To The Saint James School Community,

The Home and School Association (HSA) would like to offer a sincere THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this school year a huge success. We extend a very special thank you to all the volunteers who donated time and talents this year. Each HSA event and fundraiser takes many hours of work and preparation and we are so appreciative of all the help we receive.

For the 2016-2017 school year, HSA-sponsored fundraisers profited \$48,000! We are very grateful for your generosity and dedication to fundraising. Often we are asked, "What is HSA money used for?" In a nutshell, HSA fundraisers help keep the school running. To help keep tuition down, the school relies on non-tuition sources of funding. The HSA is one of those sources and hence HSA funds are an essential part of the school's budget. The funds we generate assist in paying for things like classroom supplies, books, field trips and building maintenance, to name just a few.

HSA funds are also used for fun! By organizing social events throughout the year, we are able to build upon the sense of community that makes our school so special. This year we set a goal to offer more opportunities for families to come together and we hope that your experience was enriched because of these events.

We are already planning for next year and are excited for all that is to come! Thank you to everyone who responded to the end-of-the-year survey. Based on your feedback we have committed to some changes for next year, including varying meeting times to help more people attend, offering more events geared toward the older students, exploring more fundraising opportunities that support local businesses, and making an even greater effort to be sure everyone feels welcome and informed.

As we make new goals and commitments, we ask that you do, too. Please consider how you can help out next year. There are always opportunities to fit many different schedules and we really do need all the help we can get. We welcome your help, ideas, and feedback so please feel free to contact us at any time at hsa@saintjamesschool.net.

Thank you again for a wonderful year!

Sincerely,

The 2016/2017 HSA Board Members Alicia Poth, President Kerry Caldwell, Vice-President Beverly-Anne Cattanach, Secretary Kate Davis, Fundraising Chair