

To the generous members of our Parish and School:

As we began the 2019-2020 academic year, we encouraged you to "make your steps count, all through love for OLGC" and to embrace the second year of The Wildcat Fund. Never could we have imagined how our faith community would be challenged by the unexpected and unimaginable changes caused by COVID-19. Despite being separated by space, the powerful connections of faith and love allowed our administration, teachers, and staff to successfully navigate the unprecedented move to a virtual learning environment in a matter of days. Thank you for making a tremendous difference in the lives of our students, faculty, and staff, both in and out of the classroom.

The Wildcat Fund generates funds critical to the school's operations and enables students to receive an educational experience of the highest quality, thus creating confident, faith-filled, life-long learners. Your donations supported creative ways to keep the traditions and spirit of OLGC alive, allowed us to recognize our teachers at the heart of the OLGC experience, and empowered us to expand our technology offerings to address future live and virtual classroom needs. We appreciate your demonstration of faith in our community, your overwhelming support for our school, and your partnership to achieve and surpass our goals together.

Enclosed is an overview of how The Wildcat Fund impacted, and will continue to impact, the OLGC community. In addition, the Honor Roll of Generosity details all those family and friends that have made financial gifts to the Fund between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020. These contributions make tangible and impactful differences in transforming our community.

This year, we continued to see that as a community, we are stronger together. We are beyond grateful for the steps our community took in support of The Wildcat Fund, and we are grateful for your sustained partnership in navigating the uncertain times ahead. Your investment today ensures our tomorrow. https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/VA875/27345

Sincerely,

Rev. Matthew J. Hillyard, OSFS

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Pastor

Mrs. Adrianne Jewett

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Principal

Tim Wickham

Chair, Steering Committee

Trucky on Whe

The Wildcat Fund 2019-2020 IMPACT STATEMENT

In its second year as the cornerstone of annual giving at OLGC, The Wildcat Fund set an aggressive goal of \$200,000. Once again, your generosity exceeded all expectations. Your support generated more than \$205,000 in gifts during the academic year, with over \$56,000 collected in a 30-hour period during our Day of Giving in February.

All donations, both unrestricted and designated, support and advance the mission of Our Lady of Good Counsel School. Four critical areas were determined as the beneficiaries of The Wildcat Fund, with *Mrs. Jewett's Toolbox for the Teachers* identified as the Special Project for 2019-2020. The funds raised specifically and directly address the following community initiatives:

- Recruitment and Retention of Faculty and Staff, Teacher Training and Continuing Education, Teacher Recognition, Teacher Appreciation, and Professional Development;
- Advancing technology and the innovative classroom;
- Addressing the needs of our growing campus; and
- Delivering need-based tuition assistance

The Wildcat Fund will accomplish significant strides in these four critical areas and will support the installation of resources critical to the integration and connection of both our physical and virtual campuses.

Sponsorship of the 2020 Teacher Appreciation Week

In these unchartered times, we recognized the tremendous effort that our teachers and staff put into the transition to e-learning for our students. They worked harder than ever to prepare lessons, conduct live and pre-recorded teaching sessions, review homework uploads, input grades, and schedule Zoom gatherings, all to maintain consistency and normalcy for our community while dealing with the stresses of a global pandemic in their own families. During the first week in May, under the guidance of Mrs. Jewett and in partnership with the PTO, we were able to show appreciation for our teachers and staff because we would have been "virtually" lost without them! The Wildcat Fund sponsored a variety of gift cards for personal and professional use for each teacher and staff member. It is our sincere hope that our teachers and staff knew how much we appreciated their efforts. Their strength, resilience, and faith deserved to be recognized and applauded.

Investment in Schoology and Nearpod

The Wildcat Fund has invested in Schoology, a new Learning Management System, that will make it easier for students, parents, teachers, and administration to communicate and collaborate in a single sign-on, device independent program. Schoology has all the tools OLGC needs to create engaging content, design lessons, and assess student understanding both in and outside the physical classroom. Mrs. Jewett and her staff have learned so much in a short amount of time about e-Learning, but with the help of this tool, can offer a more streamlined access for all involved. This tool will allow for a quicker, more seamless transition if conditions require a return to e-Learning and will create a unified classroom experience.

In addition to our acquisition of Schoology to streamline our log-in process for virtual learning this year, we have also purchased Nearpod, which will be used to provide a more interactive learning experience for students and teachers, whether on campus or at home. Nearpod will allow teachers to easily create interactive presentations that we hope will engage and amaze students, capturing their attention, and minimizing off-task behavior. Nearpod will work within Schoology to enhance our eLearning environment to keep children focused and teachers aware of their progress throughout a lesson. Nearpod's interactive capabilities include:

- Creating online guizzes and similar assessments,
- Creating polls to quickly assess student understanding during the presentation,
- Incorporating videos and other multimedia curriculum supports,
- Taking students on "virtual field trips" throughout the world,
- Allowing students to record their answers directly into a Nearpod lesson without the intimidation of blurting aloud or being wrong, and
- The synchronization of students with the teacher during the lesson so they stay focused on the content provided at the time though independent self-paced modules.

Both tools will be available to faculty, staff, students, and parents for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Safe Reserves

Lastly, in these uncertain times, OLGC Leadership and The Wildcat Fund Steering Committee have decided to maintain a safe reserve of funds in the event of continued challenges to the academic environment related to COVID-19. As the back-to-school plan becomes a reality, we need to be prepared to assist with the ever-changing technology, safety, or personnel needs and requirements that may arise.

The Wildcat Fund Honor Roll of Donors

YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE - ALL THROUGH LOVE FOR OLGC

We are truly grateful to all those who support our efforts. We appreciate the demonstration of faith in our goals to cultivate faith while achieving academic excellence, both in and out of our classrooms. In alphabetical order, we would like to express our gratitude and thanks to the following contributors to The Wildcat Fund

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