

The St. Lucy School Development Office

So how exactly does our Development Office fit into the picture here at St. Lucy's? This is a question that I have been asked by many of you, and one that I am more than happy to address!

The development effort at St. Lucy's is focused on raising 'Friends and Funds' that help advance our mission of providing a faith-based, Catholic education of excellence here in Campbell. Building relationships with people and involving them in our school brings in many, many resources – people, financial, community, and many more.

The Development office seeks to enrich the lives of current and future students and their families and attract people and businesses to our school. I work together with dedicated parent volunteers, our principal, faculty and staff, our pastor, our School Advisory Board, Booster Club, Parent Teacher Group, Room parents and Finance Committee.

As your Development Director, I am responsible for coordinating our publicity and marketing effort and working as an integral part of our Admissions team. I am working to improve the design and functionality of our website for both prospective families and current families. I give our school tours and I also reach out to provide a strong Alumni network for all of our alums, future alums and alum parents. I work on the Grandparents Day planning team and bring you Catholic Schools Week and our Open House. I am working on the development of a volunteer coordinator position, and I collaborate with development directors from our sister schools in monthly development meetings.

I also help develop the big picture in terms of the major fundraising effort of the school, working with our Parent Teacher Group, Booster Club, Scrip team, Room parents and Finance Committee. I am now studying and calendaring all fundraisers from every different group in the school and parish. I am paying attention to the timing and type of asks we are making of you, looking at how things can be a bit better organized and looking at ways to reach beyond our parents, to our alumni, our grandparents, our parishioners, friends and businesses to help them want to contribute to SLS.

I manage all donations and gifts to our school, including our capital campaigns, such as the library, and targeted fundraising at the Spring Gala, as well as memorial donation programs. I am here to help parents give gifts of stock, to utilize corporate matching programs so donations can sometimes double in value, to help parents donate equipment from their companies. I am here to make it easy to give to St. Lucy School.

This spring, we will launch our first Annual Appeal, as a tax-deductible way to ask all St. Lucy Supporters to please give to our endowment fund so that St. Lucy's will be financially secure both in the present, *and in the future*.

Out of all the different things I get to work on, one of my favorites is to bring you the Volunteer Wine & Cheese Appreciation in May. At the wine & cheese I am able to find a small way to say thanks, to so many of you who have done so many different things to help raise St. Lucy School to new heights. Thank you for all you do for St. Lucy Parish School.

Sincerely,
Laurie Galdes