

## 2021-2022 School End of the Year Report

OUR LADY  OF GRACE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MAKING JESUS CHRIST KNOWN AND LOVED

### PUBLIC MASS SCHEDULE

Monday -Thursday: 6:15 AM, 5:30 PM | Friday: 6:15 AM, 9:00 AM  
Saturday: 8:30 AM, 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 5:00 PM

### RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Monday -Thursday: 4:30 - 5:20 PM  
Saturday: 9:00 - 10:00 AM

MESSAGES FROM OUR

# School Leadership

Dear OLG Community,

I am delighted to share with you our *2021-2022 Our Lady of Grace Catholic School End of Year Report*.

Our school has a great mission: to educate and form children academically, but also in virtue, character, and above all, in the faith. With great teachers fostering excellence in academics, engaged and excited students and a dynamic parent community, OLG School remains committed to the highest-quality of education immersed in a loving and nurturing faith community.

This annual end of year report fulfills a requirement for our accreditation process and highlights our school's growth in academics, community service, and enrollment, as well as the financial support from our parish community. In this report, we outline the foundations that we will continue to build upon, forever preaching excellence at OLG.

OLG School, which is our largest ministry, supports our OLG Parish mission of "Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved."

Please enjoy this *2021-2022 Our Lady of Grace Catholic School End of Year Report* and thank you for your ongoing prayers and financial support to Catholic education.



In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Father Kevin Finnegan".

**Father Kevin Finnegan**

*Pastor*

Dear OLG Community,

Throughout the school year, we have been implementing changes to meet the various goals that had previously been identified for the school. Our school is accredited through the Minnesota Non-Public School Accreditation Association (MNSAA) and requires an end of year report on our progress as it relates to the strategic plan that was created for the last accreditation on-site visit that occurred six years ago. OLG has begun preparing a new plan as we prepare for our on-site evaluation visit in Spring of 2023.

Please know that you are welcome to reach out if you have questions on this information. I am thankful for your prayers for the students and staff and your support of this ministry through your Sunday giving, the education endowment, fundraisers and of course the AOM campaign. We are blessed to have a thriving school at Our Lady of Grace.



Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mrs. Vance".

**Mrs. Ginger Vance**

*Head of School*

# Our Catholic Faith



Our Catholic faith is the reason that most people choose to send their children to a Catholic school. Our mission as disciples of Christ is to evangelize others through our words and actions. Our students live and learn about their faith each day in school. OLG updated its curriculum for religion and the Archdiocesan required safety curriculum. Spirit of Truth from the Sophia Institute was implemented in grades K – 8.

The new materials were chosen by a committee consisting of some of our religion teachers, Father Kevin, Father Nathan, and Sean Lavell, Pastoral Associate for Mission and Discipleship. The committee members made a unanimous choice for Spirit of Truth based on the high level of Catholic doctrine, Catholic Social Teaching and connections to our faith that were present in the new materials. We also began working with Theology of the Body and the Monique Burr Curriculum for our required safety program, bringing us into alignment with the safety program used by OLG's faith formation programs.



Continuing the retreat tradition, the school and parish staff participated together in a retreat day. The staff from St. John Paul II Catholic School participated as well. We had an exceptional speaker, participated in Reconciliation, Adoration, and ended with a beautiful Mass. We continue to participate in Faith and Fellowship on a monthly basis. Staff members shared their faith stories, learned about relics, and participated in Stations of the Cross together.

Our students spend approximately 700 – 1,000 hours learning about their faith in their classrooms, depending on their grade levels. In addition, classes visited the Adoration Chapel, participated in the Day of Mercy, attended Reconciliation and attended 32 school Masses this year. We gathered as an entire school to pray the Rosary throughout the year and our 5th graders presented the Living Stations of the Cross for the first time at OLG.

## RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS

- 47 Students Confirmed
- 80 First Communions / First Reconciliations

## Commitment to Service

### STUDENT COUNCIL

- 10 Students
- 7 Service Projects for the School and Surrounding Community
- 30 Thanksgiving Meal Baskets Donated
- \$11,000 Raised for Charity via the CSW Teacher Raffle
- 503 Pairs of Shoes Collected for the Homeless
- Focused on Catholic Social Teachings such as Call to Family, Community, Participation, Rights and Responsibilities, Options for the Poor and Vulnerable, and Solidarity
- 550+ Hours of Service

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE CLUB

- 90 Students (31-6th, 33-7th, 26-8th)
- 5 Parent Leaders
- 49 Events
- 400+ Valentines for Homeless Children
- 150 Sandwiches for Sharing & Caring Hands
- 110 Sets of Resurrection Eggs for School and Faith Formation Students
- 21,950 Meals Packed at Feed My Starving Children with 92 Student and Parent Volunteers
- 1,600+ Goody Bags for Valentine's Day & Palm Sunday
- 450+ Hours of Service

# ACRE - Information for Growth Assessment



To help us understand what our students have learned and their insights into how they live their faith, OLG used the ACRE-IFG test from the National Catholic Education Association and for the first time, the students in grades 5 and 8 participated in the Archdiocesan recommended test. The purpose of the assessment is to evaluate how well schools and parishes are forming committed Christian disciples and their understanding of their Catholic faith.

There are two parts to the online, multiple-choice test. The first part asks questions on their knowledge of the faith. Questions may include, who is the highest teaching authority in the church, what is a theological virtue of faith and what do Christians celebrate on Pentecost. Results help us identify areas that may have gaps or misconceptions in a student's learning that need to be addressed. The second part of the test assesses the attitudes, practices and perceptions that the students have and their lived faith experience beyond content knowledge. As the NCEA shares, "knowing information is very different from determining practice and beliefs in light of that knowledge."



The information in part two helps provide a fuller picture of the culture of the school or parish as well as where our Catholic Identity may be particularly strong and where there may be a disconnect between what is being taught and what the students are feeling about these practices on a personal level. For example, the second part of the assessment may ask if the student prays together at home with their family, if they feel they are responsible for making the world a better place, if they have endured bullying at school or if they believe it is ok to try drugs or alcohol.

The charts on the next page show the group averages in the various domain averages for the knowledge portion of the inventory. The OLG score averages are listed in bold, and can be compared to the national averages, national parish averages and national school averages.





## 5th Grade ACRE IFG Test Results

Domain	OLG Avg:	Nat'l Avg:	Parish Nat'l Avg*:	School Nat'l Avg*:
Knowledge of the Faith	<b>11.8 / 16 = 73.4%</b>	11.4 / 16 = 71.0%	9.8 / 16 = 61.0%	11.8 / 16 = 73.0%
Liturgical Life	<b>6.7 / 9 = 74.1%</b>	6.2 / 9 = 68.0%	4.8 / 9 = 54.0%	6.4 / 9 = 71.0%
Moral Formation	<b>5.8 / 7 = 82.6%</b>	5.5 / 7 = 78.0%	5.0 / 7 = 71.0%	5.6 / 7 = 80.0%
Prayer	<b>5.3 / 9 = 59.0%</b>	5.9 / 9 = 65.5%	4.8 / 9 = 53.0%	6.1 / 9 = 67.0%
Communal Life	<b>4.1 / 6 = 68.5%</b>	4.3 / 6 = 72.0%	3.7 / 6 = 61.0%	4.4 / 6 = 74.0%
Missionary Spirit	<b>2.1 / 4 = 52.0%</b>	2.2 / 4 = 54.0%	1.6 / 4 = 41.0%	2.3 / 4 = 57.0%

## 8th Grade ACRE IFG Test Results

Domain	OLG Avg:	Nat'l Avg:	Parish Nat'l Avg*:	School Nat'l Avg*:
Knowledge of the Faith	<b>11.6 / 17 = 68.0%</b>	12.2 / 17 = 71.0%	9.3 / 17 = 55.0%	12.8 / 17 = 75.0%
Liturgical Life	<b>4.7 / 7 = 66.6%</b>	4.8 / 7 = 69.0%	4.0 / 7 = 57.0%	5.0 / 7 = 72.0%
Moral Formation	<b>10.1 / 13 = 77.9%</b>	10.5 / 13 = 81.0%	9.2 / 13 = 71.0%	10.8 / 13 = 83.0%
Prayer	<b>4.8 / 7 = 68.7%</b>	5.1 / 7 = 73.0%	4.3 / 7 = 61.0%	5.3 / 7 = 75.0%
Communal Life	<b>4.0 / 7 = 57.1%</b>	4.4 / 7 = 62.0%	3.4 / 7 = 49.0%	4.6 / 7 = 65.0%
Missionary Spirit	<b>4.3 / 6 = 71.6%</b>	4.5 / 6 = 76.0%	3.6 / 6 = 60.0%	4.7 / 6 = 79.0%

\*The scores include all students in the class, Catholic and non-Catholic. The results of these assessments will be used to guide instruction and our scores should increase with the new curriculum that we have purchased as students move through the grades and receive a deeper dive into our Catholic faith.

# Enrollment Trends

Enrollment at the start of the year increased over the previous year and our middle school also grew. While we lost 11 students during the school year, OLG is as strong as ever! The completion of the AOM project will move us to a new level next year with enrollment and the addition of Preschool and a fourth Kindergarten class.

Grade	Enrolled 2021-2022	Enrolled 2020-2021	Enrolled 2019-2020	Enrolled 2018-2019	Enrolled 2017-2018	Enrolled 2016-2017
K	75	75	75	75	60	66
1	79	81	81	72	70	80
2	81	81	64	69	82	68
3	81	72	68	81	68	74
4	75	73	84	70	73	85
5	73	86	74	74	84	85
6	84	70	75	76	74	78
7	61	67	66	65	74	71
8	65	64	62	70	67	49
<b>Totals</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>656</b>

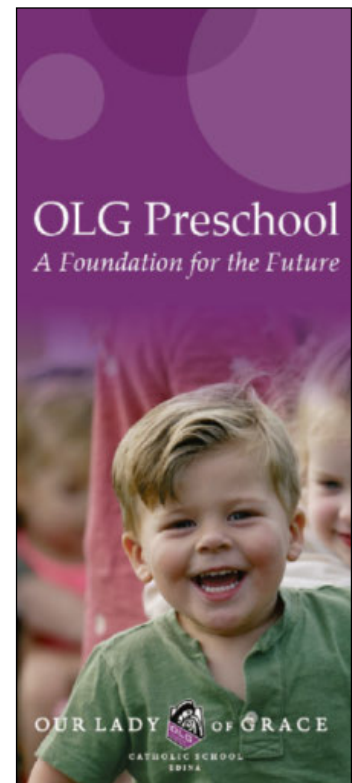


## GOAL

Develop a marketing plan designed to reach and maintain full school enrollment and create a connection with alumni for development.

OLG continues to participate in the Catholic School Center of Excellence (CSCOE) opportunities for enrollment and marketing strategies. Our OLG team meets monthly with the Parish Communications Staff to move us toward a stronger marketing presence. We have created ads for Facebook, Instagram, updated signs/banners, and our website. A new brochure and mailers were created for the Preschool program to help build awareness and interest in the surrounding area. We received a grant that will be used to create three new videos for the school focused on Preschool, K-5 and Middle School programs. These videos, once completed, will be on the school website and used at enrollment events.

Our alumni database is building slowly, and we hope to bring more focus to this area in the coming year. The TADS registration system is asking parents about alumni status, and the parish is also evaluating their database information.



# Learning Support



## GROVES READING PROGRAM

This year, our Groves program expanded into 3rd grade, and with the support of our PSO and the funds raised in the Read-a-thon, we continue to positively impact reading abilities in our students. Teachers work with students in their classrooms on Tier 1 instruction. If a student struggles, they may be given some small group instruction with the teacher on Tier 2. Mrs. Hannan provides intensive interventions for students on Tier 3.

Looking at the chart below, be aware that the numbers may not change dramatically as students flow into and out of the Tier 3 instruction throughout the year based on their AimsWeb scores. This means that 5 students in the winter and 5 students in the spring could be 5 different students than the previous evaluation period.

### 2021-2022 Reading Intervention Tier 3

	Fall	Winter	Spring
Kdg	0	0	0
First	1	11	11
Second	11	11	11
Third	3	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>

## LEARNING SPECIALISTS

OLG is fortunate to have learning specialists for the students who are on accommodation or Individual Service Plans (ISP's). Students who are diagnosed with a challenge that can negatively impact school success are provided individualized support. Our classroom teachers partner with the Learning Specialists and the SPED staff to provide students with the needed support to find success in their learning.

The chart below indicates the number of students who were on plans at the start of the year and how many we have added as the year has progressed. We have had year-over-year increases and need to evaluate adding another learning specialist to help support the student needs.

	Fall 2021	Fall 2020	Spring 2022	Spring 2021
K - 5 Accom. Plans	46	20	51	46
K-5 Speech	22	N/A	34	N/A
K - 5 ISP's	24	15	51	24
6 - 8 Accom. Plans	36	35	41	38
6 - 8 ISP's	10	5	11	6



# School Improvements in Academics and Learning



## GOAL

Apply a multifaceted process to review, revise and implement an exemplary curriculum in core subjects and specialist programs.

Teachers are invited to represent their grade levels in the curriculum review process. Various publishers are contacted and, as materials are received, they are reviewed. Using a rubric to evaluate the curriculum materials, the committee compares various lessons, pictures, print, support materials and items that would impact teaching and learning.

In accordance with our curriculum review cycle, we are currently evaluating social studies materials. This area will be carefully considered as we evaluate the updated state standards and their alignment with our Catholic teachings.



## GOAL

OLG will ensure high quality academic programs to meet the needs of all students.

This year, in addition to the new religion curriculum, teachers started to use the new math materials that were chosen at the end of last year. We discovered that some of the requirements for science were not in place and added the missing kits from Project Lead the Way.

OLG also added the required technology and health standards this year. The technology is in its building year and evaluating where the students are at in their knowledge and abilities as we work on integrating more coding, robotics and other learning opportunities next year. Health was added to grades 6, 7 and 8 and focuses on nutrition, exercise and making connections between their choices and impact on disease and their general health.

The Summer Academy was introduced to fill a need for summer programming for our families. Summer learning programs, tutoring and enrichment courses were offered. Our teachers and some from other schools provided tutoring in core classes, the arts, science and creative activities. An abbreviated Summer Academy will be in place this year due to the building updates, but we hope to have it back in full swing the following summer.





## GOAL

Create an optimal assessment system to collect data in order to evaluate and ensure the continuous intellectual, social and physical development of each student.

The addition of the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) were added to the middle school through the Saints, Stewards and Scholars program. Videos were created to help demonstrate the traits that we were looking to instill and promote in our oldest students. The younger grades also had some special videos created to encourage proper behavior in the lunchroom, hallways and classrooms.

The mental health and social challenges that were part of the pandemic are being addressed through our partnership with the Phoenix Counseling Services. Throughout the year, we have provided parents and teachers access to videos from Dr. Jules Nolan. The videos were well received and impactful. OLG added funds to the budget to allow Ms. Stein to be with us four days a week and we look forward to having her here all five days next year.

Nurse Watts provides education on physical health, screenings, works with students who have health plans and of course manages our day-to-day illnesses and injuries. Next year, as we will have over 750 students in the building, another nurse will be hired to help focus on the Preschool needs and also provide some assistance with the K-8 program.

Intellectual development was given a boost this year as some of our enrichment programs returned including Art Adventures, Young Rembrandt's, math club, and robotics. A drama club was started, and a play was performed. We look forward to additional opportunities being offered next year as well.



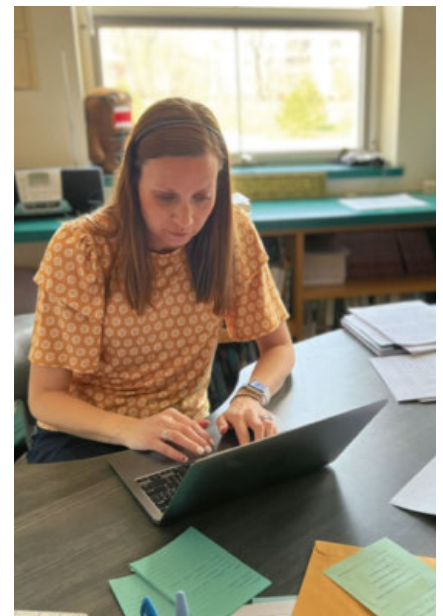
## GOAL

Design and implement a professional development model that supports the practice of reflection and professional learning by teachers to ensure successful learning by students.

Teachers had access to Infobase, an online professional learning organization that offers professional development to teachers. The subscriptions are paid for through our Title dollars and teachers can access workshops to earn Continuing Education Units for their license.

Training on the religion program, math program and science units were available through webinars at the beginning of the school year. Grove's instructors continue to receive monthly training, and subscriptions to professional journals were purchased and shared amongst the staff.

Several workshop days were held this year. Many of the days were dedicated to our self-study process for MNSAA, and we provided trainings for Educate and TADS.

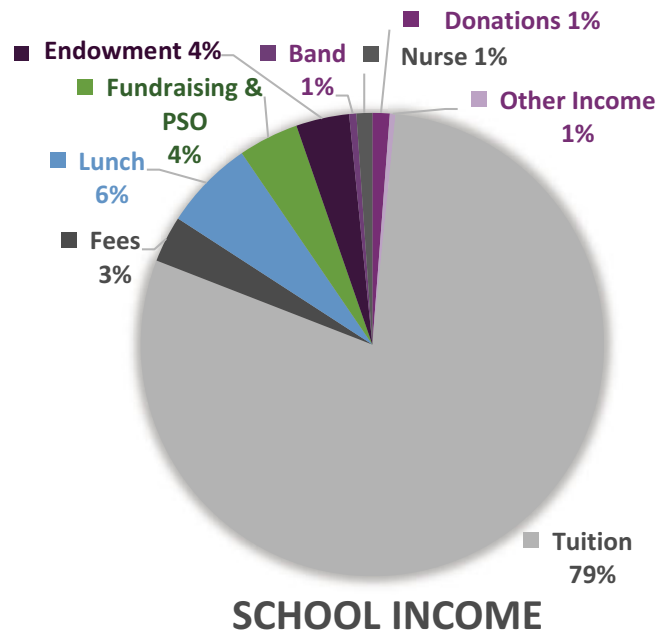


# Financials 2021 - 2022

## School Income

Donations	\$ 60,000.00
Other Income	\$ 20,000.00
Tuition	\$ 3,953,625.00
Fees	\$ 161,850.00
Lunch	\$ 314,920.00
Fundraising & PSO	\$ 210,000.00
Endowment	\$ 185,000.00
Band	\$ 25,000.00
Nurse	\$ 55,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 4,985,395.00*</b>

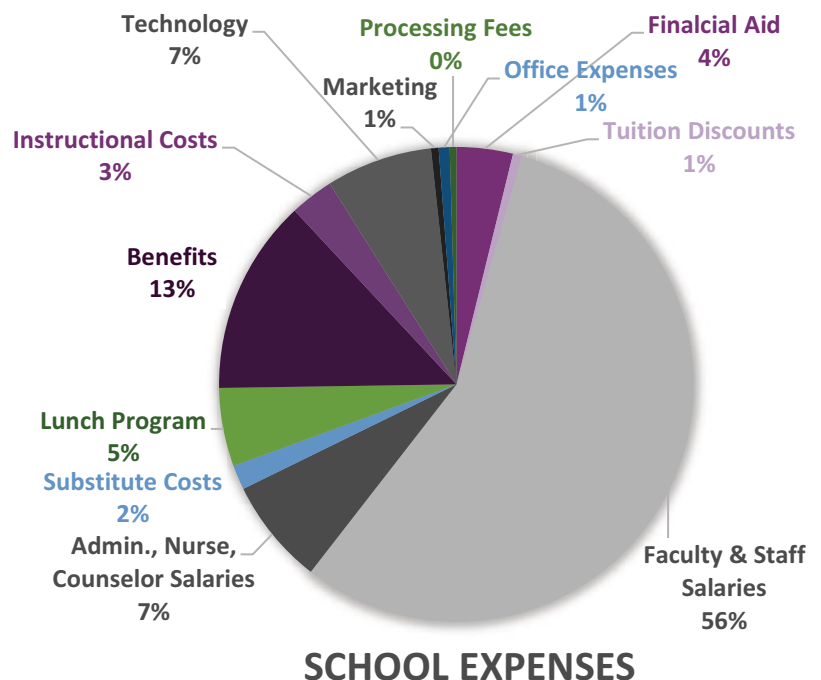
\*This number does not include the \$1.7 million that the parish helps to cover the difference of in parish and standard tuition or funds for various custodial, maintenance, repairs, heat, electricity, etc.



## School Expenses

Financial Aid	\$ 185,000.00
Tuition Discounts	\$ 29,290.00
Faculty & Staff Salaries	\$ 2,707,662.33
Admin., Nurse, Counselor Salaries	\$ 349,130.00
Substitute Costs	\$ 80,738.68
Lunch Program	\$ 257,920.00
Benefits	\$ 642,258.76
Instructional Costs	\$ 143,500.00
Technology	\$ 350,000.00
Marketing	\$ 25,000.00
Office Expenses	\$ 36,000.00
Processing Fees	\$ 22,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,828,499.77*</b>

\*This number does not include the expenses covered by the parish for custodial, maintenance, repairs, heat, electricity, etc.





The school is the largest ministry of the parish and receives a generous investment to help cover expenses related to shared maintenance, communications, development, building costs, financial assistance and various improvements. The parish investment amount also covers the difference between the standard tuition rate (\$7,425) and the parish investment rate (\$5,825). This equates to \$1,056,000 as the difference between the two tuition amounts. The parish investment dollars are not directly received as income for the school, but covers a significant number of shared costs.

The investment this year will be approximately \$1.7 million. Thank you to the parish and the parishioners for their generous support of the school. OLG has added some revenue sources by starting the OLG Summer Academy and the canteen. Our school administration works hard to manage its fiduciary responsibilities of the school budget and its relationship to the overarching parish budget.

In addition to the parish support, we are so grateful and appreciative of the PSO (Parent Student Association) and Men's Club for the many volunteer hours, event assistance and financial support they provide the school each year. It takes a village...



# Tuition



## GOAL

Our Lady of Grace will ensure that it has the financial means and stability to continue to provide a high-quality Catholic education program for students at an affordable tuition rate.

All families who would like their child to receive a Catholic education at OLG are encouraged to enroll, regardless of the family's financial status. Financial assistance was available to those who qualified. In the 2021-22 school year there were 58 students who applied for assistance and 43 of the applicants qualified for a scholarship. The calculated need of those students was \$183,493. Funds for financial assistance are provided from the school endowment (interest dollars) and some donations.

The generous support we receive from the parish is well above the recommended amount from the Archdiocese. Currently, the school receives 45 – 50% of the Sunday offerings and we should be in the range of 25% or less. There is some work to do in this area to lessen the burden on the parish.

	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Parish Investment Rate	\$5,975	\$5,825	\$5,525	\$5,425
Standard Tuition Rate*	\$7,725	\$7,425	\$7,125	\$7,025

*\*Standard tuition rate was based on the original budget approved by the Finance Council for the beginning of the school year, not the actual expenses during the school year.*



# Technology



## GOAL

Maintain a sustainable technology replacement schedule and budget.

Technology provides a plethora of teaching, learning and assessment options for the school. OLG is grateful to the families who support the Give to the Max campaign, which helps provide funds for keeping technology up-to-date. OLG has 750 devices that are on a three-year replacement schedule. Our technology dollars cover the various software subscriptions, infrastructure and equipment used by students and staff. We usually replace approximately 300 devices each year.

This year we purchased new Macbooks for the middle school students and the staff. In addition to the computers, we also replaced several Smartboards. Several of the older Macbooks were donated to OLG in Ghana and some were sold.



## GOAL

OLG will use technology to improve, enhance and extend student learning.

Students and teachers use a variety of software and websites to enhance learning. Our 5th – 8th graders use Google classroom, while our younger students use Seesaw. The IXL program provides some individualized and differentiated instruction for the students.



# MAP Test Results

We have completed the MAP growth tests for the 2021-22 school year. Below you will see the comparison charts for the last several years. Please note that the scores from 2019-20 have an asterisk (\*) as they are winter test scores and not spring scores as the other years. Even with the challenges of the pandemic, you will see that incredible learning continued at OLG.

The bolded RIT score at the end of each row is where the students should be (50th percentile) in their learning at this point in the school year. Once again, OLG students continue to push the boundaries and beat the national grade level expectations.

	2021-22 Math	2020-21 Math	2019-20 Math*	2018-19 Math	2017-18 Math	2016-17 Math	National Level RIT
Kdg	164	166	158*	169	166	171	<b>157</b>
First	185	188	185*	194	194	195	<b>176</b>
Second	196	198	192*	199	202	204	<b>189</b>
Third	212	213	207*	218	219	215	<b>201</b>
Fourth	222	225	219*	225	229	228	<b>211</b>
Fifth	235	234	233*	242	240	241	<b>219</b>
Sixth	236	240	239*	243	245	247	<b>223</b>
Seventh	243	246	245*	250	249	245	<b>227</b>
Eighth	248	249	253*	254	248	251	<b>230</b>

	2021-22 Reading	2020-21 Reading	2019-20 Reading*	2018-19 Reading	2017-18 Reading	2016-17 Reading	National Level RIT
Kdg	AimsWeb	AimsWeb	159*	165	167	168	<b>153</b>
First	179	182	183*	190	188	192	<b>171</b>
Second	195	199	193*	198	203	188	<b>186</b>
Third	209	208	205*	212	212	210	<b>197</b>
Fourth	214	216	214*	217	217	217	<b>205</b>
Fifth	221	223	222*	225	225	223	<b>211</b>
Sixth	223	227	227*	229	227	228	<b>215</b>
Seventh	229	229	231*	232	232	230	<b>218</b>
Eighth	232	233	234*	237	248	239	<b>222</b>

	2021-22 Lang. Usage	2020-21 Lang. Usage	National Level RIT
Second	195	XX	<b>188</b>
Third	209	204	<b>198</b>
Fourth	213	212	<b>205</b>
Fifth	221	219	<b>210</b>
Sixth	223	224	<b>214</b>
Seventh	229	226	<b>216</b>
Eighth	232	235	<b>218</b>

	2021-22 Science	2020-21 Science	National Level RIT
Fifth	212	211	<b>206</b>
Sixth	213	215	<b>208</b>
Seventh	219	217	<b>210</b>
Eighth	220	220	<b>213</b>

# Congratulations to our 2022 Graduates!



On June 1, 63 eighth graders graduated from Our Lady of Grace School. We are so proud of all that they have learned and accomplished during their time on this campus, and can't wait to see the amazing things they do in our world. May God bless you all!



## Thank you, Father Nathan!

Father Nathan Hastings has served the Our Lady of Grace Parish since his ordination on May 30, 2020 as our Parochial Vicar. Previously, he served at OLG as a seminarian, assisting with everything from burials to teaching in the school. Since becoming a priest, he has graced our parish with his discipleship, leadership, servant heart, and wonderful sermons.

We wish him well in his new assignment at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in St. Paul. Please keep Father Nathan in your prayers for a smooth transition. God Bless you Father Nathan!

## Sumer OLG Academy Now Open!

**Now Through August 11**

Looking for something fun AND educational for your student(s) this summer? OLG Academy is your answer! Math Mania, Manzolini Maker Space, Reading & Writing Workshop, and Around the World are all waiting for your child this summer. We also have highly skilled and specially trained tutors ready to help with reading, writing, math, and much more! All children are welcome to OLG Academy – enrollment at OLG School is not required. Use the QR code to learn more and register!



## OLG Bulletin Supporters

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation for all our bulletin supporters listed on our website at [www.olgparish.org/bulletins](http://www.olgparish.org/bulletins)

Please consider these businesses and individuals when you may need their services.



## *OLG School* MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of Grace Catholic School is a Catholic community of parents, educators and students whose greatest commitment is to spiritual and academic growth. As members of God's faith community, we proclaim and celebrate God's love. As parents, we acknowledge our role as teachers of our children. As educators, we center our teaching on Gospel values, assess the individual needs of each child and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence. As students, we accept the responsibility to learn to our greatest potential and to be life-long learners. This growth occurs within a mutually supportive environment that fosters in each of us a love for God, love for one another and a desire to serve the greater community.