



St. John's Area School

God in all things.

June 2019

Below is a summary of the 2018 - 2019 school year and a preview into some things for the 2019-2020 school year. Most of this information may be familiar to you from the weekly newsletters, however, we want to be sure we keep you, our stakeholders, informed.

General Information – This past year, SJAS has been conducting a yearlong self-study for the Minnesota Non-Public School Accreditation Association (MNSAA) in preparation for our on-site visit from MNSAA in March of 2020. This summer and into the fall, the information gathered from the self-study will be assembled into a report consisting of our School Profile, MNSAA Standards, and a new 7-year School Strategic Plan.

SJAS Survey - The Steering Committee worked on putting together the school's profile as well as the required survey that was conducted in May. Thanks to many of you, we received 71 responses to the survey, out of the 83 that were sent (86%). Results from the survey will be available and shared with all stakeholders in the fall.

School's Strategic Plan - We submit our Annual Progress Report to MNSAA in June each year which includes our School's Strategic Plan. Each week, in our Family Newsletter, objectives, strategies, and actions steps from our School's Strategic Plan are shared with you as accomplishments, progress, or areas needing our attention. A copy of the plan is available in the school office. The 2019-2020 school year will be our 7th and last year reporting with this Strategic Plan. A new School Strategic Plan will be created as we look at our strengths and challenges that emerge from our self-study. The new plan will be available on our website in the spring of 2020.

Finances - The cost to educate each child at SJAS is approximately \$5100. Next year that cost will increase to about \$5200 per child. The school is funded through the following means: parish subsidy, tuition, fundraisers and donations.

Budget - The operating budget for this school year was \$461,349.66 and we are operating within that budget. The budget planned and approved by the School Board for the 2019-2020 school year is \$466,424.61. The increase is due to employee wages (cost of living) and health insurance.

Parish Subsidy – This is the sum that each pastor/parish agrees to pay per child attending SJAS. Currently that amount is \$2350 per child and has been increased to \$2400 per child for the 2019-2020 school year.

Parent Tuition – Tuition is currently \$1850 for the first child, with small breakdowns for succeeding children. Tuition will increase slightly to \$1900 next year for the first child with small breakdowns for succeeding children.

Fundraisers – There are three major fundraisers for the school: the Walk-a-thon, Cookie Bake, and Spring Raffle/Breakfast. Your participation is extremely important and appreciated at these events! Please note, about \$1,000 needs to be earned per child at the fundraisers to help keep tuition affordable!

Fundraising amounts raised in 2018 – 2019

- Walk-a-thon: \$24,413.95
- Cookie Bake: \$9,630.92
- Catholic Raffle and Spring Breakfast/Silent Auction: \$22,045.53
- Amazon Smile: \$109.20
- Box Tops: \$611.90
- Coborn's More Rewards: \$1,259.20
- Loaves4Learning: \$72.50
- Coca Cola Products: \$239.63
- Milk Moola \$13.65
- Charity Mobile and other company donations: \$156.00
- School Mass Collection: \$77.04

Box Tops, More Rewards, Amazon, Coca Cola and the other collections **totaled \$2,539.12** this year with your help! **Thank you** for using and saving these items for SJAS! Please remember to keep using Amazon Smile and saving box tops, Coke products, etc. over the summer!!

Grants - We received two grants from the Catholic Foundation, \$1,650 from the Living the Promise Campaign for curriculum needs and \$1057.76 for tuition assistance.

Awards - We also received \$1,200 for winning 1st place in the Great Technology Give-a-Way contest and used the award money to purchase two condenser microphones and two iPads (replacing older iPads).

Benefits – Through the generosity of a donor, we attended the K-YES Benefit Banquet for Catholic Schools last fall and received a gift of \$1,642 from K-YES. This money was put towards tuition assistance.

We have been very blessed to receive these wonderful monetary gifts to update our school and technology programs! We will continue to look for and apply for grant money each school year!

Enrollment and Staff - Our enrollment will remain the same for next year, approximately 80 children in grades K-6, with an additional 17 children in Pre-K. We have had one staff change with the retirement of our Pre-K teacher, Mrs. Scott. We hired and welcome to our St. John's teaching staff, our new Pre-K teacher, Ms. Megan Fleegel. We will have one grade level change next year, Mrs. Anderson will be moving downstairs to Grade 1. There are no other known staff changes at this time.

Lunchroom Tables

We were very fortunate to be gifted with a donation to purchase six new wall tables that were installed in our lunchroom last fall. This summer, another donation was once again given to SJAS to purchase the remaining five wall tables in the lunchroom. What a wonderful gift!

Faith, Family, and Fun Group (Home and School)

Along with doing fun things for the students and staff at SJAS, FFF has two fundraisers each year to help pay for field trip busing, student/staff equipment, fun activities and Sixth Grade Graduation. The fundraisers this year made:

- Soup Fest - \$1,437.94
- Garage and Bake Sale - \$5,362.10

Questions - If you have any questions, or would like more information, please feel free to call or stop in at St. John's Area School.