



To the generous members of our Parish and School:

As we begin the 2021-2022 academic year, we welcome our families back to campus with a focus on the year ahead. The challenges of 2020 were monumental, but we made it. We came together, united in faith, determination, and focus, and emerged a larger and stronger community ready to move forward and rise higher.

Everyone has had a unique journey through the pandemic, with each path taking shape differently, just like the shape of a paper airplane and the route it takes when launched. No two airplanes look the same, just as no two paths take the same form. This symbolic image of the paper airplane on an upward journey so visibly captures the student experience at our school and is the inspiration for this year's Wildcat Fund theme of *Moving Forward, Rising Higher*.

At OLGC, each student is encouraged to "be who you are and be that well" in their academic and spiritual life. Every child sets forth on a unique journey, where the destination is not the only goal. There are times when their path is straight and times when it is winding, with successes and challenges along the way. There are often wonderful realizations and important discoveries that one experiences because of the route chosen. With the help of The Wildcat Fund, OLGC can meet each child where they are in their own journey and provide support, enrichment, and differentiation to educate and advance each student at their individual level.

This year, as we set our sights even higher, we once again ask for the support of our faith community in considering a gift to The Wildcat Fund to help us achieve our goal of \$250,000 for OLGC School. The Wildcat Fund generates funds critical to the school's operations and enables students to receive an educational experience of the highest quality. Your donations ignite creative ways to keep the Catholic traditions and Salesian spirit of OLGC alive, allow us to invest in and recognize our teachers at the heart of OLGC, and empowers us to advance curriculum, technology, and innovative classrooms as we face the needs of our growing campus. These contributions enable our leadership to move faster and more efficiently to address critical needs. In short, your contribution to the Wildcat Fund makes an immediate and impactful difference in the lives of our students, faculty, and staff, both in and out of the classroom, and brings us closer to our goal of **RISING HIGHER.** 

We encourage all school families and parishioners to review the <u>2020-2021 Impact Report</u> to see the ways in which The Wildcat Fund put the impactful contributions of our community to work in funding 10 projects for our school.

Please visit The Wildcat Fund website at <u>www.olgcschool.org/support/wildcatfund.</u>

#### **Give to The Wildcat Fund**

Our spirits are lifted as our students returned to campus and that, combined with the unparalleled effort and focus of our teachers and staff, will make this school experience a success. We appreciate the steps you take in support of The Wildcat Fund - your investment will help us soar to new heights, in academics and in Christ.

Best Regards,

*Laureen Matta* Wildcat Fund Chair Adrianne Jewett Principal JoAnne Kinyon Director of Advancement Alison McKee Director of Advancement

## Moving Forward RISING HIGHER THE WILDCAT FUND AT OLGC SCHOOL

The Wildcat Fund Committee acknowledges the tremendous success of our 2020-2021 annual giving campaign.

Gifts to The Wildcat Fund generated over \$360,000 for OLGC School.

For the first time, corporate sponsors were instrumental in supporting curriculum advancements in our classrooms.

Thank you for making a significant difference in the lives of our students and teachers!



THANK YOU 2020-2021 CORPORATE SPONSORS

> The Popovich Financial Group



# KEARNEYA COMPANY SYSTEMS





### BY THE NUMBERS ANNUAL FUND FACTS & FIGURES

• \$360,000+ raised

- Day of Giving alone raised \$164,000+
  - Kearney & Co. generously matched the first \$50,000 in donations
- 595 individual gifts from 368 families
- Gifts from school families, parishioners, teachers, and friends of OLGC ranged from \$5 - \$14,000
- Corporate Donations and use of Matching Funds Programs from 19 Companies
- 10 projects funded

"We cannot always do great things. but we can do small things with great love." SAINT JANE DE CHANTAL "There is nothing small in the service of God." SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

#### Academic Support Center (ASC) -Testing Facility

- A newly created space fully accessible to students of all skill levels and learning styles.
- Whether a student needs additional support or a small group is working at an accelerated pace, the ASC is staffed to accommodate student needs.

On the testing side, students have:

- Work spaces and varying test-taking environments with new wall-mounted touch screen computers at varying heights.
- Noise canceling headphones to ensure the optimal testing environment.
- A wide variety of flexible seating options, such as standing desks, floor chairs, and agespecific working stations.







#### Academic Support Center (ASC) -STREAM Resource Center

- A defined space that extends learning beyond the classroom with STEM kits, alphabet and number games, spelling and math manipulatives, fractions kits, and more!
- 3 new mobile STREAM carts, 4 early-finisher carts, and 1 sensory cart tailored to K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 will be deployed into the classrooms.
- The calming corner centers on personal mindfulness and helps children to manage stress, self-regulate, and control impulses. This will support their processing abilities, increase their confidence, and allow for a focus back on cognition and learning.
  - Students will find:
    - Calming cubes, calming stones, calming twists, tactile mazes, timers and fidgets
    - Breathing cards and techniques
    - An oversized coloring mural



#### **Sensory Pathways**

The Installation of Interior & Exterior Sensory Pathway Experiences for all ages groups

- An animal-themed sensory pathway will be installed over the new flooring in the Kindergarten Hallway.
- An agility and fitness-themed sensory experience will be installed outside for use during recess, gym, and at teacher discretion.

#### What is a Sensory Pathway?

- Sensory Pathways use specific movements, visual cues, and muscle stretches to teach coping mechanisms for students of all ages.
  - Pathways transform hallways into places of purpose and offer students a place to redirect outside of the classroom.
  - They are colorful yet calming spaces that allow children to recapture control of their emotional and academic well-being by reducing tension, redirecting energy, and re-engaging one's focus.







#### Differentiated Reading Program & Increased Math Resources

To focus on assessing and accelerating learning at the individual student level, the model of differentiation in the mathematics curriculum will expand to tailored enrichment offerings in Language Arts and Reading as well.

- Differentiated Literacy Kits and Differentiated Math Kits for grades K-5 streamline the planning for centers rotations by offering set topics while also incorporating hands-on activities designed to reach all students.
- Students practice the same objective which has 3-skill-level options (approaching, meeting, and beyond) to differentiate or scaffold student's skills.
- Every activity includes teacher directives, activity cards, and hands-on manipulatives.







#### COMING SOON: Collaborative Desks

New workspaces are being identified and will be accessible to Middle School Students



- Collaborative desks are an integral ingredient in project-based learning and group work.
- Collaborative desks fit together in various arrangements.
- Having layout choices helps teachers accommodate various learning styles.



## Teacher Tuition Assistance & Acknowledgement

The Wildcat Fund LOVES our Teachers!



The Wildcat Fund continues to invest in our teachers and supports efforts in recruiting and retaining the best of the best! The Wildcat Fund provided significant funding to offer tuition assistance to our teachers as well as a bonus at Christmas.

Teachers are also enjoying an updated and refreshed Teacher Lounge.



#### Updated & Enhanced Classroom Technology

#### 35 new Dell Latitude Chromebooks for use in Classrooms





Renewed access to Nearpod enables teachers to:

- Create online quizzes and assessments.
- Create polls to assess student understanding.
- Incorporate videos and multimedia curriculum.
- Take students on "virtual field trips."
- Allow students to record answers directly into a lesson.
- Synchronize with students to stay focused in independent self-paced modules.

New access to Flocabulary, a literacy extension within Nearpod

 Flocabulary is an extension of Nearpod in which hip-hop videos and instructional activities promote literacy and spark creativity.



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#### School Facilities & Security Improvements

In addition to new carpeting in the main entry and hallway, Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) is installed as the first phase of a flooring replacement project in the:

- The Front Office / Administrative Offices
- Kindergarten Hallway
- Faculty Lounge
- LVT is easy to clean, reduces noise, offers a variety of design layouts to distinguish different areas, and is built to last.
- The goal is additional phases to update the remaining hallways and classroom spaces.





#### **Renewal of Lobby Guard**

- The safety and security of our students and staff continues to be of utmost importance.
- LobbyGuard is a comprehensive visitor management and front office automation system designed to increase building and facility security and awareness through a process of tracking, screening, and badging visitor traffic.
- The end result is a safer and more efficient entry point to protect our school environment from unwanted or unauthorized visitors and one that is scalable as our community grows.

