

Good afternoon, HCA Parents and Staff!

As summer's warm, carefree days begin to wind down, we're getting ready to dive into another exciting school year filled with new adventures, friendships, and opportunities to learn and grow together. The start of the school year is just around the corner, and we couldn't be more thrilled to welcome back our students, teachers, and parents to another year of fun, discovery, and community spirit!

The PTO has been busy planning some fantastic events and activities that will make this year unforgettable. From our support of the Feast of the Holy Cross to spirited school competitions, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Whether it's cheering on our sports teams, celebrating creative talents, or coming together for our Catholic Schools week, we can't wait to see all the smiles, laughter, and school pride that make our community unique.

So dust off those backpacks, sharpen those pencils, and prepare for a year filled with learning and laughter! We are excited to embark on this journey with you and look forward to all the beautiful memories we'll create together. Let's make this school year the best one yet!

If you are a new family to HCA, we would like to be among the first to say, "Welcome!" In the following weeks, your mentor family will contact you. They will guide you through the beginning of the school year and beyond. We hope you will use them as a valuable resource.

As school begins, we have some functions for you to add to your calendar. Please add them to your calendar so you can plan to attend and, possibly, volunteer. There is a signup genius link below each event where volunteers are needed. Please consider donating your time to help make these events successful for our students and families.

Please check out our Facebook page, which is just for the <u>Holy Cross Academy PTO</u>. Be sure to like it and follow us for details about events throughout the year!

Check us out here!

Upcoming Volunteer Events:

Here is your chance to get ahead on your family's volunteer hours.



You can sign up to volunteer here!

If you are unfamiliar with HCA's family volunteer program, you can view the program information or print out your volunteer record form here.

Background compliance is required for adult volunteers. Please contact Mrs. James (djames@holycrossweb.com) if you need clarification on your status.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

Back to School Nights

Please make sure to visit one of the PTO tables during Back to School Night. Here, you will have the opportunity to sign up for committees/events that count towards your yearly volunteer hours and ask us any questions you may have! If you are new this year and need a refresher on the Family Service Program, you can find information on the school's website. Each family is required to volunteer for 8 hours a year.

Please note that the middle school Back to School night is Thursday, August 29th at 6:30 P.M.

Please note that the elementary school Back to School night is Tuesday, September 3rd @ 6:30 P.M.

Please note that the pre-school Back to School night is Wednesday, September 11th @ 6:30 P.M.

Ongoing Fundraising Opportunities

BoxTops for Education: Download the app to your phone and select Holy Cross Academy as your school! Once you have done that, remember to scan your receipt after shopping, and the app will let you know if you purchased a qualifying product.

PTO Bylaws Update

Calling all PTO members! Each parent/guardian and teacher of Holy Cross Academy is a general member of the PTO. The Executive Board has proposed an amendment to the PTO's by-laws, which Dr. Fry has approved. Please cast your vote in favor or against the proposed change by **Sunday, August 25th**. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Proposed Amendment to the PTO By-Laws

Over the years, the Executive Board has experienced times when there is a vacancy in the position of PTO Vice President. This vacancy occurs when there is a lack of qualified executive or general members who are interested in volunteering to hold the position. We are proposing an amendment to the PTO by-laws to accommodate the PTO Vice President vacancy. Please see below the current by-laws' language regarding the qualifications for PTO executive board positions and the recommended verbiage to by-laws. If passed, the 2024-2025 PTO executive board will add the language to Article V Item of the PTO by-laws.

Please <u>cast your vote</u> in favor or not by **Sunday**, **August 25th**. A current copy of the PTO Statutes and By-Laws can be found <u>here</u>.

Proposed Addition:

In the event that an Executive Officer position is vacant or no suitable candidate is available to fill the position, the following provisions shall apply to ensure the continued smooth operation of the HCA PTO:

- 1. Distribution of Duties: The duties typically performed by the Executive Officer will be distributed among the remaining officers of the Executive Board. The President will designate specific responsibilities to each officer to ensure that all tasks are covered effectively.
- 2. Appointment of a Temporary Executive Officer: The President, with the consent of the Executive Board and the Principal, may appoint a temporary replacement from among the existing Executive Board members or general PTO membership. This temporary Executive Officer will serve until a permanent replacement can be elected or until the end

- of the current school year, whichever comes first. Should the President position be vacant, then the Vice President will assume the role.
- 3. Support from Members-at-Large: Members-at-Large may be asked to take on additional duties to support the Executive Board during the vacancy period. This includes assisting with event coordination, acting as liaisons for committees, and other tasks as deemed necessary by the President.
- 4. Review and Adjustment: The Executive Board will regularly review the distribution of the Executive Officer duties and make adjustments as needed to ensure the efficient functioning of the PTO.
- 5. Communication to Members: The general membership will be informed of the temporary vacancy and the steps taken by the Executive Board to manage the duties and responsibilities typically handled by the position.
- 6. Election Procedures: Efforts will be made to fill the vacant position at the earliest opportunity through the regular nomination and election process as outlined in the PTO By-Laws.
- 7. If there is an absence in an Executive Member position the previous President and/or Vice President will be an advisor to the current to assist with fulfilling the PTO needs.

This addition ensures that the PTO can continue to function effectively and maintain its objectives even in the absence of an Executive Officer.