## FRASSATI CATHOLIC ACADEMY ANNUAL REPORT



PRESCHOOL • ELEMENTARY • MIDDLE SCHOOL

www.frassati-wbl.org | 651-429-7771 Option 2

a Note from Mr. Patrick Gallivan, Principal

Frassati Catholic Academy lived our mission to encourage a growth mindset during the 2020-21 school year. Our community came together and adapted to major changes in how our school operated during a global pandemic. Our teachers and staff were committed to being in-person with students, our families entrusted their children to our care, and our school administration worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and well-being of all. This unity of our Frassati community allowed us to enjoy a very successful year in the great tradition of Catholic education, teaching students how life, learning, and faith are connected.

The Frassati faculty and staff worked diligently to ensure that the distance learning experience from March through June of 2020 did not negatively impact our students' learning. I am pleased to report that the Spring 2021 NWEA MAP results showed that our efforts were successful. Our students grew in all grade levels in math and reading. We are building on those successes in the 2021-2022 school year.

I am excited to share the Frassati 2021 Annual Report, showcasing the great education and formation offered to our students. I am grateful for the support of families, staff, parishioners, and benefactors that make this work possible.

Our Commitment to In-Person Learning

Each year, our Annual Report highlights our year-over-year growth and our latest enrollment numbers. However, numbers alone cannot describe one of Frassati's greatest success stories from the 2020-2021 academic year: in-person learning.

After months of consultation, collaboration, planning and prayer, Frassati opened the doors to 295 students on September 8, 2020, including 59 families new to our school. The children filled two sections of grades K-5 and one section each of grades 6-8. The staff and students embraced the new procedures and protocols instituted to protect against the coronavirus, and quickly settled back into the familiar rhythm of in-person learning.

The increase in the number of students required Mr. Gallivan to search for several new teachers. He hired a combination of proven veterans and recent graduates. The newly hired teachers, combined with our returning staff, created a truly outstanding group of teachers to advance our school's mission: the education and formation of our students in the great Catholic tradition.

Mr. Gallivan also retained an experienced teacher to be the Distance Learning Coordinator, to accommodate families not yet ready to return to in-person learning and to assist students who were absent for short-term periods of guarantine.







With our carefully planned strategy in-place, our school remained open from the start of the school year on September 8 until the last day of the year on June 2. In the midst of uncertainty, our school served as a safe-space for students to lean into their routines, peer-groups, academics, and faithful religious formation.

In 2019-2020, we had 36 preschool students and 205 K-8 students. In 2020-2021, we had 45 preschool students and 250 K-8 students. Our preschool program was named Best Private Preschool/Childcare in White Bear Lake Magazine's 2021 'Best Of' awards.

We have held ourselves to the highest standards in delivering a robust STREAM curriculum, and as a result, continue to see strong growth in student achievement, growing enrollment numbers, and high-praise and recognition from the White Bear Lake and neighboring communities.

SUMMARIES FROM 2020-2021

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**



\*5k and Gala

GRANTS = 4

**PARISHIONERS = 184** \*from the Catholic Schools Week appeal ALUMNI = 23 Sponsors = 30

Community Building Initiatives

#### The Ways We Build Togetherness

During a year where people could not come together, we never stopped asking the question, 'how can we build togetherness?' From Mass and prayer opportunities to new-family outreach, from revised volunteer opportunities and a family-focused adventure challenge to a summer movie event, we reinvented the meaning of community in the midst of a pandemic.

The volunteer parents of the School Advisory Council (SAC) launched the 2020-21 school year by personally emailing and calling each new family to ensure that each of them had a parent-to-parent resource within the school. This group also oversaw the Community Garden project, expanded volunteer opportunities while in-school volunteering was not an option, and handed out free coffee during carpool drop off. Their next effort is to roll out a new Mentor Families initiative.

As with our 2020 Spring Gala, our 2021 festivities featured a virtual auction. However, the event evolved beyond the gala model to put the FUN back into fundraising with a rebranded theme, the Spring FUN-draiser. The parent volunteers launched the drive with a student-focused, Great Outdoors Adventure Challenge. With booklets in hand, families kicked off the weeklong event with a three-day scavenger hunt that featured activities the students completed for points. For more details and to see the fundraising results, visit **bit.ly/FrassatiSF21**.

While most Frassati gatherings tend to happen during the school year, we felt a call to come together in the thick of the summer and enjoy time TOGETHER! So, for the first time ever, we hosted a 'Movie on the Fields' event with a jumbo screen and watched the Disney movie, *Ratatouille*. We received incredible feedback from this fun-filled gathering, and had a blast bringing families together on a warm summer night.



The best community building happened when students and staff were able to return to the weekly celebration of the Mass. The opportunity to praise and worship God in the Mass and to gather for other prayer services brought great blessings to our community. Teachers and students also spent time in prayer in the new Chapel of the Beatitudes, a beautiful space made possible by generous donors to the 2020 Gala's fund-a-need.

# BELIEVE

### FIRST YEAR RESULTS & GOING FORWARD



At the start of 2020-2021 academic year, the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence (CSCOE) selected Frassati Catholic Academy to be a host school for the highly praised Groves Academy, Believe & Read program.

Groves Academy staff mentor our Frassati teachers over a three-year period. Frassati teachers share these lessons with our students, including daily 30-minute phonics-based lessons, helping our young readers grasp the reading rules to make them the best readers they can be.

In the first year of the program, the curriculum was introduced to K-2 students. At the start of the 2021-22 academic year, the program was expanded to incorporate the third grade students.

Since the launch of this curriculum, Believe and Read has enhanced and enriched the literacy instruction of our students in significant and measurable ways. To review the first-year results and test scores, visit *bit.ly/FalconsRead*.



