

# State of the School Annual Report

## 2018 - 2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2018-2019 school year has gone by quickly, and we are now to the end of a great year. Looking back to August 2018, we accomplished a number of goals:

### INSTRUCTION & STUDENT LEARNING:

- Worked to meet the needs of students, especially our students who need extra assistance, by creating a program to identify needs, learning plans, and assessments.
- Implemented a RTI (Response to Intervention) process to help us better identify and assist students.
- Continued to differentiate and address needs of individual learners as well as added flexible seating to help address various needs of students and create a more collaborative learning environment.
- Continued to differentiate our ELA (English Language Arts) classes with a focus on developing writing skills.
- Used NWEA and other assessments to set student learning goals for the year by identifying needs and then creating a plan to address those needs.
- Used technology more effectively.

### CURRICULUM:

- Purchased new resources for our ELA and Religion curriculum. Reviewed our K-5 Math resources and began reviewing our science curriculum.
- Increased writing skills and implemented a new resource in 3rd and 4th grade (Sunday System).
- Continued to integrate STEM into science curriculum. Our 6th graders designed a 3-D model of a Taco Truck while our 7th graders worked with Totino-Grace High School students as well as the Minnesota Zoo for their STEM projects.
- Our Middle School students worked on Minnesota History projects. One of our 7th graders made it to the state competition.

### FAITH & ENVIRONMENT:

- Worked to build community among ourselves, community through school events, and community through SJB Parish events (staff social time and retreats, student events such as sports, the PTO roller skating event, and school plays, Fall Fest, All Saints Party, and Sunday Hospitality). We also hosted a SJB School Improvement Brainstorm meeting.
- Continued our Virtues in Practice program, increased the religious experiences for our students to know that Christ is active in our lives, and provided a variety of religious experiences for them.





## YEAR IN REVIEW CONTINUED.....

### MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT

- Increased awareness of SJB through social media campaigns, newspaper and magazine advertisements, and digital billboards.
- Began to create an alumni database.
- Participated in 3 community parades to showcase SJB (Blaine, Shoreview, and New Brighton).
- Began working with Salesforce, a donor management software system, thanks to a CSCOE grant.
- Retention Rate from grades K-7 of 92%.
- Enrollment increased slightly.

## SOME GOALS AS WE LOOK AHEAD TO 2019-2020.....

- Our school and parish theme is to Invite In... in prayer, growth, and generosity.
- Increase worship opportunities for students and staff. Invite the NET team in to work with our Middle Students to develop their relationship with Christ.
- Address the needs of our high performing students.
- Better use of data to drive instruction and NWEA assessment goals in Math and Reading.

*“At St. John’s, I’ve learned how to be a respectful and kind student.”  
~ Logan, 2019 SJB Graduate*

### SJB STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Advent Project - Students collected items and assembled Bags of Joy for the homeless.
- Lenten Project - Students collected items for the St. John’s Maternity and Baby Closet.
- Abby McNeill, a 7th grader, competed at the State History Day competition.
- Middle school students met with and interviewed members of the Parish 50 Year Club.
- Our girls cross country and 6th/7th grade soccer teams were CAA Champions.
- Our boys 5th/6th grade soccer team was the CAA runner-up.

## SJB STUDENT PROGRESS

Student growth is the most important part of our mission here at St. John’s. We want our students to grow in their relationship with the LORD and in their faith, in their social relationships, in their good habits - VIRTUES, in physical development, and in their knowledge.

We use a variety of formative and summative assessments to help us determine a student’s academic progress. Homework, observation, discussion, projects, quizzes, and tests are some of the classroom assessments we use, but we also look at some standardized assessments as well - STAR reading and math as well as the NWEA MAP.

The NWEA MAP assessment helps us measure growth over the school year. We also use these results to review our instruction and curriculum, set student learning goals, identify areas of strength and areas for improvement, create school wide goals, and implement instructional plans.

Here are the results from our 2018-2019 NWEA assessment:

READING Avg RIT: 207.3

MATH Avg RIT: 214.3

On average, our students grew 10.3 RIT points from Fall 2018 to Spring 2019.

- \* Reading and math tests are administered to all students in grades K-8.
- \* All our students take NWEA MAP test.



*“At St. John’s, I’ve learned how to be a great leader and how to take responsibility in what I do.”  
~ Isabella, 2019 SJB Graduate*

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

St. John’s wants to thank all those who financially support our mission. We are extremely grateful for YOU!

**SJB Non Public Marathon:** \$39,681.00

**SJB Wines to Wishes:** \$90,000

**SJB Assist - A - Student Drive:** \$20,115.00

**Grants:** \$ 105,453.00

(received from Relevant Radio, Aim Higher Foundation, CSCOE, CSA: Catholic Service Appeal, CCF: Catholic Community Foundation and other)

**MISC Donations:** \$137,250.00

### 2019 WINES TO WISHES

The 2019 Wines to Wishes was a big hit again this year. Thanks to the generous support of our parents, alumni, and friends, we raised over \$90,000. Of that amount, close to \$50,000 was specifically for our Fund-A-Need! The Fund-A-Need money went towards purchasing two water filling stations for our school building as well as flexible seating furniture for 12 classrooms. This purchase completed our goal of outfitting every classroom with new furniture that allows for collaboration and an individualized learning environment for students. THANK YOU SO MUCH! We appreciate the efforts of Michelle Barsness and Rita Arndorfer as well as all of the volunteers who worked to make this event possible. We look forward to celebrating with you again on February 1, 2020!

### DID YOU KNOW:

We are extremely proud of our Alumni. Here are some things you should know about them:

71% of SJB alumni are placed in Honors or Advanced classes in high school.

Graduates are recognized for leadership, academic excellence, and as “students of the month.”

They are active in Student Government, sports, drama, choir, band, service, and other clubs.

Graduates are known for their study skills, character, respect, and work ethic.

One of the biggest things that graduates take away from SJB is the respect that they have for both their teachers and their peers. Many have also commented that they are grateful for the religious foundation that has been set for them over their years at SJB.

## SJB ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*It is the mission of St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish School to educate children in all aspects of their lives to become disciples of Jesus-Christ. This is done through formation in Catholic faith and values and instruction utilizing best practices. We help children discover and live up to their full potential, developing self-respect and respect for others. We form a JOY-filled community with gratitude and a sense of Christ-like service.*



**Name:** Annmarie Kadid

**What year did you graduate from SJB?** 1987

**Where did you go to high school?**  
Totino-Grace, Class of 1991

**Where did you go to college, and what was your degree?**

University of St. Thomas:  
BA: Print Journalism, Broadcast Journalism and Spanish. 1995  
MA: Teachers Licensure, World Language, 2012

**What do you currently do for work?** After teaching Spanish at SJB for six years, I moved to my current position at Brooklyn Middle School in Brooklyn Park. I have been teaching Spanish there since 2016.

**What did SJB do to prepare you for your future?**

Going to school at SJB helped me learn the importance of community in education and the growth of our children. In my years there, I developed life-long friendships. The small class sizes and focus on academics prepared me for taking ownership of my learning, to believe in my abilities and to push myself when things got hard. The variety of extracurricular offerings, and the ease of being able to participate in all of it, taught me the value of trying something new for the simple enjoyment of it without the pressure of having to be the best. The service projects we did helped me develop empathy for others, as well as gratitude and appreciation for all the love and support I had in my life.

**Why did you choose to send your kids to SJB?** Both my husband, who grew up in Lebanon, and I had only attended Catholic Schools growing up, and it felt most comfortable offering the same to our children. By the time we were making decisions about schools, we had lost both our fathers, and my mother didn't know our children due to suffering from early onset dementia. Sending Aidan and Evelyne to St. John's was another way to feel close to them since it had been the decision our parents had made for us.



St. John the Baptist Catholic School is a place...  
Where every student is known, cared for, and respected.  
Where each student is a member of a community of faith, knowledge, and service.  
Where each child is given a foundation for life.



**For more information about enrolling or to schedule a tour, please contact us!**

[www.stjohnnyb.org](http://www.stjohnnyb.org) · 651-633-1522

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