

Blessings

- *We were open every day of this school year and students were learning.
- *Added 2 dynamic teachers to our dedicated staff.
- *Kept with our tradition of sending letters to Veterans, we sent out 225 letters and flags.
- *In September, celebrated Grandparents/Grand friends all week long. Students wrote letters letting their grandparents and grand friends know how appreciative they are to have them as special people in their lives.
- *A financially successful 7th annual golf outing with 115 participants.
- *Donated funds for new chairs and music stands for the music department.
- *A fun filled Catholic Schools Week.
- *Student created classroom wall quilts.
- *Many hands helped to prepare the school with the extra precautions taken for a safe, and healthy environment.
- *Facebook challenges ensured a great Annual School Fund Drive.
- *Using the engineering design process, middle school students experimented with our new 3D printer.
- *November/January ZOOM conferences which allowed for communication between teachers and parents.

- *Advent Food Drive with 16 boxes of food brought to Holy Name of Mary Food Pantry in Maplewood.
- *An out of this world raffle substitution for our Gala of Giving, 679 tickets sold!!!
- *Of the 9 teams competing in the Door County Middle School Math competition, Bosco's *The Mathee People* took second. Four students placed in the top 15.
- *Lisa Mueller, first grade teacher, was selected as a Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellow, a state award.
- *We celebrated First Communion with our 2nd graders.
- *Donation of monies to teachers for classroom supplies.
- *8th graders had a memorable class trip to Washington D.C.
- *We were able to have Advent and Lenten rituals and participate in Stations of the Cross as we journeyed together as a community, a family of faith, and people of hope.

Opportunities for 2020-2021 School Year

- *Looking for a donor for microscopes to enhance our science program.
- *Continued support with our 3rd source funding.
- *Funding for a 2nd 3D printer.
- *Continued expansion of our curriculum for students.
- *Virtual Reality Glasses.



Message from the Principal...

Uncovering Our Strengths

Tribulations can reveal parts of ourselves that we may not have even been aware of – both good and bad. By acting as a catalyst to uncover these things hardship can help us correct and improve the things that are not in alignment with our values, while strengthening what we would like to develop.

Indeed, it is during life's difficulties that we must dig deep, find strength, and develop our wisdom. Perhaps many of our noble traits would lie dormant, or would not reach their full potential, were we not challenged to use them.

It is in times of hardship that we have an opportunity to improve ourselves. We are made to face our fears and have a chance to do the right thing despite them.

Perhaps no group better than our Bosco Learning Community better exemplifies this during this past year with Covid. We have bonded and focused on keeping everyone safe, healthy and our school open for learning. We were apprehensive in fall when we opened and counted each day as a blessing. Our first positive cases came in late October and while once fearful of this happening we grew stronger by getting thru that tumultuous time.

When encountering difficulties, we should seek to be like nature. Even in times of calamity, when all seems lost and the destruction seems complete, sprouts shoot up through the charred forest remains. Life goes on. Nature doesn't cease pushing forward in the face of disaster, nor should we. Nature teaches us endurance and resilience, even when all hope seems lost. When we follow what life naturally brings, rather than trying to resist, we can learn the valuable lessons contained therein. Hardships do not come without reason. We are being given a gift, a chance to improve ourselves. I've found that when I flow with what comes, things work out best. Despite my desire to sometimes avoid difficulty, or have things go a certain way, when I can put this aside, and go with what life brings, I improve.

Like George Bailey in "It's a Wonderful Life," we may think our hardships are too much for us to bear and feel hopeless at times. But if we take a step back, we'll find

our troubles are much smaller than we'd originally believed. Roman Stoic philosopher Seneca understood that "a gem cannot be polished without friction, nor can man be perfected without trials."

We've been dealing with Covid for 15 months, and as bad as it might feel now, it won't be this way forever, and when we look back, the hardships we've endured will have lost their sting. Keeping this in mind is important, because our mind can make things much worse than they actually are. We've all overcome tough times before, and we'll do it again. As I see it, we all have a choice. We can choose to look at hardships as failures and misfortunes, view life as unfair, and blame others for our miseries. Or we can choose to see hardships as the opportunities that they are: opportunities to strengthen our resilience, endurance, empathy, courage, tolerance, patience, forgiveness, and our ability to sacrifice. Hardships give us our best change to improve our character. There are just so many good things to be gained and so many bad things to be discarded. What path we choose is ultimately up to us.

Thanks to Many

To My Dedicated Staff: Although their work speaks for itself, there is something that needs to be shared. Their commitment to every task this year has been outstanding. The entire staff committed themselves to the health, safety and learning of each of the students. Their incredible work ethic was amazing. The face-to-face instruction provided our students with the interactions they needed with staff and their classmates and student learning continued. The meals provided, cleanliness/sanitizing of the building, communication from the school, etc. afforded a near normal environment for the year where students felt safe, connected, learning. Thank you for your commitment, skills, knowledge, and work ethic.



To Our Families: So many of you committed yourselves to home, giving up gatherings, vacations, time with others, etc. Rather than only looking out for your students you looked out for their classmates as well. You wanted to make sure everyone was healthy, and those decisions helped with us staying open all year long. We could not have done it without you, our partners. Thank you for your perseverance and dedication.

Our Board of Trustees: Individuals committed to making sure the school had a financially sound foundation during this trying time and doing it with a smile and a fierce commitment to getting goals met. I am grateful for the way you stepped up when there were additional demands to be met. The great results are due in no small part to the tremendous effort on your part. Thank you for your vision, imagination and creativity.

Parent Association and Volunteers: You were out of sight this year but never out of our minds. We missed you and the special smiles and talents that you bring to our school throughout the year. I hope we have a very different set of circumstances in fall. Thank you, Parent Association, for the thoughtful, special gifts staff received from parents during Staff Appreciation Week.

Donors, Foundations, Trusts, Parishes: You continue to be our foundation upon which we build. You provide the necessary funding critical to the success and future of our world with your school support. Our next generations' knowledge, lifelong skills, and character traits are formed here at St. John Bosco. You each are a wonderful example of people coming together and selflessly using what they have to help others. It is inspiring to all of us, especially our students.

A final word to the St. John Bosco students: Thank you for all your hard work this year. You adapted with grace to the changes, kept on smiling (I could see the twinkle in your eyes) and made the best of the pandemic situation. You are stronger for it. To our graduating eighth graders, we sing "Go Make a Difference". Go out and make a difference. You are the light of the world and will carry the spirit of Christ as you go. Go make a difference in the world.

Paraphrasing Winston Churchill, we should let no crisis go to waste. We each should take the opportunity to find ways to use the lessons we are learning, putting them to use improving ourselves, our family lives, our businesses, our specialty, and life for our fellow citizens.

Let's celebrate the successes, appreciate the struggles, and make some memories this summer.

Mrs. Dassler

Catholic Identity and Faith Formation

Our faith is demonstrated and lived every day and our faith teaches the sanctity of each human being. At St. John Bosco we strive to help students become fully human – mind, heart, imagination, and soul – in an environment where students feel safe to discover their unique identity and gifts and where all human life and differences are valued. We convey our Catholic teachings through classroom materials, field trips, participation and preparation of weekly liturgies, school assemblies, service projects, prayer experiences, behavior expectations, school celebrations, co-curricular activities, and the physical environment of the school building. Most importantly, the religious education of our students goes beyond the daily religious instructional minutes in the classroom. Staff model our Catholic virtues through their interactions with the students as well as with each other. Students are taught to do the same with one another. Additionally, we recognize that parents are the first teachers of the faith and we communicate in partnership with them to guide and educate our students as stewards of the Catholic faith. Students are provided religious service opportunities that allow the children a way to live out these values and experience them personally in their own lives.

HOW WE LIVE OUR FAITH:

- Weekly mass for 5K - 8th grade students (4K students attend mass once a month)
- All school and grade level service projects including letters, placemats, cards, etc.
- Daily prayers as a school, in class, visiting our Prayer Garden
- Service-based field trips to Door County Medical Center and Cardinal Ridge
- School-wide events centered around our faith – Blessing of the Animals, Catholic Schools Week, Grandparent's Day, Veterans Day, Stations of the Cross and the Living Rosary
- 8th graders attend Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception while on their annual trip to Washington D.C.
- Food Drives for Maplewood Parish Food Pantry, Feed My People and Thanksgiving baskets.
- Baby items donated to the Christ Child Society.

How did Jesus love his disciples? By living life with them for 3 years. In a sense, we love our students. By knowing them deeply, by teaching them, by being an example to them on how to live out their life. By holding them accountable. By challenging them. By training them. By forgiving them. By being a leader for them and then asking them to do the same

with others. We journey with them toward discipleship. The important distinction with Christian discipleship is that we are not called to learn the teachings of Jesus Christ, we are called to live them. A disciple who bases his or her life on the teachings of Christ "like a person building a house, who dug a deep hole to lay the foundation on rock" (Luke 6:48). When we make our initial declaration of faith and ask Christ to be our Savior, He will begin changing us from the inside, giving us the ability to understand His word and the desire to live it.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

A big focus for St. John Bosco the past 3 years has been an upgraded STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) program. Project Lead the Way, a nationally recognized program, was adopted in 2018 and extensive training took place at Milwaukee School of Engineering with all the classroom teachers involved with the program 4K through 5th and our Science Teacher for middle school 6-8. Continued training for additional modules is ongoing.

Launch is the program for 4K – 5th and Gateway is the program for 6-8. Various modules are taught within the Gateway Program. Below is a listing of some of the modules taught to the middle school students with final project expectations.

Design and Modeling: Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.

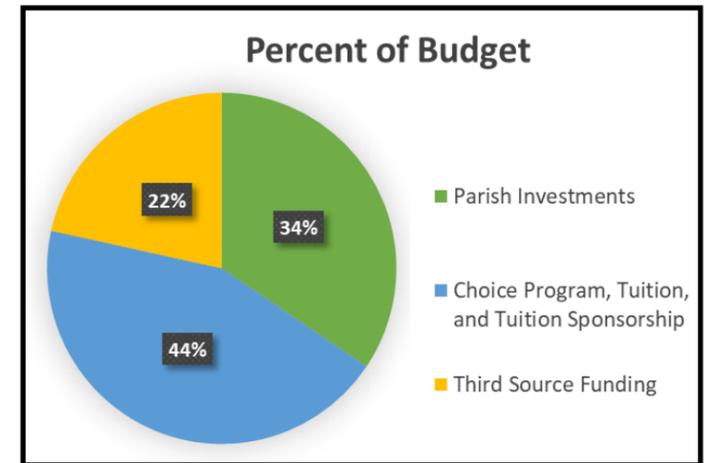
Automation and Robotics: Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer-controlled systems. Students use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

App Creators: The unit exposes students to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

Magic of Electrons: Through hands-on projects, students explore electricity, the behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices. They learn knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them.

Flight and Space: The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through this unit. Students become engineers as they design, prototype, and test models to learn about the science of flight and what it takes to travel and live-in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to Mars.

Finances



Parish Investment (\$319,500) 34%

Choice Program, Tuition, and Tuition Sponsorship (\$408,350) 44%

Third Source Funding (\$200,000) 22%

At St. John Bosco, we are very aware of the investment that is being made in our children by parishioners, parents, and community members. We take seriously our responsibility to be fiscally responsible with decisions we make. The above figures are what has been budgeted for the 2020-2021 school year. Third Source Funding includes our Annual St. John Bosco Golf Outing, Annual School Fund Drive, and Gala of Giving.

Grants and donations toward our technology upgrade is our special project this year. Special projects are not part of our general school budget and it is necessary to fund these projects thru grants and specific donations. iPads, laptops, Smartboards, server, and training for staff are part of the focus this summer with the new devices. We have raised the necessary monies/received grants to meet the cost of \$235,000.

