

ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# VISION REPORT







Dear St. Augustine Catholic School Community,

It is with great gratitude that we present to you the **2025 St. Augustine Catholic School Vision Report**. This document reflects our collective achievements, highlights our growth opportunities, and provides a vision for the future as we continue to nurture young minds in faith, academics, and service.

The past few years have been years of progress and growth. We have seen increased student enrollment, engagement among families, and ongoing academic excellence. However, our mission is ongoing. We are called to continuously seek excellence in all areas — whether that is through improving our instruction, fostering deeper spiritual formation, or ensuring financial sustainability for generations to come.

As you read through this report, we invite you to reflect on how you can contribute to the growth and promotion of this very special school community. Whether through volunteering, supporting our fundraising efforts, or spreading the word about our incredible school, every member of our community plays a vital role in our success. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to St. Augustine Catholic School. Our entire faculty and staff look forward to working together as we continue to spread the good N.E.W.S. by Navigating a Christian course, Educating body, mind, and spirit, Worshiping the Lord, and Serving others.

In Christ,

**Mrs. Emily Lenn**

Principal

**Fr. Mark Livingston**

Pastor



**Our House System builds community. All students and staff are sorted into 1 of 4 houses:**  
 Augustine House  
 Apostle House  
 Holy Family House  
 Archangel House

**Each student also has a Housemate, who they get to know during the course of the year!**



"We are always impressed by the way our children are treated personally and with great respect from all staff. We really appreciate the events that allow all school families to meet and bond."

**K. Malburg,**  
**Parent of two current students**



"I came to St. Augustine in 7th grade, looking for a school that would accept me and help me grow as a person. Everyone was really friendly and told me stories about what happened in earlier grades. It made me feel like family. The academics are strong, I've made social connections, and I've experienced wonderful traditions."

**V. Alfaro, Class of 2024**  
**Austin Catholic High School 10<sup>th</sup> grader**



**Kids Against Hunger challenged our students to pack 15,000 meals for the hungry in the Blue Water area. They did it in less than 3 hours!**



"The biggest impact St. A's has had on me to get me where I am now would definitely be my school work ethic. I was able to take the advice to "put your best self forward in everything you do" and bring it to high school to help me grow into the person I am today."

**A. Dobrasko, Class of 2020**  
**Richmond High Valedictorian '24**

Students have a diverse array of opportunities to refine their God-given gifts, which includes athletics, Science Olympiad, Lego Robotics, altar serving, and more.



**Students have regular opportunities to participate in weekly Mass and frequent Eucharistic Adoration, learning personal prayer.**



## Fast Facts:

**1930**

St. Augustine Catholic School was built from fieldstone and established 95 years ago.

**191**

Students in Preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are currently enrolled.

**16**

Professional Faculty include teachers, academic interventionist, literacy coach, & school counselor.



Accredited through the Michigan Non-public School Accrediting Association (MNSAA).



# MISSION AND CATHOLIC IDENTITY: FORMING FUTURE SAINTS

Together, we are forming disciples, strengthening our school's Catholic identity, and ensuring that St. Augustine Catholic School continues its mission to form students in the faith for generations to come.

91%

of students report that they believe in the **real presence** of Jesus in the Eucharist

87%

of 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders report having a **strong relationship** with God

## AREA OF FOCUS

- \* We are deeply committed to nurturing our families and the domestic church. One of the most profound opportunities before us is **to strengthen the practice of the faith in the home**, ensuring that our students take their faith experiences and understanding home with them and practice it by **increasing family prayer at home and making weekly Mass attendance a priority**.



## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

To deepen our families' relationships with Christ, we are launching new initiatives that encourage greater engagement and foster a culture of joyful discipleship.



**Expanded parent opportunities-** Parents will be invited to engage in the practice of the faith as experiences are incorporated into events such as conferences, Catholic Schools Week, March Is Reading month and more.



**Media Subscriptions-** Families will be encouraged to utilize the Hallow app and Formed that are aligned with school initiatives via the Saints Weekly.



**Engaging older students-** By providing opportunities for middle school students to plan faith experiences for the school community, they will take ownership and leadership in forming disciples. Middle school students will also attend an off campus discipleship-focused retreat.

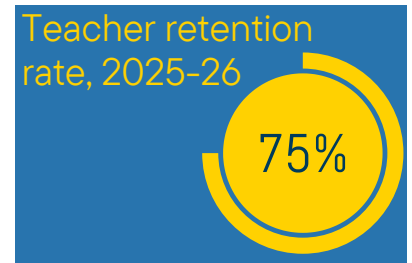
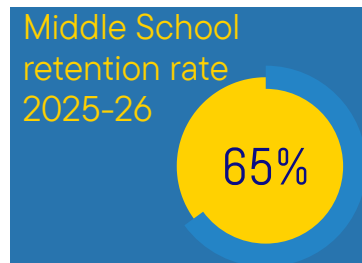
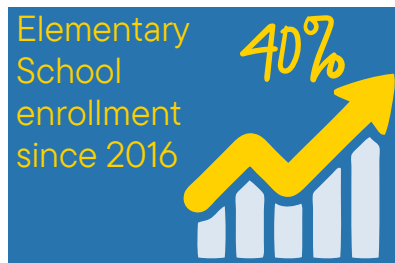


**Providing a variety of faith experiences is an essential way to bring our families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, immersing them in His presence, forming them in faith, and uniting them with the Church for the greater glory of God. As a Catholic school, we actively cultivate these experiences in our classrooms, and endeavor to do so in the homes of our school families.**



# GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP: BUILDING A FAMILY CULTURE OF BELONGING

Governance goes beyond policies and procedures—it's fostering a culture rooted in trust, collaboration, and a clear mission. When faculty, families, and leadership work together, our school thrives. With continued support, we can further enhance our governance systems and leadership, ensuring that St. Augustine Catholic School remains a community of excellence, mission, and continuous growth.



## AREA OF FOCUS

- \* Our commitment to **our school mission** has allowed us to retain elementary students, growing our student body, maintaining a faculty dedicated to the school's mission, and developing leadership that supports school-wide goals. Yet, as we continue to grow, we recognize an opportunity to increase our retention level in both the middle school and our lower elementary faculty.

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

A strong school community is built on a **shared understanding of mission and vision**. This year, we are deepening our efforts to clarify, communicate, and engage stakeholders in the direction of St. Augustine Catholic School.



**Middle school retention-** Retaining students after 5<sup>th</sup> grade is a key objective. Our faculty and staff is focused on promoting and sustaining a positive middle school climate, increasing leadership opportunities and collaboration for all students.



**Investing in faculty stability-** Faculty stability is a top priority. A formalized teacher mentor program has been developed and implemented with monthly topics for discussion. Mentorship will provide newer colleagues with continued support.



**Enhanced teacher compensation-** Competitive wages are essential to our continued success. Salary rates have been adjusted to promote teacher retention and maintain competitive pay in line with other area schools.

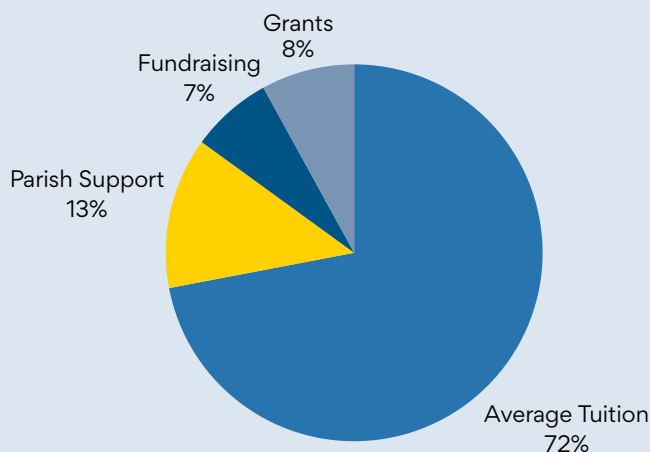
**School success is not just about administrative efficiency— it's about longevity and retention of community members. Together, we are laying the foundation for a thriving, mission-driven school, where communication is clear, leadership is strong, and our shared mission moves us forward.**



# OPERATIONAL VITALITY: STRENGTHENING OUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

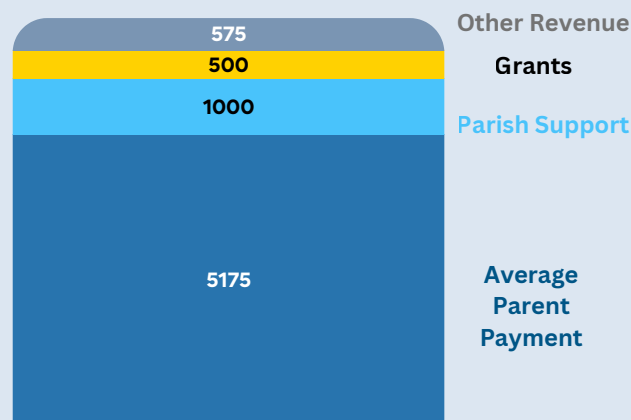
St. Augustine Catholic School is dedicated to responsible financial stewardship that ensures both affordability for families and long-term sustainability for the school and parish.

## SOURCES OF REVENUE: ST. A'S COMMUNITY



## ST. AUGUSTINE SCHOOL COST TO EDUCATE BREAKDOWN

Total CTE: \$7250



## AREA OF FOCUS



We are taking strategic steps to fortify the financial foundation of St. Augustine Catholic School. Tuition assistance/scholarship efforts will become more purposeful to help support families as they navigate their financial commitments. Additionally, we will begin outreach efforts to alumni re-establishing their connection to the school and providing an opportunity for support both financially and as ambassadors. We are expanding our fundraising efforts to ensure additional funding to support our school's sustainability for the future.

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

Financial strength is about more than just balancing numbers—it's about increasing affordability to current families, while ensuring that every student has access to an exceptional Catholic education for years to come.



**Scholarships-** An online giving link will be established, allowing donors to contribute to the school scholarship fund and/or sponsor a student. The parish envelope schedule will be adjusted, encouraging parish support for tuition assistance to help families afford a Catholic education.



**Alumni Engagement-** A development committee will work to create an updated alumni database, and plan/host alumni events promoting the school's mission. An alumni newsletter will be created and distributed periodically, along with an ongoing alumni giving campaign initiative.



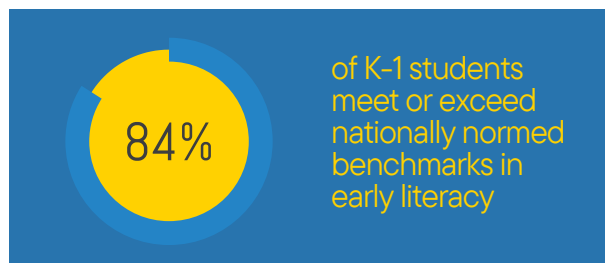
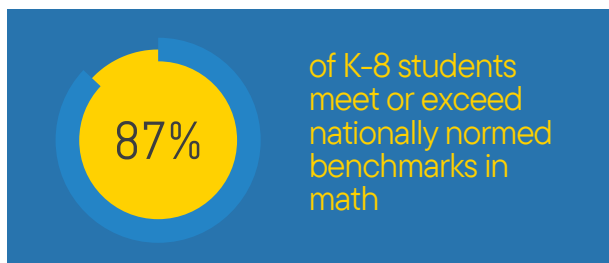
**Fundraising-** The school fundraising committee will evaluate each fundraising event, determine its effectiveness, and make adjustments to focus on those that generate the most revenue. Canvassing businesses will be re-established to obtain sponsorships, reducing event costs and increasing profit.

**Our financial health is a reflection of our shared dedication. By uniting school alumni, families, donors, and the parish, we can foster both growth in and accessibility to Catholic education in our community.**



# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: RAISING THE BAR FOR STUDENT GROWTH

Academic excellence is the result of a collective effort among educators, students, and families. Together, we are building a legacy of academic excellence, ensuring that every student at St. Augustine Catholic School is empowered to learn, grow, and succeed, thus preparing them for continued achievement in high school and beyond.



## AREA OF FOCUS

✳ This year we are focusing on **early intervention** because it is the most effective prevention measure to reduce reading difficulty in the upper elementary grades. We know that reading is the foundation for long-term academic success and personal development. By the time students reach 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, focus shifts from learning to read to reading to learn. Early intervention is key in building a solid foundation of literacy skills.

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

As we build upon our successes, we are strategically expanding the initiatives that have yielded the **greatest impact on student growth**, leading to **increased achievement** over time. We are committed to not just maintaining our momentum but accelerating it—ensuring that every classroom is a place where students are deeply engaged and learning is both rigorous and fun.



**Literacy Coaching-** Title I funds will be used to hire a skilled literacy coach to provide reading intervention instruction individually and in small groups to K-3 students who need extra help. The literacy coach will also assist new elementary teachers in implementing phonics instruction.



**Professional Development Workshops-** Title II funds will be prioritized to allow early elementary teachers to attend workshops or training to improve Tier I phonics and reading instruction.



**Tutoring-** If sufficient funding is available, Title I tutoring services will continue to be offered, increasing collaborative efforts among literacy coach, classroom teacher, academic interventionist, and tutor, thus increasing student growth. Final funding amounts will be released in January 2026.

**By prioritizing growth through student-centered, targeted instructional practices, progress-monitoring, and collaborative instructional efforts, we will ensure that every student has the opportunity to grow and flourish academically.**



# PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS

At St Augustine Catholic School, families are essential partners in our mission. Your support strengthens our community, enriches student experiences, and ensures a thriving school environment. Here's how you can make a meaningful impact:



## JOIN PARISH LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Help your child deepen their faith by attending weekend Mass as a family and engaging in parish life.



## STAY CONNECTED & INFORMED

Read school communications (Saints Weekly newsletter & Facebook posts), attend parent meetings, and participate in other school events.



## SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

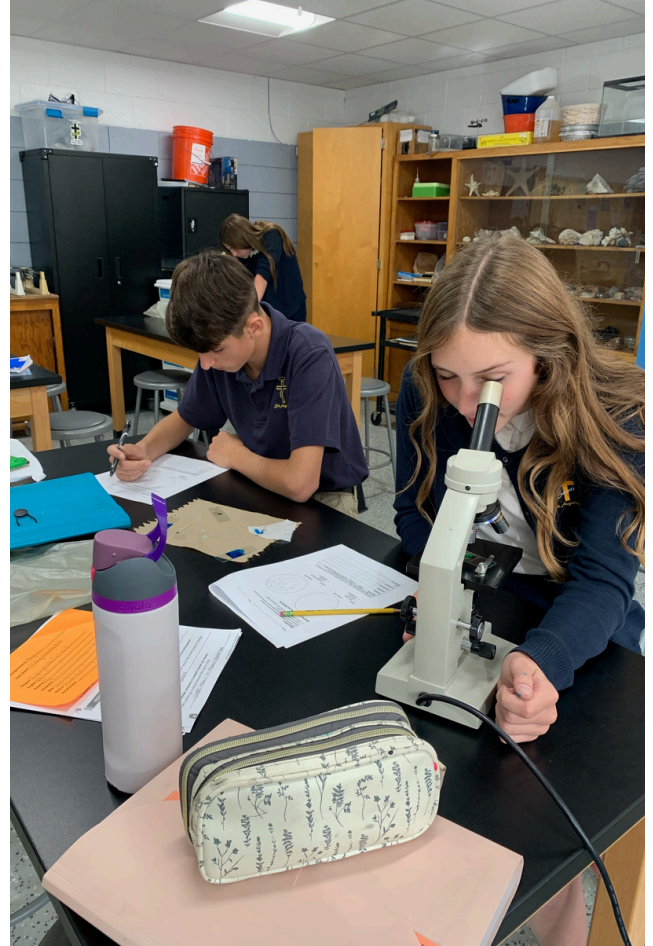
Encourage reading, celebrate academic growth, and reinforce faith at home through discussion and prayer.



## GET INVOLVED IN SCHOOL LIFE

Volunteer for events, cheer on student-athletes, and support clubs and extracurricular activities.

By working together, we ensure that St. Augustine Catholic School remains a place where students flourish in faith, learning, and service. Thank you for being an essential part of our school family!





# THANK YOU!

## STAY CONNECTED

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# Go Saints!