

St. Patrick School – Board of Specified Jurisdiction Frequently Asked Questions

1. *What is the Board of Specified Jurisdiction?*

- The board is the governance organization that oversees St. Patrick School, in collaboration with the Pastor of St. Patrick Church and the Principal of the School.

2. *Is this the same as a school board?*

- Typical public school boards have hiring and firing responsibilities in addition to other governance activities.
- The Catholic Schools are guided by the Archdiocese, which specifies certain responsibilities to the local school leadership board, assigns others to the pastor and the principal, and retains certain responsibilities to the central school authority.
- The Board of Specified Jurisdiction is responsible for those activities specified in the bylaws to be within its area of governance.

3. *Who makes up the Board?*

- Board members are volunteers, typically from the Parish community but also can be drawn from members of the local community who are not St. Patrick parishioners.
- Once a person indicates interest, they must be appointed to the Board by the Pastor. The term for each board member is three years, with the potential to serve two terms consecutively.

4. *I do not have a child in school. Can I be considered for the Board?*

- YES. In fact, the bylaws of the Board seek to have at least half the members outside the school families. In addition, the Board Leadership positions of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson should be held by individuals who do not have children in school.

5. *I have a child in school at St. Patrick. Can I serve on the Board?*

- YES. The board is enriched by members who bring the experiences of school families to the decision making process.

6. *I have a child in SRE at St. Patrick. Can I serve on the Board?*

- YES. The board is enriched by members who bring the experiences of SRE families to the decision making process.

7. *I don't have a child at home now. Can I serve on the Board?*

- YES. We believe that individuals who care about education of our youth can be valuable members of the Board.

8. *I know that the school holds a lot of fund raising activities. Will I need to spend extra time in one or more of these activities?*

- The fund raising activities of the school are staffed by volunteers. Most of these projects have a standing group of people ready to manage the project for the upcoming school year. Board members have not needed to 'fill in.' Board members are welcome to participate, if they choose to do so.

9. *What's in it for me?*

- The school is one of the largest ministries within St. Patrick, both by the number of people involved and the budget. Your participation can help guide the school.
- Your time on the Board can provide you the opportunity to participate in the formation of well-educated students while creating in them spirituality that makes them into lifelong, active Catholic citizens.

10. *How can I get involved now?*

- Let us know of your interest by selecting the Board in your Stewardship commitment card.
- We will contact all people expressing an interest.
- Committee participation is available for the 2013-14 academic school year.
- You are also welcome to attend any Board meeting as an observer.
- You can also participate in other school functions – Parent Teacher Organization; Parent Ambassadors; St. Patrick Booster Club; and committees which handle fund raising events (Auction; Raffle)

11. *How do I become a Board Member?*

- The next Board member selection will be in the spring of 2013, for a three-year term to begin with the 2013-14 academic year.
- Let us know of your interest by selecting the Board in your Stewardship commitment card.
- Get involved in activities and determine your interest. During the school year, meet with Father Fred, Marcie and board members to express your interest.
- Email Andy Hayes, BSJ chair to request a Discernment Form for application.

For further questions, please call or email:

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