



*Grounded in the tradition of the Catholic Church,  
St. Joseph's School is a community  
dedicated to forming disciples of Jesus Christ  
through faith, academic excellence, and service to others*  
-School Mission Statement (updated 2019)

### **St. Joseph's State of the School Report (June 2024)**

From the principal, Miss Goshey: *It has been a busy year at our school, and we are pleased to share this information with you. I am in the office in June and am available to talk with you about any of the information contained in this report. Please reach out if you have any questions or want to schedule a meeting. (218-326-6232 or principal@sjsgr.org)*

#### **Enrollment 2023-2024**

End of the year enrollment in Kindergarten through Grade Six during 2022-2024 was 135. Preschool 4-5-year old program enrollment was 24, bringing the school total to 159 students. Nine 6th Graders graduated from St. Joseph's School on May 28.

#### **Projected Enrollment 2024-2025**

Total projected enrollment for K-6 is 145-150 students. We have 26 spots filled for our preschool; there are limited openings in preschool classes. Although we have waiting lists for some K-6 classes, there are some openings at other grade levels. *We invite your family to become a part of our St. Joseph's School Family!*

#### **Registration and Tuition Information**

Tuition and registration information and forms are available by calling the school office 218-326-6232 or by clicking on the School tab on the parish website [itascacatholic.org/school](http://itascacatholic.org/school)  
Need based scholarships are available for families with students in K-6.

#### **Staffing** (as of 5/14/2024)

- Miss Deb and Mr. Corey will be retiring at the end of this school year. We wish them many blessings and thank them for their years of service to St. Joseph's Catholic School!
- Susanna Elsen will be our new Preschool Extended Care Facilitator
- Mrs. Jackson will be our full time kindergarten aide
- Mrs. Marty will be our guest kindergarten teacher while Mrs. Adams stays home to take care of her new baby this fall.

#### **Job Openings for 24-25 include:**

- Preschool Extended Care Aide
- Head Cook
- Assistant Cook
- 2nd-3rd grade Aide

Please contact our school office if you, or someone you recommend, would like to apply for any of these positions. (218-326-6232 or [principal@sjsgr.org](mailto:principal@sjsgr.org))

### Counseling Services

Counseling Services have been available onsite at St. Joseph's School through Miss Lauren Flood. Miss Flood, LMFT, is an alumna of St. Joseph's School. We are fortunate to be able to offer this service for children.

### NWEA-MAP Testing

We administer the Northwest Evaluation Association (nwea) Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) computerized tests during the year. Results are given to parents in November during conferences and again in the end-of-school-year envelope. We will test in September 2024 as we begin instruction for students to assess what academic skills need re-teaching and reinforcement before moving forward into new levels.

Teachers this year have had the opportunity to meet with a MAP testing specialist individually to review the scores of their students, create strategies specific to their classrooms for student growth, and then review the results of their efforts. We are grateful for the Schulze Family Foundation grant awarded to the Diocese of Duluth that enabled this training to happen.

Teachers also piloted a program to create Individualized Learning Plans for each of their students based on the NWEA-MAP testing data. This plan will be launched more fully in the 24-25 school year. This plan includes learning goals for reading and math and focuses on a specific area in those subjects for each student to grow in.

### CSCOE Grants (Catholic School Center of Excellence)

St. Joseph's Catholic school this year was blessed with 3 grants from CSCOE. These funds were widely used to help prepare a new room for preschool extended care, update preschool classroom furniture and manipulatives, and new furniture and technology for our kindergarten classroom.

### EANS Grant (Emergency Aid to Nonpublic Schools)

Through this federal government program, we were able to hire a professional educational consultant to come into classrooms, observe, then meet with each teacher. She met with teachers three times in the 2023-2024 school year. Teachers will also receive training in SEL (Social Emotional Learning), in August through this grant.

### St. Joseph's School Board

Our School Board uses our School Strategic Plan (SSP), developed in 2019-2020, to guide much of our work. Our SSP uses the format required by the Minnesota Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (MNSAA). Below is a summary of some of the Board's great work.

### Preschool Extended Care Program

Our preschool committee worked hard this year to determine if there was a need for an extended care preschool program. This will now be available to families for the 24-25 school year. There are many options to choose from to help with families and their schedules, ranging from Monday-Thursday half day preschool, to Monday-Friday all day care. Preschool classes will continue as half day options, but families can have their child added to extended care in the mornings, afternoons, or during former SAC time.

### Catholic Identity

- Bible Story Time was a new initiative this year that allowed families with children ages 0-5 to come together to learn about the Bible in a fun and creative way throughout the year.
- St. Joseph's Messenger*, monthly publication sent to parents and is available to parish members in the gathering spaces of the parishes.
- This group will continue working to increase communication between the school and our supporting parishes, St. Augustine's and St. Joseph's through Flocknote, Facebook, and parish bulletin distribution in paper form to families.
- Catholic Book Study was continued during the fall and part of winter this year. It changed to a Momma Meet up during the spring.
- Celebrated the Feast of Saint Joseph as a school community

### Wellness

- Started to look into new playground equipment. Plans to continue to gain funds to help with this initiative.
- Family Golf Event and Fruity Fridays happened this year!
- Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week was amazing-many thanks to those who helped!

### Marketing

- Are you following us on Facebook and Instagram to see all the terrific learning taking place at our school?
- Digital Ad campaign started in May to make the surrounding community aware of our school and to invite new families to join our St. Joe's community.
- New logo was created and has been implemented in school sweatshirts and apparel orders.

MANY thanks to the board members, parents and parishioners who worked on these projects!

### Calendar & School Supply Lists

Our 24-25 school supply lists will be posted on SchoolSpeak and on the school tab of the parish website in July. [itascacatholic.org/school](http://itascacatholic.org/school)

*Thanks for taking time to read about the many great things happening at St. Joseph's School. Enjoy your children and the time you spend together this summer-I pray your blessings will be many!*

Miss Nellie Goshey  
Principal, St. Joseph's Catholic School