

ST. RITA SCHOOL

# 2015 State of The School

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May 6, 2015

The report includes school finance information, school accreditation report, 2015-16 calendar, and changes to occur

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## St. Rita Catholic School 2015-2016 Tuition and Financial Information

	Tuition	If Paid in Full by July 1 (3% Discount)	Increase 3.50% over Prior Year
<b>What are the new tuition rates for 2015-2016</b>	1-Child \$ 5,689	5,518	192
	2-Child \$ 7,556	7,329	256
	3-Child \$ 7,788	7,554	263
	4-Child \$ 8,323	8,073	281
	Pre-K \$ 4,037	3,916	137

It's an exciting time of growth at St. Rita School, therefore, tuition rates will increase by 3.50% for 2015-2016.

Please keep in mind that there has not been a tuition increase in the last two years. The Finance Committee has worked very hard on the budget with a goal of minimizing tuition increases for the upcoming school year to the best of our ability while also remaining a competitive and viable option for our new and existing school families and staff. We are pleased to report that with this increase, we are adding an additional teacher to our school along with an additional classroom aid in order to adequately manage our growth. The school is also in the process of replacing outdated equipment, providing new PC's for classrooms so that our teachers can enhance our students learning without disruption. **Also, it is important to note that other schools may charge an additional technology and/or textbook fee along with their standard tuition rates. At St. Rita School, this is not our practice and the rates listed above include the costs for these resources.** Please remain aware that we still need your partnership in terms of fundraising activity to supplement income and help cover some expenses of the school.

**It is also important to note that there are several newly expanded financial resources available to families through the CEF but you must apply. There is only one application to fill out and submit. If needing an application, please contact the school or visit [www.cefou.org](http://www.cefou.org)!**

What are the full year projected expenses for operating the school?	\$ (1,135,582)
What is the total projected income from tuition and registration fees?	\$ 928,748
How much does the Parish contribute to the support of the school?	\$ 95,534
What is the shortage between tuition, Parish support, Grants and total expenses?	\$ (35,800)
<b>How much does this shortage represent <u>per family</u>?</b>	<b>\$ (235.53)</b>

### What options are available to overcome the income shortage per family?

Fundraisers are a very important funding source for St. Rita to rely on in order to overcome our income shortage. We recognize the financial sacrifice you are making when you choose to send your child(ren) to St. Rita. Our primary goal in setting tuition each year is to balance the need to keep St. Rita financially viable, while at the same time making it economically feasible for any family who wants a parochial education for their children to be able to get that education at St. Rita.

As such, in an attempt to keep tuition as low and competitive as possible, we feel that relying on fundraisers to "fill the gap" allows the school and the school families to share at least some of the burden with extended family and community by encouraging and inviting them to participate in our fundraising programs.

### What can you do to keep tuition as low as possible?

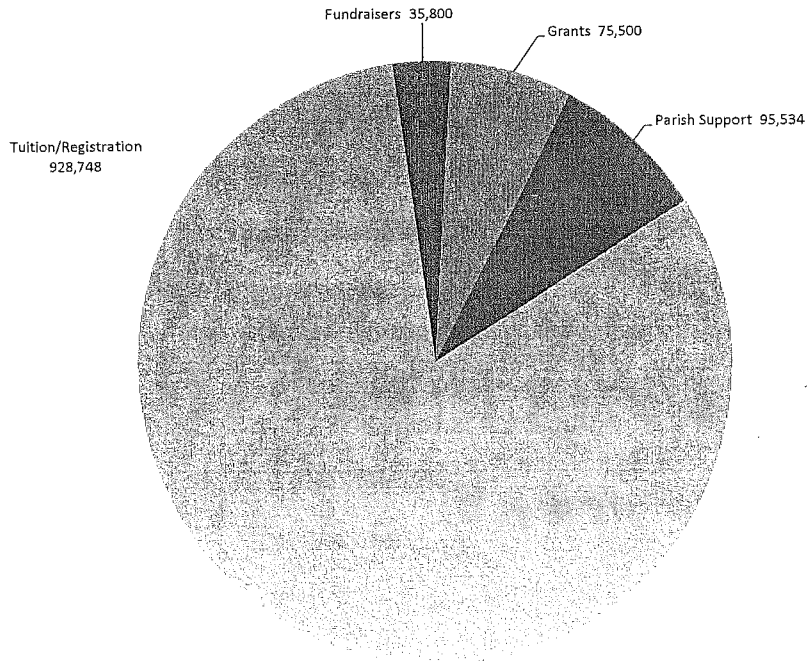
As you approach the upcoming school year, **please actively attempt to make sure that your family is doing whatever you can to participate in our fundraisers.** Here are a few suggestions:

- \*Be diligent in saving your box tops, soup labels and aluminum can tabs!
- \*Take another look at the Market Day brochure and see if you can find something that looks appealing to your family.
- \*Participate in St. Rita Night Out Dinners - we all eat out on occasion! Our local restaurants have generously agreed to share the proceeds of our visits with the school. Invite friends and family to join you and you'll run into lots of people you know!
- \*Don't forget 50/50!
- \*Purchase Scrip - you can use these for expenses you already have - it costs you nothing and the school wins - especially consider combining Scrip with our St. Rita Night Out Dinners.
- \*Download the Shoparoo App on your smartphone or tablet in order to snap your grocery receipts. Our school receives a portion of the total in the form of a check on a quarterly basis.
- \*On a larger scale, invite family and neighbors to all our fall and spring events and actively recruit sponsors for fall festival, walkathon, etc.

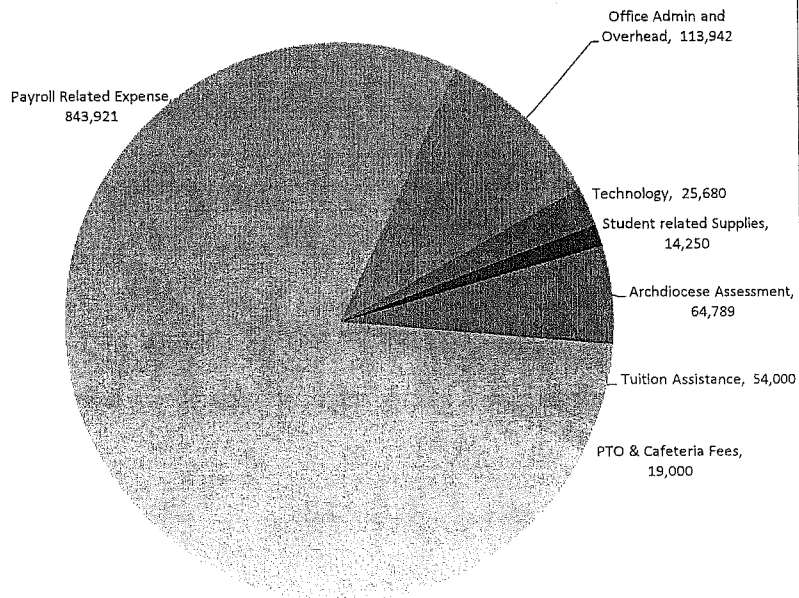
**Our school committees are working hard on bringing new, fun ideas to revitalize our fundraiser efforts while enhancing existing ones currently in place. Please feel free to submit new ideas or suggestions or even volunteer to help with this endeavor. Not only do fundraisers help us financially, they also act as a way to build our connection with the community and bond us all together as a school family.**

**Administration has been working very hard to identify grants and other funding opportunities to help us finance technology enhancements for use by our teachers and students. Keep your eyes and ears open for information as it becomes available!**

**St. Rita Catholic School  
Projected Income Distribution  
2015-2016**



**St. Rita Catholic School  
Projected Expense Distribution  
2015-2016**



**Quality Assurance Committee Summary Response**  
(completed at the end of the visit and sent to the Archdiocese within 3 weeks)

Name of School: St. Rita School

Name of Principal: Mr. Neil Hulsewede

Date of Visit: March 23, 2015

QAC Committee Members: Danielle A. Wiegandt, Chair  
Paula Watkins

**Summarize the school's efforts in meeting the required actions.**

**Create a plan that ensures each group/committee that is affiliated with St. Rita School is governed by and bases all decisions upon the mission and vision.**

- Committees and organizations are diverse in representation from all stakeholders (PTO, Booster, Parish, Formation, Board, etc.)
- Website and Wednesday communication has greatly improved to ensure that all groups are sharing information with all stakeholders. Rediker system has increased communication and the school Facebook page has been a positive source of the sharing of information between stakeholder groups.
- Booster Club has a strong understanding of the school's technology initiative and contributed \$5000 to offset the cost of iPads.
- Fundraiser restaurant nights are key opportunities for fellowship among all stakeholder groups.

**Implement a comprehensive system of teacher collaboration to ensure consistency and continuity with instructional goals.**

- PLC (Level teams) gather in a systematic way with a clear focus on instruction including the continuous learning through book studies geared at their specific level and content. These groups are currently reviewing ELA standards and connecting them to skills. The school plans to move to standards-based report cards in the 2015-16 school year.
- Advancement Teams in the area of Catholic Identity (VBRD program), Technology and Enrichment with diverse representation and clear goals. These groups learn collaboratively and share new learning with the entire faculty. These groups are now focusing on the Accreditation Self-Study.
- The PLCs (level teams) share a common planning period each week to discuss and design standard expectations.
- Coteaching in the primary and middle school are allowing teachers to work more collaboratively.

**Create a systematic process for training and monitoring all staff in the analysis of all standardized test data.**

- St. Rita is focusing ELA standards based on Terra Nova data.

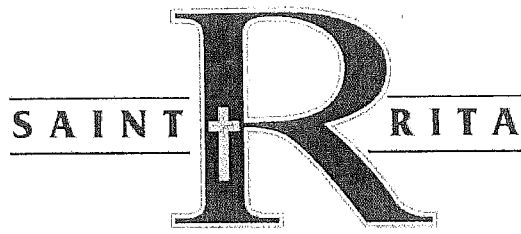
- The primary level will be focusing professional development efforts toward directed reading based on assessment data.
- The principal has disaggregated the Terra Nova results and helped faculty focus questioning in order to deepen their understanding of gap groups and identify areas of need. For example, Female to Male discrepancy in ELA.

**Review the school's role as a mission of the parish and create a plan to strengthen the relationship.**

- VBRD (Virtue Based Restorative Discipline) program in the school is shared with the parish and an awareness of the virtue of the month is known throughout the parish family.
- The school principal, staff and CEF have collaborated with the parish to facilitate listening sessions with Latino families that has resulted in an increase in the Latino student population.

**What would you consider to be the challenges that still lay ahead for the school?**

- The careful monitoring of enrollment growth and sustainability in accordance with available resources (such as Archdiocesan Latino grant, CEF, parent investment, etc.)
- The need for more bilingual staff to accommodate the growing Latino population.
- Resource allocation such as technology and additional staff. Continue to seek outside services for funding such as: CEF, Title 1, 3, Grants, etc.
- Cultural competency development for faculty and staff.
- Wrap around services new students may need as well as parents.



# 2015-2016

## August

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
PD3	PD6	PD6	PD6	14
17	18	F/H	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

## January

M	T	W	T	F
				N
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	PD/E	14	15
N	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

## September

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
N	8	PD/E	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	PD/E	24	25
28	29	30		

### Symbol Key

F.....First Day of School  
 H.....Half Day—Dismiss @ 11:00  
 E.....Early Dismissal @ 1:00  
 PD....Professional Development for Teachers  
 N.....No School  
 L.....Last Day of School  
 PTS.....Parent-Student-Teacher Conference  
 GF.....Good Friday—Dismiss @ 1:00

## February

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	PD/E	11	12
15	PTS	PTS	N	N
N	23	24	25	26
29				

## October

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	PTS	PTS	N	N
12	13	PD/E	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	PD/E	29	30

### Trimesters

November 10.....End of Trimester 1  
 February 17.....End of Trimester 2  
 May 24.....End of Trimester 3

## March

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	PD/E	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	PD/E	24	GF
28	29	30	31	

## November

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	PD/E	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	N	N	N
30				

### Inclement Weather Days

- 5 snow days will be "distant learning" days (More information to follow in the fall)
- Any additional snow make-up days will be announced at a later date.

## April

M	T	W	T	F
				1
N	N	N	N	N
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	PD/E	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

## December

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	PD/E	10	11
14	15	16	17	H
N	N	N	N	N
N	N	N	N	

### Additional Dates to Note

October 20.....Elementary Open House  
 December 12.....High School Placement Test  
 January 24-30.....Catholic Schools Week  
 February 22-26.....ACRE Testing (5th and 8th grades)  
 March 7-18.....Terra Nova Testing (3rd, 5th, & 7th grades)  
 May 2-13.....Acuity Testing (7th grade)  
 May 19.....8th Grade Graduation

## May

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	N
9	10	PD/E	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	L/E	25	26	27
30	31			

### For Teachers (Contracted PD Days)

PD6.....6 hour day  
 PD3.....3 hour day

## *Changes in Store for Next School Year (2015-16)*

### **Two 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes:**

Due to our growing student population, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade class will be split into two classes. Mrs. Frymark will remain as one of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, and Mrs. Graham will be moving from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to become the additional 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher.

### **Distant Learning Days:**

As part of the Archdiocese Instructional Days policy, 5 “Distant Learning Days” can be counted as instructional days in the event the school would have to close. Therefore, we will implement “distant learning days” for any snow days or for any other reason why the school should have to close during the school year. The school recently piloted its first “distant learning day” on May 1<sup>st</sup>. For the most part, the pilot was a success. In the fall, the school staff will continue to look at ways to enhance our “distant learning days”. More information will be shared as we move closer to winter.

### **Electronic Report Cards:**

The schools will no longer print trimester report cards. As piloted at the end of the second trimester this school year, trimester report cards will be uploaded to the “student electronic portfolio” in Rediker in order for parents to access through the ParentPlus Portal. Final report cards will be printed and sent home at the end of the school year.

### **PE Uniforms**

Students will be required to wear a specific PE uniform on the day of their weekly PE class. These uniforms are better suited for athletic activity, and many Archdiocesan catholic schools have a PE uniform. More information in regards to ordering these uniforms will be going home in the summer. We will allow a couple of weeks at the beginning of the school year for those students who have not received their PE uniform to wear their regular uniform. However, following Labor Day, PE uniforms will be expected as uniform policy.

### **Electronic Summer Registration Forms:**

One of the features of our new data system, Rediker Software, is that it allows schools to create electronic forms. Therefore, we have created our hardcopy summer registration forms into electronic forms. The primary contact person for each student will be emailed a link in June in order to complete all of these forms digitally. As part of the electronic summer registration form process, the primary contact will need to digitally sign off on school documents, such as our updated Student/Parent Handbook. There will be a simple drop down box where “I agree” can be selected. The Student Handbook will be attached to the email for viewing access, along with other attached forms. More explicit instructions will be included in the email. An email from the principal will be sent out shortly before the electronic forms go out in order to apprise parents to be on the lookout for summer electronic registration forms.



## *Changes in Store for Next School Year (2015-16)*

### **Updated Student Handbook:**

Many updates have been made to the Student/Parent Handbook that reflects our current school environment and policies. The updated version will be emailed out in June in order to view. Also, please be aware, that with these changes come firmer and more consistent enforcement of these policies. Some of the revisions include the following:

- Late pick up dismissal fees
- Doctor's notices for excused absences
- Attendance Policy and excessive absences
- Tardy Policy
- Dress Code Violations
- School Discipline
- No Exceptions
- Grading Policies