



St. Clement's RC School

231 Lake Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

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Basic Facts

Enrollment

EC-Grade 5 224

Administration, Faculty & Staff

27 full-time; 10 part-time

Annual Budget

\$1,776,000

Catholic Identity—demonstrated by:

- Annual year-long theme: "Lord, lead me. Guide me. Walk beside me."
- Daily Morning Prayer via loudspeaker as our usual Morning Prayer Assembly is not possible due to the COVID pandemic; prayer at snack, lunch, and dismissal.
- Monthly school-wide Masses based on a theme and prepared by a particular class (when weather permits, the entire school attends Mass outside; when Mass is held in the church, only the class responsible for preparing the Mass attends in-person and the rest of the school views it in their classrooms via livestream video)
- 5th Grade graduation Mass—June 21, 2021
- May Crowning by second graders who had just received First Communion
- Special Catholic Schools Week Mass at St. Clement's on the Sunday beginning the week, and a Mass said for the Catholic schools of the diocese by the Bishop at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany on the Friday of Catholic Schools Week
- Many service projects to help the children learn the importance of and responsibility to help others; these have included:
 - collection of non-perishable food items for the parish Food Pantry and collection of blankets for the backstretch workers during Catholic Schools Week
 - collection of gifts for needy children during Advent
 - collection of hats and mittens via the Giving Tree during Advent
 - Baby Shower for Birthright and collection of donations for Birthright via its baby bottle drive
 - St. Jude's Math-a-Thon
 - Ronald McDonald House Reads
 - praying for special intentions of school community members as well as topics of local and global

Mission Statement

St. Clement's Regional Catholic School provides all students with a solid foundation in the Catholic faith, a strong sense of social responsibility and love for their neighbors, and a thorough and competitive education that provides the tools critical for academic success.



import (e.g., to end the pandemic, to support life in all stages, for our priests and bishop, for the election)

- Week begins with Faculty Prayer led by Mrs. Kromm at 7:20am
 - Lent: "Lenten Pilgrimage with the Saints" prepared by the Catholic Identity Committee to be read by Mrs. Kromm on Mondays during Lent; Veneration of the Cross Prayer Service; Stations of the Cross every Friday; CRS Rice Bowls
 - Include "Partners in Faith" article in monthly newsletter distributed to parents
 - Prayer request intentions in daily prayer
 - Classes attend 8am Mass once per week via live stream
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Teaching & Learning

a rigorous curriculum aligned with relevant standards and Gospel values, delivered through quality, 21st century methods of instruction, and assesses students with a focus on individual growth and school program enhancements. NYS Education Department provided a list of essential learning standards as the pandemic created the necessity for a shift in the delivery of the curriculum.

Evidenced by:

- Adoption of NYS learning standards reflecting higher ordered thinking skills
- Standards Based Report Card (Pre-K through Grade 8)
- Students in grades 3 & 5 participate in the New York State English Language Arts (ELA) and Math Assessments each Spring. Grade 4 students take the New York State Science Exam each Spring. In 2021, NYS tests were modified due to Covid-19.
- Faculty includes a STREAM teacher, Spanish teacher, art teacher, music teacher, physical education teacher, speech teacher and counselor (PT through Catapult Learning).
- Collaboration with the Saratoga Springs City School District to provide special education services and related services to students



Capital Improvement Projects

Water & Sewer Pipes

Plan currently underway to replace old leaking pipes in tunnel section-by-section

Heating System

New boiler installed

Roofing Systems

Current roof systems on all 3 buildings (original building, 1952 Wing, and gym) are continuously inspected and repaired as warranted by field conditions; complete replacement of roof on 1918 building & 1952 building completed Spring 2019

Sound System

The sound system in the gym has been repaired and upgraded to improve audio quality.

Future Plans

Explore replacement of current PA system

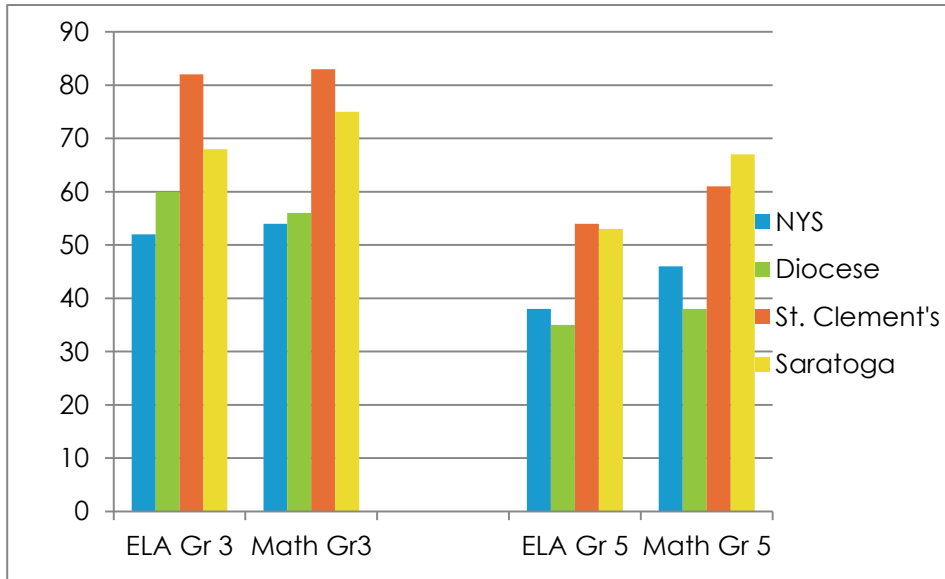
Re-design art/music room (to increase storage and organizational space)

COVID-19 Planning includes:

- reorganization of classroom space
- upgrades in cleaning schedules
- adherence to all CDC & DOH guidelines

View our Reopening Plan at www.stclementsschool.org

NYS Testing 2019
 %scoring 3&4
 3: meets standard 4: exceeds standard



Finances

- Annual report sent to Catholic School Office
- Volunteer finance committee advises the Principal and Pastor on financial matters related to the school's budget, spending, financial planning, tuition and fees, and overall fiscal status
- Committee meets periodically and reviews/monitors budget and variance reports which are distributed at monthly School Board meetings
- Finance committee is chaired by a member of the School Board. Members have various expertise in finance, budgeting, and other fiscal areas.
- The COVID-19 pandemic greatly affected our finances by reducing revenue as tuition collected decreased and fundraising was put on hold. Families affected by the pandemic had their income reduced as jobs were reduced or hours were cut. This prevented them from meeting tuition payments.

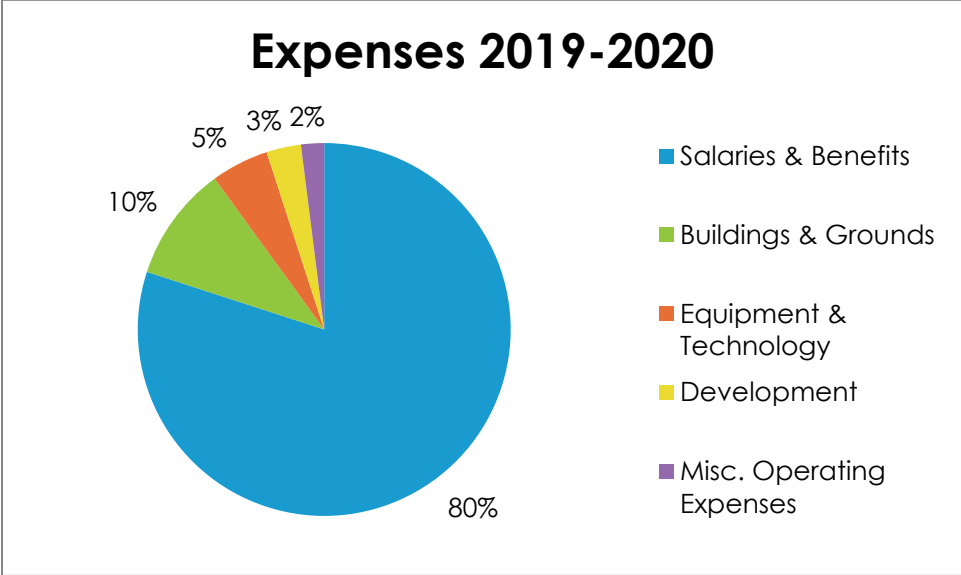
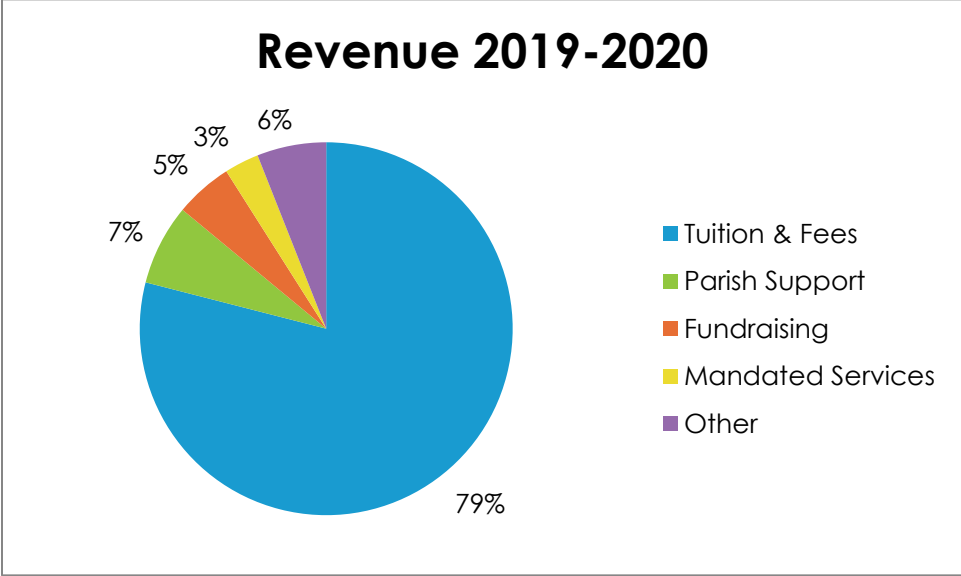
ACCREDITATION IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

DIOCESAN (SYSTEM) PLAN

- Conduct benchmark research with Catholic school systems of like size and mission to identify potential alternative funding strategies to generate resources to supplement tuition.
- Identify system curriculum standards and complementary resources for all courses.
- Design and implement teacher recruitment and retention strategies system-wide.
- Design and implement strategies to enhance student recruitment and retention.

SCHOOL PLAN

- Initiate, direct, and monitor school-wide practices in order to promote teacher effectiveness and student learning especially during the Coronavirus pandemic
- Raise expectations for maintaining a safe, clean, and healthy environment for all with increased cleaning in adherence with Covid-19 protocols
- Participate in annual personal faith formation experiences at the local level for faculty and staff.
- Update re-opening plan to reflect changes prescribed by NYS



Governance

- The purpose of the School Board is to act together with the pastor and the principal to assist in the governance of the school in accordance with the policies of the Albany Diocese. The School Board is an advisory board, so its function is to advise the principal in formulating policy to administer the school. The School Board will not administer, that is the responsibility of the principal.
- The School Board is composed of nine members.
- The committees of the School Board include: Catholic Identity, Finance, Facilities, Development, Enrollment/Retention, Curriculum, By-Laws & Policies, Elections.
- The School Board meets monthly with the exception of July and August.
- All are invited to attend School Board meetings. A schedule is posted on our website.

Covid-19 Supplement

When the Covid-19 forced the shutdown of our school buildings in March 2020, we faced many challenges. Emergency planning had not even imagined what this pandemic had created. In our society, everything shut down and fear and anxiety consumed many. Families were isolated in their homes. Parents were now working from home while also tending to their children who were forced to remain at home.

Amidst all of this confusion and uncertainty, our faculty remained focused on the children entrusted to them on a daily basis. They faced the challenge head-on and provided distance learning experiences to keep our students engaged. The learning curve was never a roadblock. Teachers, in addition, to meeting with their students daily, also were engaged in learning themselves, seeking training in on-line platforms and apps that would enable them to keep “the learning going.” Google Meets allowed students to see their teachers and one another. As a faculty, we made adjustments so as to respond to the needs of our students. The school year (2019-2020) ended in an unusual way with drive-through graduations and home deliveries by our teachers to recognize the accomplishments of our youngest children. Our “reverse parade” afforded our families and faculty to see one another again. Teachers went more than “the extra mile.” The return to in-person instruction in September 2020 was enthusiastically met by everyone. Alternatives such as remote instruction and Hy-flex models were made available for those who were not ready to return in-person. The reopening team had spent the entire summer making plans for reopening which followed the guidance provided by the NYS Department of Education, Governor Cuomo and the Department of Health. The guidelines were being constantly changed and the team responded. Confident in our plan, we reopened. Ninety percent of our students returned to our building and 10% chose virtual learning.

Financially, Covid-19 produced drastic effects on our school. Fundraisers were halted. Some families in our PreSchool pulled their children. Other families experienced a significant decrease in income as the business world responded to the pandemic. Summer programs were cancelled. Additional revenues including rental of our facility disappeared. Churches were closed; thereby eliminating financial support to the school as they struggled to address the many issues brought about by the pandemic. The end result was a deficit of \$264,618 for the 2019-2020 school year. Without the benefit of the Payroll Protection Program and some of our savings, we would have been unable to address that deficit.

As we returned to school for the 2020-2021 school year we continued to face financial challenges. With all the extra protocols in place to keep our facility healthy and safe for our students and faculty, expenses skyrocketed. Reorganization of classrooms, reduced class sizes, increased demand for soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, electrostatic foggers—some of which were in limited supply—produced unexpected expenses. In addition, our building was not (and is not) available for outside use, thereby reducing potential rental income as well as opportunities to gather as a school community. CARES funds were reallocated and resulted in a lower amount than originally anticipated.

CARES Act Funds 2020-2021

Services

Services

School District	GEER		ESSER	
Saratoga Springs	\$252.52	SEL	\$1,413.56	TECH
Corinth	\$160.58	SEL	\$947.48	PPE, cleaning
Greenwich	\$142.80	SEL	\$842.60	Tech
Cambridge	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Mechanicville	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Ballston Spa	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Schuylerville	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Shenendehowa	\$0.00		\$0.00	
TOTAL	\$555.90		\$3,203.64	

How did we do? As we near the end of this school year, we have been blest. We have been able to keep our school open to provide in-person instruction and remote instruction for the entire school year (with very limited quarantines necessary). Our students have adjusted well to mask-wearing, hand washing, and social distancing guidelines. Behind those masks, we know there are smiles. Everyone is glad to be together again. Our teachers continue to give their all under trying situations. Our students have moved throughout the building in “pods” in order to reduce risks. It is not an ideal situation. Yet, our students have been able to continue to grow in faith and knowledge. As we end this year and plan for the 2021-2022 school year, we hope to return to “normal.” Hope allows us to look toward a brighter tomorrow. We continue to await further guidance from New York State as we make our plans.