

2020-2021

State of the School



Annunciation Catholic School

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 Annunciation Catholic School – ACS

 acs4christ



*If we live in the SPIRIT,
Let us also follow the SPIRIT.*

Galatians 5:25

State of the School Report

2020– 2021 School Year

June 2021

Dear Annunciation Families,

We want to thank you all for the support and patience shown the past 10 months of this unprecedented school year. We had many successes and some challenges along the way; however, we continued the work that needed to be done to ensure the safety, academic, and spiritual needs of our students were met.

We would like to thank our caring and hardworking staff, Task Force, and parents for your commitment to our school and our students' continued learning. It has made an incredible difference. Thank you to our staff for providing rich and engaging, well-rounded experiences for our children and knowing that education is more than a subject area, but also about the development of faith, social skills, and perseverance needed to succeed. Our staff was dedicated to make this year work, whether we were in-person, remote, or both! They worked through ever-changing health orders, government mandates, and protocols, while continuously improving student learning. We are truly grateful.

This booklet is a snapshot of the 2020-2021 school year. Please take a few minutes to look it over and see what our students, teachers and parents have accomplished in the face of this challenging year. If you would like to see our year in photos, please go to our Annunciation Catholic School Facebook or Instagram page.

We send our 8th graders on to high school and encourage them to continue to “Soar with the Spirit!” We look forward to their visits and to hear about their high school experiences.

As we enter the new school year, we continue to ask you for your prayers and support and remember to “Be Humble and Kind!”



Cindy Shields, Principal



Leticia M. Gomez, Vice Principal

Vision

Annunciation Catholic School's Vision is to provide a Catholic Education that recognizes and respects each student's uniqueness as a member of the Body of Christ. We awaken, recognize, and honor the God given abilities of each student by providing active learning experiences using innovative techniques and cutting-edge technology. We challenge students to accept responsibility to continue Jesus' mission by being people of prayer, service, wisdom, and compassion.

Mission

Annunciation Catholic School's mission is to provide a Christ-like and learner friendly environment to better serve God and community.

Schoolwide Learning Expectations (SLE's)

Annunciation Students will be faith-filled, active Catholics who

- Value that prayer is an integral part of their lives
- Participate in the sacraments and prayer experiences
- Have personal relationships with God
- Are knowledgeable of the teachings of the Catholic Church
- Demonstrate conviction of their beliefs

Annunciation students will be engaged learners who

- Communicate effectively
- Collaborate with adults and peers
- Think critically
- Exhibit creativity

Annunciation students will be self-aware, well-rounded people by demonstrating

- Perseverance
- Self-sufficiency
- A willingness to take risks without fear of failure

Annunciation Catholic School Accreditation

ACS is accredited by Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA). Our accreditation documents include a Self-Study and Action Plan for ongoing improvement. WCEA awarded ACS the highest accreditation status during the 2016 visit. We are accredited until 2022 with no interventions necessary. ACS has been preparing for an accreditation renewal visit in 2022.

Interesting Facts about the 2020-2021 School Year

Enrollment

- 414 students were enrolled in grades Jr. K through 8th grade.
- 67 new students and 38 new families were welcomed into the ACS community.
- ACS student retention rate: 88%

Faculty & Staff

- The school staff consists of 53 employees.
- Staff retention rate: 93%
- All core content and elementary teachers hold NM teaching licenses.
- Teachers participated in over 580 hours of professional development (Microsoft Teams, Microsoft One Note, Restorative Justice, RTI, Catholic Identity and subject specific best practices).
- Collectively the Annunciation staff has over 345 years of teaching experience with 257 years in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.

Facility/COVID-Safe Enhancements

- Installed additional shade sails for outdoor lunch tables
- Replaced towel and soap dispensers in all restrooms
- E-mist Backpack System (for disinfecting surfaces)
- Installed plexiglass dividers in classrooms between desks and on tables.
- Provided dispenser buckets for refillable wipes for each classroom and lunch seating area
- Installed 60 foaming hand sanitizer dispensers outside each classroom and common areas
- Hired an additional maintenance person to ensure that all high-touch areas are routinely disinfected.
- Utilized Magdalene Hall, St. Francis Hall, and St. Bakhita Hall for additional classroom space and hired 6 additional Educational Assistants in order

to meet capacity requirements by local public health orders.

- Teachers participated in over 580 hours of professional development (Microsoft Teams, One Note, Stream, Restorative Justice, RTI, Catholic Identity and Catholic School Leadership).
- Collectively the Annunciation staff has over 345 years of teaching experience with 257 years in Catholic School.
- Purchased an additional 15 iPads to support digital and remote learning.

8th Grade Class

- The graduating class of 2021 consisted of 50 students. These students fared well in placement for high school.
- ACS is the largest feeder school to St. Pius X High School. All of our students who tested were accepted and 34 will be attending.
- The following students were awarded scholarships based on their National Percentile Composite score on the Placement Exam.
- **Sartan X Scholarship** for \$1000 awarded to students scoring in the 85th - 99th percentile on the Placement Exam: **Mia Richards**
- **Sartan Scholarship** for \$500 awarded to students scoring between the 75th - 84th percentile: **Ava Mudd, Hayden Tate**
- Entering St. Pius Freshmen qualify for honors and higher levels of classes based on placement test scores, grades, and recommendations. Below are the number of students who qualified and are enrolled:
 - Honors Spanish 1: 10
 - Honors Spanish 2: 1
 - Honors World History: 7
 - Biology: 2
 - Honors Biology: 3
 - Honors Alg1/Geometry: 10
 - Honors English: 2

Student Learning

Assessment of Catholic Religious Education (ACRE) is administered annually to 5th & 8th grade students. It is used by Catholic Schools throughout the nation. The results show the percentile in which our students rank nationally.

ACRE Results		
4 Pillars of Catechism of Catholic Church		
5 th	8 th	Pillar
68%	67%	Profession of Faith
62%	70%	The Celebration of the Christian Mystery
77%	72%	Life in Christ
63%	63%	Christian Prayer

STAR is administered 4 times per year and is nationally normed. These scores are from the final STAR test administered in April 2021.

STAR Results											
		K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	
STAR Math	National Percentile	*	83	75	72	67	77	58	51	69	
	Grade Level Equivalent	*	2.6	3.5	4.4	5.6	7.8	8.0	8.7	11.7	
	Number of Students by Quartile	99-75%	*	25	24	21	15	23	10	4	21
		74-50%	*	9	13	12	18	13	16	21	20
		49- 25%	*	4	6	6	9	7	12	15	8
24-1%		*	1	2	2	3	1	2	5	1	
STAR Reading	National Percentile	70*	74	71	75	71	68	63	57	58	
	Grade Level Equivalent	1.2*	2.3	3.7	4.9	5.8	6.8	8.0	8.9	9.9	
	Number of Students by Quartile	99-75%	18*	24	21	24	23	16	11	13	9
		74-50%	17*	5	15	8	11	20	14	13	25
		49- 25%	7*	4	7	7	10	7	13	13	12
24-1%		3*	6	2	2	1	1	2	6	4	

*Kindergarten Scores from STAR Early Literacy Assessment

Student Involvement, Awards and Accomplishments

Athletics

Our students are incredibly involved. All interested students have the opportunity to participate. This year, due to state government restrictions, sports were not allowed until the end of March.

Sport	Elementary Students	MS Students	Middle School Recognition
Flag Football	N/A	N/A	Did not have a season due to the pandemic.
Tennis	N/A	N/A	
Cross Country	N/A	N/A	
Soccer	44	N/A	N/A
Volleyball	N/A	40	Varsity Champions (7 th Grade Team)
Golf	N/A	12	APIAL Cup- placed 3 rd
Basketball	N/A	36	Varsity Champions
Track and Field	26	22	Varsity Boys Runner-Up Varsity Girls Runner-Up JV Girls Runner-Up
Cheer/Dance	N/A	N/A	Did not have a season due to the pandemic.

Spiritual, Leadership and Musical Activities

Group	Participants	Notes
Altar Servers	N/A	<i>In the past, students served at Daily Mass, School Mass & Sunday Mass. This year, this did not occur due to pandemic and government restrictions.</i>
Student Cantors	N/A	
Talent Show	N/A	<i>Did not occur due to the pandemic.</i>
Band	3 Intermediate/Advanced	Beginning and Intermediate/ Advanced offered. Band was done virtually this year due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Jr. Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes performed at their graduation ceremonies. Due to the pandemic, Annunciation students in Grades 1-8 were not able to participate in a musical performance for Christmas or Spring Concerts.

Academic Competitions

Several of the academic competitions are open to all students. Some are limited to a specific number based on maximum number of allowed participants or due to a limited number of coaches.

Team	Participants	Recognition
Chess	N/A	Did not occur due to pandemic and government restrictions.
Speech & Debate	N/A	
Faith Challenge Bowl	N/A	
Geography Bee	N/A	
Spelling Bee	N/A	
Science Fair	68	<p>Students presented Science Fair projects in the following categories: <i>Behavioral Science & Social Science, Botany, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth, Space & Environmental Science, Engineering, Medicine & Health, Physics, Zoology</i></p> <p>There was no formal judging this year. Best in Show (based on peer vote): Brody Dixel</p>
Future City	28 (6 Teams)	<p>Regional Future City Competition: <i>Team Calisto, 7th Grade Team:</i> Jackson DiLorenzo, Daegan Marsh, James Martinez, Nathan Nguyen, Christopher Quintana:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Place Overall • Best Q & A • Best Model • Best Video Presentation <p>Agricultural Design and Presentation Excellence: <i>Team Lunars, 7th Grade Team:</i> Ava Pluto, Berlin Sikkink, Isabella Torres, and Myla Cao</p> <p>National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying: <i>Team Astronomical 7th Grade Team:</i> Danira Alcantar, Jasmine Martinez, Zach Brokaw, Connor Smith, and Thomas Cao</p> <p>National Future City Competition: <i>Team Calisto, Representing the State of New Mexico:</i> Jackson DiLorenzo, Daegan Marsh, James Martinez, Nathan Nguyen, Christopher Quintana</p> <p>Most Innovative Design of Infrastructure Systems</p>
Battle of the Books	N/A	Did not occur due to the pandemic.
Entrepreneur Expo	135 (47 Teams)	1st place overall: <i>Bloom Candles</i> Macy Freeze (8) & Audrey Milesosky (8)

Art

Over 2,200 pieces of student artwork were exhibited at the 2020-2021 Art Fair created by Annunciation students in grades Jr.K–8. Due to the pandemic, there was no Archdiocese of Santa Fe Catholic Schools' Art Festival, an event that traditionally features and awards recognition to many pieces from ACS.

Additional Programs & Community Events

- ACS/ Level-Up Village Summer Program
- Town Hall Meeting with the Principals
- Weekly Student Mass (also streamed live each week)
- Pastor Visits
- Spirit Days
- Recycling Efforts
- Worm Composting
- Class Parties
- First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Monday Morning Rosary Group
- ACS Pumpkin Patch
- Pumpkin Decorating Contest
- Sacrament of Reconciliation Services
- Field Day
- Catholic Schools Week
- Sacramental Preparations
- Middle School HOUSE
- Living Stations of the Cross
- Retreats
- Virtual Middle School Music Program
- Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts
- Classroom Patron Saints Celebrations- & more

Special Recognitions

Distinguished Disciple Honorees: Kameron Swanson (8th grade) and Jeffrey Sheyka (adult) were selected as this year's Distinguished Disciples Honorees.

St. Gabriel Award: Macy Freeze, Addison Harrington, Emma Borkstrom, Hayden Tate and Elliott Ochs were presented with the St. Gabriel Award. This award honors 8th graders who exemplify the qualities of St. Gabriel and the Blessed Mother.

Athletes of the Year: *This award is earned by students for their dedication and involvement in our athletic program. Due to the pandemic and government restrictions, there were not enough Sports that had seasons, so no awards were given.*

Catholic Award for Teachers Presented by The Catholic Foundation: Debbie Mele and Daniel Castillo were each awarded \$1000 as well as \$100 toward Annunciation School's Endowment.



Alumni Academic and Athletic Recognitions

Jayden Bates: First Honors, National Honor Society

Rachel Bournias: National Honor Society, US Figure Skating Gold Level Graduating Senior Award

Anna Brown: First Honors

Madison Davis: Second Honors, National Honor Society

Aaron Deller: First Honors, High School All-American Football Team

Emma Donlin: St. Pius X 2021 Female Athlete of the Year

Marcus Garcia: First Honors, National Honor Society, St. Pius X 2021 Male Athlete of the Year, Gatorade New Mexico Boys Soccer Player of the Year, High School All-American Soccer Team

Morgan Henson: First Honors, National Honor Society

Marie Kalb: First Honors, National Honor Society, St. Pius X 2021 Scholar Athlete Award, St. Pius X 2021 Top 10

Allison McLellan: First Honors, National Honor Society

Evan Muhlberger: First Honors

Nicholas Pascuzzi: First Honors, National Honor Society

Zachariah Peña: First Honors, National Honor Society, Letter of Commendation Award, St. Pius X 2021 Top 10, St. Pius X 2021 Scholar Athlete Award, National Hispanic Scholar

Nicole Qumsieh: Second Honors

Liam Ruggles: Second Honors, Liturgical Choir/Orchestra Award

Joshua Salas: First Honors, National Honor Society, St. Pius X 2021 Top 10

Mariah Sanchez: First Honors

Alexis Statzula: First Honors, National Honor Society

Allyson Thomas: First Honors, National Honor Society

Christopher Ulibarri: First Honors, 2021 Sports Medicine Student of the Year Award

Nicholas Vargas: Second Honors

St. Pius 2021 Top 10:

Junior Class: 2 ACS Graduates

Sophomore Class: 5 ACS Graduates

Freshman Class: 4 ACS Graduates



People of Service

We are called by the Church to be people of service. During the 2020-2021 school year the majority of our service projects supported various local divisions of Catholic Charities. The generosity of our school community is something of which to be proud.

2020-2021 Social Justice Projects

Grade	Benefactor	Gift
Jr. K	ACS	Provided & planted the front flower bed
Jr. K and Kindergarten	CYFD	Created "Embrace Bags" for teenagers at the CYFD Receiving Center filled with hygiene and personal items.
2 nd Grade	Street Safe New Mexico	Donated over 125 Blankets for trafficking victims.
3 rd Grade	Catholic Charities of New Mexico	Donated a truckload of non-perishable food items to the CCASFNM In-Kind Donation Center.
4 th Grade	Ronald McDonald House	Raised \$88.33 from composting worms.
	World Wildlife Fund	Raised \$88.33 from composting worms.
	Wounded Warrior Project	Raised \$88.84 from composting worms.
5 th Grade	Catholic Charities of New Mexico	5 th Grade families collected \$275 in gift cards (intended for purchase of clothing, home furnishings, and groceries) for Refugees that have gained US citizenship upon completion of the program.
6 th Grade	Incarcerated Teens	Wrote encouraging letters to incarcerated teens in order to put into practice one of the Corporal Works of Mercy. Letters were sent with Embrace Bags Jr.K and K made for CYFD Receiving Center.
7 th Grade	Catholic Charities' Children's Learning Center: <i>Project Give</i>	Raised \$1,931.95 for 91 buddies. The money was used to purchase books and pajamas for the children.
8 th Grade	Cross Catholic Outreach "Box of Joy"	Donated 98 boxes and mailed them to Central America containing dolls, cars, balls, toys, art supplies, and water bottles.
Jr. K – 8 Families and Staff	Families in Need in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe	Due to the Pandemic, gift cards and monetary donations were dropped off at the Parish Office and given to the Annunciation Social Concerns Committee to distribute.
	Low-Income Seniors throughout New Mexico	A large box full of Christmas cards made by families from all grade levels were collected at school and distributed by 6 th Grader, Dhavina Kolwadwala.
	Catholic Relief Services <i>Operation Rice Bowl</i>	\$900.85

Financial Statement

The school follows the fiscal year of the parish. We are fortunate that Annunciation Parish supports our school with a \$200,000 subsidy to help make Catholic Education more affordable to those who attend. We are grateful to all the parishioners who generously contribute to the subsidy through their regular contributions and financial aid by tithing specifically toward tuition assistance (green envelope).

2020-2021 Revenue		2020-2021 Expenses	
Tuition: Parish subsidies, tuition, insurance, registration fees, tuition assistance donations	\$2,824,393.87	Instructional Expenses: textbooks, materials, supplies, technology, printing, furniture, etc.	\$189,043.08
Instructional Donations: Community events, grants, technology fees, employer matching programs, etc.	\$79,320.51	Operational Expenses: salaries, benefits, insurance, office supplies, savings, recognition, postage, etc.	\$2,340,207.00
After Care: <i>Did not occur due to Pandemic and ACS CSP.</i>	\$0	Student Activities: athletics, yearbook, program expenses, etc.	\$47,957.75
Student Programs: athletic fees, yearbook, interest earned, etc.	\$11,388.44	Plant Operations & Maintenance: utilities, maintenance services, repairs, CSP etc.	\$425,363.18
Total	\$2,915,102.82	Total	\$3,002,571.03

*As of May 2021

Additional Resources

City Support: The City of Albuquerque allocates two crossing guards to assist Annunciation. The safe environment they provide is invaluable

Volunteers: Volunteer hours are not required but certainly appreciated as it makes a significant difference in the education of our students.

Due to Covid-Safe-Protocols, adult visitors were not allowed on campus. Many people volunteered in diverse ways to help organize activities at the school such as special projects, coaching, organizing community events and celebrations, teacher appreciation, and in the spring, at outdoor events on campus. While these hours were not documented and tallied, volunteers put forth numerous hours helping our school in countless ways!

Money Makers: Annunciation does not conduct any mandatory fundraising. There are a variety of activities and community functions from which our students can benefit from the money raised. A minimum of ten percent of all donations (unless specified) go toward tuition assistance.

- Catholic Foundation COVID-19 Emergency Grant: \$5,000
- iGiveCatholic Campaign: \$12,581.20
- Jog-A-Thon: \$41,179.59
- Box Tops for Education: \$135.90
- Kroger (Smith's): \$72.63
- Book Fair Profit: \$160.57
- Used Uniform Sales: \$1,362.00
- Private/ COVID Donations \$19,028.84