



## All Saints Parish School Outdoor Learning Centers

### Dear Parents,

We are pleased to announce the planning of a unique asset which offers a valuable learning environment that will directly impact all students and set All Saints' programs apart from others.

The PTO is proud to fund the build-out of the first **Outdoor Learning Center (OLC)** at All Saints. The budget for Phase 1 of this project has been secured with rigorous fundraising activities and the generous donations we've received leading up to the project approval. The OLC committee is currently obtaining estimates and solidifying vendors for the components needed, which include raised planters, nature buckets for seating, enclosed white boards, and student work tables.

*"Outdoor Learning is an area many parents are passionate about, as evidenced by our recent parent feedback survey. We are thrilled to make this a reality and it's another example of the curriculum enrichment programs that make All Saints such a great educational environment!"* stated Bethani Simonovich, PTO President.

The initial OLC is scheduled for completion in fall of 2018. The unveiling date has not yet been determined but as production details are planned, the PTO will be better equipped to commit to a date and answer additional questions. In the meantime, there is a more detailed explanation of the space available in an animated PowerPoint file which can be found [on Dropbox](#).

*"I enjoyed designing this space and working with the PTO because not only my children, but all of our children, will benefit from the stimulus of nature,"* commented Emalee Ridgway, Landscape Architect and All Saints parent. *"It started with a conversation about a bench needing to be replaced followed by input from the survey, sessions with Mr. Hartman, Fr. Dennis, PTO, and members of the landscape team at All Saints. The plans for the Outdoor Learning Center have blossomed into something really special."*

A long list of thank yous go to the parish and school staff, and parent volunteers for helping to make the OLC project come to fruition. Very special thanks go to Father Dennis, Emalee Ridgway, Jennie Markel, and Kim Navarro for all they have contributed to the ideation and future implementation of the OLC.

Potential OLCs are planned for spaces near the playground and kindergarten rooms. As these will require additional funding apart from the pilot OLC in the prayer garden, it is important to make note that your continued financial support through fundraisers such as the Shamrock-A-Thon, Kroger Community Rewards and Dine & Donates are valuable and greatly appreciated.

Further, there is plenty of work to be done to create the first and following OLCs, please [contact the PTO](#) to funnel all inquiries to the appropriate person at [www.allsaints.cc/contactpto](http://www.allsaints.cc/contactpto).