksschool.org/parentsgive](http://www.stmarksschool.org/parentsgive)
- In response to our Parent Phonathon. Please take the call from a peer parent who will help facilitate your Annual Fund gift.
- Mail to St. Mark's School Advancement Office 25 Marlboro Road P. O. Box 9105 Southborough, MA 01772-9105
- You may pledge your gift now for payment before the end of St. Mark's fiscal year, June 30. For your convenience, the Advancement Office will mail you a pledge reminder.
- Many companies participate in gift matching programs. Some companies will even match gifts made by retirees and spouses of employees. Ask your human resources department about matching gifts to discover how you can make your gift go even further.

For questions about matching gifts or making and fulfilling a pledge, please contact Sue Gagne, director of annual giving at [suegagne@stmarksschool.org](mailto:suegagne@stmarksschool.org).

Thank you for supporting this community and helping us deliver on the promise of a St. Mark's education for current and future students.

## BE IN THE KNOW!

- The Parents' Den is your one-stop-shop for updates and news on the St. Mark's website at: <https://www.stmarksschool.org/parentsden>.
- Look for the *Deans' Weekly* email on Fridays for news and information on campus happenings for the week, as well as upcoming events.
- Every other month you will receive a *Parents in the Know* email digest.
- Be sure to read and respond when you hear from St. Mark's or one of our parent volunteers!
- Follow us on social media: [www.stmarksschool.org/social-media](http://www.stmarksschool.org/social-media)

**Your Contact in the Advancement Office:** Gage Gillis, Advancement Projects Coordinator  
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