

School News

A peek behind our classroom doors



DECEMBER 6, 2020



Stephanie Serna Klinger with her son, Isaac—the inspiration for her love of volunteering at SRS.

Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia



SRS honor roll

Announcing our Catholic Business Network volunteer and business partner of the year

By Teri Dwyer, Principal

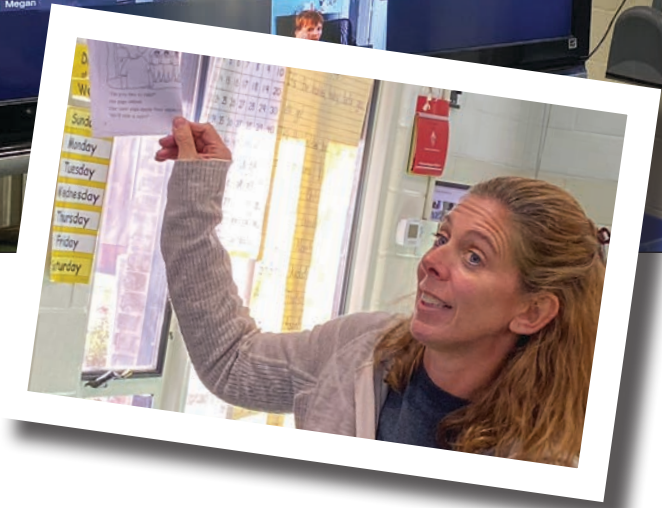
Volunteer of the Year: Stephanie Serna Klinger



Each autumn, the Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County celebrates a volunteer and a business partner from each school.

This year, we congratulate and thank Stephanie Serna Klinger as our St. Raphael School Volunteer of the Year! In a school with many generous helping hands and fabulous volunteers, Stephanie stands out. School events, Stephanie is there! In the middle of the action, Stephanie is planning setup, organizing fun, and making it come together.

Surrounded by her husband and friends, she gets the job done! As president of our Home & School Association, Stephanie recruited and collaborated with our roster of class representatives, orchestrated regular communications with parents and staff, and ensured that our calendar was filled with events to punctuate each season for our students. From a school year opening day to SpringFest at the end, we applaud Stephanie for a job well done! Not even COVID has stopped Stephanie or dampened her efforts. With her phenomenal technology skills, she has made SRS online initiatives come to life. A huge thank you to our 2020 volunteer of the year, Stephanie Klinger!



Photos by MJ Zafis-Garcia

Connecting our students and teachers virtually would not be possible without the donation of equipment and expertise from Roger Pardo and Viper Unified Communications.

**Business Partner of the Year:
Viper Unified Communications | Roger Pardo**



During the month of August, Roger Pardo's company, Viper Unified Communications, donated 23 Cisco TelePresence Codec systems to

St. Raphael School for video collaboration, 12 of which were integrated into mobile carts for each classroom. During summer and fall, one could find Roger at St. Raphael in the middle of the night and on weekends as he made his generous donation take shape. The Codec systems integrated with the existing Cisco Unified Communications Manager used as our audio phone system. Cisco Expressway Core and Edge devices were deployed on the network to allow for secure video communication to the Webex cloud-conferencing environment.

This new way to adapt during the pandemic has helped facilitate a crucial connected learning and teaching experience for the SRS and SRNS communities. Through Roger's generous work transforming our communication abilities, we

were able to pivot to virtual during a time of rising COVID-19 numbers. But Roger's work doesn't end there—he continues offering 24/7 professional development and support to our teachers. We cannot thank you enough, Roger!



SRS parent Roger Pardo, shown with wife Natalie and children Christian and Isabella, was instrumental in equipping SRS to provide virtual instruction during the pandemic.