

# 2017-18 Marist Progress Report

**Faith** – This year we welcomed Fr. Theodore Lange who has been assigned as part-time chaplain to Marist. Fr. Theo, who is also the pastor of St. Catherine’s Catholic Church in Veneta, is on campus most days serving Mass, ministering to students and staff and teaching theology.

**Academics** – With academic excellence in mind, we adjusted our teachers’ schedules this year. This new schedule provides substantially more time to collaborate and innovate. We have implemented enhanced techniques to help students graduate college-ready. We have also expanded our efforts to cultivate skills of grit, persistence and balance in our students.

**Student Support** – Our new Director of Student Services, Christi Nicholson, is focused on student support and school culture. To build upon our strong community and school culture, a new Ally Building student leadership team has been formed with a focus on anti-bullying, cultural competency and peer mentorship. The school has also implemented a new program to support diverse learners with increased collaboration between parents, teachers, counselors and administrators. And we are blessed by the support of our community partners that offer continued instruction to students around building healthy relationships and technology use; to parents with strategies to support your child’s emotional health and appropriate technology use; and to teachers around cultural competency.

**Co-curricular Activities** – We continue to upgrade and update our athletic facilities. We have raised over 80% of the funds needed to install a new track. The old track will be demolished this summer and reconstructed with an upgraded surface for our students to use for many years to come.

**Recognition** – We often talk about the top-quality staff that we have at Marist but now they are receiving broader recognition. English teacher Bill Ferrari will receive the National Catholic Educational Association’s *Lead.Learn.Proclaim. Award* in April for “outstanding efforts, contributions and achievements on behalf of Catholic education.” And our venerable history teacher, Jon Nuxoll, was recognized by the local *and* regional Veterans of Foreign Wars as this year’s *National Citizenship Education Teacher*.

**Safe Campus** – Your students’ safety is our top priority. This year we hired a full-time dean of students to enhance structure and discipline for our students. We have also made some facility improvements. As part of the Archdiocese’ *Safety First Program* these past few years, we have improved lighting and signage, updated wiring, and upgraded door handles and locks. This year we installed an electronic access control system which better restricts campus access and gives us the ability to quickly lock down the campus if the need should arise. The next phase is to implement a campus-wide surveillance system this summer.

**Advancement** – We have a department devoted to fundraising for Marist. These efforts provide the financial means to continue to refine and enhance our programs and to update our facilities while keeping the tuition rate as low as possible. Most of the funds are raised in our annual fund drive and at our auction in May. Already this year we have raised over 80% of our annual fund goal and have collected \$90,000 in sponsorships for the auction. We welcome you to participate in any way you can – time, talent or treasure. In fact, your tuition contract provides the opportunity to pay the full cost per student – estimated at \$13,725 for 2018-19. The difference of \$1,875 over our tuition rate qualifies as a tax-deductible donation to our annual fund drive.