

2024-2025 END OF YEAR REPORT



ST·BARTHOLOMEW
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

LETTER FROM OUR PRINCIPAL



ST•BARTHOLOMEW CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear St. Bart's Community,

What an unbelievable and successful school year. I am so blessed and honored to be part of this parish community as the school principal and work with the parents, staff, and of course, our students. I am amazed each day as I learn something new and uncover another bit of the history that has occurred in this amazing community. One of the highlights of each school year is completing the end of the year report and sharing all the information and statistics related to the school with our stakeholders.

This report is an accumulation of our accomplishments this year and progress we have made on our accreditation plan. Throughout the school year, we have been implementing changes to meet various goals that had been identified. Our school is accredited through Lumen and will have an onsite visit them in the fall of 2025.

Please know that you are welcome to reach out if you have questions about the information contained in this report. I am thankful for your prayers for our students and staff and your support of this ministry through Sunday Giving, the Education Endowment, and fundraisers. We are blessed to have a growing Catholic community at St. Bart's.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Ginger Vance
Principal



OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

This year, we worked to strengthen our commitment to proclaim and celebrate God's love by heightening the spiritual development of our students and staff. Our teachers and staff received a weekly newsletter from Mrs. Vance (principal) that contained an "Our Catholic Faith" section that included the doctrine of our faith along with Catholic customs, traditions, and liturgical calendar highlights. There were also links to "Saints of the Day" videos that the staff could watch or share with their students. The newsletter ended with a "Take a Moment for Prayer" section that brought forth a different prayer each week.

We adopted a beautiful curriculum from the St. Augustine Institute called "Word of Life." The curriculum provides a deep commitment to our Catholic faith, salvation history, and the importance of prayer. In addition, we embraced the Nashville Dominican Sisters' curriculum, "Virtues in Practice." This program brought Catholic virtues to the forefront of our students lives each month and taught about saints whose lives modeled those virtues.

Our students participated in weekly Mass and some students served at funerals. This year we began saying the Holy Rosary together, participated in Adoration, and had brief chats about a particular virtue or saint following Mass to broaden the knowledge base of students and staff. Students participated in Reconciliation for Advent and Lent and our 5th graders led the Stations of the Cross. Students have been memorizing Catholic prayers through our morning and afternoon announcements. One parent commented that she was thrilled that her first grader had already memorized the "Hail Mary" and "Our Father."

"Fridays with Father" have been a great way for Fr. Klockeman and Fr. Bobby to visit classrooms, respond to student questions, and help them unravel the mysteries of our Catholic faith. It also makes them more accessible to the children and teachers.

COMMITMENT TO SERVICE AND OUR FAITH

This year our school community participated in several service and faith-based projects including:

- Raking yards for the elderly of the parish at the Rake-a-Thon
- Collecting over 1,100 items during a Lenten food drive
- Donating more than 600 pairs of socks at the annual sock toss
- Two Feed My Starving Children food packing events
- Altar serving at school and funeral Masses
- Hosting a free pancake breakfast during Catholic Schools Week
- Participating in St. Patrick's Day Mass at McCormick's in Wayzata
- Completing a Novena to prepare our school to be consecrated to St. Joseph
- Introducing the Ignatius Book Fair to the school and parish
- Visiting, singing, and creating cards for residents at Folkestone
- Donating clothing and books to a Catholic school in Cameroon
- Donating books to Interfaith Outreach and Community Partners

ENROLLMENT AND MARKETING

Enrollment took a dip in the 2024-2025 school year, but we have been working hard to grow through the development of a marketing plan. We received some grant funding, and the parish invested in critical marketing initiatives.

Our marketing campaign included:

- Updated admissions materials
- Hiring a professional photographer to capture our culture
- Billboard ads on I-394 West
- Two direct mail post cards (and another one scheduled for June)
- Yard signs displayed in Wayzata, Plymouth, and surrounding neighborhoods
- Google, Facebook, and Instagram advertising
- Search engine optimization so prospective families can find us when searching for great Catholic schools
- A School Advisory Committee member speaking at Masses during Catholic Schools Week

We teamed up with our preschool partners for advertising and our PK classes are full for next year. We are looking forward to having those students move into our Kindergarten program the following school year. There are great things ahead of us at St. Bart’s!

| | 24-25 | 23-24 | 22-23 | 21-22 | 20-21 | 19-20 | 18-19 |
|--------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| K | 18 | 15 | 22 | 32 | 32 | 27 | 13 |
| 1 | 11 | 17 | 27 | 35 | 32 | 15 | 14 |
| 2 | 10 | 19 | 27 | 28 | 17 | 15 | 13 |
| 3 | 10 | 19 | 27 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 13 |
| 4 | 10 | 25 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 13 | 20 |
| 5 | 10 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 13 | 20 | 12 |
| 6 | | 7 | 8 | 11 | 17 | 12 | 9 |
| TOTAL | 69 | 118 | 145 | 158 | 147 | 119 | 94 |

RESOURCE SPECIALISTS AND COUNSELING SERVICES

St. Bart's understands the importance of fine arts and we continue to offer art, music, and band. When visiting the school, you can see student artwork displayed in the hallways throughout the school year. Music is heard not only in classrooms and at concerts, but we have a children's choir that participates in Masses during the school year and on weekends. Our physical education teacher offered general PE classes and afterschool Run Club in the fall to keep students motivated to move. Our librarian engaged students in reading and encouraged them to discover new authors.

Our Resource Teacher, Mrs. Egan, not only worked with students who needed extra support in reading and math but also offered challenge courses for those who were working well above grade level in reading and math. Coordinating students who are on Individual Education Plans (IEP's), or accommodation plans is also part of her forte. We are blessed to have this additional support position available and know that our students benefit greatly.

We were fortunate to provide onsite counseling services for students through Phoenix Counseling Services. Several students participated in individual counseling and Mrs. Moseley offered small group activities that helped students with their social interactions with peers.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS IN ACADEMICS AND LEARNING

This school year brought some amazing changes to both our Catholic faith learning and our general academic program. As a steppingstone to our national certification in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), we added a STEM class. Our students attended STEM once a week and engaged in hands-on problem-based learning. Students built bridges, worked with coding robots, and solved a crime scene with a forensics unit. Our 5th graders finished the year with a drone racing challenge.

Teachers set S.M.A.R.T. goals to improve student learning as determined by the NWEA MAP standardized tests. This allowed teachers to provide individualized instruction in reading and math. St. Bart's added the winter testing to our schedule and this year included the language usage (writing skills) portion of the assessment. This addition enabled teachers to drill down to provide more individual improvement plans for each student. Parents were delighted in the fall to receive reports with the scores and a handwritten note on each test from our principal about their child's progress and suggestions for helping their child improve. As an instructional leader, our principal was very involved with assessments and improvements in student and teacher learning.

Our teachers participated in the Institute for the Transformation of Catholic Education's Insight Program which taught them about social - emotional learning through a Catholic lens. Teachers and staff participated in the biennial Summit of Excellence sponsored by the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence. They were able to attend a wide variety of learning sessions to meet their interests or the requirements for continuing education units that can go toward their teaching licenses. Finally, our teachers worked on becoming nationally certified in STEM educators.



BELIEVE AND READ PROGRAM

During the school year students in grades K - 3 participated in the Believe and Read program. As you can see by the chart below, the program helps identify students who are beyond the first two levels of instruction. Tier 1 is regular classroom instruction and Tier 2 is small group classroom instruction.

When students are moved into Tier 2 and still do not make adequate progress, they are then moved into Tier 3 and work with our reading specialist, Mrs. Egan. This intensive intervention assists with filling the gaps and moving students out of the critical concern level of Tier 3.

Be aware that numbers may not change dramatically as students flow into and out of the Tier 3 instruction as needed based on their AimsWeb scores. This means that 5 students in winter and 5 students in spring could be 5 different students than the previous evaluation period.

2024-2025 READING INTERVENTION SUPPORT

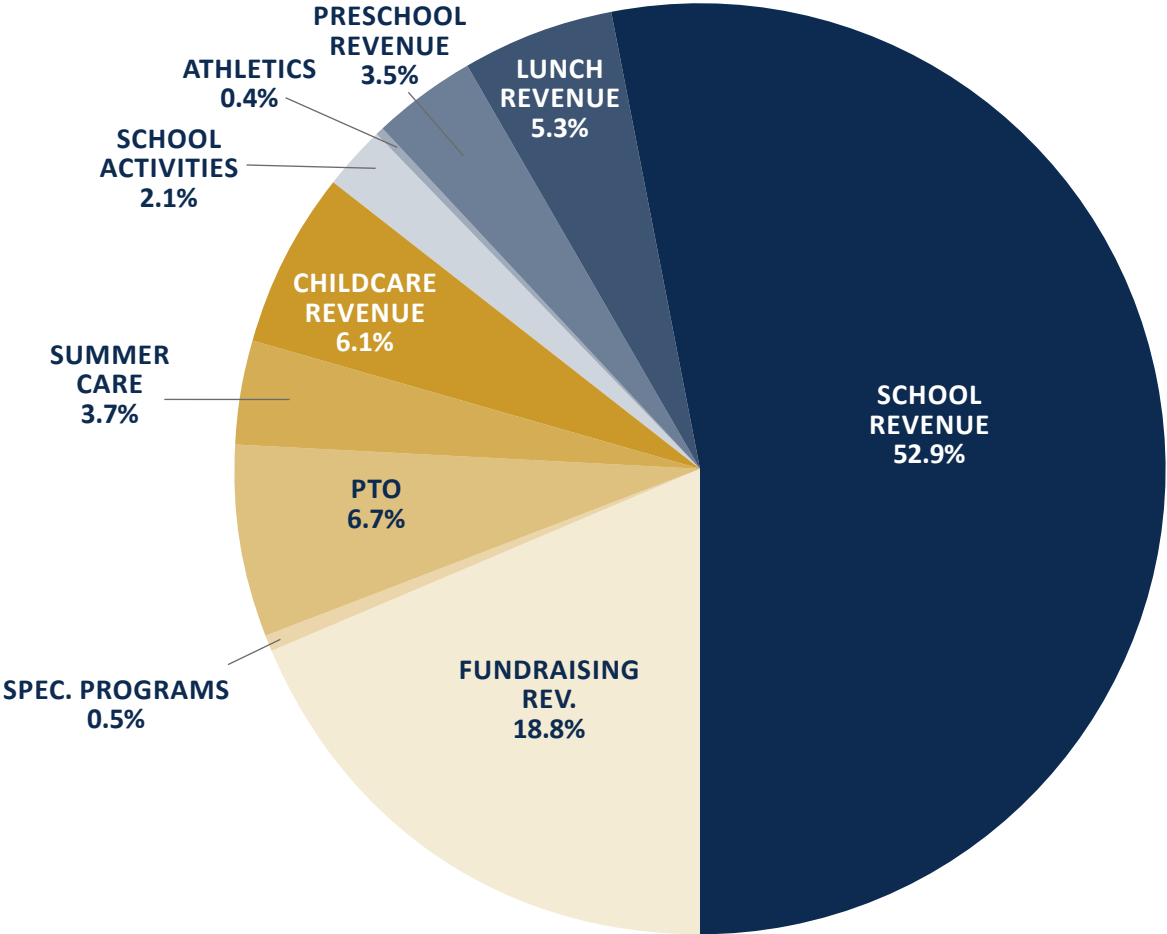
TIER 3

| | FALL | WINTER | SPRING |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Kindergarten | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 1st Grade | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 2nd Grade | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| 3rd Grade | 4 | 5 | 0 |
| Total K - 3 | 16 | 14 | 4 |

SCHOOL INCOME

As you can see, the bulk of the school’s income is from tuition. The balance between affordability and the actual costs can be challenging on many fronts. It is our goal to increase donations and grants and to decrease the percentage related to tuition. It takes time to build this type of model, but we are looking forward to the transformation.

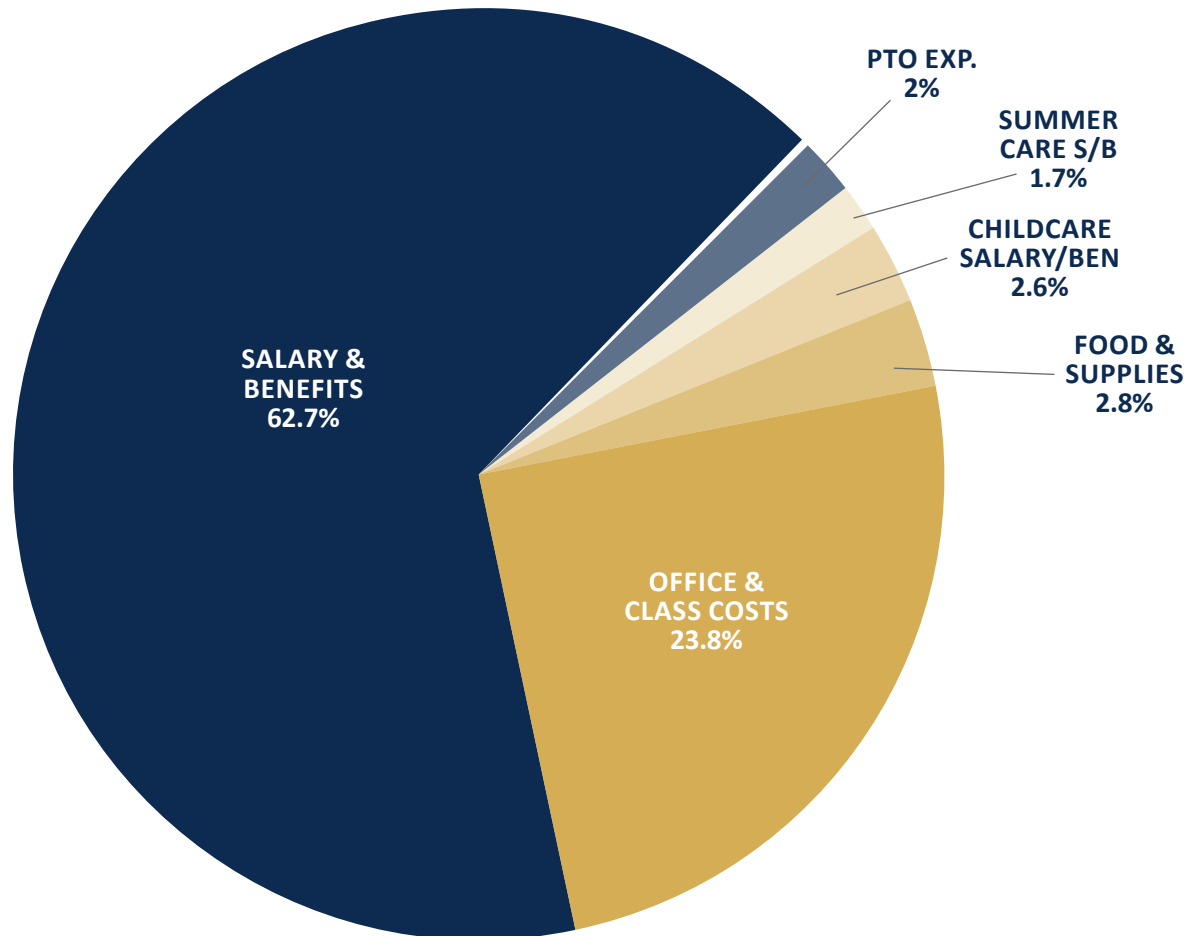
TOTAL INCOME | \$1,128,240.00



SCHOOL EXPENSES

The largest expense for the school is salaries and benefits. The parish generously pays a large portion of an employee's benefits and matches up to 3% in retirement dollars that an employee has deducted.

The parish covers costs related to maintenance, repairs, shared staff and for the difference in the actual cost of education and the Parish Investment toward the cost of running the school. We are grateful to parishioners for their support of the school ministry and for their continued generosity.



MAP TEST RESULTS

We have completed the MAP growth tests for the 2024-2025 school year. Below you will see the comparison charts for the last couple of years. Our students are testing above the national averages in reading, language usage and math in all grade levels.



READING RIT SCORES

| | Spring 24-25 | Spring 23-24 | National Scores |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Kindergarten | 158.5 | 161.8 | 153.09 |
| 1st Grade | 182 | 181.4 | 171.4 |
| 2nd Grade | 196.7 | 189.8 | 185.57 |
| 3rd Grade | 199 | 201 | 197.1 |
| 4th Grade | 207.8 | 210.2 | 204.8 |
| 5th Grade | 222 | 222.6 | 210.9 |



MATH RIT SCORES

| | Spring 24-25 | Spring 23-24 | National Scores |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Kindergarten | 163.4 | 198.3 | 157.11 |
| 1st Grade | 189 | 183.3 | 176.4 |
| 2nd Grade | 204.2 | 197.2 | 189.4 |
| 3rd Grade | 206.6 | 205 | 201.08 |
| 4th Grade | 216.3 | 215.3 | 210.5 |
| 5th Grade | 239.7 | 237.6 | 218.7 |

LANGUAGE USAGE SCORES

| | Spring 24-25 | National Scores |
|-----------|--------------|-----------------|
| 2nd Grade | 196.7 | 188.4 |
| 3rd Grade | 198.5 | 198.3 |
| 4th Grade | 208.7 | 205 |
| 5th Grade | 217 | 210.1 |



LOOKING AHEAD

As we look to next fall, we have plans to add rigor, communication skills, critical thinking, and more hands-on learning for our students. We will create individual learning plans in reading and math to monitor and encourage student progress. Below are highlights of what excites us about our next academic year.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The school will partner with the parish to offer Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS), a program rooted in Scripture, Sunday worship, and the educational philosophy of Maria Montessori. At the heart of CGS is a beautifully designed atrium (prayer and learning space) with developmentally appropriate materials so children can pray, meditate, and explore the mystery of God and the presence of God in their lives.

We will begin an atrium for children ages 3-6 and add additional atriums as students move through the program. Children will receive the essential elements of our faith - the announcement of God's love especially experienced through Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who died and rose. The Montessori approach learning makes learning about Jesus more personal to each child.

STEAM: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, AND MATHEMATICS

In the fall, St. Bart's will be the second Catholic school in the State of Minnesota to be nationally certified for STEM education which will help transform our school culture and raise student achievement. Individual teachers and our campus will be nationally certified!

We will add art to the STEM curriculum, making it STEAM! This approach engages students in developing critical thinking skills, a strong work ethic, and collaboration with others as they view and solve real-world problems through a Catholic lens.

We use limited technology to keep our students safe and to help them develop problem-solving abilities. For example, coding can be completed without direct technology access for Kindergarten - second grade students.

ROBOTICS AND DRONE RACING

Our students will work with robots, including Lego Robotics, and participate in drone racing. As they move through the grades, they will build the skills needed for critical jobs of the future.

STEM MATH

Our math program is specifically designed to support STEM learning. Students will use a constructivist approach to interact with the math curriculum that encourages critical thinking, reflection, and collaborative exploration. Students engage, explore, explain, elaborate, and evaluate math concepts to solve real world challenges.

**SPREAD
THE WORD!**

Small classes. Big results.

Where faith, STEM, and
small classes create bright futures!



ST•BARTHOLOMEW

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WAYZATA

SCHEDULE A TOUR!
See our classrooms and
meet our educators.

Call 952-473-6189 or complete
a tour request form on our website at
www.stbartsbulldogs.com/schedule-a-tour.

