

# IGNITING HOPE & DREAMS!

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

MARCH 4, 2021



Dear St. Thomas More Community,

Together we continue to face a truly unprecedented time. The global coronavirus pandemic continues to affect our families, businesses, communities, and way of life. Our hearts and prayers go out to those who have been impacted by the virus, either directly or indirectly.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has led to the cancellation of the annual St. Thomas More Gala Auction for the 2020-2021 school year. This event provides necessary funds to pay our teachers, help students facing hardships and meet general operating expenses at our school. Without these funds, our school would find itself in an extremely challenging financial situation.

We have a plan! After thoroughly examining our budget, fundraising timeline, and current health constraints, we have decided instead to launch the **Igniting Hope & Dreams Campaign**. This will enable all of our incredibly generous supporters to contribute to the mission of our school in a meaningful way.

It's simple - we are looking for 200 people to make a donation of \$200 or more. We can do this! Our goal is \$40,000 and with your help we can get there. As a bonus, donors who give \$500 or more will be entered into a raffle for the Scrip Jackpot to win a set of gift cards valued at \$500. The winner will be announced on April 12, 2021.

Thanks to changes in the Federal Tax Guidelines for 2020 (Cares Act), donations to educational/non-profits up to \$300 (**\$600 if filing jointly**) are 100% tax-deductible - even if you don't itemize. Your gift may also be eligible for your employer matching gift program.

All funds raised will go directly to our operating budget which pays teachers salaries, provides tuition assistance to our families, and funds academic programs at St. Thomas More School. Please consider making a gift by April 2, 2021.

There are two easy ways to make a gift:

1. Return the donation form along with a check payable to "St. Thomas More Parents Club" in the enclosed envelope.
2. Visit our website: [www.stms.org](http://www.stms.org), click "Donate", and select Igniting Hope & Dreams St. Thomas More Parish School Campaign.

If you are unable to make a donation at this time, you can advocate for us by sharing our mission and sharing our Donate button on our website. Join us on social media and share your experience of St. Thomas More School with others. **Please share this letter and link with family and friends too!**

We are enormously proud of our community's sense of unity and faithfulness. It is in times like this that we are reminded of how special it is to be part of a community that supports the mission of Catholic education.

With Gratitude and Many Blessings,

Ann Leichleiter  
Principal

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