



Nourishing the Human Spirit ~ Mind, Body, and Soul ~ Through Jesus Christ

Dear Parents-

We've had some exciting changes this school year and looking forward to more next school year. It has been a blessing to be a part of Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary School. We believe we are developing students to become not only life long learners, but everyday problem solvers. Through a variety of programs, we are reaching more students not only to help those in need of additional support, but also to enrich those who need more rigor. Our teachers are passionate educators who strive to reach each child where they are at and push them to reach their full potential. It is our goal when students leave our building that they are ready not only academically but also know compassion, kindness and service to others.

Here are a few initiatives we have started this year. The Elementary School added a part-time Resource Teacher. This provided support to teachers with students who needed added attention. She also provided teachers with a means to get a more in-depth assessment. She also created small groups for students outside the Tier 1 and Tier 2 setting. The position also provided a resource for new and incoming students to be tested and placed in the correct learning environment. The Resource Teacher brought in additional support from Berrien RESA, which continues to provide PD for the Resource Teacher and faculty.

Teachers are using assessment data to drive instruction. We are using NWEA, MobyMax, and weekly assessments to find student understanding. This provides information for teachers on what students know and don't know. This helps direct teachers what concept/skills need to be learned or relearned.

For the 2019-2020 school year we look to add full-time to the Resource Teacher Position. This will provide additional time needed to reach all students who need additional resources whether it's for reteaching or enrichment. The time currently provided does not allow for full implementation of the resource program. The added time will allow the faculty a better resource.

We will be adding an additional 4 year old Preschool classroom. Our current 4 year old program is maxed out which left 10 students on a waitlist at the beginning of the school year. This will create additional space for parishioners and others to get a Catholic Preschool experience.

We are also in the process to create a STEAM Room. This will allow students and teachers to explore more STEAM activities. Teachers already do this in the classroom, but this space would

provide a room with all the material and activities. Students will continue to learn problem solving skills, but in an environment more suited for STEAM activities.

We look forward to continuing our work with your children at Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary School. We have a lot of exciting opportunities for our students and hope you and your children will join our Lake Michigan Catholic Community. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Blessings,

Mr. Larry Hoskins
Principal, Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary School