



2023-2024 IMPACT REPORT

Dual Language Academy

Holy Cross

Our Lady of Lourdes

St. Bernadette

Sts. Peter and Paul

St. Thomas More



OMAHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
CONSORTIUM

*A Collaboration of Parishes, Schools,
Parents and Community Partners*

MISSION

We are a collaborative of Catholic schools, parishes and families that provides a well-rounded education promoting the spiritual, intellectual, social and emotional growth of all students to nurture their God-given potential.



LEADERSHIP TEAM:

- Shannan Brommer, Executive Director
- Andrew Bauer, Director of Education
- Mike Goetz, Director of Finance and Operations

CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF:

- Michelle Arlen, Development Associate
- Olga Casillas, Human Resources Director
- Ben Connealy, Business Manager
- Chris Feuerbach, Business Manager
- Paulina Macias, FACTS Administrator
- Anne McGill, Enrollment and Recruitment Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Archbishop George Lucas, President
- Tammy Blossom, Chair
- Rev. William Bond
- Vickie Kauffold, Superintendent of Schools
- Paula Kehm
- Rev. Jeffrey Mollner
- Rev. John Pietramale
- Jesse Sullivan
- Jay Vankat
- John Wilhelm

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

- Angie Gonzales-Smith, Dual Language Academy
- James Laville, Holy Cross
- Meg Searl, Our Lady of Lourdes
- Lynn Schultz, St. Bernadette
- Virginia Bowers, Sts. Peter and Paul, interim, 2024-2025
- Gary Davis, St. Thomas More
- Ann Rasmussen, Asst. Director of Education
- Casey Wildman, Asst. Director of Education

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“As the body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body . . . and we were all given to drink of the one Spirit.”

1 Corinthians 12:12-13



Dear Friends,

Our community is united by faith and a shared mission. Teachers, students, families, staff and supporters are all vital to our story. Together, we achieved so much this year, thanks to our dedication to exceptional Catholic education that enriches both mind and spirit.

While we celebrate success, we also recognize the challenges posed by an evolving community and financial landscape:

- **Parishes:** Many of our 16 partner parishes, which contribute 19% of our annual revenue, face demographic changes that affect their ability to provide financial support at past levels. We are grateful for their continued support and are working together to set expectations for the future.
- **Enrollment:** Recent enrollment is stable, but our goal is to grow to welcome more students into our schools—not just for financial stability but to strengthen our community.
- **Financial Stewardship:** We have used reserves to cover necessary expenses over the last four years. These funds are crucial and set aside to address long-term stability and strategic growth.

BOLD STEPS FOR A STABLE AND SECURE FUTURE:

- **Development Efforts:** By expanding outreach to grow our support network, we increased supporters by 34% in 2023-2024 and believe this growth will continue.
- **Recruitment and Retention:** Filling our schools to capacity is essential—not just financially but because it aligns with our mission to educate more children for a better world.
- **Investing in Teachers:** We’re committed to attracting and retaining top educators by increasing salaries and enhancing professional development.

Our success, which you will read about throughout this report, is thanks to the many individuals who have supported us since the Consortium’s founding. I’m proud that so many more are joining us.

I am deeply grateful to our Board for their wisdom, our staff for their daily inspiration and our families and supporters for believing in our mission. Together, we are building a brighter future for our students and Catholic education in southeast Omaha.

Thank you, and may God bless you.

Sincerely,

Shannan Brommer
Executive Director

BOARD CHAIR MESSAGE



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on another remarkable year within the Omaha Catholic School Consortium, I am grateful for the vibrant community that defines the Consortium. Our goal is to provide an exceptional Catholic education that nurtures both minds and souls. This heartwarming story exemplifies the spirit of our schools.

During a summer school program hosted at Sts. Peter and Paul, the weather siren blared outside, capturing the attention of a young student. She turned to her summer school teacher and asked, "Wait, is it Wednesday? Shouldn't we be going to Mass?"

You see, this same student attends Sts. Peter and Paul during the school year and is used to celebrating all-school Mass with her peers. This simple yet profound question from a child at Sts. Peter and Paul exemplifies the deep integration of faith in our students' lives. The teachings of the Catholic faith are woven into the very fabric of our educational experience and truly lived out by all. As the Chair of the Omaha Catholic School Consortium Board of Directors, I am incredibly proud of how our dedicated educators and staff nurture this environment.

It is their commitment to infusing faith into every aspect of our schools that fosters a community where students, like the young girl in summer program, naturally seek to live out their beliefs. Throughout this report, you will read more stories about what makes the Consortium so special. Thank you for your continued support, prayers and partnership in our mission.

With gratitude,

Tammy Blossom
Chair, Consortium Board of Directors



The goal is to embrace, support and celebrate our differences seeing each student through God's eyes of love and wonder.

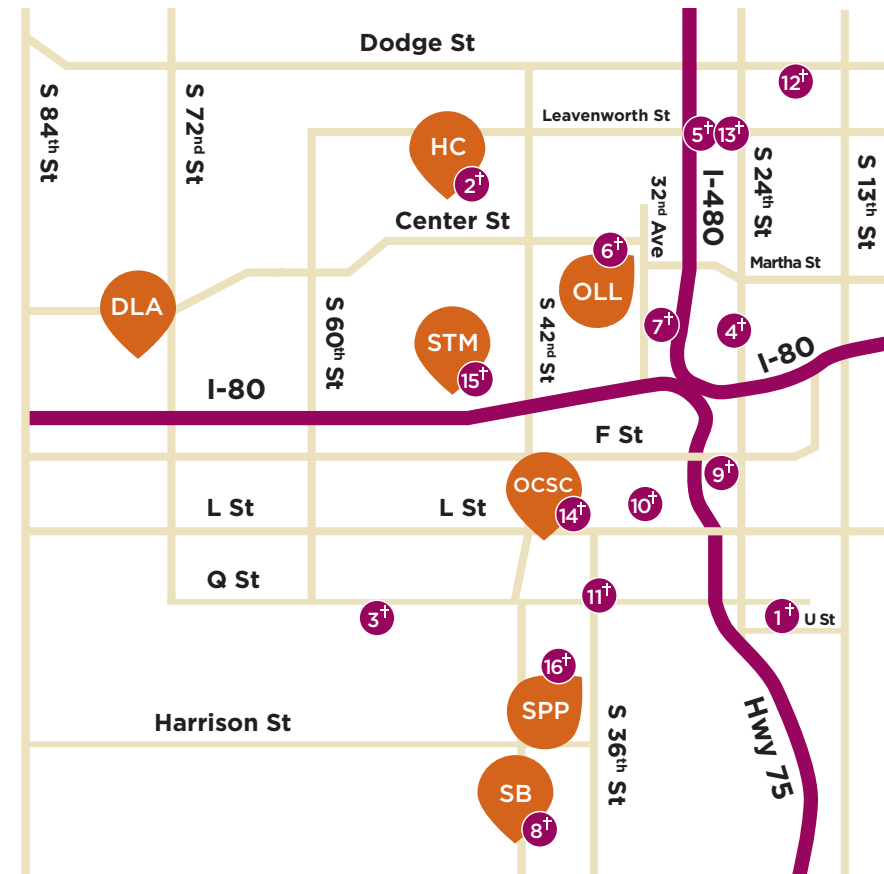
- Suzanne, Sts. Peter and Paul Resource Teacher

WHO WE ARE



OMAHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
CONSORTIUM

FIND THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU



OUR SCHOOLS

HC Holy Cross
holycrossomaha.com
1502 So. 48th Street
402-551-3773
Hospitality. Faith in action. Inclusiveness.

OLL Our Lady of Lourdes
ollomaha.org
2124 S 32nd Avenue
402-341-5604
Committed to faith. Dedicated to academics. Connected to Community.

SB St. Bernadette
stbernadetteschool.net
7600 South 42nd Street
402-731-3033
Encouraging Disciples to Serve, Learn and Pray.

SPP Sts. Peter and Paul
sppomaha.com
3619 X Street
402-731-4713
Prayer. Service. Love.

STM St. Thomas More
stmbengals.org
3515 S. 48th Avenue
402-551-9504
St. Thomas More, a man for all seasons, a school for all children.

DLA Dual Language Academy
OmahaDLA.org
7430 Hascall Street
402-991-3400
Somos Familia. We Are Family.

PARTNER PARISHES

- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Our Lady of Guadalupe Church**
5438 S 22nd St. • 402-731-2196
- Holy Cross Parish**
4810 Woolworth Ave. • 402-553-7500
- Holy Ghost Parish**
5219 S 53rd St • 402-731-3176
- Immaculate Conception Parish**
2708 S 24th Street • 402-342-1074
- Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Community**
2706 Leavenworth St • 402-341-4560 x103
- Our Lady of Lourdes**
St. Adalbert Catholic Church
2110 S 32nd Ave. • 402-346-0900
- St. Andrew Kim Taegon Catholic Community**
2617 S 31st Street • 402-345-1621
- St. Bernadette Parish**
7600 S 42nd Street • 402-731-4694
- St. Bridget - St. Rose Parish**
4112 S 26th Street • 402-733-8811
- St. Francis of Assisi Parish**
4513 S 32nd Street • 402-733-8811
- St. Mary Parish**
3529 Q Street • 402-731-0204
- St. Mary Magdalene Parish**
109 S 19th Street • 402-342-4807
- St. Peter Parish**
2706 Leavenworth Street • 402-341-4560
- St. Stanislaus Parish**
4002 J Street • 402-731-4152
- St. Thomas More Parish**
4804 Grover Street • 402-556-1456
- Sts. Peter and Paul Parish**
5912 S 36th Street • 402-731-4578

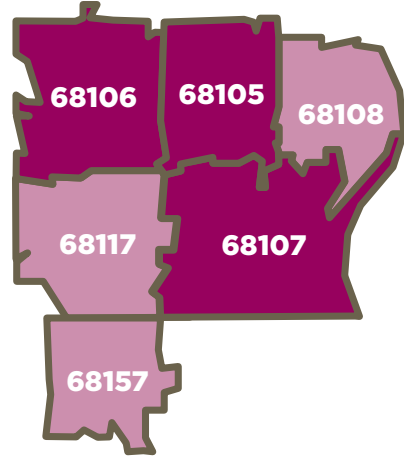
WHO WE SERVE

Consortium students come from all across the Omaha Metro Area, but the majority of all Consortium students come from neighborhoods in South Omaha.

40%

of Consortium students come from 3 primary zip codes: **68105, 68106, 68107**

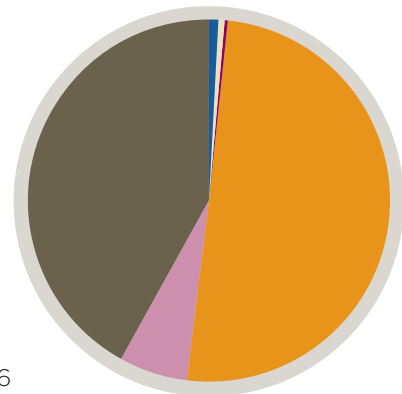
20% of Consortium students come from **68108, 68117, 68157**



Compared to peers in other parts of Douglas and Sarpy Counties, children who live in this geographic area live with:

- Twice the likelihood of speaking a language other than English
- A child poverty rate that is two times higher
- An unemployment rate nearly double, 4.5% compared to 2.8%
- Lower likelihood of having health insurance

We take pride in our long history and strong community presence in South Omaha. **Our schools reflect the rich cultural and socio-economic diversity of our neighborhoods, giving all children a place to thrive.**



Caucasian (non-Hispanic)	40.93%
Black/African American	5.93%
Hispanic Latino	49.4%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	.2%
American Indian	.5%
Asian	1.03%

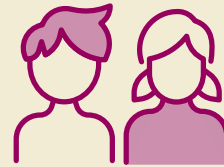
STUDENT BODY SNAPSHOT

(BASED ON 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR DATA)

1,654 STUDENTS



87% Catholic*



59% diversity rate



46% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch



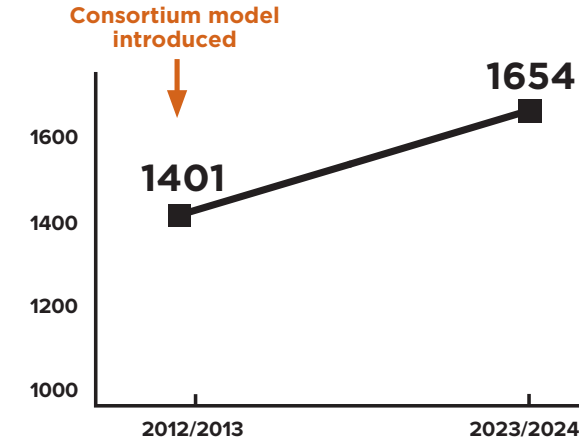
43% of students receive tuition assistance

*We welcome children of all faith backgrounds

ENROLLMENT TRENDS

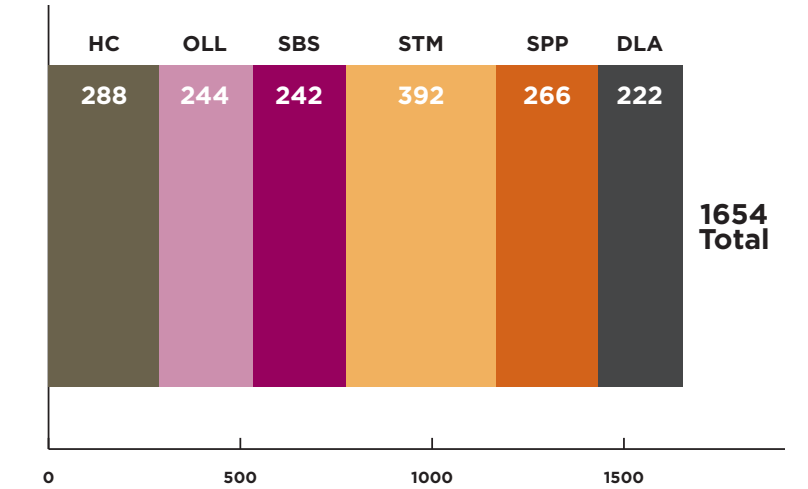
ENROLLMENT TOTALS

ALL CONSORTIUM SCHOOLS (PRE-SCHOOL THROUGH 8TH GRADE)



BY SCHOOL

(BASED ON 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR DATA)



15%

The Consortium represents 15% of the total of elementary and middle school students enrolled in Omaha Area Catholic schools.



78% of the 2024 8th grade class (109 total) matriculated to a local Catholic high school, a significant growth from 51% two years ago!

The Consortium Crawl

Forty community members enjoyed a bus tour this Spring through southeast Omaha, with stops at each Consortium school to meet and greet the amazing staff and students who make them all special. Here is a glimpse into the student experience at each of our six schools. This was the second year for this tradition, and if you'd like to join us this year, call our office to let us know.



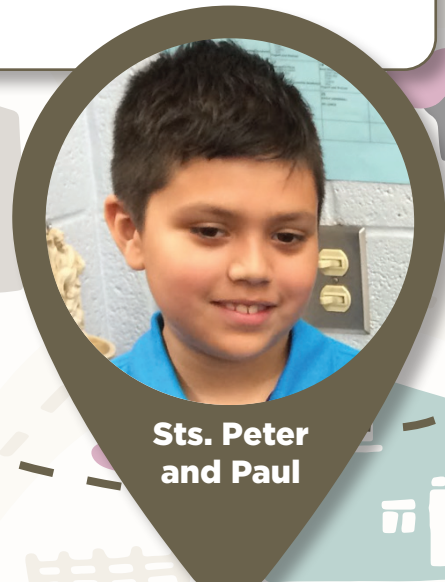
St. Bernadette

Zahid - 8th grade graduate, Class of 2024

Zahid is a gifted artist who earned over \$1,000 from the sales of his paintings. Last year, he gifted the school an original piece of art—a mosaic of Christ painted to represent stained glass, which hangs in the main hallway near the school office. At SBS and all Consortium schools, students are encouraged to pursue their passions and develop their God-given talents even further.

Brian Rivera - Alumnus

Brian Rivera attended SPP for grades K-8, and he is now thriving in high school at Creighton Prep. He recently got back in touch to relay his gratitude for the positive academic and spiritual foundation that SPP instilled. Brian has now led spiritual retreats for his high school peers. He credits caring and supportive teachers throughout his journey for challenging him to do things he didn't think possible. Fun fact: During his time at SPP, Brian was a Loyola Scholar. Learn more about the Loyola Scholarship Program on pages 20-21.



Sts. Peter and Paul

Gigi Coniglio - Alumna

Gianna Coniglio spoke at a Consortium event last year. She said her time at St. Thomas More prepared her for future challenges, because the high expectations and care from teachers helped her build strong study habits, a deep faith and lasting friendships. This foundation helped her excel at Mercy High School, balancing a demanding workload and extracurriculars. The supportive community and rigorous academics at both schools equipped her with the skills and confidence for her next step at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Join us in prayer for continued success for Gianna in college and beyond!



St. Thomas More



Our Lady of Lourdes

Isaac - Current 5th grader

After starting at OLL in kindergarten, Isaac overcame some academic challenges to now reading well and enjoying the school day. In fact, he loves his school so much that his future dream is to become the security guard at OLL one day! This is a testament to how comfortable his teachers and classmates make him feel. This photo is him wearing a security shirt, happy to help keep the school safe in all the ways he can. At OLL and all Consortium schools, kids find acceptance and friends, whatever their interests.

Vivian - 8th Grade Graduate, Class of 2024

Vivian was selected to receive a Rotary Scholarship. She was chosen to represent all Omaha Catholic schools, with the chance to speak to over 1,000 people at the Rotary Honor Roll Luncheon last Spring. She was active in multiple extracurricular activities at Holy Cross, including softball, School Choir, Reader's Quiz Bowl, Student Congress, Drama Club and was the lead role in the all-school musical. As an 8th grader, Vivian attended sophomore-level Geometry class next door at Mercy High School! All the opportunities at her Catholic school helped Vivian grow and thrive.



Holy Cross

Grace - Current 4th grader

Grace started at the DLA in preschool. Last year, she was nominated as an MVP student by her teacher. She is a great role model for classmates, who see her helping whenever possible, from moving chairs to where they need to be in the morning to encouraging Christ-like behavior in others.

The DLA has a house system, and teachers nominate students from each house who exemplify these traits to receive a medal at various points during the year. A house system also benefits students because they get to know other kids outside of their classroom in a meaningful and collaborative way.



Dual Language Academy

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

ACHIEVING NEW HEIGHTS WITH NEW CURRICULUM

A major academic highlight from the 2023-2024 school year was Consortium students achieving the highest ever reading average score on their STAR assessments.

The increased percentage of students meeting proficiency standards is the highest in any period since the schools began using STAR testing, which they take three times throughout the school year to measure progress in various content areas.



This means that at least 6 out of every 10 Consortium students can read at or above their grade level!

Part of the reason for the reading test score growth is due to the implementation of the new English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum last year. Teachers were trained on the “Science of Reading” and have implemented new strategies to help students.

We also implemented new Social Studies and Science curricula across all six schools. This allows for easier collaboration between teachers and a more seamless student and family experience, better aligned to district and state standards.

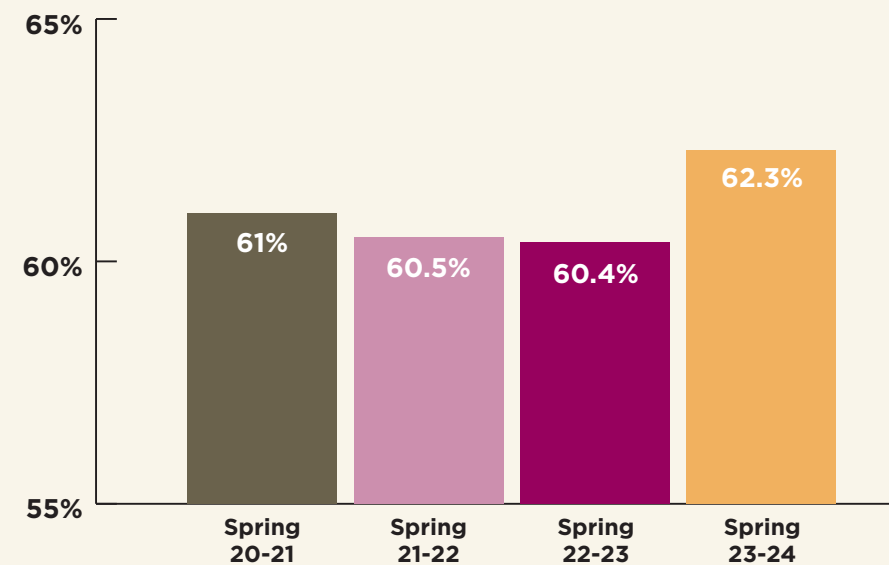
Between the ELA, Science and Social Studies curriculum, \$710,269 was invested in new materials, purchased with the assistance of federal funding.

During the Fall STAR testing in the current school year, about a quarter of students scored at 80 percentile or above, which is a very impressive way to kick off year two of continued progress.”

- Andrew Bauer, Director of Education



CONSORTIUM READING - HISTORICAL PROFICIENCY



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

POSITIVE PEER RELATIONSHIPS FOSTER EMOTIONAL GROWTH

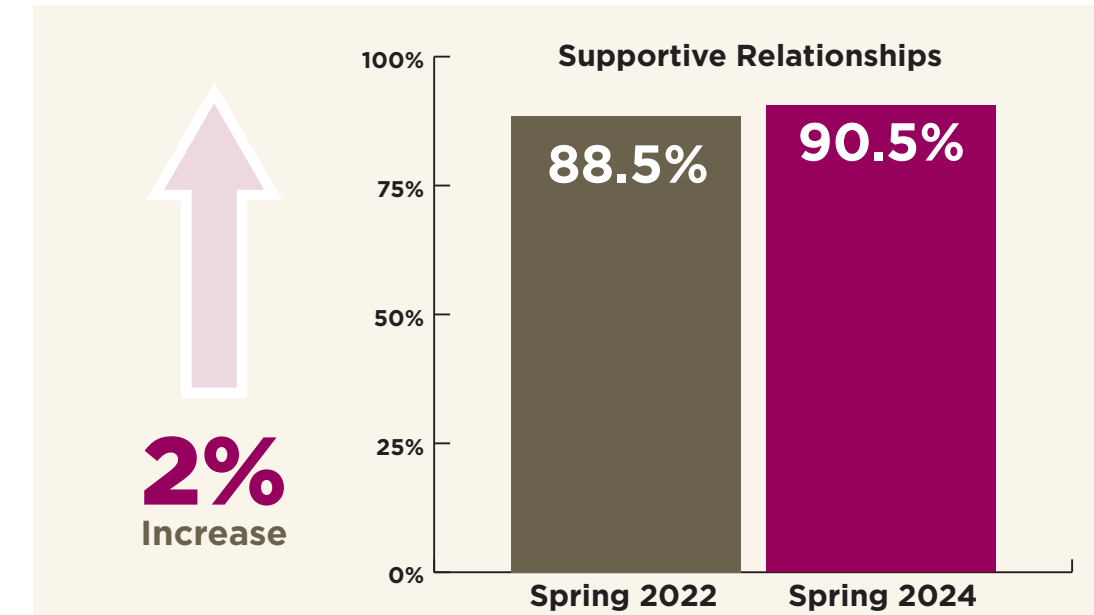
Beyond academic success, our schools focus on the holistic development of each student. Since 2021, data related to student mindsets, behaviors and attitudes related to success in school and beyond the classroom has been measured through a questionnaire administered at multiple times per year--the Panorama survey. The surveys are designed to help educators understand the social-emotional competencies of their students and how they are supported in classrooms and schools.

As of Spring 2024, 90.5% of Consortium students report positive and supportive relationships as part of their daily school experience. This is a 2% increase in two years.

The 2023-2024 school year also saw an over 3% increase in the number of students who report positive emotional regulation skills. Modeling and teaching effective tools to help students manage their feelings and stay calm when upset, make good decisions when angry and feel better when sad is important to our school administrators, especially as mental health issues and anxiety continue to rise in young adults.

Since beginning the surveys in the 2021-2022 school year, 88% or greater of Consortium students report supportive relationships in schools.

In the 2024-2025 school year, all six schools are implementing a new curriculum for social-emotional learning (SEL) called Friendly. The Friendly program provides a Biblical, social, emotional and academic framework for PreK-8 classrooms that teaches skills like respect, confidence, problem solving and communication skills.



SUPPORTIVE CULTURE COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION ARE KEYS TO CONSORTIUM SUCCESS

At a time when teacher retention rates across the nation remain low, and many schools across the state have unfilled positions, Consortium schools stand out with a 92% teacher retention rate coming into the 2024-2025 school year.

This statistic is a testament to the supportive and resource-rich environment that the Consortium fosters for educators.

By prioritizing a culture of encouragement and continuous professional development, the Consortium schools strive to be places where teachers feel valued, inspired and equipped to deliver exceptional educational experiences.

Something new within recent years is the addition of two assistant directors of education, who assist school leaders and teachers at all buildings.

“One of our main goals is to ensure all teachers have everything they need to support students—materials, technology and training,” said Casey Wildman, Asst. Director of Education.

Their support includes new teacher training, grade book set up and facilitation of resource sharing between staff.

For the 2024-2025 school year, we adjusted the school year calendar to build in extra work time for teacher collaboration.

“This is important work. We will have time to look at what students are learning and how we know they are learning those concepts, then strategize on moving forward,” said Wildman.

The Consortium believes this investment in resources enhances teaching quality and ensures that teachers feel confident and empowered in their roles. It’s this unique blend of support and resources that makes the Consortium stand out, ensuring that our highly qualified staff teams remain dedicated and passionate about their mission.

We are also pleased to offer a 13% raise to educators, which began in August. The increase was funded by the generosity of those who support our Creating Bright Futures in Christ Campaign.

“We are deeply grateful for all who bring their passion to serve our Catholic schools every day. It is our hope that this salary increase, combined with our ongoing commitment to professional growth and collaboration, will deliver an even higher quality, faith-based education for all our students.”

- Shannan Brommer, executive director

Certified teachers across our schools have an average of **15 years of experience.**

Experienced teachers bring many benefits to both their students and fellow teachers:

- Deep understanding of the subject matter
- Effective teaching strategies and proven methods to cater to different learning styles
- Organized class management, which fosters a consistent and positive learning atmosphere
- Mentorship opportunities, helping students and other staff members with insight and resources to help with problem-solving and overall support.

A NETWORK OF SUPPORT UNLOCKING POTENTIAL WITH COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH



Two second grade teachers—one a seasoned veteran and the other more fresh to the profession—met at a Consortium professional development event and quickly formed a friendship.

Despite teaching at different schools, they regularly share classroom management strategies and innovative teaching techniques.

Their partnership - and the countless others like it across the Consortium—exemplifies the value of teacher collaboration, fostering professional growth, mutual support and the continuous improvement of educational practices.

GRACE MONTAG - 2ND GRADE TEACHER, OUR LADY OF LOURDES


“When I first accepted the position at OLL, I was nervous to be the only 2nd grade teacher, especially with it being such an important sacrament year. On our first day of all-Consortium professional development, I met Renee and I knew that she was going to be a great mentor and partner. Any question I have she answers right away. She doesn’t turn down my ideas even though I’m only in my second year of teaching second grade. I can always rely on her to bounce ideas, say a prayer for me, support me and get a good laugh.


Even though we are at different schools, I feel so connected to Renee. My worry about being ‘alone’ is gone, and I’m lucky to have her as a partner.”

RENEE LOFTUS - 2ND GRADE TEACHER, HOLY CROSS


“I adore Grace and love what we have together as teammates. Even though we are at different schools, we can count on each other for anything! I’m very grateful that we can collaborate when it comes to new curriculum and sacraments.”

STUDENT SERVICES & RESOURCES

 **Catholic Charities/
Consortium School
Counselors:**
140 students served

 **Title I Support:**
239 Students Served

 **Accommodation Plans/
Equitable Service Plans:**
36

 **Individualized
Education Plan (IEP):**
149

“Nothing is better as a parent than seeing your child happy and excited to go to school. We are so grateful that Our Lady of Lourdes is meeting all of our child’s special education needs in an environment where he is loved by educators who emulate Christ and partner with us to help him grow in his faith.”

- Current parent



SUSTAINING CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN SOUTHEAST OMAHA

THIS LIST REPRESENTS GIFTS BETWEEN JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024

Every effort was made to ensure accuracy. Please contact our office if you notice an error.



TOGETHER IN CHRIST ANNUAL FUND

The *Together in Christ* Annual Fund provides a key source of funding for the Consortium schools. Dollars from the annual fund are used to cover operating expenses, including maintaining facilities, updating educational resources and supporting teacher development. By contributing, you help create a dynamic learning environment that benefits every student, ensuring our schools can continue to grow and thrive as we aim to meet the evolving needs of our community.

Gifts to this program support the miracles that happen in our schools every day, like the ones you read about in this report. We are grateful to all those who believe in and support our important mission.

**Support
Our Schools**

Scan QR code to make
an online gift.



We offer many thanks to all those who support the Omaha Catholic School Consortium through these various efforts. Your generosity impacts our mission in meaningful and important ways.



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR TOGETHER IN CHRIST SUPPORTERS

ANCHOR ALLIANCE:

Hebrews 6:18-20 tells us that our hope in Jesus is like an anchor for our souls, holding us secure and safe.

The members of the Anchor Alliance who make leadership gifts of \$1,000 and above **anchor our efforts to bring the hope of Jesus to our students.**

Anchor Alliance

(Alumni Bold and
Parents & Grandparents Italicized)

Crown (\$25,000+)

Suzie and Mike Lawler
Mammel Family Foundation
Teri and Ron Quinn

Gold (\$14,999-10,000)

Lauren and Mike Hupp
Carol and John Maginn

Iron (\$7,499-\$5,000)

Christ the King Parish
Mary and Jim Czyz
Mary Anne and David Hoover
Kathy and Joe O'Connor
Wendy and Dave Treinen
Vera and Roman Uhing

Copper (\$4,999-\$2,500)

Tammy and Drew Blossom
Doreen and John Griffith
Sigrid and Mike Moylan
Brian Timmerman
Sherry and Bill Wachtler

Bronze (\$2,499-\$1,000)

Jean and Jim Ambrose
Tom Bizal
Kristy and Paul Brannen
Shannan and Brad Brommer
Rose and Robert Campney
Most Reverend Elden Curtiss
Mark Fogarty
Mary Kay and Thomas Halpin
Jane Huerter
Karen and Tom Jacobi
Colleen McQuillan-Johnson
Joanne and Tom Kerins
Kiewit Corporation

Fr. Ryan Lewis
Archbishop George J. Lucas
Patty and Paul Mendlik
Dawn and Tom O'Brien
Terry & Hollye Peterson Foundation
Fr. John Pietramale
Diane and Joe Schwaller
Jane Carnazzo and Bob Stutzman
Union Pacific Blackbaud Giving Fund
Amy and Jay Vankat
Laura and Thomas Walker
Kathy and Jim Welniak
Nanci Wildman
Rose Marie and Bernard Wilson

Parents - past and present

Ashley and Andrew Bauer
Gaylyn Boone
Veronica Brantz
Marcie Brousek
Cristina Bueno
Elaine and Brian Buescher
Catherine and Rafael Cruz-Montes
Christine and Gary Davis
Pat and Bill Dworak
Rita and John Fischer
Jana and Joseph Flaxbeard
Karen and Michael Fogarty
Liz and David Fox
Meghan O'Brien Gerken
Dianne Gill
Mary and John Hauschild
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Mary and Rod Jewell
Francine and Raymond Krause
Julie and Mark McNamara
Annie and Tom Messersmith
Patty and Ray Neppi
Margaret and Donald Ojeski
Christine and Gerard Ortner
Cathie and Arman Pajnigar
Vera and Lee Pietramale
Jennifer and Jeff Poepe
Michaela and Shane Smith
Catherine Tierney
Miguel Verano

TIC Alumni

Jeanne and Alan Anderson
Sharon and Dan Burns
Rebecca Buxter

Chrissy and Christopher Celio
Barbara Chase
Warrine Coffey
Sr. Corrine Connelly
Tish Connelly
Fr. Michael Eckley
Terri and Mick Eglsaer
Julie and Todd Eich
Deborah Fortina
Francina Frodyma
Kiley and John Gallagher
Joseph Gasnick
Louis Halamek
Judy and Randy Haug
Sr. Judith Healy
Cara and John Hilgert
Karen Johnson
Deacon Kevin and Elizabeth Joyce

Jack Kennedy
Paula and James Lavelle
Patricia and Rex Leibert
Greg London
James Lynch
Gretchen Mack
Maureen McGrath
Mary Corinne and Tom Morinelli
Theodore Nestroyl
Pamela and Bill Paschang
Joshua Pfeifer
Patricia Pupkes
Corey Randone
Mary and Dan Rommelfanger
Gary Rosso
Michael Scherr
Lynn and John Schultz
Marialyce Walsh

Sam and Kevin Yandell
Kathy and Milton Zadina
Jennifer Zielinski

Friends

Nancy Abboud
Connie Aliano
Mary Joy Anderson †
Anonymous (14)
Michael Baldino
Fr. Frank Baumert
Bridgett and Jeremy Belsky
Lisa and Charles Benson
Tera and Richard Bergemann
Fr. William Bond
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Deanna and Alan D'Agosto
John and Lorene Dailey
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Alicia and Bill Kroupa
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Jill and Mike Owens
Daphne and Arun Patil

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Michele and Brent Pohlman
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Patricia and David Potter
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Michael Root
Colleen and Paul Sabaliauskas
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Colleen and Hugh Spellman
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Effie and Ralph Swinarski
Megan and Michael Timmerman
Clark Toner
Maureen and Jim Waldron

Kathy Wamsley
Ellen and Herman † Weist
Shelley and Brad Winking
Mary and Terry Zach
Michele and Robert Zadalis
Katie and Rob Zimmerman

Business Organizations

Farm Credit Services of America
The Kroger Co.
United Parcel Services (UPS)
Union Pacific for Effective Government

Gifts-in-Kind

Evi and Miguel Neri
Red D Plumbing

CREATING BRIGHT FUTURES IN CHRIST CAMPAIGN



CREATING
BRIGHT FUTURES
IN CHRIST

*A Campaign Building on the Legacy of
Catholic Education in Southeast Omaha*

Catholic education has been a part of southeast Omaha for over 100 years, and we are working to ensure that it thrives for another 100 years. The Creating Bright Futures in Christ Campaign addresses needs that go beyond the day-to-day operations of our schools.

Key campaign objectives:

- Increase teacher salaries
- Increase tuition assistance
- Create building and maintenance funds for each school

Our goal is \$7 million, and we have raised over \$3 million to date, thanks to the generosity of those listed below. These campaign dollars are impacting our teachers, students, families and schools in important ways. We sincerely thank these supporters.



Scan the QR code to learn more about the Creating Bright Futures in Christ Campaign.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CREATING BRIGHT FUTURES SUPPORTERS

GIFTS BETWEEN JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024

Alumni Bold and Parents & Grandparents Italicized

Connie and Larry Almgren

Fr. Daniel Andrews
Anonymous (12)
Michelle and Jayme Arlen
Ashley and Andrew Bauer
Daniel Beal
Rita Bianchi
Tammy and Drew Blossom
Shannan and Brad Brommer
Fr. Harold Buse
Rose and Robert Campney
Dede and Tom Crowley
Cardinal Blase Cupich
Marilyn and Robert Czerwinski
Mary and Jim Czyz
Peter DeMarco
Kathy Dostal
Duffy Family Foundation
Johna and Mark Duren
Betty Eckley

Deb and Mike Eglseder
Election Systems & Software
Bernadette and Paul Esposito
Jana and Joseph Flaxbeard
Chris Gaul
Msgr. James Gilg
Gayle and Mike Goetz
Jean and Ron Gordon
Michelle and Dan Grzywa
Judy and Randy Haug
Janet and Tom Haute
Heider Family Foundation
Mary Katherine and Bill Helget
Margaret and Tom Hoarty
Sheila and Dan Hoffmann
Lauren and Mike Hupp
Mary and Richard Huss
Beth and Mike Jareske
Jennifer and Chris Jerram
Ursula Kalinowski

Vickie and Andrew Kauffold
Paula and Joseph Kehm
Joanne and Tom Kerins
Kiewit Corporation
Kathy and Bill Kizer
Jackie Kmiecik
Knights of Columbus
Nebraska Jurisdiction
Wende and John Kotouc
Antoinette Kuhry
Fr. Ryan Lewis
Senator Lou Ann Linehan
Karrie and John Lingo
Archbishop George J. Lucas
Carol and John Maginn
Nancy and Mike McCarthy
Dee and Kevin McCoy
Diane and Bob McGill
Judith and Douglas McWilliams
Mimi and Matt Miller

Suzanne and Jeff Miller
Fr. Jeff Mollner
Kathleen and Charles Monico
Marlo and Chuck Monico
Monica and David Mora-Handlos
Mary and Tom Morinelli
Katie and Sean Mullen
Steph and Bud Mushlitz
Lucy and Roy Neneman
Kathleen and Mark Niebauer
Mary Noler
Walt Noordam
Kathy and Joe O'Connor
Linda O'Hare
Mary and Paul Parr
Lois Peterson †
Fr. John Pietramale
Kris and Daniel Placzek
Diane Rosenthal
Ryan Foundation

Dede and Rob Salerno
Nancy and Tim Schrack
Lynn and John Schultz
Diane and Joe Schwaller
Janet and Ken Sorensen
Joanne Stewart
Jane Carnazzo and Bob Stutzman
Therese and Don Swanson
Wendy and Dave Treinen
Edward and Lida Robinson Charitable Trust
Amy and Jay Vankat
Nanci Wildman
John D. Wilhelm
Kathleen and John Wilhelm
Mary and Terry Zach
Katie and Rob Zimmerman



NEBRASKA CATHOLIC DAY OF GIVING

Many thanks to the 115 who participated in our Day of Giving, 46 of whom were making their first gift to the Consortium!

This was the inaugural year of a statewide Day of Giving to highlight the numerous Catholic organizations and ministries that impact the lives of Nebraskans. The Omaha Catholic School Consortium was proud to be one of the 192 participating organizations in this effort sponsored by the Archdiocese of Omaha, Diocese of Lincoln and the Diocese of Grand Island.

Anonymous (7)
Michelle and Jayme Arlen
Ashley and Andrew Bauer
Maggie and Ben Bauman
 Rebecca Beaudoin
 Jen and Rick Bettger
 Blair and Matt Bonczynski
 Shannan and Brad Brommer
 Monica Brown
Jackie and Richard Buchta
 Marilyn and Jerry Buresh
 Greg Burrows
Thomas Burton
Noemy and Jose Castaneda
Megan Chism
 Daniela Chora
 Louise Clayton
Sr. Corrine Connelly
Catherine and Rafael Cruz-Montes
 William Cunningham
Barbara and Michael Cunningham
Mary and Jim Czyz
 Loretta and Russ Daro
 Alison and Dave Dibelka
 Dorothy and Dan Dube
 Kevin Dunn
Brenda and Christian Espinoza
Stacey and David Fanciullo
 Celeste and Chris Feuerbach

Rebecca Fisk
Jana and Joseph Flaxbeard
Deborah Fortina
Liz and David Fox
Kurt Galas
Stephanie and Chris Gates
 Gayle and Mike Goetz
 Mary and Robert Gonderinger
 Joan Grinbergs
 Barbara and Brian Hake
 Mary Ann Harding
Elaine Heaston
Nadine Holtz
 Cheryl and Jeff Janda
Mary and Rod Jewell
Paula and Joseph Kehm
Christine and Christopher Kenny
Michelle Kramer
 Amy and Tony LaMar
Nancy and John Langenfeld
 Linda Lauber
 Anne Laville
Samantha and Jake Ludacka
Gretchen Mack
Kari and Mike Mansour
John Mayhan
 Margaret McCoy
 Dan McGill
 Anne and Jay McGill

Mary Kay McQuillan
Elizabeth and Ismael Montoya
Kay and Jack Monzingo
Liz and Jacob Moore
Mary and Tom Morinelli
Katie and Cole Naughton
 Veronica Nepper
 Jamie and Tom Nepl
 Karly and Mike Nepl
 Eric Nikkel
 Antoinette Noble
Fr. James Novotny
 Fr. Ralph O'Donnell
Laura Olderog
 Archdiocese of Omaha
 Daniela Padilla
 Sara Paesl
Joshua Pfeifer
Kari and Michael Pierson
 Fr. John Pietramale
Jennifer and Jeff Poepe
 Patrick Prince
 Margaret and Doug Quinn
Bernadette and Mark Radachi
 Fr. David Reeson †
 Patty and Kerry Rezek
Jodi Roberts
Maureen and Jon Roberts
Mary and Dan Rommelfanger

Fran Root
Rosario and J. Israel Rosas
Mary Schiessl
 Susan and Melvin Schrader
Lynn and John Schultz
 Lynnette Sellon
Abby and James Skradski
 Angie and Leigh Smith
Frances and Bruce Smith
 De Ann and James Stolze
Jesse and Jack Sullivan
 Rebecca Swanson
 Diane Sweetman
Tim and Pat Vaughn
 Stephanie Vazquez
Sylvia and Santiago Vega
Sue Wardian-Hartung
Kathleen and John Wilhelm
 Autumn and Brian Wurgler
Christine and Joseph Zadina

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS

A meaningful way to support the mission of the Consortium is through Memorial and Honorary Gifts. Thank you to those who remembered those, both living and deceased, who made an impact on their life with a gift to the Consortium.

In Memory of Julie & Mike Bizal
 Thomas Bizal
 Lorene & John Dailey

In Honor of Shannan Brommer
 Doreen & John Griffith

In Memory of Patty Collins
 David and Stacey Fanciullo
 Lynn and John Schultz

In Memory of Anne Mae and William Cunningham
 William Cunningham Jr

In Memory of James Dorcy
 Gaylyn Boone

In Memory of Charlene Helgoth
 Alison and Dave Dibelka

In Memory of James Huerter
 Jane Huerter

In Memory of Dennis Kennedy
 John Kennedy

In Memory of Marge Kennedy
 John Kennedy

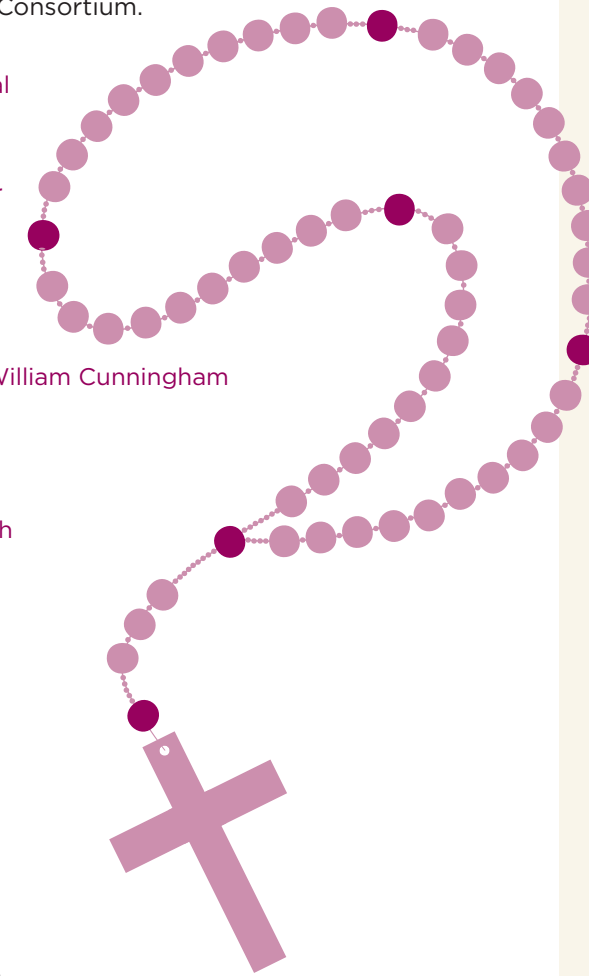
In Honor of John Maginn
 Mary Kay and Thomas Halpin
 Celeste and Chris Feuerbach

In Memory of Jim McNamara
 Julianne and Mark McNamara

In Honor of Fr. Jeff Mollner
 Margaret McCoy

In Memory of John R. Stolinski
 Karen and Tom Jocobi

In Memory of Ali and Joe Tupper
 Rebecca Beaudoin



NAMED SCHOLARSHIP AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Consortium is deeply grateful to those who have created named funds that benefit our mission annually. Many of these funds are endowed and held in the Catholic Futures Foundation of Northeast Nebraska. Others offer long-term annual support but are not perpetual. All are making an impact on our students, families and school communities. If you are interested in creating a named fund to benefit the Consortium, please contact Shannan Brommer at sbrommer@archomaha.org or 402-590-2810.

Blase and Mary Cupich Memorial Scholarship Endowment
 John F. and Anne Marie Daly Endowment
 Ann and Don Mickells Endowment
 Bishop Anthony Milone Tuition Assistance
 Gene and Kathy Schwarting Endowed Scholarship
 Rita Starr Educational Fund
 Msgr. Richard A. Wolbach Tuition Assistance Fund

DESIGNATED SUPPORT

We are immensely thankful to those who have offered extraordinary support to the Consortium to help specific programs or general operating throughout the year. Your generosity furthers important strategic efforts at our schools.

Archdiocese of Omaha
 Nancee and Richard Berger
Michelle Guinn
 Mammel Family Foundation
 Nancy and Michael McCarthy
Michael McMillan
Teri and Ron Quinn
 Ryan Foundation
 Steve Tomasek

PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE

LOYOLA SCHOLARS PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Creighton Prep's Loyola Scholars Program began in 2016, and since then, **45 Consortium students** have been selected to participate.

Loyola Scholars is a three-year program for academically talented middle school boys in Omaha. The program prepares them for future academic and social success.

Each year, school leaders submit student nominations to Creighton Prep, from which approximately 15-18 students are selected for the competitive three-year program during their sixth-eighth grade years.

In addition to being nominated, students and their families must apply and then interview with Creighton Prep program representatives as part of the process; family support is a major element in each Scholar's success. Upon selection, the Loyola Scholars program kicks off in June, and each student comes to Creighton Prep throughout the weekdays for breakfast, lunch, academic studies and a range of activities designed to help each participant grow in their classroom confidence, interpersonal skills, faith development and more. During the school year, the group gathers monthly on various Saturdays for continued formation.

Upon successful admission to Creighton Prep as an eighth grade student, graduates of the Loyola Scholars program **earn a full-tuition scholarship to cover the costs to attend Creighton Prep.** This is made possible by the generosity of the Heider Family Foundation.

BY THE NUMBERS:

15

15 students (grades 6-8) from Consortium schools were Loyola Scholars in 2023-2024

16

16 Consortium students are current Loyola Scholars for 2024-2025

19

The Consortium represents six of the 19 different schools from which 2024-2025 Loyola Scholars come, including 12 Catholic and 7 public schools

21

21 Consortium students graduated from the Loyola Scholars Program and now attend Creighton Prep (across grades 9-12)

1ST

1st DLA student selected as Loyola Scholar, as Dual Language Academy now offers sixth grade in 2024-2025

SCHOLAR CRITERIA

- Current 5th grade male
- Demonstrates good academic ability and homework responsibility
- Possesses motivation, desire for academic achievement and shows leadership potential
- Household demonstrates significant financial need (guidelines similar to free or reduced lunch eligibility)
- Family support of education and faith-centered child development
- Ability to commit and stay dedicated to a three-year program



Kevin from the Dual Language Academy is his school's first Loyola Scholar participant.



Toby, STM Class of 2024, was selected as the Loyola Scholar Magis Award recipient

LOYOLA SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT

Last Spring, Toby, an eighth grader and Loyola Scholar from St. Thomas More, received the Loyola Scholar program's Magis award, voted on by peers. Toby, whose parents are originally from Tanzania, had the chance to speak at the program graduation ceremony in May, where he shared what being a Loyola Scholar meant to him.

"To me, a Loyola Scholar means to be a student who engages with their classmates and has a great work ethic. This has influenced my life a lot, as this has helped me make new friends, get better grades and have a lot of fun. I want to dedicate myself to God more so that I can best live out his plan for me." - Toby O.

A Consortium education offers students and families valuable connections—with Creighton Prep, Mercy High School, Catholic Charities and others—enhancing their overall experience through meaningful collaboration and community partnerships.



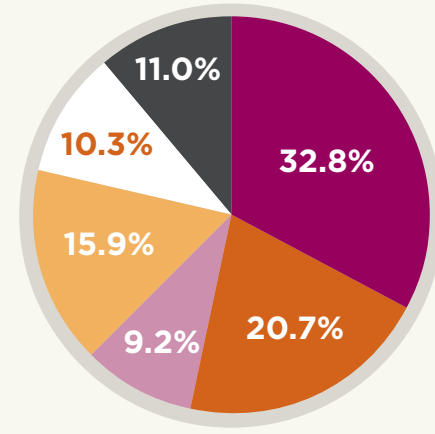
Photo of all current Consortium students in the Loyola Scholars Program, September 2024

OPERATING STATEMENT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 6/30/2024 | OMAHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL CONSORTIUM

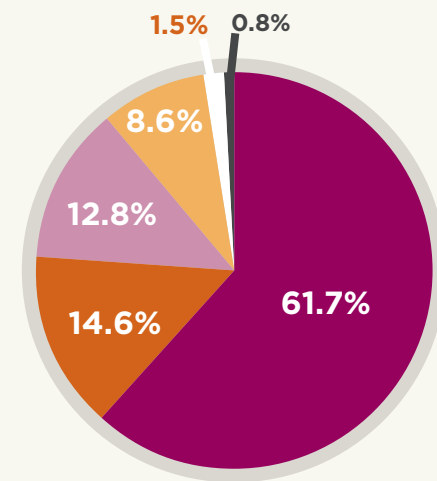
OPERATING REVENUES:

Tuition and Fees	\$3,614,259	■ 32.8%
Parish Support	\$2,287,585	■ 20.7%
Financial Aid & Scholarship Support*	\$1,014,189	■ 9.2%
Auxiliary Programs <small>Preschool, Extended Care, Cafeteria & School Events</small>	\$1,759,789	■ 15.9%
Gifts and Grants	\$1,137,725	■ 10.3%
Creating Bright Futures Campaign**	\$1,215,506	■ 11.0%
Total Operating Revenues	\$11,029,053	



OPERATING EXPENSES:

Instructional Support	\$7,365,518	■ 61.7%
General Administrative	\$1,747,414	■ 14.6%
Plant Operations and Maintenance	\$1,530,522	■ 12.8%
Auxillary Programs	\$1,029,693	■ 8.6%
Rent and Capital Expenses	\$176,910	■ 1.5%
Creating Bright Futures Campaign	\$91,895	■ 0.8%
Total Operating Expenses	\$11,941,952	
Net Revenue***	\$(912,899)	



*These funds along with \$500,538 of employee discounts and financial aid tuition discounts provided a total of \$1,514,727 in tuition assistance to OCSC families.

**Funds were used from Campaign proceeds for the designated campaign purposes (increase in teacher salaries, increase in tuition assistance and for building fund) during the last fiscal year.

***Transfer of funds from cash on hand was used to cover \$912,899.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Fr. Eckley attended **Our Lady of Lourdes** from 3rd-8th grade. He was part of the eighth grade graduating class of 1979.

Fun fact: His parents also graduated from OLL, as well as his four siblings and two nephews. His niece is also in 7th grade this year!

Enjoy this Q&A below with Fr. Eckley about his Catholic school experience.

Q: What did you like about your teachers?

A: The teachers that I had challenged us to do our best. They did this always in a loving and caring way. Sr. Lisa in 3rd grade is an example of this. My family moved back to Omaha from Fremont and I transferred into OLL after Thanksgiving. Sr. Lisa helped me feel welcomed and part of the class. She also didn't allow me to get away with anything and challenged me to do my best.

Q: What were the most useful classes you took or clubs you belonged to?

A: Playing on school sports teams during my time at OLL solidified the friendships from school with a group of guys that I'm friends with now, 45 years later.

Q: How did your Catholic grade school prepare you for your work now?

A: I didn't realize at the time that I was learning and growing in my faith through the classes, the example of our teachers and the daily living of the faith during school. When I started as a freshman at Gross Catholic High School, we were given a test on the foundations of the Catholic faith. The two highest scores in the class of 300 were me and a classmate from OLL.

Q: Do you have a favorite memory you can share?

A: Each year in middle school, we had a science fair. We came up with our own idea and displayed it. In eighth grade, I won second place, along with a classmate on the effects of alcohol on the body.

Q: What would you say to a family considering Catholic education for the first time? (aka - In your own words, what is the value of Catholic education?)

A: Our Catholic Schools provide excellent academics and formation of the whole child. In the Catholic school environment, a student grows daily in their knowledge of the faith and their relationship with Jesus. This is lived out daily in the classroom, modeled by the staff and put into practice through service to each other and those beyond the school.

Fr. Eckley is one of several other local priests who graduated from Consortium schools. We hope there will be many more to come!



FR. MIKE ECKLEY

Current Pastor, St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church - Omaha



Photo provided by Fr. Eckley, 3rd Grade.



OMAHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
CONSORTIUM

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Thank You

YOUR SUPPORT HELPS SHAPE OUR FUTURE.

