



Inspiring Achievement; Instilling Faith

Board of Directors Report

Dear Friends of St. Ann's Academy,

On the first day of school in 2012, twenty-one Hornell youth said the Pledge of Allegiance at St. Ann's Academy (SAA), an independent Catholic school founded on the 149-year legacy of St. Ann School. As SAA enters its seventh year, we, the Board of Directors provide you with the following update on the state of our school.

Our Mission remains unchanged: *St. Ann's Academy exists to provide a Catholic education in the Hornell area so that our children can learn in an environment that enables them to become well-grounded spiritually and exceptional academically.* We use a faith-based education model that provides a sound emotional and spiritual foundation in life. We welcome all children, keeping tuition affordable and adhering to a strict non-discrimination policy. Some facts:

- On the first day of the 2017-2018 school year, we had 87 students, in Pre-K to 6th grade.
- Our student population comes from eleven different school districts.
- We are blessed with nine qualified and dedicated teachers, as well as several aides.
- Small classes ensure individualized attention. The student / teacher ratio is 9:1.
- For the safety of the children and staff, access is tightly controlled with key-cards and security cameras.
- We've added an on-site administrator who personally greets the children every morning and dismisses them at the end of the day.
- Teachers nurture struggling students and challenge more gifted ones using *dynamic grouping*.
- 2018 assessment tests for grades 3-6 showed that 83% of students were "at or above grade level" in reading and 91% "at or above grade level" in math. (Thank you teachers!)
- Parents are asked to evaluate our performance every year through a Parent Survey.
- 95.5% of parents gave a "satisfactory" or better rating of the curriculum and the academic level(s) of their child(ren), including 54.6% who rated it as "extremely satisfactory."
- Our budget has been balanced every year since the beginning.
- Families attending pay 75% of the cost of running the school (tuition payments). The remainder comes from contributions and fundraisers.
- 78% of the school's budget goes directly to salaries for teachers (and payroll taxes). The remainder of the budget covers operating expenses such as utilities, cleaning, books and mortgage payments.
- The volunteer Board of Directors is a diverse group with common goals.
- SAA is a non-profit, recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3 entity.



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In August 2018, the Board of Directors filed a petition with the NYS Education Dept. for an *Absolute* Charter (versus the *Provisional* charter that we obtained in January 2013). This involves demonstrating our success to date and sustainability in the future. While there is no guarantee that we will be granted one at this time, we will continue to strive for academic excellence and the personal development of each child according to Christ's teachings. We have committed to do this in a fiscally responsible manner to ensure that a St. Ann's Academy education is available to area children, well into the future.

A detailed Board of Directors Report can be found on our website www.SAAcademy.org

If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to any of us.

Sincerely,

Jerome S. O'Connor, President
St. Ann's Board of Directors

on behalf of St. Ann's Academy Board of Directors:

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