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August 20, 2024

Dear Mendocino Coast Business Owners:

Do you struggle to find competent employees who not only possess the practical skills they need to help make your business run smoothly, but who also have the thinking skills and common sense to help make your business stronger? Do you worry about the future for our community when young people graduating from high school lack sufficient reading and math skills as well as motivation and work-ethic to carry out every-day tasks at work without mistakes? Is it even difficult to find people who want a job and are willing to work for it?

SJSDR was founded in 2000 in the midst of the pandemic to do something about these problems. As a private school, free to follow instructional methods and to create a school culture like those which made this nation great, we are teaching our students to become strong readers and thinkers with facility in math and creative, curious, adventurous approaches to the world around them.

How do we accomplish this? We have made a pledge never to accept a single dollar from either the state or federal government. Therefore, we are free to use the best instructional methods and materials without interference from political agendas and the lobbying which has come to control, not just K-12 curriculum, but also classroom instruction.

This freedom comes with a price, however. Our families, staff, and Board must seek charitable donations to cover every dollar above that which the families can afford to pay out of their personal income. Yes, our families are willing to make the sacrifice to pay for their children to attend private school, even though they have access to a free public education and are even paying taxes for that free public education, just so their children can have a better education. And what they can't pay in tuition, they are willing to work hard to help fundraise so that their children can have a better education and a brighter future. That is where you come in.

We believe that by supporting our work, you too will benefit in deep and lasting ways. Of course, your donations are 100% tax deductible as we are a non-profit, 501 c-3 corporation. But the good that your donation will do goes deeper. You will be directly helping us to ensure that these children will have the education they need to contribute to the business community of the Mendocino Coast in vital ways, as they grow up to be employees and business owners in their own right.

We cannot do this alone. We need your help. Will you choose to support our families as they fight to give their children the best academic education they can? Will you help us in a substantial way so that

we know we can continue to give back to our community students who will help the Coast continue to be a vibrant place to live?

At this time here are our biggest needs listed in order of priority.

Sponsor a Student

Our students come from economically disadvantaged families. They are often the first or second generation in this country. The most their families have historically been able to afford to pay for tuition is \$200-\$250 per month. Tuition for each child costs \$500 per month for twelve months. These are hard-working families who are active members of our community, giving of their time and talents, not just here at SJSDR where their children attend school, but also volunteering for local little league teams, helping in their church, and in other ways in our community.

Donating \$6000 can make it possible for a struggling family to access an excellent education for their child and ensure that more children will grow up with the skills and civic virtues needed to contribute to our community. Perhaps you could give \$3000 to sponsor a student so that a family can spend more time giving back to our community and less time in many small fundraising efforts.

Donate Critical Infrastructure

Operating with a shoe-string budget we are using second-hand office equipment. This equipment is getting old and starting to break down, costing valuable time in our work day.

We need a new office copier, desk-top all-in-one computer, and a fast scanner.

Currently we are using:

Canon ImageClass MF7460 copier

IMac OS X El Capitain

ScanSNap IX500 multi-page scanner

Something similar in size, function, and output would be greatly appreciated as we strive to make sure we are operating as efficiently as possible.

This work is so urgent. More than ever before the future of our community and even of our country depends on our children and their ability to rise above the economic challenges they are being handed.

Thank you so much for considering our request for help. We pledge to you that we will make every dollar count in bettering the lives of our students directly.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Kasperson
Directress
San Jose Sanchez Del Rio Catholic School