

John Ireland Catholic School

A Year in Review
2021-2022

Mission Statement

John Ireland School is a Catholic community welcoming students of all faiths, devoted to Gospel Values, Academic Excellence, and Christian Service.

A place where each child is known and loved.



"Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus,
the author and finisher of our faith.

Hebrews 12: 1.2

School Year Stats

School began on September 2, 2021 and ended on May 25, 2022.

Enrollment for K-6 was 75 students and preschool classes were an additional 23 students. This was a total of 98 which is an increased of 5 from the previous school year. It was an increase of 11 students in K-6. Preschool classes were down due to COVID.

The school staff revised and updated procedures which followed CDC, MDE, MDH, and DNU (Diocese of New Ulm as well as all dioceses in MN) guidelines and recommendations.

We were able to be in person all school. A few classes needed to quarantine in the fall and winter months due to potential exposures.

Tuition, Fundraising, and Parish Support

John Ireland Tuition - per child for school year

Parishioner	\$2,473.00
Non Parishioner	\$2,978.00

Little Angels Tuition - per child for school year

Three Day Class	\$1,425
Four/Five Day Class	\$1,625
No Two Day Class due to COVID	

John Ireland Families fundraising obligation was \$700 per family. No fundraising obligation for Little Angels families.

Fifty-two JI Families raised almost \$45,000

Almost \$18,000 was given out in scholarships

Our Marathon/Annual Appeal goal was \$10,000 and we raised about \$18,000. We were able to celebrate Mass, and bike or walk outside. We also had our lunch.

We received a challenge matching grant opportunity this fall from the Schulze Family Foundation which resulted in \$61,075 for our school! These funds will be used for Teacher Recruit/Retain/Reward, Middle School Expansion, and Marketing/Development.

Our Little Angels Fundraiser, Breakfast with Santa, was held and raised about \$6,770 for our preschool program.

We received an anonymous donation of \$100,00 in November. This money has been added to our Catholic Community Foundation Fund and the interest will be used for scholarships.

Our kick-off for Catholic Schools Week was Mass, Breakfast, and Book Fair. The breakfast raised about \$1,375. We earned \$3,000 to spend on books and materials for the library through the book fair.

For our annual Luck of the Irish event we raised about \$54,000. In 2021 we raised \$50,500. We also sold a records number of raffle tickets, 646! In 2021 we sold 581 raffle tickets.

Our goal is to have a viable and sustainable school in which our families contribute $\frac{2}{3}$, and our parish support would then be $\frac{1}{3}$ of the expenses.

2016-2017	Parish Support 51%
2017-2018	Parish Support 46%
2018-2019	Parish Support 47%
2019-2020	Parish Support 38%
2020-2021	Parish Support about 32%
2021-2022	Parish Support 36%
2022-2023	Budgeted Parish Support 34%

Our fiscal year ends June 30, 2022 and financial reports will be shared in the fall.

Accomplishments

- ★ Completed another safe and healthy school year during a pandemic
- ★ In person differentiated instruction throughout the school year during a pandemic
- ★ Meeting the needs of the whole child (physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual) - Added a social/emotional curriculum, Friendlyzy
- ★ Incorporated new ways of teaching and learning utilizing a variety of resources
- ★ Multi-age classes - organization, structure, and growth
- ★ Updated procedures that followed guidelines and recommendations from MDE, MDH, CDC, and Diocese of New Ulm
- ★ Continued to have all school prayer services and school Masses weekly
- ★ Father Craig - weekly visits to the classrooms
- ★ Technology updates for classrooms and computer lab
- ★ Successful fundraisers and challenge matching grant

More Accomplishments

- ★ Enrollment was up for kindergarten through sixth grade
- ★ Christmas Program and Spring Program
- ★ Completion of FAST Assessments in Fall, Winter, and Spring to help guide instruction and meet the diverse needs of the students during this unique time
- ★ Given the approval to expand our school to include grades 7-8 in Fall 2022
- ★ Increased salaries to get closer to more just and fair wages - step and cost of living increases
- ★ Teacher Recruit/Retain/Reward program established because of Challenge Grant - In the spring a bonus was given to current teachers based on performance. A fall bonus is planned for returning teachers and a signing bonus for new teachers.

School Strategic Plan - A Few Highlights

(Objective 4) **John Ireland School will promote and continue to grow the school community.**

(STRATEGY 4) We will increase our funds for further advancement of our school.			
	Timeline	Responsibility	Progress Report
(Action Step 1) Create a solicitation schedule for ongoing and consistent invitations	Spring 2024	JIPAC	2021-2022 We received a challenge grant opportunity from the Schulze Family Foundation in the Fall 2021. This was not planned. This opportunity was successful and raised about \$61,000 of unbudgeted money for our school for teachers, middle school, and marketing/development.
(Action Step 5) Review plan and share plan with stakeholders	Fall 2021	JIPAC, Principal, Pastor, Expansion Committee, Admin Council	2021-2022 Through a joint effort during the fall and winter and with the increased funds our school received, we were given permission at the end of February to expand our school to add grades 7-8 beginning in the Fall 2022. Our middle school will include grades 6-7-8. A budget was created this spring, enrollment was opened, and this summer steps are being taken to prepare for this expansion by hiring a teacher, ordering supplies and materials, and preparing the spaces needed.

Assessments - Overview

During the 2021-2022 school year we completed Fall, Winter, and Spring FAST (FastBridge Learning) Assessments in grades 1-6 for Math and Reading.

Kindergarten completed early Math and early Reading FAST assessments.

- The main purpose of these assessments is to help guide instruction.
- Given the unusual spring, 2020-2021 school year and 2021-2022 school year, we acknowledge many students were struggling in a variety of ways which affected their results in both positive and negative ways. These assessments were just one means of identifying the direction of the instruction.

FAST Assessments - Number of Students in each Percentage Range

aReading (grades K-6)

	Fall	Winter	Spring
85-99%	11	22	23
30-84%	62	54	59
20-29%	7	11	7
1-19%	20	13	11

aMath (grades K-6)

	Fall	Winter	Spring
85-99%	9	10	7
30-84%	69	74	70
20-29%	6	4	15
1-19%	16	12	8

Goals and Areas of Focus for 2022-2023

- ❖ Focus on ways to promote social and emotional learning and growth
- ❖ More collaboration opportunities, team building, retreats, and faith development for staff
- ❖ Add middle school program
- ❖ Transition from previous Math curriculum to current/future Math curriculum
- ❖ Continue to increase staff salaries to a more just rate
- ❖ Continue to increase visibility of JI through a variety of marketing efforts
- ❖ Continue to rebuild website and update regularly

Mary, we place John Ireland School under your protection. We ask you to bless us and help us to grow. You were the protector of Jesus on earth; send your protection and help to our school. May all students, parents, and teachers grow closer to your son. Help our school be a strong witness of Jesus to others. We ask this in the name of your son, Jesus. Amen.

