

Frequently Asked Questions

How does NAM compare when benchmarked against other Lincoln Diocese parishes? Very lean operation in school and parish due to efficiencies of scale. Example 60 children in grade, 30 and 30 in a classroom vs. some schools with 13 in a classroom and comparable pay for teacher. We have been blessed with excellent teachers who can manage large classrooms and still teach very effectively. The aids help keep students on task. We have tried to compensate them well. In 17-18 school year the average cost per student of eleven Catholic schools in Lincoln was \$5,207. The high was \$6,528 and the Low was NAM at \$3,859.

Other parishes outside of Lincoln? Other church organizations? Lean machine

How does NAM compare to other parishes for parish staffing? Lean machine

How does NAM compare to other parishes for school staffing? Comparable (based on needs of students and quality of education we are striving for)

How has PreK-8 population changed for the past 10 years? Hovers around 570-600 for past 10 years. This year we have 590.

What are projections for K-8 student numbers? Hard to know for certain, but given Baptismal numbers, vitality of parish and demographics in NW Lincoln, we should remain steady for years.

Why is tuition so unusually low at NAM compared to other Parish? We have been on the Stewardship model from the outset at NAM, hoping to keep tuition very low to allow the poor and middle class to enjoy benefits of a Catholic education. We also were a part of the Merit pay and stewardship incentive program that disappeared four years ago. Further, the major benefactor made a sizeable donation (\$150K in 2018) to parishes what had tuition under \$850. Four parishes in Lincoln were recipients in 18-19.

What has tuition been per child over the past 5 or 10 years? From \$600-\$850 now in 2019-20 for families who filled out Faithful Steward Scholarship (FSS) Application and promise to live it.

Why are we spending \$\$ on projects like the bathrooms, family room and parking lot when were in a deficit? We needed office space out of the Kateri room for parish offices. Meanwhile, making the Kateri room more inviting and flexible for parish use, was a priority. The bathroom push began with Altar Society and the Parish Council supported the idea. The parking lot has been discussed for five years and now that construction equipment is gone, it seemed opportune. The end of the year numbers came about the same time.

Wasn't the new tuition model and scholarships supposed to avoid this? It was presented a way to help parishes become more financially sustainable, because the current system was not working. Fr. Connor is a believer in Parish Stewardship. The higher cost of tuition model is a nationwide approach that seems to be coming to Lincoln Diocese. I hope that we can continue to operate on a stewardship model, with minimal tuition increases. Recent changes to charitable giving laws have not helped us.

How do our teacher salaries and benefits compare to LPS and others schools?

NAM teacher make about 73% of what they would earn at LPS (not to mention insurance and retirement). Teaching in a Catholic school is a special call and sacrifice.

For NAM, with 23 teachers to get to 75% of LPS base we would need to increase \$33,519.

For NAM, with 23 (Full Time Equivalent) teachers to get to 90% of LPS base pay schedule, we would need to increase salaries by \$234,862, or \$10,211 per teacher.

For NAM, with 23 teachers to get to 100% of **Norris** base pay, need to increase pay by \$135,543 or \$5,893 per teacher.

For NAM, with 23 teachers to get to 100% of **Waverly** base pay, need to increase pay by \$92,169.

How does the Good Shepherd Scholarship Program work? Will this provide some extra income to NAM? In 2019-2020 we have 31 students who qualified for financial assistance and will get a scholarship to NAM of \$900 paid through the GSS and 16 students who are 4th or more in their family for whom we will receive \$1,300 per student to NAM from the GSS. We will therefore receive \$48,700 for these 47 students. This will help with those who may struggle financially. Hopefully, they will also in turn give more generously to the parish (since they get a break on tuition expenses at NAM).

What is the status of the OFOFOF campaign and the amount of our loan? Pledged to Date \$4,525,049, Families – 1433/ 722 pledged, Cash received to date \$3,865,844.43, There should be 458 paid off pledges in 2020 with the bulk of them being in April and May, God willing.

Original bid \$2,927,600

Change orders \$216,268 (courtyard, Amphitheater, pre-K playground, school main entry, kindergarten toilet renovation, re-roof middle school, card access equipment, grading modifications, high roof brick support, walkway changes, irrigation changes, lintels, storm sewer modifications, rectory stoop/slab replacement, solid surface on sills)

Total \$3,143,868

Architect Fees \$198,000

Extras \$54,050.23 (Clark Enersen Partners – printing & traveling \$3,779, Building permit \$13,881, JEO Consulting Group \$2,250, Kidwell \$3,594 – In Ceiling projection, Office Interiors – \$8,193, Loseke Irrigation -\$5,459, Green Streak landscaping \$14,980, St John Bosco statue \$1,914)

Observation and Testing \$11,965.00,

Rebates (\$8,200.00)

Total cost of project \$3,399,683.23

We owe \$310,000 to Diocese (5x \$62K) for Joy of the Gospel and \$20,000.00 retainer to Genesis Co. when the project is complete

Have the operational costs increased due to the addition? Minimally, see graph

What will happen if we don't balance the budget this year? We have to submit a balanced budget. Every parish needs to be self-sustaining in long run. We all have some good years and bad years, but cannot operate in the red over and over again.

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