



**MARQUETTE  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

*Be His. Be Built. Be Sent.*



# **MARQUETTE & ECDC FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN**

**BE HIS. BE BUILT. BE SENT.**

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## MARQUETTE CATHOLIC SCHOOL & ECDC FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

For over 100 years, Marquette Catholic School has been a place of encounter, transformation, and community for thousands of students. With a history unmatched in the diocese, the Marquette community extends beyond our campus and has created a trusted and welcoming faith community for generations of families.

God has been abundantly good to us at Marquette Catholic School, and with these gifts comes the responsibility to continually refine and renew our efforts to pursue greatness for His glory. Over the course of many months of data collection from our stakeholders, focus groups, surveys and executive committees, we are ready to embark on a new five-year strategic plan.

This strategic plan will advance our mission for years to come.

Along with this plan is a renewed vision to better give us a direction for the future. This vision is best captured in the phrase: Be His. Be Built. Be Sent.

While discerning the rich history of our school and parish community as well as the direction that we are going, it was evident that Marquette is a place and community that first and foremost belongs to Jesus Christ, that forms and builds students with care, intentionality, and excellence, and that sends our students out into the world to transform it.

### **Be His**

We are a Catholic school, devoted to Jesus Christ first. Everything we do is centered around our Catholic faith. We belong to Him and believe that our reliance on Him and relationship with Him are crucial to the fruitfulness of our mission.

### **Be Built**

Together, we pursue excellence. We pursue excellence in academics, in virtue, in physical activity. Our role is to help form students to be prepared for the exciting adventure that God is calling them into.

### **Be Sent**

Although Marquette will always be home to all of our students, our ultimate goal is to prepare them for beyond our walls. With intentionality and fervor, we give students the tools they need to be sent out into the world to transform it.

This phrase is at the heart of our strategic plan. Together, let us be His, be built, and be sent on mission for the greater glory of God.

# Vision

The Parish of Christ the King and Marquette Catholic School seek to be a place of encounter, transformation, and mission with and for Jesus Christ - a place where all parishioners and students can live a life of holiness, foster Christian virtues, establish faith-based friendships, and be sent out into the world as true witnesses of Jesus Christ.

Be His. Be Built. Be Sent.

# Mission

Marquette Catholic School is a community with Jesus Christ at its center that empowers students academically, cultivates Christian virtues, and prioritizes the development of the whole student.





# PRIORITY AREAS

Faith Formation

Academic Excellence

First-Class Facilities

## FAITH FORMATION

We are a Catholic school, devoted to Jesus Christ first. To fulfill our mission, the faith formation of our students is paramount. This requires our teachers to not only serve as exemplary models of the faith but to continue to grow in their own spiritual lives. Furthermore, we understand that parents also play a critical role in faith formation. Therefore, the role of the family is an intentional part of our plan. Over the next five years, we will take a three-pronged approach focusing on all key constituents in the faith formation of our student body—students, teachers, and parents.

Through the use of ongoing, mandatory spiritual formation sessions for our teachers, a universal pedagogical approach to incorporating Catholicism into all subject matters, instituting the beloved Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program from the ECDC to k-3rd grade, enhancing our recruitment strategies for attracting talented Catholic educators, and much more, we will strive to fully embrace and live out our Catholic identity.

*Marquette Catholic School will:*

### Students

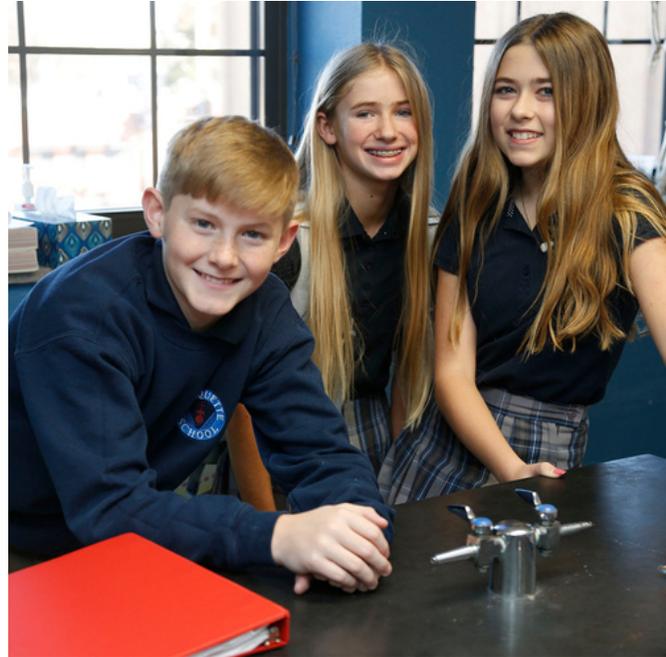
- Introduce Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to students in K-3 grade.
- Implement a Virtues in Practice curriculum in order to enhance the human formation of our students.

### Teachers and Staff

- Hold one faith formation session per month that all staff is required to attend.
- Require teachers to make a yearly profession of faith and oath of fidelity. This will begin following the first full year of the aforementioned monthly formation sessions.
- Develop a recruitment and retention program for attracting talented Catholic educators.
- Create a pedagogical style guide for how to integrate Catholicism across all subject matters. The intent is to provide practical examples for teachers to follow.

### Parents

- Provide spiritual opportunities for parents to encounter the Person of Jesus and learn how to become spiritually invested in the faith life of their children.
- Sponsor Parish of Christ the King Service Saturdays throughout the year to be used as both a means of service to the community and an opportunity for parents to deepen their faith.
- Develop and execute a faith formation strategy directed toward parents at Marquette with the assistance of the Liturgical Living Committee.



## STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Marquette Catholic School has a long history and reputation for achieving academic excellence. It is critical to the future of our school to continually strive to achieve such excellence and provide the best academic experience for our students.

*Marquette Catholic School will:*

- 1. Implement a comprehensive approach for personal and emotional development for Pre-K through 8th grades.** We will hire a professional counselor to support the needs of students and parents, provide classes and seminars to address mental and emotional health concerns, and equip our staff and faculty with tools to promote a healthier and safer environment. This hire will be in addition to our current K-5 counselor.
- 2. Invest in the professional development and continuing education of our teachers.** We will support our teachers by providing access to classes, training, materials, and certifications that will serve to enhance the personalized instruction of our students. Part of the RISE program staff will become certified in helping students with Dyslexia to support them in the areas of reading, writing, and speech.
- 3. Redefine our technology strategy to support overall academic progress and personal development.** We believe technology is a tool. We want our students to be able to not only use technology effectively but to be prepared to use it appropriately and in support of furthered learning across subject matters. Additionally, further resources will be used to support parents in navigating how to guide their children in digital and social media use. We will enhance our technology curriculum based on innovation, skill, and responsibility.
- 4. Provide more personalized instruction based on measurable assessments.** By using MAPS testing, hiring a Reading specialist, and providing access to Math tutors, we will be better able to assess and adapt to students' needs in the classroom. Our goal is to respect every child's individual needs and set personalized goals that will challenge them and encourage growth. This specialized assessment will lead to a more effective and consistent learning journey for students as they advance to higher grades with better foundations (i.e., vertical alignment).
- 5. Revise and enhance our curriculum to ensure a holistic approach.** Based on the richness of Catholic education, we will foster the development of all aspects of the human being. This will include a more balanced yet enhanced offerings in humanities, communication, art, and religion, in addition to science, technology, engineering, math, and other subjects. This approach will empower students to explore other important cognitive abilities to support their integral development.

## FIRST-CLASS FACILITIES

Marquette Catholic School is over 100 years old. While our tradition and track record are unparalleled, our facilities are in need of expansion and improvements to keep pace with our future academic and faith curriculum plans. This means additional classrooms for specialties, updated technology infrastructure, and more multi-functional learning spaces.

In the summer of 2022, a request for proposals (RFP) was issued. The needs outlined in the RFP were those voiced by parents, faculty, alumni, and staff as we conducted surveys, focus groups and envisioning sessions. This information-seeking step will provide Marquette with a wide range of

possibilities to consider while taking into account the landlocked nature of our campus. In the weeks ahead, we will review renderings, feasibility studies, and cost to determine the next steps.

*Marquette Catholic School will improve facilities in the following ways:*

- Marquette's founders of 100 years ago could not have anticipated the spatial needs required for 21st-century learning. Today, our classrooms do not provide the square foot requirements our teachers and students need. Therefore, we will expand the school. This expansion will focus on adding spaces to better facilitate our Religious Inclusive Student Education (RISE) Program and whole-child curriculum, which emphasizes specialty classes like art, music, language, technology, and religion (atrium for the Montessori-based Catechesis of the Good Shepherd).
- In order for our Catholic curriculum to be attainable for all, our facilities must be able to accommodate physical differences. Enhancements will include increased handicap accessibility, including an elevator in accordance with current ADA Standards.
- To increase the hospitality of our school and provide a more direct line of sight to our administrative team, we will reconfigure our administrative offices.
- We will adapt our library to better serve all Marquette students at all levels of education.
- Physical environments play an important role in the educational process. Research reveals that layout, color schemes, and natural light can either enhance or detract from the stated mission of the space. Therefore, we will seek to update all aesthetic and environmental elements of classrooms including new signage and larger lockers. This space improvement will aim to equip our educational spaces with better illumination, ventilation, and be properly equipped for safety and emergency situations.
- We will upgrade other common areas such as the teacher lounge and cafeteria to provide more functional spaces that are comfortable and engaging for our faculty and students of all ages.

