

ANNUAL REPORT 2017 / 2018

THEMES:

Annual:

Building From Our Belief; Construyendo Nuestra Fe

Catholic Schools Week:

Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Safeguarding Education, September 14
- School Visits:
 - Joint High School Fair at St. Frances Cabrini, West Bend, October 5
 - St. Lawrence Seminary visited grades 7/8 boys, November 9
 - Wayland Academy visited grade 8, Fall 2017
- Theme Day, September 29
- Living Rosary, October 19
- Youth Forum for Grades 6-8, October 23, with other Catholic Schools in Dodge and Washington Counties, at St. Mary, Mayville, Presented by Ralph Stewart
- "Fifth annual "Soles for Catholic Education Walk" on October 21, at Mount Mary University, over 9,000 participants Archdiocesan wide. SKDS faculty and families participated. We took a bus again this year.
- Christmas Program, December 14, vocal and instrumental, "The King and Me"; preschool held its own daytime program on December 18 and 4K on December 19
- Joint Parish & School Staff Retreat Day, January 15
- Catholic Schools Week Celebrations:
 - Opening Mass 4:30PM and Festivities on January 27
 - Festival of the Educational Arts on February 1
 - All School Mass on February 2
 - Closing Masses weekend of February 3 & 4
- Parade of Bands, February 5
- LUMEN Spelling Bee, February 20
- Five Stones Presentations to the students (February 26) and adults (April 4), Human Trafficking
- Round Ups / Registration:
 - 5K ~ February 15;
 - 4K ~ February 21, 22, 23~~all at ESC
 - Pre School ~ March 1
- Festival of Music, March 8
- SKDS students participated in all of the Building From Our Belief Campaign Projects, including representation in the 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration
- Book Fair, April 6-12
 - Grand Day, April 8
 - Reading Night, April 9
- Lent:
 - Lenten Reconciliation for grades 2-8, March 15
 - Living Stations, March 16
 - Shadow Way of the Cross, March 21
 - Friday after Mass Stations, weekly by grades 4,6,7,8
- Concerts:
 - Spring Band Concert, April 19
 - Get Jazzed, SKDS Jazz Fest, April 21
 - Spring Vocal Concert, May 3
 - Marching Band Mass Performance, May 27

- Marching Band Memorial Day Performance at Cemetery, May 28
- Expanding Horizons, April 27
- Home & School held its first ever Fun Run; the students had a great time!
- Talent Show, MAY 11
- May Crowning, May 18
- Graduation, May 31
- Field Day, June 1

ENROLLMENT:

- Ended the year with 209 students preschool through grade 8
- Graduated 18 eighth graders
- Pre School = 13; 4K = 34; 5K = 20; 1 = 16; 2 = 9; 3 = 15; 4 = 26; 5 = 17; 6 = 21; 7 = 20; 8 = 18; Grand Total = 209; K-8 = 162

ACADEMIC PROGRAM:

Curriculum:

- **Science Curriculum:** Purchased new Science materials to meet the New Generation Science Standards and to update our dated science materials.
- **Technology:** 11 Smart Boards and one interactive flat screen are in use. During summer 2016, we purchased an additional flat screen Clever Touch Smart Board which was installed in the third grade classroom with the older Smart Board that had been in the third grade room being moved to the music room. The Smart Interactive Projector was mounted and placed in the gym for use in our Band and PE programs, used extensively. The Chrome Books have been a huge success in the classroom as an instructional tool. We were also gifted anonymously with 10 I-Pads for use in our primary classrooms. During 2016-2017 a smart TV was donated to the Elementary Library. The school librarian/information specialist continues to teach units on internet safety and the use of the social networking possibilities in a responsible and safe manner as well as how to use the internet appropriately for research. Summer 2018 purchased an additional 20 Chrome Books using funds the Home and School earned through their first Fun Run.
 - Complete revamping of the school website hosted by LPi, which is the same company hosting the parish website. Visit www.skds.org. We extend a very special thank you to Mr. Jeff Bump, who hosted our previous website from its very beginning. We are grateful to him for his ongoing support. We also express sincere appreciation to an anonymous donor family who provided funding which enabled us to create this new and exciting website. We unveiled our revamped site in February 2018.
- **Religion:** This is our fourth year of using the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies. We continue to be satisfied with the connections to real life experiences these Weeklies make for our students and their families. Students talk about the homily no matter where they attend Mass. We continue to hear positive remarks from families, faculty and students. The Catholic Social Justice issues are evident and ones our students can relate to. We will continue with the Weeklies for the 2018/2019 school year. Additional teaching aids have been added to the series by Pflaum. Second grade also used a new approach to the Sacramental program from Dynamic Catholic. It uses engaging videos as well as quality material to capture the student's attention. Each class made a retreat. Some students stay at school while others actually leave the campus: 2nd visited the Cathedral, 7th went to Holy Hill, grades 3 (combined it with their Seder Meal), 4, 5, 6 (worked with Mrs. Adsit, LLFF) and 8th (worked with NET Ministries and invited several other schools from our Deanery) used the Parish Center. First and 5K used the Catacombs.
- **Reading:** Third grade uses Expeditionary Learning; grades 6-8 use Collections by Houghton Mifflin. The 2017-2018 school year was the second year of using Journeys by Houghton Mifflin for grades 4 and 5; teachers felt even more comfortable with the

material and found it to be challenging and helpful to student learning. Grades 5K-2 use SuperKids.

- **Spanish:** Max and Max Spanish which can be used by teachers who do not speak the language, continues to provide successful Spanish instruction for grades 1-5. It is an upbeat program including culture, location, songs, stories and language. Each year there are updates that keep the program interesting and current. Grades 6-8 have a Spanish in-house instructor.
- **Field Trips** are an important part of our curriculum. Classes take them regularly to help students understand learning does not take place inside the classroom only. Depending on the year, classes visit museums, zoos, Old World Wisconsin, concerts and other musical productions, plays, science presentations, a farm, a grocery store, the library, the fire department, city hall, the police department, the post office, Horicon Marsh, etc.

Student Learning Accommodations:

- Learning Zone is not a specific room but a means of providing academic assistance through volunteers or on-staff teachers assigned during various hours of the school day. Meeting individual student needs is a priority. Accommodations and interventions provided for students are documented, filed and shared with faculty who work with them. We are blessed to have a cadre of retired teachers who return year after year to help struggling students as well as those needing a challenge.
- Primary Students are served by the Reading Resource Teacher, volunteer tutors (primarily retired teachers), classroom aides (hired and volunteer) and classroom teachers. Several teachers are scheduled daily to help homeroom or subject teachers give much needed one-on-one assistance to students who find learning and attention challenging.
- **READING RESOURCE POSITION** half time position serving:
 - 5K: 2 students for 30 minutes 2 times / week
 - 1st grade: 2 students for 30 minutes 4 times plus 60 minutes 1 time / week all year; 1 student for 30 minutes 4 times plus 60 minutes 1 time / week starting 4th quarter
 - 2nd grade: 2 students for 25 minutes 3 times / week for 3 quarters and then 30 minutes 2 times per week for 1 quarter; 1 student for 25 minutes 3 times / week for 3 quarters and 25 minutes 1 time per week for 1 quarter
 - 3rd grade: 2 students for 75 minutes 5 times / week for 3 quarters and 30 minutes 2 times per week for 1 quarter; these 2 students also received help from tutors
 - 4th grade: 1 student 30 minutes 3 times per week for 1 quarter
- **Learning Resource Aide** was a volunteer who served as an intervention resource for grades 6-8 primarily. The individual works one on one, with small groups of 4-5 and directly in the classroom with the subject teacher or in pull out groups. The students with whom the aide works are struggling and have been identified as having learning needs. Some have been identified as having SEP's (if in the public school an IEP). Student numbers served one on one or in small groups. At times, students are pulled out for testing in small groups for a quieter atmosphere or to have a test read to them. Sometimes students have difficulty working in a large group atmosphere or simply need the support of having the encouragement of someone believing in him/her or the support of moving on from one problem to the next. All students made gains. For 2017-18 our Learning Resource Aide worked with:
 - Two 6th grade students 2 times per week (45 minutes each) to work on reading and vocabulary
 - Worked in the classroom as a co-teacher during the 6th grade reading/language class to meet the needs of students who surfaced
 - Two 7th graders 2 times per week (45 minutes each); ten 7th graders 3 times per week (45 minutes each) worked on reading, vocabulary and other general class work needs

- One 8th grader 2 times per week (45 minutes each) for reading and vocabulary; six 8th graders 3 times per week (45 minutes each) to work on reading, vocabulary and general classwork needs
- SKDS has also entered into a working relationship with the Al Arnold Reading Clinic to help struggling students especially those who are dealing with dyslexia and comprehension concerns. Our Reading Resource teacher has also received training in the methods used in the clinic and uses them with identified students. Assessment began in April/May.
- Read Dog worked with selected students to build reading confidence October through May at the Primary Level.
- Additionally, we had eight individuals who came weekly (most of whom are retired teachers) who worked with classroom teachers to provide assistance to help meet student needs individually or in small groups.
- SKDS has a quality working relationship with Beaver Dam Public School District which helps meet the needs of SKDS students (observation, testing, consultation, ELL, Speech/Language, Title programs, etc.)
- Learning Support Team (**LST**)/School Improvement Planning (**SIP**): Our LST/SIP consists of Dona Turner, Megan Meyer, Peggy Scott and Barbara Haase. During the 2017/2018 school year, Mrs. Turner, Miss Meyer and Mrs. Scott attended various trainings including Writing, Speaking and Listening, Assessment and presented to the faculty as a whole. The LST/SIP helps ensure the faculty focuses on what is in the best interest of improving student learning and is constantly looking toward focusing on best practices. February 12, 2018 was Professional Learning Day. This team also addresses follow up regarding the Smart goals established during our Accreditation visit November 2016.

IOWA ASSESSMENTS/COGAT:

Annually, SKDS gives its students the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills/Cognitive Abilities Test; this is an Archdiocesan requirement for students in our Catholic Schools. Iowa Assessments contains a series of achievement tests including English Language Arts (Reading, Written Expression, Conventions of Writing, and Vocabulary), Math, Computation, Social Studies, and Science. CogAT assesses “the level and pattern of cognitive development of students in grades K-12.” It “measures general and specific reasoning abilities in three domains: verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal. These abilities reflect the overall efficiency of cognitive processes and strategies that enable individuals to learn new tasks and solve problems. Because these abilities are closely related to an individual’s success in school..., CogAt results are helpful in planning effective instructional programs and adapting instruction to enhance the student’s chances of success in learning.” (Administrator Manual)

- SKDS tests students in grades 1 through 8.
- We use the results
 - ~to help students individually and
 - ~to help us review and evaluate the curriculum as a whole.
- The information helps us
 - ~identify areas of strength,
 - ~areas to watch, and
 - ~trends over all.

GRADE	READING	ELA TOTAL	MATH TOTAL	CORE COMPOSITE	SOC. STUDIES	SCIENCE	Longitudinal Growth: The information shared in the chart comes from the Longitudinal Growth Report. It shows progress the grades have made since they have started taking the test. All classes show steady, consistent growth which is what we want to see.
1	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.8	Grade 1 does not take	Grade 1 does not take	
2	2.4	2.8	3.7	3.1	Grade 2 does not take	Grade 2 does not take	
3	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.8	4.3	
4	5.5	5.3	4.5	4.7	5.4	5.9	
5	6.9	7.0	6.6	6.7	7.7	7.1	
6	7.1	7.6	6.5	6.8	7.1	8.3	
7	7.4	8.6	8.1	8.3	8.0	8.0	
8	10.2	11.5	9.3	10.2	11.6	11.6	

Note:

- ELA stands for English Language Arts. ELA Total includes reading, language and vocabulary. In the upper grades, it also includes Written Expression and the Conventions of Writing.
- 1st and 2nd grades are tested in only the core areas.
- Testing was done in March 2018, the 7th month of the school year. If a class has a score of 1.7 that means first grade seventh month, right on target.
- Science and Social Studies are generally strong areas.
- Math: We continue to stress rigor, understanding and relevance in math along with computation. Whether or not a student knows his/her basic facts plays a significant role. The Iowa tests are timed. If a student does not automatically know basic facts, that does affect timing. We have also noted that when we teach a particular math topic plays a significant role. We will change the timing of when we teach several math topics.
- These tests are very different from what students are used to experiencing in the classroom and in their daily lives. Some find it difficult to manage the required extended concentration and the testing format.
- Longitudinal reports generally show steady and consistent growth across the grades & subject areas. It is important to remember a test is one moment in time and does not define the totality of what a student knows. Some students are not good test takers.
- We look for a balance in Language Arts between writing and conventions. Speaking, Listening and Writing across the curriculum continue to be areas of focus.
- First grade scores tend to be depressed. It is their first experience with this type of group standardize testing
- **Trends:** More average & lower achieving students; more students with greater needs, student indifference, greater number of students needing accommodations (small group, repeated instructions, extended time, tests read to student, etc.)
- In classes with fewer students, 1 or 2 students dramatically affect class averages.
- The important thing to remember is our students continue to make steady academic progress across and within the grades.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:**Smart Goals Developed From Accreditation 2016**

These goals remain in place and continue to be worked on. Annually, a report is made to the Archdiocese and Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation (WRISA). Anyone wanting to know more about the goals and the process can contact the school office.

Domain A: Mission & Catholic Identity

1. We will complete grade level maps to identify the incorporation of Catholic identity themes into all curricular areas to help students relate Church teachings to the world around them. (2.5)
2. We will incorporate a reflective component into 90% of our service projects to intentionally connect the service with the Gospel and our Catholic Faith. (3.3)

Domain B: Governance & Leadership

1. Develop a process and a timeline for communicating a new initiative to our various constituents.

Domain C: Academic Excellence

1. Implement revised curriculum alignment documents as they are developed by the Archdiocese to sequentially document and review gaps and instructional effectiveness in all content areas. (7.1)
2. Create a process for review and analysis of formative, summative, authentic performance, and self-reflection assessment methods to assure alignment to learning outcomes and effectiveness in allowing students to demonstrate proficiency. (6.5 & 8.3)

Domain D: Operational Vitality

- 1: We will strengthen our marketing plan in an effort to increase enrollment and to increase visibility in the community and surrounding areas through a variety of strategies. 13.1
- 2: Use criteria for gathering, measuring, and analyzing enrollment data from new Archdiocesan program (MissionInsite). 13.2

CHOICE PROGRAM:

2017/2018 school year was the initial year in the Choice program for SKDS but the process began in the 2016-2017 school year. Seven families were accepted into the program. All information pertinent to the program can be found on our website at <http://www.skds.org/Choice.htm> or the Choice Home page <https://dpi.wi.gov/sms/choice-programs>. It was a successful first year. We worked with Huberty and Associates, an auditing firm. For the 2018-2019 school year, 10 students were accepted as Choice students via the state lottery.

STAFF:**Resignations:**

- Ms. Jennifer Crombie, Teacher Grade 2
- Mrs. Damaris Milfred, Spanish & ELS grade 6

Retirees:

- Mrs. Elaine Meyer, Middle School Teacher
- Mrs. Chris Bedker, 4K Aide & Lunchroom/Playground Supervisor

New Hires:

- Mrs. Ashley Eilbes, Pre & 4K
- Mrs. Tina Ellefson, 5K
- Mrs. Damaris Milfred, Spanish & ELA grade 6

Faculty:

- Teachers are certified and have fulfilled Safe Guarding Requirements (All staff and volunteers are Safe Guarding compliant)

- All teachers are working in Archdiocesan Program for Religious Ed Certification entitled Sustaining the Mission. Seven faculty members have completed all of the required course work and now work as required in a separate group to continue studying our faith.
- Sustaining the Mission is the Archdiocesan program for religious education certification required by all faculty and administrators.
 - We attended both of the required days: August 24, 2017 & October 20, 2017.
- All teachers work on Professional Development per the new Archdiocesan-wide required program for all teachers. All goes back to the National Benchmarks which is what the entire accreditation process is based on. Teachers set goals at the beginning of the year, provide documentation, meet with the principal, and are evaluated at the end of the year.
- Follow requirements to maintain certification
- 6 teaching positions are part-time as of 2011-2012: Art, PE/Health, and Vocal Music are 80%; Band is 50%; Library/Information Specialist 50% (Library and Band are combined to form a fulltime position); Reading Resource is 50%

Administrator:

- Facilitates Safeguarding Seminar annually for parish
- Does criminal background checks for parish and school
- Serves as Safe Environment Coordinator for Parish
- Completes and submits Safe Environment Verification Report for Parish and School
- Fully participates in all Pastoral Staff meetings and responsibilities
- Serves on School Accreditation Teams as Chair (if needed or requested)
- Serves on Archdiocesan Superintendent's Advisory Council
- Meets with Beaver Dam District Administration, minimum of twice per year (or more)
- Received Elizabeth Ann Seton Award, February 2016
- In addition to regular administrative responsibilities, supervises lunchroom daily, directs annual Christmas program, directs liturgy practices, cantors, interacts routinely with students, faculty/staff, and various school and parish populations
- Directed SKDS Accreditation process
- Led SKDS entry into Choice Program

SCHOOL YEAR:

- 180 days: First day = August 28, 2017; Final day = June 1, 2018
- School hours: Pre School = Monday and Wednesday Mornings 8:45-11AM; 4K = 8:15-11AM & 12:15-3PM; 5K – 8 = 8:10AM – 3:15PM; doors remain locked until 7:45AM
- 10 additional days for faculty for in-service

STUDENTS:

Social Responsibility and Awareness:

- SKDS students participate in various collections for victims of natural disasters, Heifer International, Holy Childhood, Clothes for Kids, Food Pantry, New Beginnings, Nursing Home visits (Hillside), Soles Walk, Humane Society, to name a few
- Builders Club sponsored bake sales to raise money for Catholic Relief Services, SKDP Building Campaign, supplies for the blankets, and made blankets for PAVE, Humane Society and the Homeless Shelter. Participated in various campus clean-up activities and other service projects. The Eighth graders also researched a number of charities and selected several to donate funds to after their Spaghetti Supper.

Uniforms:

- Ninth year of school uniform policy, continues to go smoothly
- Cougar's Closet continues to help families with clothing needs; of great assistance to school personnel when a student comes to school out of code or have some sort of accident during the day
- Cougar's Closet is also immensely helpful to families in need and to those entering SKDS for the first time. We can them off to a good start smoothly and efficiently.

- We have allowed school T-shirts to be worn (SKDS spirit wear T's, Fun RunT) during short/sandal time frame
- Overseen by Sarah Diels, Rose Klavekoske and Patty Schmitt
- Info placed in handbooks and on website; posters placed in all classrooms

Code of Christian Conduct:

- This is part of our approach to discipline.
- Posters are displayed in classrooms, halls, cafeteria, etc.
- Students are reminded of the four Cornerstones at daily announcements: Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Kindness
- Parent and student sign agreement annually
- This puts a more positive and proactive spin on our approach to discipline.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

- Continue well developed and well participated activities in
 - Jazz Band (grades 5-8),
 - Athletics (Volleyball, Basketball, Track for grades 5 – 8 per Arch policy),
 - Forensics (6-8),
 - Builders Club (6-8),
 - Yearbook (6-8)
- St. Katharine Drexel Extra-Curricular Offerings Handbook was designed and offered to all families in grades 4-8. A special meeting is held for 4th grade families prior to the spring concert to prevent them from having to come out another evening for the second year. 4th grade families are the focus because so many new possibilities become available once a child enters 5th grade. Families are provided with information enabling them to make informed decisions about what their children want to be involved in.

Student Assistance:

- 32 families received some sort of tuition assistance
- 43 students received free or reduced lunch

MEETINGS:

School Board:

- Third Tuesday, monthly

Home and School:

- Monthly, Mondays as announced on the calendar

Band Guild and Athletic Association:

- As announced , minimum of three times per year

Advancement (Development):

- First Monday of the Month usually / PR/Marketing or as scheduled

Faculty:

- Faculty, All Tuesdays are set aside for faculty/level meetings
- Curriculum, Level, Student Accommodations, Exit Expectations, etc. all other Tuesdays
- Annually all faculty/staff participate in a review of Blood Borne Pathogen training
- Faculty/Staff participated in online training covering concussion as needed
- Attended area Education conference on 10/13/17
- Sustaining the Mission: August 24 & October 20
- 10 Days of In-Service scheduled annually

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences:

- Scheduled for all families during First quarter, October 5 & 6

- All other times as requested by family and/or teacher(s)
- 4K holds scheduled P/S/T conferences fall and spring

COMMUNICATION:

- Weekly newsletter (electronic or paper per family request)
- Website
- Facebook page, St. Katharine Drexel School Beaver Dam, Wisconsin
- Family Folder, weekly or last day of school week
- Individual class or grade level letters
- Individual emails, conferences, phone calls, notes
- Report Cards end of quarter and Progress Reports mid quarter (2nd-4th quarters)
- Crossing Paths for Alumni and Friends of SKDS newsletter, once per year, summer only
- Principal tweets as events merit

FUNDRAISERS:

There are a number of fundraising events. The annual **Endowment Campaign** takes place in the fall. The Endowment Fund is healthy and contributes to the general budget. **Footballmania**, the **Evening of Glitz**, and **Scrip** contribute to the general budget. The **Fall Fundraiser** (previously referred to as the Magazine Sale) provides funding for technology needs. The 8th grade **Spaghetti Supper**, is not only a great community builder and student bonder, but also provides funds for 8th grade graduation and accompanying activities. The 7th and 8th graders work together on this. **Be A Believer** runs continually and requests funding to assist those families applying for Tuition Grants. The funds go into our Tuition Assistance account. The Band Guild hosts the annual **Pancake Breakfast/Silent Auction**, **Cookie Dough Sale**, **Fat Tuesday at Culver's Event**, and the **Band Patron Membership Drive**. Home and School held the **Family Carnival** and its first **Fun Run**.

FINANCE:

Financial end of year report is a separate full parish report.