

St. Pius X / St. Leo
School



State Of Our School

ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL • FALL 2024

DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE

As we begin our 68th year of educating students at 6905 Blondo Street, St. Pius X / St. Leo School is excited to welcome Mrs. Katy Chattin as Principal of our school.

Katy has long been a cherished member of the SPSL family, serving as a teacher, administrator, parent, and long-time parishioner of St. Pius X Parish. Katy's key priorities as the academic leader of SPSL align perfectly with our community's aspirations for academic excellence, Catholic faith formation, and a community-focused approach that cherishes diversity and inclusiveness.

With the support of Assistant Principal, Mrs. Terri Preston, Katy is concentrating on supporting SPSL teachers and staff. There is a focus on teacher mentoring and providing opportunities for professional development. Katy strives to be a leader who brings out the best in our students as we support their growth academically and spiritually.

Mrs. Michaela (Messenger) Smith (1990) continues as the co-leader of SPSL in the position of Director of Operations, and she is responsible for the finances, fundraising, and facilities of St. Pius X / St. Leo School. Michaela is focused on financial sustainability for SPSL this year and for years to come, maintaining and improving our aging campus, and inviting friends to learn more about the SPSL story as a diverse community forming students in the Catholic faith to excel in academics and service to others.

As you will read in this issue of the State of Our School, in addition to a renewed leadership team at SPSL, we were also fortunate to have been able to update key areas on our school campus in time for the 2024-25 school year. These updates provide a fresh and positive start for the new school year. Each day, our teachers, staff, and students are proud to be in the transformed cafeteria space, and we are confident that our parishioners, alumni, families, and friends will love spending time here as well. As we embark on this next chapter for St. Pius X / St. Leo School, we remain committed to "Do Everything in Love."

We thank you for your steadfast and generous support of St. Pius X / St. Leo School.



Katy Chattin
Katy Chattin
Principal



Michaela Smith
Michaela Smith
Director of Operations

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

For the past several years, SPSL School has been fundraising through the Lead the Way Campaign. Exciting and necessary campus improvements were funded by generous donations from school benefactors - primarily alumni families - through the Lead the Way Campaign. The following projects are now complete:

BEFORE



Phase I: Heating and Air updates

- New boilers
- Central air conditioning in all homerooms

Phase II: Cafeteria Transformation

SPSL turned our aging school cafeteria into a bright and crisp space featuring:

- Durable and timeless flooring
- Easy to clean tiled walls
- Cloud ceiling
- Easy to use window shades
- Water bottle filling stations
- State of the art A/V equipment
- Functional storage and desk space for Extended Care
- Refinished kitchen floor

The updated school cafeteria is home to before and after care for students. It is a place our students spend time each day as they are nourished at lunch time. It also serves as a multipurpose space for school and parish events. These capital improvements are important transformations that positively impact our school community.

We are tremendously grateful for the generosity of all those who have contributed to the Lead the Way campaign and who otherwise support SPSL School!

As we look ahead, future Lead the Way initiatives include working toward more equitable compensation for school educators and expanding SPSL early education for our families.

AFTER



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Value of a SPSL Education

Enrollment is up at St. Pius X / St. Leo School for the 2024-25 school year. There were 609 students in Kindergarten-8th grade at the close of the last school year. This year, there are 623 students enrolled in those grades.

Junior high and Kindergarten have experienced the greatest enrollment increases. For instance, last year SPSL had 60 Kindergarten students, while this year, we welcomed 70 Kindergartners (with an extensive wait list). There is significant demand for all day Pre-Kindergarten offerings at SPSL as well. All of our 4 year old Pre-K programs are currently full with a waitlist. SPSL is excited to welcome these young learners and their families to the SPSL School community!

For the 2024-25 school year, the cost to educate a student at SPSL is \$7,572 per student. The generous support of alumni, donors, parents, parishioners, and friends covers the difference between the actual cost to educate and the tuition price that is charged per student.

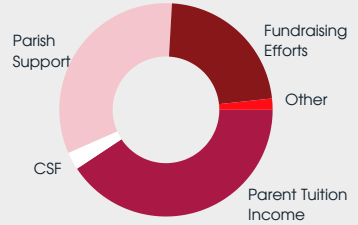
Fundraising and parish support from St. Pius X and St. Leo the Great provide the revenue for approximately 60% of the school operating budget. This makes it possible to charge an affordable tuition price of \$3,925 per student.

Approximately 60% of SPSL families pay the entire tuition price for their student(s). Every SPSL family pays tuition, and those who qualify are strongly encouraged to utilize tuition assistance sources such as Children's Scholarship Fund.

For the 2024-25 school year, SPSL has awarded approximately \$550,000 in tuition assistance from SPSL Tuition Assistance and the Education Partners Program. SPSL is grateful for the generous gifts that make a SPSL education available to families for whom it would otherwise be out of reach.

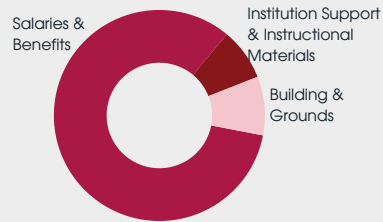
Revenue

Parent Tuition Income	40.7%
Parish Support	32.5%
Fundraising	22.4%
Children's Scholarship Fund	2.7%
Other	1.7%



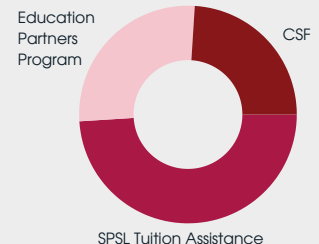
Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	83%
Building & Grounds	9%
Institution Support & Instructional Materials	8%



Tuition Assistance

SPSL Tuition Assistance	49%
Education Partners Program	27%
Children's Scholarship Fund	24%



Financial information from
July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

VIBRANT STUDENT BODY

SPSL By The Numbers

Students enrolled in
Pre-K - 8th Grade

684

English
Learners

96

Zip codes

43

Student /Teacher
Ratio

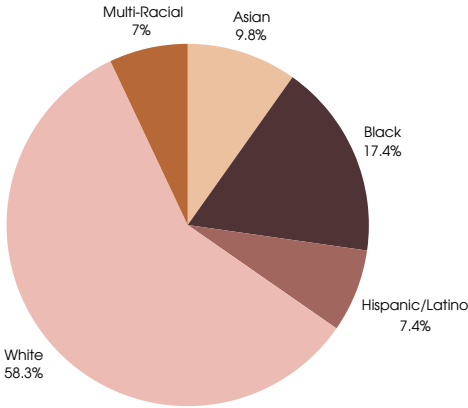
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Students
receiving
Madonna services

15

ALL ARE WELCOME

At SPSL, we celebrate our diversity as we believe it strengthens our community!



Points of Pride

52%

Faculty & Administration
with Master Degree or
higher

23%

Class of 2024 with an
Alumni Parent

94%

Class of 2024 attending
a Catholic High School

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

SPSL is proud to offer an academically rigorous education that meets each student where they are. SPSL teachers nourish the minds of our students in an environment that is welcoming and kind.

We are excited to share that our very own Mrs. Christy Vogel was recognized as the Metro Elementary Teacher of the Year by the Archdiocese of Omaha at the Archbishop's Dinner for Education held on September 12, 2024.

Christy began her 34-year career at SPSL as a librarian, responsible for digitizing the library's catalog and overseeing media education. In 2022-23 Mrs. Vogel transitioned into instructing

English as a second language students with a focus on helping students of refugee families develop the skills they need to succeed.

Christy has consistently demonstrated love and acceptance for all students in our Catholic school. In addition to providing educational supports for students, Christy shows compassion and care for her students outside the classroom, helping them to acclimate and excel. This year, she is providing services to nearly 30 English Learner students each day. With a Christ-like devotion to her students and SPSL school, Christy truly does all things in love!

