



## **Opportunities for Volunteer Involvement at Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy**

*There are many ways to become involved with Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy and we appreciate your interest. Below is a sampling of single effort as well as ongoing or periodic programs for both individuals and employee/community groups.*

### **ONE-TIME COMMITMENTS (ONE DAY TO A FEW WEEKS)**

- **Teach the Students** – Students really respond to guest speakers, and the Academy would welcome volunteers who could share their expertise on a number of appropriate topics (e.g., art, travel, math, science, money basics, computer technology).
- **Teach the Teachers** – Catholic school teachers thirst for ongoing professional education, and the new reform model of education we are implementing at SJPIICA calls for plenty of it. We would very much welcome having volunteers speak on any number of topics to our teachers in workshops or seminars.
- **Holiday Drive** – Our student body is largely made up of low income families who have been severely impacted by the downturn in the economy. As we look to the colder weather and the holiday season, we would like to be able to give students critically needed items like coats, hats, mittens.
- **Etiquette Class** – This is a special opportunity for our students to learn proper table manners, writing thank you notes, greeting people and other fine points. Classes are held at each campus for selected grades. Time commitment is 90 minutes per session per campus (about two sessions per campus with additional time for preparation which may involve cooking food if desired).

### **PERIODIC OR SHORT TERM COMMITMENTS (ONE DAY TO SEVERAL WEEKS)**

- **Tutoring students** —Student tutoring is needed both during the school day as well as in the after-school program. One-on-one tutoring is needed at all grade levels and could include homework help.
- **Field Trips**—Our students do not often have the opportunity to experience much of life beyond their neighborhoods. It would be of great benefit for them to participate in broadening experiences such as company tours and visits to area museums and educational institutions. We are limited by associated costs, including funds for

transportation.

- **Career Day** — It is a goal of the Academy to expand the students' views of life's possibilities in all ways possible. Of great interest is inviting employees to speak to intermediate and upper grade classes about their work and life experiences.
- **Teacher Wish List** – Individuals may like to donate supplies and other educational items for the classroom, or inexpensive educational tools like memberships for educational resources (*e.g.*, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation offers interactive learning opportunities) that would enrich the learning experience but are not covered by the school's budget at this time. This could be a short term involvement or ongoing in the form of "adopting" a classroom.
- **Teacher training in technology**—In addition to one-time tutoring on the use of new technology or tools, there is need for short term "in classroom" instruction on the use of new educational technology.
- **Student sports programs** – Recently, a middle school boys' basketball team was formed and the team plays in the South Shore Parochial School League. There is great interest in expanding the basketball program to include a middle school girls' team and teams at lower grades. There is also interest in establishing ongoing programs in volleyball, fencing, lacrosse, et al. Coaches are needed as well as sponsors for league fees and transportation.
- **Student enrichment programs**—A great interest of the school is to offer a full array of after-school clubs/programs in areas like Robotics, Chess, Debate – areas that may help lead students to college scholarships. A special interest is to begin an art docent program. We are open to employees who may have a particular expertise that they would like to share with students including musical talent and travel. Involvement could begin as short term commitments (*e.g.*, one or two sessions up to four to six weeks) with students and school staff or volunteers to continue the activity. Or clubs could be offered for a limited period of time.

### **LONGER-TERM COMMITMENTS (SEVERAL WEEKS/MONTHS OR MORE)**

- **Academy's Board of Trustees and Committees/Task Forces**—Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy is governed by a lay board which is always seeking to add people with expertise in marketing, development, business and education. An employee or employees with expertise in one of these areas, who is selected by the company, could serve on this board, or on one of the many committees and task forces being organized (*e.g.*, advancement, enrollment marketing, faith formation committee).
- **"Loaned Executive"-type program**—There is a need for qualified business people to volunteer at the Dorchester regional office to assist with developing model systems/best practices for basic office functions such as tracking data, accounting, etc. This hands-on

commitment would be best if it included a commitment of several months and regular office hours for at a least a few hours each week or so. Might be an opportunity for a recent retiree who lives in the area.

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