

The Year in Review



Budget Review

The School was under budget due to impressive fundraising, generous parents, and fiscal responsibility in spending. All tuition was collected, and financial aid was made available through the Guardian Angel Fund.

Outstanding Educators

Mrs. Classen, Mrs. Doyle, Ms. Schindlbeck, Mr. Mayer, Ms. Heintz, and Ms. Nardone were all nominated as the *Outstanding Educator for the Diocese of Rockford*. In addition, Mrs. Jodi Taylor, music teacher and church music director, was honored with the *Bishop O'Neill Award*. Mrs. Waegner was recognized for 45 years of faithful service.

ISBE Audit

The school passed its state audit in complete compliance of all state laws.

A Rewarding Year

We're in the business of producing well-prepared Catholic disciples, and business is good! "Every mind is grounded, every heart is connected, and every hand is serving for the glory of God." The 2015-2016 school year started on August 29, 2015 and ended on June 3, 2016. The learning experiences and projects that have taken place this year could not have happened without a great deal of commitment and support from you. The following are only a few of our accomplishments this past year:

1

STEM GRANT

Received \$188,614 grant to implement a STEM curriculum in Fall 2016.

2

ENROLLMENT UP

Added an additional kindergarten and preschool classroom.

3

UNPARALLELED ACADEMICS

All of the valedictorians from the area Catholic high schools graduated from Holy Angels.

This past year kindergarteners learned to read with a new reading series, *Reading Wonders* by McGraw Hill. This series will be extended to grades 1 and 2 in the upcoming year. Math skills in grades K-5 were taught with Sadlier Math which was also new this year. Aurora University added an assessments class to their schedule in our building to help us better serve the needs of our student body. The leasing agreement on the teacher's laptops was completed as well as a new contract negotiated for copy machines to save us money. Safety glass was installed in the exterior doors along with a new sign-in system for visitors. Our library was renovated through the generosity of the Stephens family. It features a beautiful mural painted by a former student, Katie Bancroft. The Seraphim Ball not only helped balance the budget but also allowed us to purchase new equipment for our upcoming STEM Lab. Our Home and School Association



worked tirelessly to arrange amazing fun events and activities for our students as well as provided financial assistance above and beyond what was expected to the school. During our annual *Read-a-thon*, our students read 148,543 minutes and were visited by two famous authors, Liesel Shurtliff and Ridley Pearson. Through the goodness of parents, we were able to provide over \$28,000 in scholarship money to needy families.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

By far, the most exciting change to Holy Angels in the upcoming year will be the addition of a STEM curriculum for all students in grades K-8. *Project Lead the Way* was chosen by a group of teachers because it gives students in kindergarten through eighth grade a chance to apply what they know, identify problems, find unique solutions, and lead their own learning in engaging and interactive ways. This endeavor will be facilitated by Dr. Tom Jackson, a retired professor from Aurora University. Shown to the right is one of the training sessions held in Indianapolis this past spring. Lead teachers, Mrs. Gurbal and Mrs. Stanislo, attended as well as Dr. Jackson. They will bring their newfound knowledge back to the faculty at an inservice scheduled for this summer.

