



# St. Mary's Grade School



304 E. CLOUD | SALINA, KS 67401 | 785-827-4200

September 2021 St. Mary's Messenger

## A New School Year

Our faculty and staff met prior to the first day, reflecting on the upcoming school year. We were excited as we looked back at some of our successes in preparation for an accreditation year. We are also still challenged to ensure the well-being of our students. We reflected on these thoughts, which we would like to share with you.

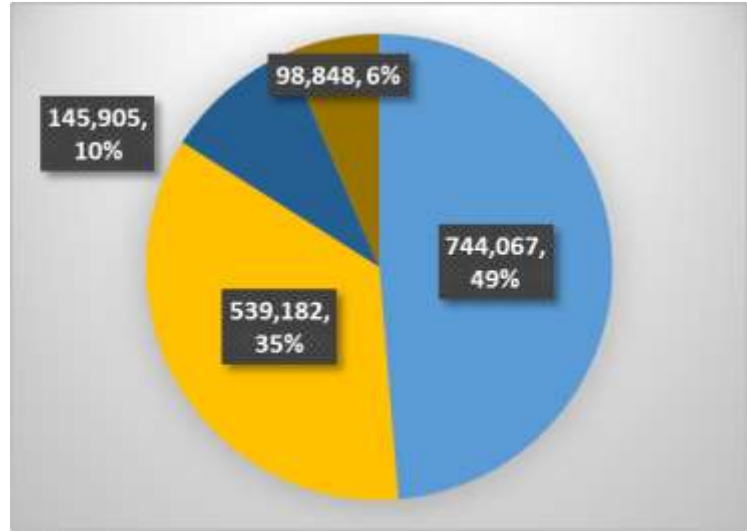
The phrase “live it for today” emphasizes the importance of living in the present. Past is history, future is mystery and present is a gift of God. One should live the moment and cherish the present. Savoring the present and living in the present is what counts and matters. Make the maximum of your present so as not to regret in the future. Life is an uncanny and monotonous affair where even a few moments of fun, enjoyment and adventure snatched should be gratefully acknowledged. Life is uncertain and truly unpredictable. So, your aim should be to live the moment and stay blissful and happy. Life is brief, a little hope, a little dream and then goodnight. Before the goodnight strikes, you should be content with your life and have no regrets. So, live it for today and get the maximum out of your present. In the words of Albert Einstein, “Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.”



## Fiscal Summary 2020-2021

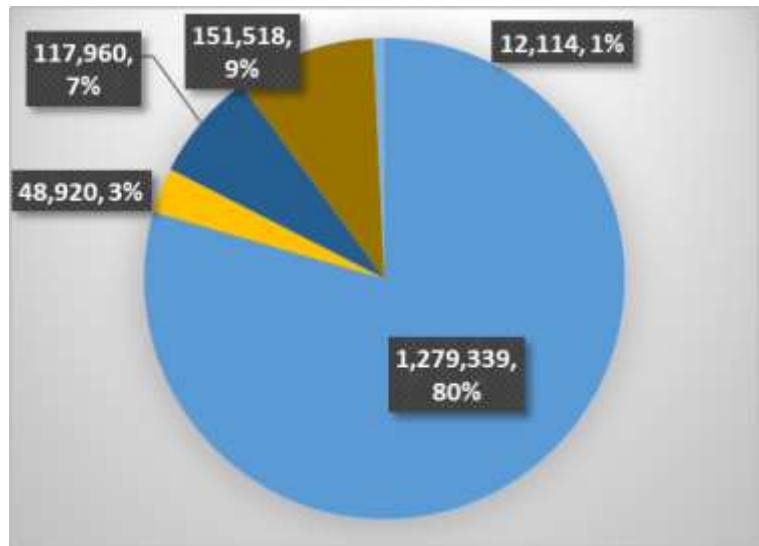
### Income

Tuition & Fees	744,067
Subsidy Income	539,182
Development/ Fundraising	145,905
Other Income	98,848
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,528,002</b>



### Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	1,279,339
Instructional	48,920
Utilities	117,960
Operational	151,518
Misc.	12,114
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,609,851</b>



**\*\* Cost of New Roof for the Grade School was \$166,222  
Not reflected in this report  
Paid for out of revolving fund account**

Last school year, St. Mary's Grade School's income was a total of \$1,528,002. As the graph above shows, tuition and church subsidy represent about 75% of the income collected. Development, including Endowment income, comprise about 16% of the school's income.

On the expense side, total expenses for the fiscal year were \$1,609,851. About 80% of expenses were for instructional & classrooms (teachers' salaries), the rest of expenses were for operational costs.

The cost per student for the 2020-2021 school year was about \$5027. This report includes all operations including PreK-6, Love N Learn and Extended Care activities.

# Announcements

## SCHOOL PICTURES

School Pictures are on Wednesday, September 8 & Thursday, Sept. 9. All students will have their picture taken on one of these days. Please watch for letter and picture packet coming home with your child.

Picture retake day will be on Wednesday, October 20th.

Picture packets must be returned to the school if you wish to have retakes.

## Security Procedures

During the regular school day, all doors will be locked, including the main front doors of St. Mary's Grade School and the Love 'n Learn Center. To gain access to the building, you must use the doorbell at the main entrance. With a monitor inside, the door will be opened for you to enter.

The security parking lot attendees have been instructed to route adults to the main entrance to enter the building. The security team will secure the west All Purpose Room door at 7:50 a.m. when the bell rings. Students that arrive after the bell will need to use the main entrance and report to the office.

This is also true for the Preschool and Kindergarten entrances. After the bell rings, the door will be locked and parents need to bring their children around to the front.

### Fitness Tip - Get Fit as a Family

Create some fun dance moves. Put up a net and shoot some hoops. You can also visit a zoo, play miniature golf or enjoy other activities where a lot of ground is covered.



Extra tables have been set up in the lunch room to help with social distancing while eating lunch! Teachers, students and staff have done an excellent job!!

St. Mary's School Marathon kicked off on Monday, August 23rd at the KWU track.

Kids were excited to have the marathon back!! It was cancelled last year due to Covid restrictions.

Last day will be Sept. 30th!



St. Mary's & Sacred Heart Jr/Sr High School has an important communications tool. The tool utilized through Power School allows the school and staff to send text messages to parents or entrusted groups. It also allows the school to send voice messages.

As a result of this tool, staff has been instructed to communicate to parents and students utilizing the school's communication infrastructure which includes:

- 1) School website (there is a contact form to communicate and make inquiries to school).
- 2) Power School allows parents and students to track grades and assignments. Emails may be sent to teachers through Power School.
- 3) Text messaging for families may be sent periodically to remind parents/students of special events or special alerts.
- 4) Voice messaging: Periodically the school may send out a voice mail to families.
- 5) Phones & Smart Watches: Cell phones are to be kept in backpacks and turned off during the school day. Smart watches are to be kept on silent.

## Uniform Reminders

Thanks to all students and families for complying with the uniform policy. Please look over the policy carefully in the parent handbook. Many times detailed items such as the color of belts or socks, no light-up shoes, hair accessories or make-up, can be accidentally overlooked. Thank you for reviewing it. We will have another uniform sale in January. Date and time will be posted.

# ***Important Information***

## **SCHOOL TARDY/ATTENDANCE POLICY ATTENDANCE**

Compulsory attendance is a statutory requirement in Kansas for all children who are seven or more years of age, but less than sixteen years of age. Each school through its designated reporting officer shall report any child who is enrolled but not attending school including all cases of unusual and/or habitual absence to the appropriate local authorities.

Before any report is made that a child is not attending school as required by the law, the Executive Director shall serve written notice thereof, by registered mail, upon the parent or guardian of the child. This notice shall inform the custodial parent or custodial guardian that continued failure of the child to attend school without a valid excuse will result in a report being made to the appropriate law enforcement official.

### **Truancy Response:**

If excessive absences or tardies continue in the 9 week period after a letter is sent home, a report may need to be filed with DCF.

### **Attendance Policy**

Procedure: Parents should contact the school before 8:00 a.m. if their child will be absent. Messages can be left on the school's answering machine during non-school hours. Due to reporting regulations, we must have a reason for any absences. For the safety of the child, an attempt will be made to contact the parent if the school has not received notice.

Tardies: **All classes begin at 7:50 when the bell rings.** It is very important to have students here at 7:50. Tardies are recorded and monitored. If you know your child will be late, please call the school. Children who arrive after 8:00 a.m. or 10 minutes after the p.m. classes begin will be marked tardy. Children who arrive late must report to the office. If the parent does not call, children who arrive late will be considered as an unexcused tardy. After 60 minutes, the child's tardy will be recorded as an absence.

Absences: All absences will be recorded and monitored each 9 week period.

**Mark your Calendars for the St. Mary's Extravaganza!!!**

**Oct. 9 - St. Mary's Extravaganza 2021!!**

**Online bidding will start Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> and go through Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>!! Watch the weekly Red folders for more information. Lots of items to bid on including artwork from each classroom!!**



## HEALTH PROGRAM

A Registered Nurse supervises the Health Program at St. Mary's School. Any medication is under the direction of the school nurse. There must be written directions provided from a physician for any prescription medication. Vision and hearing screenings will be done according to the KDHE regulations. Parents will be notified of ABNORMAL findings.

All communicable diseases must be reported to the office for reporting to the Health Department. Students with such diseases may return to school with a note from their doctor. As communicable diseases are reported, notices are sent home to parents for the grade levels it affects.

NOTE: If a child has a fever of 100.4 or greater, he/she may return ONLY after being fever free for 48 hours WITHOUT FEVER-REDUCING MEDICATION (approved by School Council 11-9-20). If a child has been ill, they must be vomit, and diarrhea free for 24 hours WITHOUT MEDICATION before returning to school. If students are absent due to illness, they are not allowed to attend a school function that evening.

Persons confirmed to have influenza should stay home for five days following onset of symptoms or until fever free for 24 hours (without use of fever-reducing medications), whichever is longer, per Kansas requirement. According to CDC, persons with influenza are considered infectious for 5-7 days after becoming sick.

<https://www.kdheks.gov/flu/>

If a child gets sick at school (vomits or diarrhea), they will be required to stay home for 24 hours before returning to school as long as they have not vomited or had diarrhea since leaving school. A child must be vomit and diarrhea free for a total of 24 hours before returning to School. (Please note, it is 24 hours from the time they leave school).



## **School Council**

St. Mary's School Council met August 23. The council started the meeting at 5:30 with an opening prayer.

Dr. Compagnone reviewed the 2020-2021 fiscal year report. The summary of that report can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

The school council listened to a presentation updating the council about the school goals, as well as, academic and survey data conducted in the current accreditation cycle. The council was also updated on building improvements made during the summer months. See pages 7&8 of the newsletter for some details.

Enrollment continues to increase, this year there are 83 new students comprising of 45 new families in grades Pre K -6.

A discussion of the current health policy ensued. This includes when students will be sent home for illness, including COVID. (See Below)

The school calendar was adjusted to move some events later in the year, including Grandparents' Day.

The Extravaganza is October 9. This will be an online auction, but we are still planning for a social gathering on Friday evening October 8.

Next school council meeting is September 27, 5:30 in Room A.

## SCHOOL SAFETY PARKING LOT REMINDER

Thank you, parents for cooperating so nicely with the morning drop off of students. The traffic flow is much smoother and above all, our students are safe.

Cars are now pulling up on the west side of the building and several students are exiting the vehicles at the same time. We hope to see this continue in all kinds of weather. It is only a few steps down the sidewalk. Please do not wait until your vehicle is next to the entrance door to have your child exit.



We are especially happy to see that students are not being dropped off in the middle of the parking lot.

Thank you again for your patience and cautious eyes in the morning.

Afternoon pickup also requires careful protocols. We would like everyone who is taking their child(ren) back to their car to please use any of the three crosswalks. Please do not walk diagonally across the driving areas.

Even though there might not be traffic, let's help train the students to use a crosswalk. Just look for the 6th Grade crossing guards holding stop signs.

Thank you!

***Have you registered your Dillons Card yet?  
Register your Dillons card and appoint St. Mary's  
Grade School to receive a percentage of all your  
purchases. Call the school office if you need  
assistance registering your card.***

### ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

St. Mary's School publishes this newsletter once a month during the school year, along with one special edition. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep parents informed about school events, general information, and to update parents on the academic progress of the school. We try to keep the newsletter compact, but informative. Please take time to read the articles in this newsletter.

### Box Tops for Education

St. Mary's will not be accepting the paper boxtops as of 12-31-2020. Boxtops is phasing this out and will only give credit to schools from the app. Its simple and easy to do!! Just add the app to your phone, choose St. Mary's, scan your receipt and you're done! St. Mary's will receive credit just the same!



Love N Learn Daycare is still accepting kids ages 2 1/2 thru 5 years old. Please call Olinda for more info at 785-827-4822

### Healthy Tips

Discover fast ways to cook:  
Cook fresh or frozen vegetables in the microwave for a quick-and-easy dish to add to any meal. Steam green beans, carrots, or broccoli in a bowl with a small amount of water in the microwave for a quick side dish.

### Grandparents Day

Due to Covid restrictions, grandparents day has been rescheduled to Monday, February 7th, 2022.

Monies and reservations will be held until this time.

Thank you for understanding .

# Around the School



New projects around the school!

The APR floor was resurfaced.

Several classrooms got a fresh coat of paint. Pictured are 2A & 2B.

Mrs. Straub has a new counselor's office.

Below is Mrs. Mandy's Nurse's Station.





# Around the School



- \* Students helped pick vegetables from the garden!
- \* Our new S.T.E.M. Lab will be a great place for our students to learn!
- \* This summer, the school replaced the much needed roof and also ceiling

Praying Moms welcomes Moms, Dads & Grandparents to join in praying a Rosary for the needs, the staff and students of SMGS and SHJSHS following 8:05 Mass on Monday morning.





# September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> No School	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Labor Day—No School	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Fall Pictures Main Day	<b>9</b> Fall Pictures Preschool	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> School Council 5:30	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Marathon Finale		



## Welcome New Staff Members

**Kirstin Schamberger**

Preschool (upper left)

**Tamara Moon**

2nd grade (upper right)

**Heidi Donley**

Kindergarten (lower left)

**Bryan Swanson**

6th grade (lower right)



## Mission Statement

The mission of St. Mary's Grade School is to form lifelong learners of Faith through spiritual guidance and academics, who serve and lead in Church and community.



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*Love of Learning*



*Learning of Love*

*United In Christ - Body, Mind and Spirit*

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St. Mary's School  
304 E. Cloud  
Salina, KS 67401

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

