

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL



STRATEGIC PLAN

INTRODUCTION

St. Francis Catholic School, located in Marshalltown, IA serves approximately 200 students in grades Pre-K-6th.

St. Francis Catholic School has a rather interesting history and has had several names as well. The first Catholic School was built in Marshalltown in 1878 and started as a two-room school between the church and parsonage. The St. Mary's Institute continued to grow, and by the late 1950s, the student population became so large that two buildings needed to be utilized. St. Henry's was created and housed grades 1-8 while the high school students remained at St. Mary's. In 1971, St. Mary's High School closed and consolidated with St. Henry's to form Marshalltown Area Catholic Schools (MACS) with a St. Mary's campus (grades 3-6) on the north side of town and St. Henry's campus (Pk-2nd grades) on the south side of town.

Following the discovery of structural issues at the St. Mary's building in 2011, the decision was made to consolidate all students in one expanded St. Henry's school building. A name change was in order to make it clear that the building was no longer St. Henry's building alone. A recommendation was made by the Archdiocese to change the name to St. Francis Catholic School and students moved into the new building in February of 2015. ("History,"n.d.).



A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Greetings SFC Patrons, Partners, Visitors, and Believers,

It is with great joy and excitement that I welcome you to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School. St. Francis Catholic School is a grateful, private PK-6 Catholic Elementary school in the Dubuque Archdiocese. Our school serves approximately 200 wonderful students annually with an average of 25 students per grade. Grades PK-4th have two sections each allowing for class sizes of approximately 13 students per class resulting in optimal learning for each student. In 5th and 6th grades, assisted learning interventionists provide differentiated instruction in literacy and math to create an effective, desirable student-to-teacher ratio.

St. Francis Catholic School is geographically located in central Iowa in Marshalltown. In partnership with our Parish, families, and community partners we continue to build upon a strong Catholic Christian school tradition since 1878 that places significant value and priority on; Faith & Service, a Safe & Disciplined Environment, & Academic & Character Growth & Development. St. Francis Catholic School educators instruct from the Archdiocesan content standards and benchmarks in Literacy, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Students are also enriched with Religion, Art, Music, PE, Title I, Assisted Learning, Gifted & Talented, Technology, weekly Mass, and a plethora of other experiential learning opportunities. Ultimately, St. Francis Catholic School students graduate 6th grade with a holistic, well-rounded educational foundation that will prepare them for the future.

In order to continue the excellent tradition, St. Francis Catholic School in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Dubuque has engaged in a strategic planning effort. This plan will build upon the current strengths of St. Francis Catholic and develop new directions for areas needing improvement. Our vision for St. Francis Catholic School is to be dedicated to serving the local Church, our faith community, and our broader community.

SFC has devised a strategic plan with essential goals set around four key domains; Mission & Catholic Identity, Governance & Leadership, Academic Excellence, and Operational Vitality. St. Francis Catholic School will kick off the 2021-2022 school year with these 4 Essential goals and year one objectives all aiming at continual improvement. With the greatest integrity and responsibility, we will all work together to remain stewards of St. Francis Catholic School and enact this strategic plan and maintain the quality that has been built by the founders of our Churches and Schools. May God bless you and may God bless SFC!

Peace be with you.

Mr. Eisenbarth

MISSION

"St. Francis is a Catholic elementary school located in Marshalltown, IA that seeks to serve and educate the whole child, regardless of their religious affiliation, in a Christ-centered way of living. Inspired by our patron, Saint Francis of Assisi, we encourage students to live and grow in holiness and are dedicated to sharing our faith with others. St. Francis offers the highest quality education with dynamic experiences not only focused on developing students to be successful in the competitive world but in service-learning as well. Recognizing the importance of parents as primary educators, St. Francis promotes parental involvement and participation to develop individuals with strong faith, character, and passion for lifelong learning."

VISION

"St. Francis Catholic School will be the model of elementary education in the Marshalltown area where the leaders of tomorrow are formed by faith, character, and intellect for many years to come."



GRADUATE PROFILE

A St Francis Catholic School Student completing sixth grade will exhibit the following characteristics within the defined areas of:

Academics – Students will demonstrate a love for learning by continuing to work towards the highest level of understanding and knowledge in academic studies. Students will be self-motivated to seek answers to real-world problems while utilizing available technology.

Spirituality – Students will maintain and continue their understanding of what it means to be Catholic through prayer, participation in youth programs, and service projects.

Personality – Students will gain personal satisfaction from being a law-abiding person, maintaining a good work ethic, and leading others to success.

Social Skills– Students will be positive leaders within their peer groups, for younger students, and society.



STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

GOAL 1

St. Francis Catholic School will recognize the importance of parents in the continuing development of their child educationally, socially, and spiritually.

GOAL 2

St. Francis Catholic School will establish an effective school board that works in tandem with school administration to further the mission and vision.

GOAL 3

St. Francis Catholic School will continue to offer a quality and rigorous education focused on the whole child.

GOAL 4

St. Francis Catholic School will establish a collaborative and comprehensive enrollment and marketing program to address current and future needs.



GOAL 1



MISSION & CATHOLIC IDENTITY

St. Francis Catholic School will recognize the importance of parents in the continuing development of their child educationally, socially, and spiritually.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE A

To make and implement a plan for collaborative school and home faith activities for the entire year.



Fa. M. Formation

GOAL 2



GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

St. Francis Catholic School will establish an effective school board that works in tandem with school administration to further the mission and vision.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE A

To study and propose a board structure to ensure successful implementation of the school's vision and mission

Start here

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE B

To create board subcommittees that will use effective communication and engage volunteers in sustaining the mission of the school

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE C

To host a School Board Retreat/in-service for the purpose of defining board members' roles and for creating a plan for the upcoming school year

GOAL 3



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

St. Francis Catholic School will continue to offer a quality and rigorous education focused on the whole child.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE A

To review the current alignment of classroom instruction with revised social studies and science standards

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE B

To utilize data from FAST and ISASP to assess student learning and implement strategies to address learning loss.

← CIA team

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE C

To utilize the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) and secure professional development and training on classroom interventions in reading and math.

← AEA & CIA team
Sept. 27 P.D.

GOAL 4



OPERATIONAL VITALITY

St. Francis Catholic School will establish a collaborative and comprehensive enrollment and marketing program to address current and future needs.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE A

To establish a three-year budget plan in concert with the school and parish finance councils.

← Finance council

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE B

To establish a comprehensive marketing and enrollment plan.

Laura

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE C

To evaluate the need for a bilingual Director of Enrollment, Promotion, and Retention who is bilingual.