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St. Peter's School Annual State of the School Report 2016-2017



St. Peter's School 2016-2017

The Reason We Exist

Mission and Philosophy—Our Rule to Live By...

Mission - St. Peter's School offers our students an opportunity to live out the Gospel of Jesus in community, worship, and service. Catholic teachings and values are integrated into all areas of the curriculum which fulfills the message of Jesus for all students, staff, and faculty.

Philosophy - St. Peter's School believes that it is the duty of a Catholic school to educate the whole person—body, mind and spirit. St. Peter's School is dedicated to providing a Christian atmosphere of learning in which Catholic beliefs, practices, and traditions are imparted to students and academic excellence takes place. Through our commitment to instruction in all areas of faith and academics, we believe that our students are prepared to live as responsible Catholic Christians in today's world, while keeping in mind and striving for their ultimate goal of eternal life with God.



6th Grade Graduates

Catholic Identity—The Reason We Exist



+ Celebrate School Mass Weekly and on Holy Days of Obligation

~Students help plan and participate in ministries in a classroom mass about every six weeks and are involved in ministries during all the school masses throughout the school year.

+ Go to Confession once a Month (Grades 3-6)

~2nd Graders start attending confession after their 1st Confession

+ Daily Morning Prayer in the hallway as an entire School Community

+ Stations of the Cross during Lent

~Each classroom is in charge of presenting the Stations of the Cross to the parish community.

~5th and 6th graders did a powerful Living Stations again this year.

+ Celebration of First Reconciliation and First Communion in 2nd Grade

~2nd Graders, accompanied by a parent, participated in an afternoon Retreat with our AFC to prepare for First Communion.

+ Class and School Service Projects

~Students made a winter and a spring project for the Nursing Home and

Assisted Living residents to decorate their rooms.

~Made holiday cards for Meals on Wheels to deliver Feb.—May.

~ Collected food for Prairie Five Food Shelf in November and breakfast items in

March along with having a Pajama Day.

~1st and 2nd graders cleaned up the yard around school and church by picking up garbage and sticks in April.

~Mardi Gras—Students raised funds for a staff member and family of a staff

member going through cancer treatments this school year. We called it “Kids Caring for Cancer”.

~Student Council planted a school garden to provide vegetable for our Hot Lunch program next fall. A rain barrel was added to the project this year.

~Prayed “A Decade A Day” during Catholic Schools Week and made a rosary with the prayer intentions of the students and staff. .

+ Daily Prayer in Each Classroom

~Each classroom takes time to memorize prayers of our Catholic Faith according to our curriculum.

~Each teacher is dedicated to weaving prayer and faith opportunities throughout the school day.

+ Guardian Angels

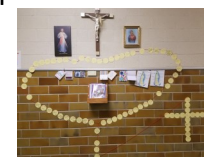
~The 5th & 6th graders are paired with a kindergarten student at the beginning of the year to sit with at Mass and do special projects with throughout the year.

+ Advent Birthday Party for Jesus

~Students have an opportunity to go to several different activity stations to celebrate Jesus’ birthday.

~Each year we have incorporated a service project into the afternoon of activities.

~Tie Blankets were made and donated to Birthright in Marshall, MN



Catholic Identity—The Reason We Exist (cont.)

+Advent Angel Program

~Students and staff draw a name out of a bucket and send secret notes and small items throughout Advent. Then at an Advent Angel Party, each person reveals who they had and gives a small gift. They are also encouraged to pray for their Advent Angel throughout all of Advent.



+Annual Christmas Program

~The real meaning of Christmas is portrayed by the students through a caper of songs and themed skit. The program is put on for the local Elementary School and our families and supporters.



+ Catholic Schools Week

~A week long celebration with a theme of celebration each day.

~ Talent Show for students to perform for grandparents and parents.



+ May Crowning

~The 5th and 6th graders process in with Mary and crown Mary with a crown and flowers. The 2nd graders are part of the procession dressed in their 1st Communion clothes as a special honor. All students and staff in the school are given a flower to present to Mary after She is crowned. It is a time for us to honor Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth.



+ Fr. Craig & Fr. Zach visit the Classrooms for Religion Instruction once a week.

~Fr. Craig & Fr. Zach have a schedule to visit each classroom every-other week. Students in grades 3-6 go to confessions once a month before weekly Mass (2nd joins the rotation after 1st Reconciliation).



+ Many Areas of Faith Formation are Integrated into Each Classroom

~ Sacred Space in each classroom

~Rosaries available in each classroom

~Meal Prayers (before & after)

~Prayers displayed on bulletin boards

~Saint Devotions

~Bibles available in each classroom



~Decade a Day prayed during CSW with intentions written out to create a Rosary.

~ Lenten Crosses made during Art class with all grades and displayed at prayer area in hallway. Back of cross had each person's Lenten promise

~iPads with Bible and religion games available



+ Faculty and Staff Pray Together—All meetings begin with prayer.

+ 100 Hail Mary Prayers for Those Who are Sick in our Parish or Need Special Prayers

~100 Hail Mary prayers are offered up for our parishioners and family and friends dealing with serious illness. Students and staff can submit names of people who need special prayers. As a school, we each say two Hail Mary prayers at morning prayer and see their name on a special paper with a poem that gets sent to the person we are praying for.



+Pray 365 Fundraiser —Anyone can buy a day on a year calendar and the students and staff pray for them on their day they purchased.

+All Saint's Day Celebration—Students and staff dressed as a Saint to honor All Saint's Day. (In place of Halloween celebration.)



School Profile—Our Family Makeup

Enrollment Numbers for 2016-2017 School Year: 73 Students/51 Families

(Preschool: 17 students; K: 8 students; Grade 1: 14 Students; Grade 2: 9 Students; Grade 3: 4 Students; Grade 4: 12 Students; Grade 5: 5 Students; Grade 6: 4 Students)

4 ~ 6th Grade Graduates

4 ~ Non-Catholic Family

9 ~ 1st Communicants

Estimated Enrollment 2017-2018 – 80 Students (including preschool numbers)



Curriculum and Instruction— Teaching and Learning

⇒ Updated the Language Arts Curriculum and will enhance current program with more components.



- ◇ Each year the teachers update the curriculum handbook to reflect the academic rigors of our school and to reflect our needs from previous ITBS scores.
- ◇ There is an in-depth review of certain subject areas and update of those subject area textbooks completed once every 7 years.

⇒ Implemented Our Policy for the Ongoing Process of Reviewing and Updating our Curriculum and Textbooks.

- ◇ Each year the faculty works hard to keep to this review process in order to keep current with the best academics we can offer our students.

⇒ Implemented the use of 30 Chromebooks instead of a stationary computer lab.

⇒ Will be ordering iPads to make the entire school 1-1 with technology for 2017-2018.

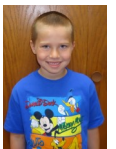
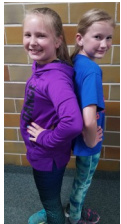
⇒ Library Updates

- ◇ Continued to update the library and classroom libraries (with new books) with the funds earned through our Scholastic Book Fair during Catholic Schools Week.



⇒ AR Goals and incentives

- ◇ Our students quizzed on 2,923 books for a total of 9,407,029 words.
- ◇ 2,006.1 points were earned throughout the school year.
- ◇ Used AR reward system for AR points achieved for Grades 1-6.
- ◇ Preschool & Kindergarten uses their own rewards system for reading logs.
- ◇ Classrooms implemented incentives programs for AR achievements.
- ◇ Summer AR program started in June. Student can earn a summer reading patch if they reach 10 AR points this June, July & August.



⇒ Professional Development

- ◇ Teachers participated in a summer workshop on LIPS training last summer. The program was used in Preschool and Kindergarten with plan to expand to other rooms next year.
- ◇ Staff participated in Chromebook training as part of Fall Workshop with an outside trainer coming to school.
- ◇ Staff participated in the Diocesan Faith Formation Days in October in Redwood Falls.

Learner Performance—Academic Gauge

Standardized Assessments – Iowa Testing of Basic Skills (ITBS)

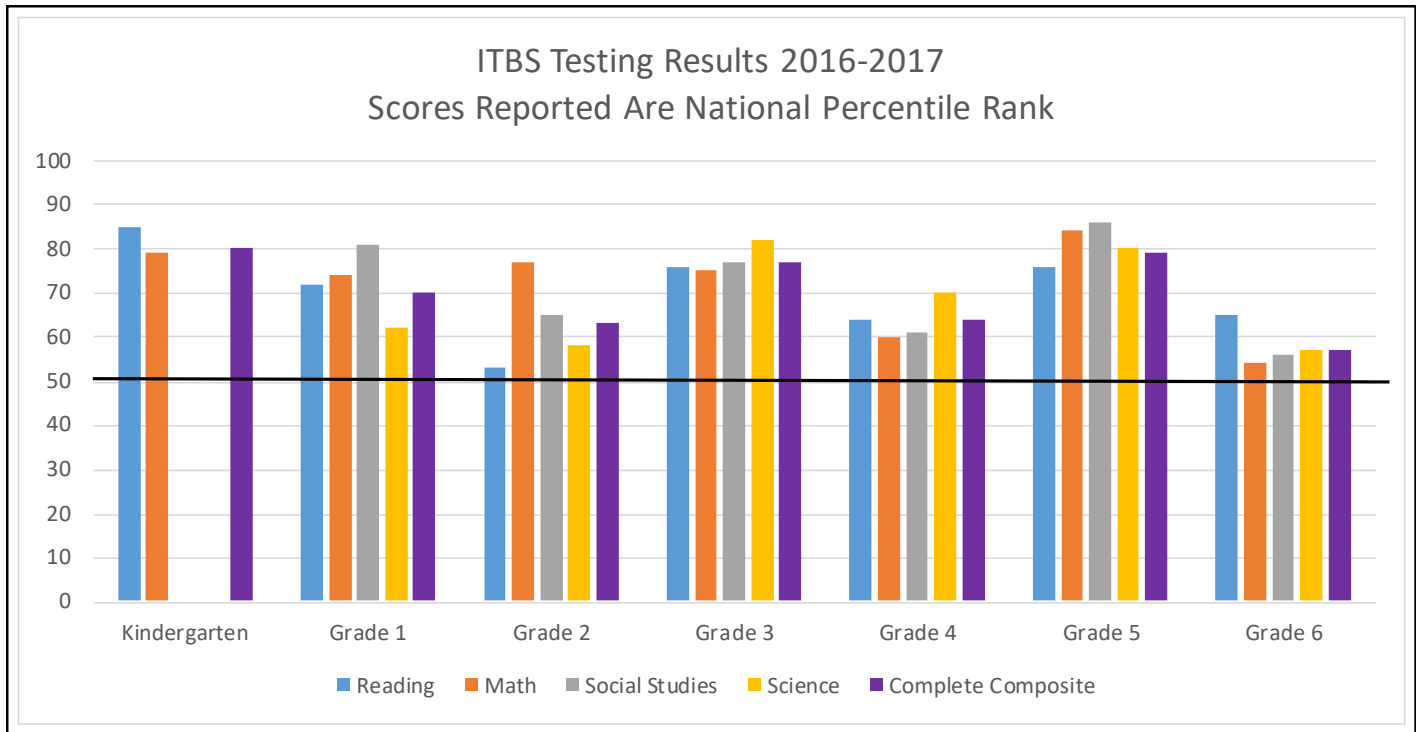
St. Peter's School uses the ITBS for its standardized testing assessment. ITBS is a "norm-referencing" test that compares a student's performance to others who have taken the same test under the same conditions.

Grades K-6 are tested in the spring of each school year. Individual results for each student were sent home to parents. The graph on the following page shows the class average National Percentile Rank for St. Peter's students Kindergarten through 6th grade. It is compared to the average 50 percentile rank. Our goal is to have all classes over the 50 percentile rank.



Learner Performance—Academic Gauge (cont.)

ITBS Test Results for St. Peter's School



National Percentile Rank is based on the national norms—Scores in the 50 percentile are the average range and our goal to be above. Scores in the 75-99 percentile range are above average.

- ◆ A new Social Studies curriculum and textbook were implemented this school year. Results are positive.
- ◆ Kindergarten does not test in Social Studies or Science.
- ◆ All the main subject categories were above our expected 50 percentile. There were five sub-strands that were lower within some subjects. Teachers are addressing those areas for next year.

Results Summary by Grade Equivalent

Grade Equivalent means that our students have mastered content that places them academically in the number grade and the month of the school year. Below are the average GE for Language Totals, Math Totals, and a Complete Composite total for each grade. The Social and Science GE totals area included for grades 1-6 as kindergarten does not test in these areas.

Kindergarten: Language (1.2 Grade Equivalent) ~ Math (1.2 Grade Equivalent)
Complete Composite (1.2 Grade Equivalent)

Grade 1: Language (2.1 Grade Equivalent) ~ Math (2.2 Grade Equivalent) ~ Complete Composite (2.2 Grade Equivalent) ~ Social (2.6 Grade Equivalent) ~ Science (2.1 Grade Equivalent)

Grade 2: Language (2.8 Grade Equivalent) ~ Math (3.5 Grade Equivalent) ~ Complete Composite (3.1 Grade Equivalent) ~ Social (3.2 Grade Equivalent) ~ Science (3.0 Grade Equivalent)

Grade 3: Language (4.9 Grade Equivalent) ~ Math (4.6 Grade Equivalent) ~ Complete Composite (5.0 Grade Equivalent) ~ Social (5.1 Grade Equivalent) ~ Science (5.6 Grade Equivalent)

Grade 4: Language (5.4 Grade Equivalent) ~ Math (5.2 Grade Equivalent) ~ Complete Composite (5.5 Grade Equivalent) ~ Social (5.4 Grade Equivalent) ~ Science (6.0 Grade Equivalent)

Grade 5: Language (7.5 Grade Equivalent) ~ Math (8.1 Grade Equivalent) ~ Complete Composite (8.1 Grade Equivalent) ~ Social (9.1 Grade Equivalent) ~ Science (8.6 Grade Equivalent)

Grade 6: Language (7.8 Grade Equivalent) ~ Math (7.1 Grade Equivalent) ~ Complete Composite (7.4 Grade Equivalent) ~ Social (7.3 Grade Equivalent) ~ Science (7.4 Grade Equivalent)

School Climate and Facilities—Our Environment

* Awards and Recognition

- Honor Roll continued for students in grades 3-6



- Principal's Honor 4.0-3.8
- High Honors 3.79-3.444
- Honors 3.443-3.0



- AR School Recognition

- For grades K-6 prizes were given in increments between 2-400 points and beyond
- Preschool & Kindergarten use prizes for rewards based on system for them.

- “Earn Your Patch” program continued this year. Students can earn a patch in different areas of academics, character, AR, and sportsmanship. Patches are attached to keyring on backpacks.

- Spelling Bees in January—Kindergarten, Grades 1-3 & Grades 4-6 participate in separate bees.



- 4 students won the Blue and Gold Citizenship Award.



- Academic Awards were given to students in grades 3-6 who qualify based on the Presidential Award for Academics. A new award was created for Academic Excellence and Academic Achievement for students in grades 3-5.

- There was 1 Perfect Attendance and 15 Excellent Attendance winners.

- One 6th grader, Evan Weber, received the Knights of Columbus Mentor Award and a \$40 cash prize.



- One 6th grader, Kara Rangaard, received the Principal's Award for working hard and being a being helpful in an out of the classroom.

- Several Students qualified for Presidential awards for academic excellence and physical fitness.

- 13 students were recognized for serving on our Student Council.

- 9 students were recognized for Yearbook.

- Art Awards were given out for an outstanding artist in each room.



* Facilities Enhancements

- New food warmer added to the Hot Lunch program through generous donations.

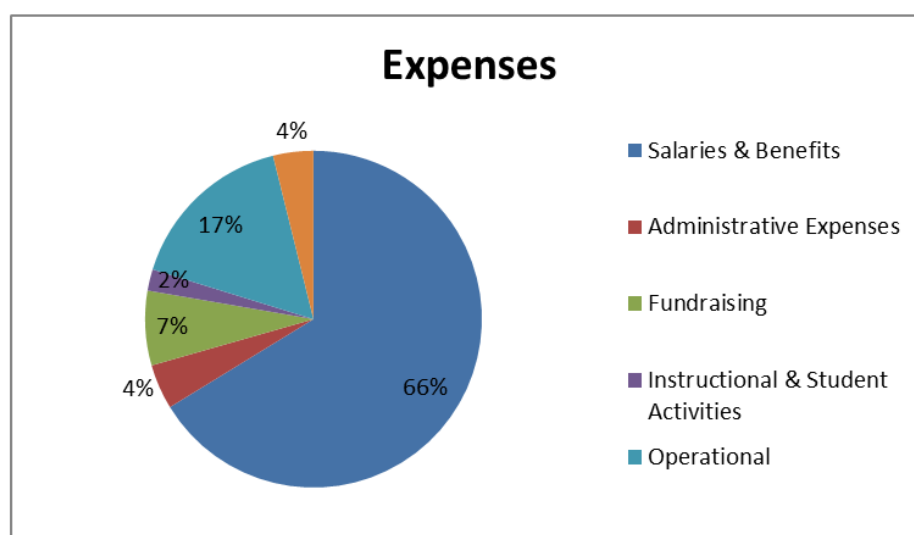
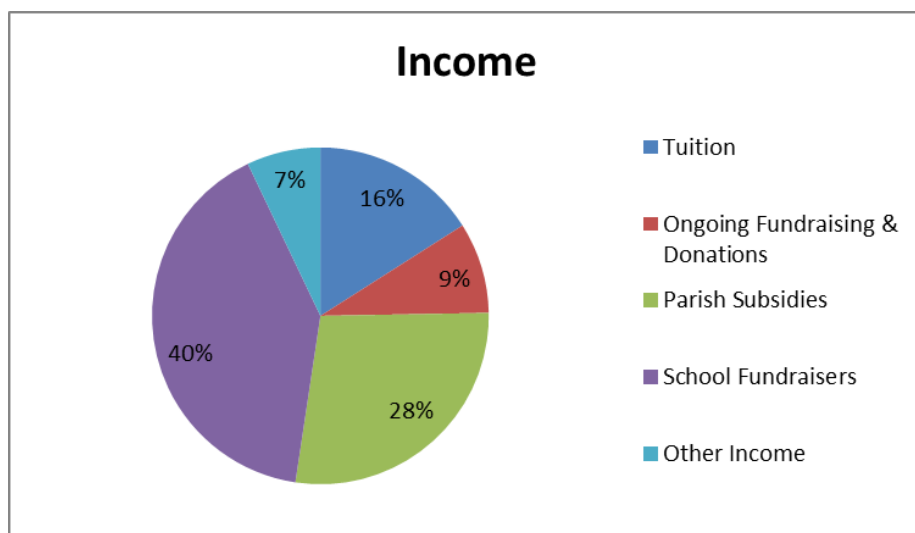
- 30 Chromebooks in a traveling cart for student use.

- Rain Barrel donated and installed for Student Council garden project.

- Summer Projects: Continue Chromebook training for teachers. Phase 2 of the Technology plan to install a SMART board in the Preschool classroom. Research and order standing desks for upper classrooms.



Actual Numbers as of June 9, 2016



- ◆ The school continues to rely on our fundraising efforts to contribute the budget and overall functions of the school.
 - ◆ Marathon—We met our goal of \$46,000! Thanks to all who supported the students in pledges!
 - ◆ The Catholic United Financial School Raffle was a huge success even with our goal of \$20,000 and our actual amount raised at \$17,705.
 - ◆ PRAY365 was lower than last year, but we are hopeful it will grow in the future..
- ◆ Tuition will remain the same next year. Families are encouraged to use SCRIP.
- ◆ St. Peter's School was blessed with private donations from parishioners and also by memorials given to the school after loved ones passed away.

Personnel—Keeping a Strong, Supportive Staff



St. Peter's School is blessed to have a supportive staff that is dedicated to the learning of each student both in academics and in faith. Their ongoing commitment to the school is evident in the activities they participate in, the extra work they apply themselves in, and the positive atmosphere they create throughout the school.



School Strategic Plan (SSP)– The Vehicle to Our Future

A driving force behind major projects and updates to the school is the School Strategic Plan (SSP) created when we became accredited with MNSAA. This Plan gives the structure by which we continue to thrive, grow, and be held accountable in that growth. The main goal is to always provide the very best Catholic education to our students so they can have a safe and nurturing environment to grow into their best selves.

The SSP is reviewed and worked on throughout the year by the Education Committee and the Staff. One area of focus was on the fundraising and involvement in fundraisers from each family. The Education Committee focused on Objective 6: Action Step 9: "Assess new guidelines in terms of success and budget for following school years." The Committee will continue to push for 100% participation in the major fundraisers of the Marathon and Catholic United Financial School Raffle. A fundraiser clause will also be added to the Scholarship Application as a way for families to contribute to the school. The school has once again been blessed with many generous supporters and donors. We continue to grow and thrive in part to the success of the fundraisers and supporters of the school. We are hopeful for the support to continue in the future!

As a school, we are always looking for new and exciting ways to involve the parish community in our school (SSP Objective 3, Strategy 3). A great community project started this year was to make a craft project for the residents of the Canby Nursing Home and Sylvan Assisted Living. The students made a Christmas project and a Memorial Day project to share with the residents. The extra effort to create the projects as a school was rewarding for both the students and the residents receiving them. During our Living Rosary this year, we added a "bonus decade" with the supporters who came to pray the Rosary with us. There was a great sense of community as we all held the string together to form this bond.

It has been an eventful and exciting year at St. Peter's School. The students have shown growth academically and spiritually. Each year that we get to teach your child, we are dedicated to live out our mission at St. Peter's School to provide "an opportunity to live out the Gospel of Jesus in community, worship, and service" in order to educate the whole person—body, mind and spirit.

God Bless!

