

We would like to extend a warm thank-you to two of our school family businesses that were able to help out over the summer! The Compound generously helped with materials and labor to spruce up our playground areas, as well as assisting with moving and storage of classroom furniture that needed to be relocated to accommodate classroom distancing. We would also like to thank Pemble Concrete Coatings for giving our front entrance stairs and porch a stunning makeover! Thank you to all the businesses, families, donors, and alumni who so generously give of their time and talent to help make our school an amazing place to learn and grow.

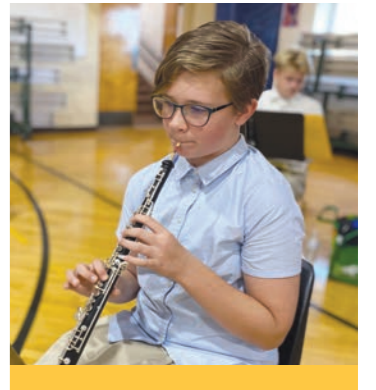


Welcome Back!

By Dr. Jessica Betz, Principal

The 2020/2021 school year began like no other. Thankfully we have a strong team of staff and teachers that helped Father Marquette Catholic Academy finish the 2019/2020 school year well and will start the new school year with success and comfort. As a faithful community, we are embracing the changes brought on by COVID-19 and focusing on the positives.

signs, directions, and stickers. In Michigan's Phase Five, everyone is required to wear a mask in common areas, but due to our capped class sizes, the students can take mask breaks when in their classroom and seated at their desks.



It has been absolutely amazing to watch students persevere through these changes and embrace challenges by following instructions and setting an example for others through leadership.

This is a time for us to embrace our virtues and honorable behaviors, which we foster every day here at FMCA. The teachers and staff at FMCA have been working tirelessly to prepare for the changes implemented this school year.

Our teachers are using new technology to ensure that in the event of a student being home sick, they can still connect to their classroom and class. All teachers and staff are practicing rigorous cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting procedures.

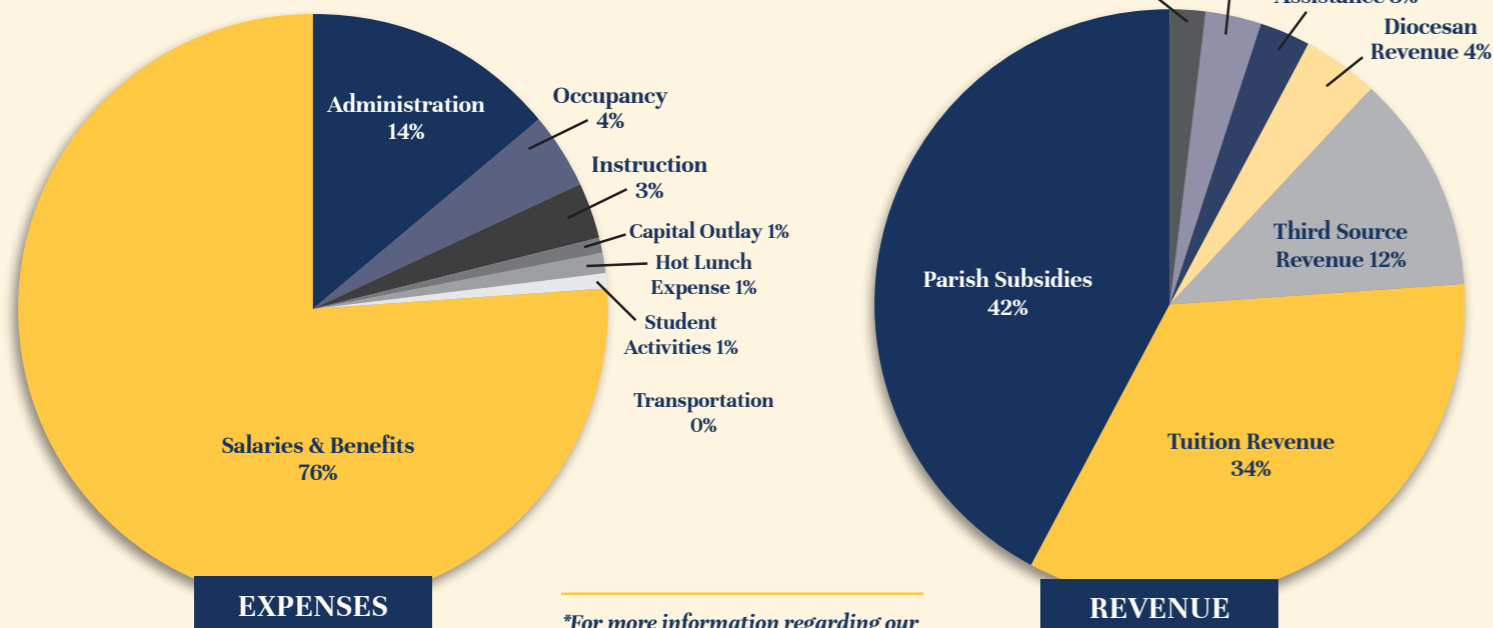
While safety is at the forefront of everything we do, especially during the pandemic, our faith is the foundation. It is through faith that we are able to embrace these challenges and struggles and see the beauty in even the most difficult situations, which is why the 2020/2021 school year will be a great and blessed year!



For the new school year, FMCA is offering face-to-face instruction to students. All of our classes are capped at 15 students to allow for proper six-foot spacing between every desk. We are also prepared with a robust distance learning program that will be used if students are at home sick, or in the event of face-to-face instruction being paused. Our goal is to ensure that every student at FMCA receives a full curriculum throughout the year, regardless of absences or COVID-19 circumstances.

Planning for a pandemic school year took time, energy, and faith, but with the help of teachers, staff, the FMCA Council, and FMCA community members, we encountered very few issues as the year began. Both teachers and students enter the building with a giant smile hiding behind their masks each and every day, and while the school may look a little different, it sure feels the same! Our hallways are decorated with

School Finances at a glance



*For more information regarding our finances, please visit our website.



We are...

EXCITED to be back!

OUR MISSION:

Centered in the person of **Jesus Christ** and grounded in the teachings of the Catholic Church, Father Marquette Catholic Academy is a mission of four Marquette parishes. Partnering with parents, we work to form students into disciples who will go forth to improve the world around them. We accomplish this by uniting the pursuits of **faith and reason**. Through rigorous academics grounded in the perennial Classical Curriculum and a commitment to personal attention of each student and their growth in virtue, we are dedicated to the complete formation of our students, remembering that in the end, *only one thing is necessary.*



A Kindergarten student joyfully works on her morning assignment, putting lots of heart and smiles into her creation.



Choir is not just about singing at FMCA. This lovely elementary student is practicing her song-writing skills with her class using the xylophone.



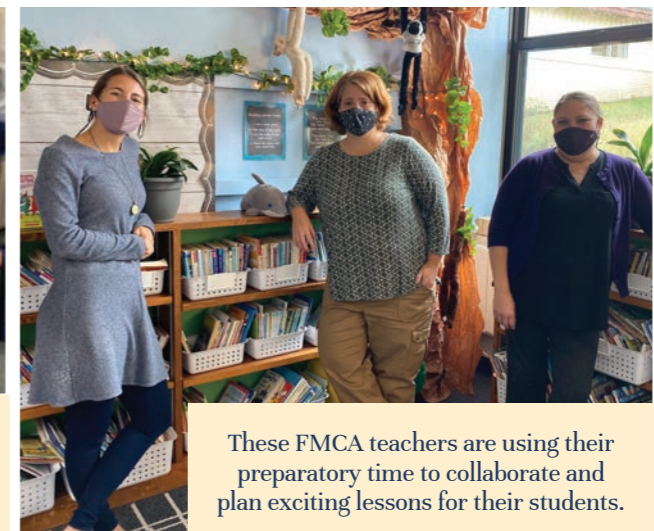
Art looks a little bit different this year. Our fabulous art teacher visits individual classrooms for art, and these upper elementary students are in the process of creating and embracing beauty.



Outdoor classroom has a whole new meaning this year. Our second-grade students thoroughly enjoy reading but reading in the sunshine with friends is even better.



"I feel like we are having fun, but we are still safe."
-Jackson Gregorich
"On the first day this year, I was excited and ready to get back to work."
-Everett Boburka



These FMCA teachers are using their preparatory time to collaborate and plan exciting lessons for their students.



"I was excited to be back at school and to see my friends. It felt new being back at FMCA, being in sixth grade, and not learning online."
-Madalyn Crony



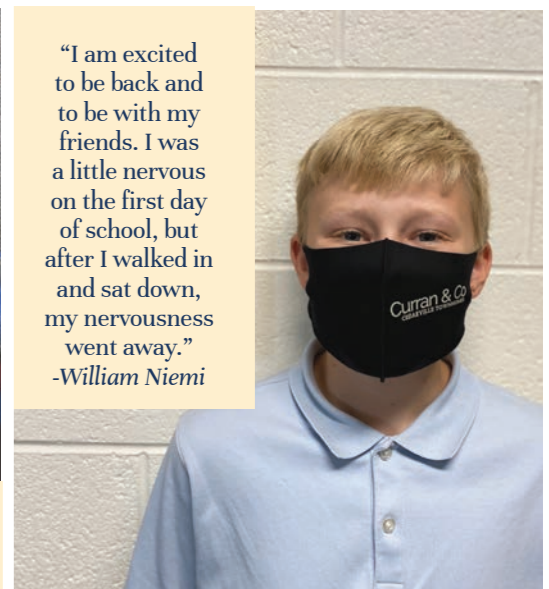
"Even though things are a bit different this year, I can entrust my children to FMCA knowing that they are being received by people who care for them like family."
-Kendra Youren



One of our PreK students is deep in thought, as she wonders and explores with God's creations.



School might feel a little bit different this year, but their friendships and cheer are apparent, as they continue to giggle and be silly with each other.



"I am excited to be back and to be with my friends. I was a little nervous on the first day of school, but after I walked in and sat down, my nervousness went away."
-William Niemi