

FAQs

Why do we have an auction at St. Mary School?

Twenty-three years ago, the presidents of the Men’s Club and Mother’s Guild got together and said, “We have to stop nickel and diming our families with all these little fundraisers!”

Out of that discussion the auction was born, with the sole purpose of bringing the community together on one night to raise a large sum of money for St. Mary School. Over the years, the St. Mary Blue & White Auction has contributed nearly \$760,000 to our school.

I am an auction rookie. How does it work?

Invitations will be mailed February 26th. So when you receive your invite, you need to RSVP and say you’ll be there! Your ticket purchase gets you through the door of the hottest party in town. Great food, wine, and dancing are all included in your ticket price. You just show up for this semi-formal event, ready for a good time!

When you arrive, you will be given a bidder number to use for auction bidding. You’ll want to bid on a *Silent Auction* item, or go head-to-head for a *Live Auction* must-have. At the end of the evening, we settle up, print your receipt for your tax purposes, and you take your prizes home.

What happens to all those auction proceeds?

The auction is vital to the financial health of the school and has a huge impact on projects that would otherwise be unattainable. The auction is responsible for a \$25,000 contribution to the general fund of the school. That means, that if the minimum obligation is not met, the school budget suffers and tuition increases. Fortunately, the auction has always met its obligation, plus some. With those surplus dollars, a science lab was built, our school field and façade was updated, technology purchases were made, a new scoreboard was purchased, and much more. This year’s auction proceeds will pay for much needed textbooks and class resources.

Why do I need to participate in the auction if I do other things at the school?

Because the auction is our signature parent fundraiser, we need everyone to participate. And if you’ve never been to an auction before, this is the year to come! This year, the auction moves off campus to the beautiful clubhouse at Eagle Ridge Golf Course just down the road. We have auction items for every sized budget, so whether you can spend \$50 or \$5,000, we want you there.

How can I get involved?

Participating in the auction is easy. You can come as a guest or sign up to volunteer auction night. If you are short on SROs, volunteering auction night is a great way to tackle a big chunk at once. Volunteer with a spouse or family member and double your hours! Let us know if you can help. E-mail Auction Chair Cathy Broch or Lisa Sepka at lsepka@gmail.com

Will there be an Online Auction this year?

To kick things off eBay style, we are launching an online auction from March 10th through March 24th for all you armchair bargain hunters. The online auction features a limited number of auction items that will only be sold online. Look for more information on our online auction in the coming weeks.