



Hastings Catholic Education Foundation Fall Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2023

Message from the Principal



Dear friends of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School:

The school year is off to a great start. Our students and teachers have settled into their new routines and schedules.

Thanks to the continued generosity of the SEAS community and the Hastings Catholic Education Foundation, we've introduced new curriculum in our kindergarten through eighth grade classes. The new curriculum was this year's fund-a-need focus at the annual Spring Fling fundraiser.

The costs of textbooks and supplies have far outpaced our budgets. We updated middle school science and

math, and each grade level received "Theology of the Body," a series recommended by the Archdiocese that focuses on many of the questions our students face today.

We have a lot to celebrate at SEAS — the good news about our school is spreading throughout the community.

- For the first time in many years, enrollment from kindergarten through eighth grade has grown — we've welcomed 10 new students. We are so grateful to make Jesus Christ known and loved to even more students.
- Because we partner with students' parents and guardians, we are able to build a foundation of academic excellence that will last a lifetime.
- Once again, our MAP scores are off the charts. Our eighth graders are outperforming

11th graders in math and language arts.

As we prepare our hearts for the upcoming Advent season, let's focus on what's most important. For me, it's the opportunity to help make Christ known and loved by our students and to help guide them on the faith journey. It's why our school exists and the mission of all those who give their time and talent to the SEAS community.

Please continue to keep our students, staff and school families in your prayers as we embark on this school year. If you have any questions about our school or would like a tour, contact me at the below number.

In Christ's love,

Tim Sullivan
SEAS Principal

651-437-3098

tsullivan@seas-school.org



Making a difference

SEAS students in seventh and eighth grade are making a difference in our community. Each student is responsible for volunteering 20-hours per school year. Students can help family members or neighbors with yard work, babysitting or housework duties. Students are encouraged to share their talents like serving at Mass or singing in the choir. The graduating eighth grade class makes an annual trip to Mary Jo Copeland's Sharing & Caring Hands in Minneapolis where they prepare and serve a meal. Most students say this is their most valued memory after they graduate from SEAS.



A message from the HCEF Board President



Dear supporters of Catholic education:

Over the past 30 years, SEAS School parents have been working hard to help keep Catholic education in our community affordable through various fundraising efforts like Spring Fling.

Spring Fling — our largest fundraiser hosted by current SEAS families — is a time to bring families and parish members together for an entertaining evening, while raising money for the foundation. Thanks to those who supported this event for the past 30 years and we look forward to having you continue to make next year's Spring Fling an exciting, successful event.

It's the foundation's goal to help keep tuition low to provide an excellent education that's affordable to all. As of today, the foundation has grown to more than \$1.5 million — we use earnings from these funds as well as other donations to contribute to the school. Here's how Hastings Catholic Education Foundation (HCEF) supports SEAS School:

- Since the inception of the foundation in 2018, we've invested more than \$380,000 to help pay for school expenses and special projects.
- The foundation wants to make sure the school has access to the latest and best technology. Over the years, we've purchased Smart Boards, Chromebooks and more.
- We are so grateful that SEAS Parish continues to support SEAS School. The annual cost to educate a student is approximately \$8,000, while the current tuition for parish families is \$4,650 per student and \$5,920 for non-parish students. It's the foundation's goal is to reduce that burden on the parish.

The foundation would like your support to help raise substantial funds. This is your opportunity to give back to the Hastings Catholic education community and make a difference in the future of our children. Use the enclosed envelope to make your donation.

Please consider making a tax deductible year-end contribution to the Hastings Catholic Education Foundation. The HCEF accepts stock donations — if you have stocks that have appreciated, that's an attractive way to donate.

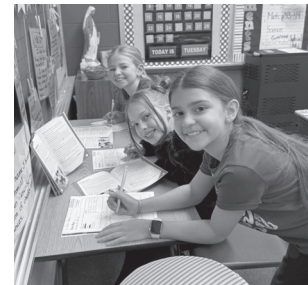
If you use the standard deduction and your charitable contributions do not exceed the standard deduction level, consider combining a couple years of contributions into one year so your deduction exceeds the limit and is more effective for tax purposes.

If you are an IRA owner who is 70 1/2 years or older, you can give to a charity without itemizing and still get a tax break through a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). If you use the QCD program and donate from your IRA, it could meet your required minimum distributions. I am not a tax expert so please consult your tax advisor to see how each program fits your individual goals.

Thank you for considering a donation and have a wonderful Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas with your family.

Sincerely,

Leon Endres
HCEF Board President



A family tradition

Meet the Caturia family as they share how Catholic education has prepared them for their professional career as pilots.

The Caturia family — dad Joe and sons William and Jack — all graduates of Hastings Parochial/SEAS School and University of North Dakota, are commercial pilots. Joe (class of '81), a captain for FedEx, William (class of 2011) a first officer for Delta Airlines and Jack (class of 2014) a first officer for SkyWest Airlines.

The impact of their Catholic education long extends beyond the classroom as it has formed a life-long foundation of faith and has provided a strong moral compass. It also helped shape their academic abilities as well as character and values, with faith and family most important.

Both William and Jack said they learned that their success in life requires discipline, personal responsibility and a relationship with God. Their small class sizes was the right environment to learn, and it was clear that the teachers truly cared about each student.

Being a part of a community like Catholic school is important and the emphasis on compassion and service of others has influenced them as they went through high school, college and into their careers. The friendships developed during their school years are special as those relationships are still important today.

Joe and Kay Caturia live in Hastings and have three children William, Hannah (class of 2015, a RN lives in Bozeman, MT) and Jack. The love of flying runs deep in the Caturia family as Joe's dad, Jim Caturia, is a pilot as well as three of his brothers, John, Jeff and Jake — all graduates of Hastings Parochial/St. Boniface.



This is William's last flight as a captain for SkyWest before being hired by Delta. Both Jack, first officer, and Joe were able to ride along.

Stay in the know with HCEF

Follow **Hastings Catholic Education Foundation** on Facebook to stay up to date with upcoming events, new school projects and fundraising opportunities. If you'd like to donate your time, talent or treasure to support St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, contact the school office 651-437-3098.

For more information about HCEF, visit HastingsCatholicEducationFoundation.org.

For more information about SEAS School, visit SEAS-school.org.





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HASTINGS CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

**600 Tyler St.
Hastings, MN 55033
651-437-3098**

First Name Last Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
City State Zip

Mark your calendars

Our annual Spring Fling fundraising event is scheduled for **Friday, April 26, 2024**.

The event will be held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church and will include dinner by Hastings Public House, a silent and live auction by O'Sullivan Auctioneers, and back by popular demand, entertainment by Sweet Keys Dueling Pianos.

All proceeds raised at Spring Fling will support SEAS Catholic School through tuition assistance, scholarships, capital and technology improvements, teacher grants and more.

Visit HastingsCatholicEducationFoundation.org as more information will be available in the coming months.

HCEF is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

Meet the HCEF Board of Directors

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Shawndel Spader

Website: hastingscatholiceducationfoundation.org

Email: HastingsCatholicEdFoundation@gmail.com

Phone (SEAS School): 651-437-3098