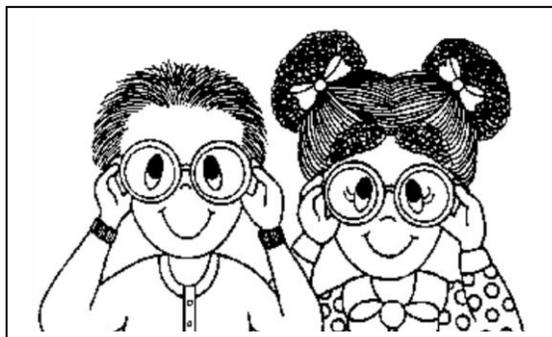


*Your contribution*

*to the*

*The Clarence J. Carpenter  
Memorial Fund*



*will help provide*

*children*

*with the gift*

*of better health . . .*

*and of a better future.*

**The Clarence J. Carpenter  
Memorial Fund  
Board of Directors  
2024 - 2025**

Chairman .....Bekka Matthews  
Vice Chairman.....Shawnda Embrey  
Recording Secretary ..... Sarah Scott  
Corresponding Secretary. ....Joyce Roberts  
Treasurer ..... Madelyn Steele  
Board Member.....Amber Albano  
Board Member..... Debbie Buntin  
Board Member..... Kim Cordonnier  
Board Member.....Jessica Proffit  
PTA Council President.....Liz Payne  
Health Services....Tamara Smith-Hinchey  
Advisor .....Dr. Gabe Edgar

**Honorary Trustees**

**Mrs. Sandy Frazer (2013)  
Lori Prussman (2022)**

***For More Information . . .***

If you would like more information about the Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund Board, please call Bekka Matthews, Chairman of the Board, at (913) 426-3028 or St. Joseph School District Coordinator of Health Services Tamara Smith-Hinchey at (816) 671-4007.

**The  
Clarence J. Carpenter  
Memorial Fund**

an associate board of the  
**St. Joseph PTA Council**  
St. Joseph, Missouri



The Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund provides eye examinations, eye glasses, and other medical assistance for St. Joseph School District students with a proven financial need.

Founded in 1937

## *Organizational History . . .*

The Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund was established by the St. Joseph Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) in 1937 in memory of Clarence J. Carpenter, former principal of Neely Elementary School, who later served as principal of Bliss Junior High School at the time of his death.

The fund is managed by a volunteer board of 13 members, 9 who are elected by the St. Joseph PTA Council. The other four board members are the St. Joseph PTA Council President, the St. Joseph School District Coordinator of Health Services, and the Missouri PTA Regional Director attached to the PTA Council. The Superintendent of Schools is an advisor to the Board.

The board is also graciously served by Honorary Trustees: Mrs. Sandy Frazer and Lori Prussman.



## *Guidelines . . .*

Strict guidelines are followed in evaluating each request for financial aid. Students are screened by their school nurse, and referrals are then made through the principal and Coordinator of Health Services for the St. Joseph School District. Each case is considered on an individual basis and records are kept in strict confidence.

## *The Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund Board*

### *Purpose . . .*

The primary purpose of the Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund is to provide eye examinations and eyeglasses for students with a proven financial need, after other means have been exhausted. Assistance has also been given for other medical problems such as hearing or dental care. After eligibility is established, students of St. Joseph PTA Council member schools are referred to qualified medical personnel. These professionals generously provide their services to the Carpenter Memorial Fund at reduced rates so that as many children as possible can receive health care.

The object of this fund shall be to provide health and eye care assistance to worthy students of the St. Joseph PTA Council member schools.

The number of students assisted each year shall be governed by the amount of money in the treasury.

### *Students Assisted in 2023-2024*

The Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund assisted 52 students with vision expenses during the 2023 - 2024 school year.

## *Funding . . .*

The Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund is supported by contributions from PTA and PTSA units, by memorial and honorary gifts, and by private donations from individuals, organizations, and business firms.

Each year in January, the "Help a Child to See" funds drive is held within each School District building. It is hoped that all full-time personnel will donate at least \$1 each. If the building has a dollar average equal to 100 percent of the number of full-time employees, then the building employees will receive a certificate of appreciation in February at the PTA Founders' Day Banquet. The "Help a Child to See" campaign is a separate school contribution from the PTA unit donation gifts.

## *To Contribute . . .*

If you would like to make a financial contribution, please send your check payable to the Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund, to Madelyn Steele, 6605 Ingersoll Road, St. Joseph, MO 64504.

If you would like to help the Clarence J. Carpenter Fund as a medical provider, please call Tamara Smith-Hinchey at work at (816) 671-4007 to obtain more information.

All PTA units are strongly encouraged to budget an annual line item for the Carpenter Fund and to send your contribution to Madelyn Steele, at the above address, in the early fall of the school year. Please check with your PTA treasurer for your previous year's gift.

All contributions are sincerely appreciated.