



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
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## A Note about the Financial Status of our School

Dear Parents:

The Administration and School Board of St. Francis of Assisi School would like to take this opportunity to express gratitude for your steadfast support during this past school year. We appreciate the trust you have placed in us as an integral part of the transformation that takes place in your children during the formative elementary years. While the primary focus is spiritual formation, St. Francis of Assisi school fosters moral, intellectual, emotional, social and physical growth – ***“Academically Excellent, Passionately Catholic...Forming Saints since 1927!”***

For many years, the administration and staff of St. Francis of Assisi Parish and School have strived to provide the very best Catholic education. None of this would be possible were it not for parents like you who choose St. Francis of Assisi School for their children. We are also grateful to the St. Francis of Assisi parish community for its generous support of the school. The parish family is committed to supporting St. Francis of Assisi School as a vital part of its mission to evangelize the youth of the parish. The fruits of our combined efforts along this journey are visible and recognized in the local community and throughout the Archdiocese.

- **Academically:** St. Francis of Assisi School students excel in Archdiocesan, state and national competitions in the areas of Math, Science, History, Speech, Essay, Handwriting and Art.
- **Spiritually:** Graduates of St. Francis of Assisi possess a strong sense of their spiritual life through religious education and daily Mass, and come to value it as a source of truth and joy.
- **Leadership:** Recognizably cultivated and exhibited in our students. In local Catholic and public high schools, our graduates uphold our strong reputation for encouraging leadership, involvement and service.

Financing is one of the biggest challenges we face when executing the mission of St. Francis of Assisi School. The changing demographics of our community impact our ability to continue to provide a fine education at a reasonable cost. The strenuous economic times we are all experiencing compound these difficulties.

Due to the recent success of our Francis Fund: Keeping Catholic Education Affordable, as well as through the generosity of the parishioners we are happy to report that tuition rates for the 2017-2018 school year will remain the same as last year for one and two children families: \$5,100 for families with one child and \$7,500 for two or more children.

<b># of Children in Family</b>	<b>2018-2018 Tuition</b>	<b>Tuition Cost Per Child</b>
1	\$5,100	\$5,100
2	\$7,500	\$3,750
3	\$7,500	\$2,500
4	\$7,500	\$1,875



Here's a comparison chart showing our 2017/2018 rates against the 2016/2017 rates for our neighboring schools:

Tuition Compare*	1 child	2nd child tuition	2 children-total	3rd child tuition	3+ children total
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque	\$ 4,980.00	\$ 1,920.00	\$ 6,900.00	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 8,280.00
Queen of All Saints	\$ 5,092.00	\$ 2,546.00	\$ 7,638.00	\$ 1,272.00	\$ 8,910.00
St. Francis of Assisi current	\$ 5,100.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 0	\$ 7,500.00

\*rates shown for SMMA and QAS were published 2016-2017 rates.

It should be noted that the tuition paid by each family does NOT cover the actual cost of educating your child at St. Francis of Assisi. During the 2016/2017 school year, our school budget projected expenses of \$1,298,345. Given this number divided by the enrollment of 211 students during the 2016/2017 school year, we arrive at a cost of \$6,153 per student. As you compare this number to our tuition rates, you can see that tuition does NOT cover our costs. This shortage is paid for by the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi who make their weekly contribution at Mass as a parish investment in the school and Catholic education. We are grateful for their support to keep our school financially stable.

In addition, the donations to our Francis Fund directly help offset the parish investment allowing the parish to focus funds on other aspects of ministry. In an effort to be good stewards with the time, talent and resources of St. Francis of Assisi parish and school, the Administration and school board have decided to continue the current approach to the financial commitment you make. We ask that you consider helping to defray the tuition deficit with a voluntary contribution in any amount.

**Any voluntary charitable contribution to the school over and above the tuition may be tax deductible and may be eligible for employers' matching gifts programs. We will contribute all funds collected directly to our Francis Fund (please consult your tax professional regarding the tax deductibility).**

Many companies include parochial elementary schools as beneficiaries of their matching gift programs. We are very grateful to the many companies that provide matching gifts and we ask that you consider inquiring about the matching gifts program at your company.

If you wish to help defray the tuition deficit, please complete and return the next page of this letter.

The success of St. Francis of Assisi School rests upon the administration, teachers, staff, parents and parishioners. With your prayers and support, we will continue to endeavor to provide high quality Catholic education.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of St. Francis of Assisi School.

Sincerely,

Rev. Anthony R. Yates  
Pastor

D. Gregory Sturgill  
Principal