



*On Your Mark, Get Set, Go!!!
The 2017 Race for Education is Here!*



Save the Date!

Saturday, October 7th at 3:00 pm

Location: The Track at East High School

What is Race For Education?

The Blessed Sacrament Catholic School Race for Education (RFE) is not only one of the school's largest fundraisers, but a unifying and time honored tradition. Every Blessed Sacrament student collects pledges for our school and participates in the race day event by running with their class on the track at East High School. Parents, teachers, faculty and students come together for an afternoon of competition, cooperation and community building. All students will participate during the same event building on the success of the 2015 and 2016 events. We believe this creates an electric atmosphere and collective experience for preschool through 8th grade!

How do our fundraising efforts make a difference?

Ultimately, our goal is to make Blessed Sacrament the greatest scholastic institution for our teachers and students! The funds raised from this event will continue to go towards PTSA sponsored initiatives, incentives and events. Last year alone, the Race for Education money helped fund a new gym floor, a new Elkay cold filtered drinking fountain with an ezH2O bottle filling station, two Sphero robots for the 2nd grade, Teacher Appreciation Week, Spirit Sticks and Spirit Rings for the entire school, filtered water in both Teacher's Lounges, graduation receptions, family events like Movie Night, Daddy Donut Day and the annual Sock Hop, supplies for the Children's Hospital Blanket project, an additional 15 Chromebooks for the 4th and 5th grades, teacher celebrations, gifts and raffles and much more!

Spirit Wear!

All students, faculty and staff will receive complimentary RFE t-shirts. To purchase your BSCS spirit apparel, visit <http://denver.educationaloutfitters.com/find-my-school/blessed-sacrament-catholic-school/school-spirit-wear/>

Is there a special project this year?

Our special project this year should we reach our goal of \$55,000 will be to replace old drinking fountains and bubblers throughout the school. Our hope is to purchase more Elkay drinking fountains that are equipped with ezH2O Bottle Filling Stations. At minimum, we would like at least one in each school building but ideally one on each floor in each building. We desperately need to upgrade our existing drinking fountains to not only provide cleaner, healthier water but to also encourage the reduction of plastic bottle waste. We are currently in the process of accepting bids but anticipate that each unit will average around \$4000.


How much do we need to raise?

Our ultimate goal is to raise \$55,000. Last year we asked each family to raise \$135 per student. As a result, 2016 was our second largest fundraising year, grossing over \$46,000. These donations came from you, your friends, your coworkers, and your family, and all counted towards your annual fundraising commitment to our school. Let's repeat our amazing efforts this year and not only surpass last year's success, but actually reach our goal of \$55,000! Please help to make this possible with your contribution. We assure you that we will be strong stewards of the funds we raise.

How can you donate? We're glad you asked!

- 1) Donate Online: To donate now, visit <https://go.rallyup.com/bscsrfe2017>.
- 2) Donate by Check: Please complete the provided donor form and include it with your check made payable to Blessed Sacrament PTSA. Mail or drop off your donor form and check to the main office at 1958 Elm St. Denver, CO 80220.
- 3) Invite your friends and family to donate: Email or mail your friends and family a copy of the included donor letter and donation form. Electronic copies will be included in the Blue & Gold eNewsletter and will be posted on the school's website under Ways To Give/Race for Education. If you would like the PTSA to mail this information for you, please provide us with the contact information for each potential donor and we will stamp and mail donation requests for you. You can easily submit addresses by visiting <http://ow.ly/M36V30eELTZ>. All addresses must be submitted **no later than September 15, 2017**.

Soles4Souls and the Hurricane Harvey Relief Effort!

 Additionally and most importantly, we need to focus on the needs of others, especially the Hurricane Harvey disaster relief efforts. Every year we collect used shoes during our Race For Education campaign in a drive sponsored by Soles4Souls (www.soles4souls.org). Via contributions from corporate sponsors, Soles4Souls is preparing a response effort to help those affected by Hurricane Harvey. While the shoes we provide may not directly be transported down to the hurricane victims, your donations still make a huge impact. Money made from their Micro-enterprise program in developing nations help support the cost to transport items, especially during relief efforts. We invite you to start bringing in both new and used shoes to donate to Soles4Souls. Bins are located at the entrance of each building. You can also donate directly to their hurricane relief fund at <https://fund.soles4souls.org/campaign/help-hurricane-harvey-victims/c141742>.