



Our Lady School

School Improvement Plan 2017-2018

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Mission Statement

*The mission of Our Lady School is to participate in the formation of true disciples of
Jesus Christ
through an interdisciplinary, integrated, Catholic Classical Liberal Arts curriculum
centered on Christ and His Church.*

The History and Overview of Our Lady School

Our Lady School is a ministry of Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church which was founded in 1969. The parish has 2,789 registered members and 1,041 registered families or households.

Historically, students wishing to attend a parochial school attended St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School at the neighboring parish. Others who lived within our parish boundaries, but wanted to attend a smaller school usually enrolled their children at St. John the Baptist Catholic School or St. Louis Academy, both in New Haven, IN.

In 2014, a group of parents approached the pastor asking about the possibility of opening a school at their home parish. After much consideration, the pastor surveyed the families of the parish, and it was determined that there was an overwhelming amount of interest. The pastor then began navigating through the process of opening a diocesan school, ultimately receiving permission from the local ordinary and the appropriate state agencies.

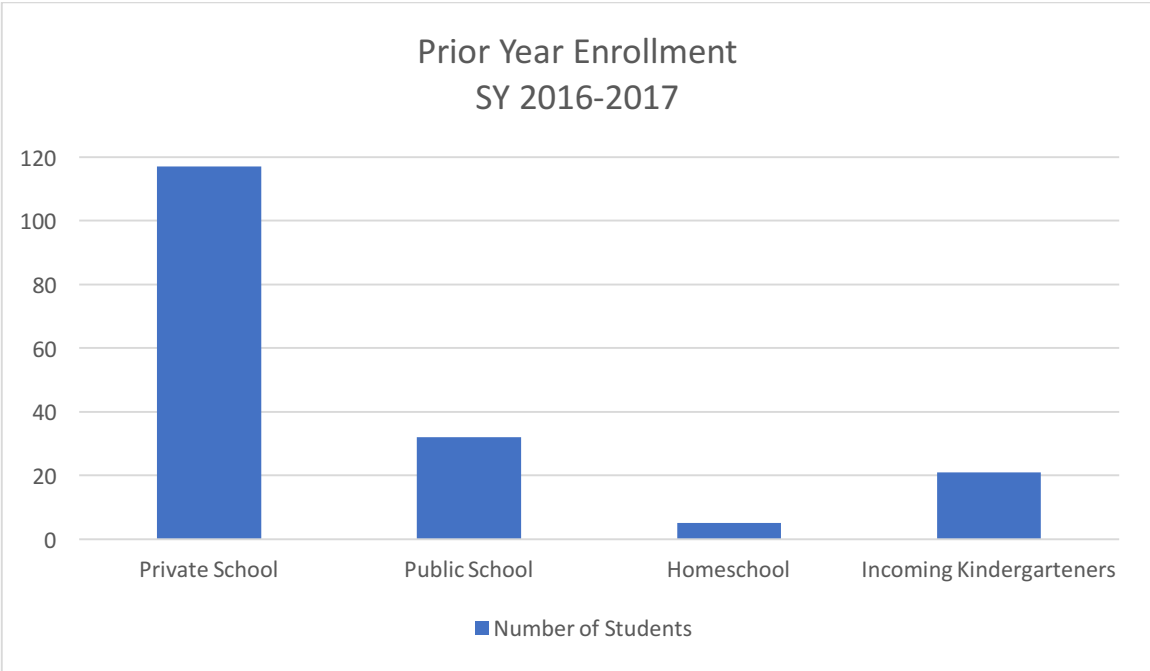
Our Lady School opened for its inaugural year during the 2016-2017 school year. The school is currently in its second year of operation.

Enrollment

Our Lady School opened with an enrollment of 175 students. Of those 175 students:

- 117 had attended a private school the previous year.
- 32 had been homeschooled the previous year.
- 5 had attended a public school the previous year.
- 21 were incoming kindergarteners.

Of those attending a private school the previous year, students came from nine different schools. Of those who attending a public school the previous year, students came from three different schools. On the whole, the population of students during the school's first year was made up of students coming from twelve different schools plus those who were previously homeschooled.



Enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year is 148 students which is a better fit for our building and for our student to teacher ratio.

Other Demographics

Special Education

Nine percent of students enrolled during the 2016-2017 school year had an ISP or CSEP. This percentage has increased to currently 10% of the students having an ISP during the 2017-2018 school year. No students are on CSEP.

School Choice Voucher Eligibility

In the 2016-2017 school year, 58% of students received a School Choice Scholarship. Fifty-eight students received a full-voucher and 44 students received a partial-voucher. This year, 63% of students have applied for voucher with 60 qualifying for full-voucher and 33 qualifying for a partial-voucher.

Initial Leadership

A principal was hired during fiscal year 2015-2016 in order to plan for the 2016-2017 school year. In December 2016, that principal was removed from his position. In January 2017, an interim principal was hired who subsequently became the permanent principal.

Initial Teaching Staff

Thirty-three percent of the classroom and resource teachers at Our Lady School possessed a valid teaching license, while the remaining members of the teaching staff had an Emergency Permit during the 2016-2017 school year. This year 50% of the staff has a valid teaching license. The

remaining members of the staff are currently enrolled in a valid Transition to Teaching Program.

Assessments and Benchmarks

While NWEA was administered during the 2016-2017 school year, the results were considered invalid due to the previous principal's lack of instruction regarding how to administer the assessment. The school is in the process of buying new computers and training teachers on the assessment tool in order to have a reliable data source. DIEBLS testing results are available for those in Grades K-6

Community: St. Joseph Township, Allen County

Our Lady School is situated in St. Joseph Township in Northeast Fort Wayne. The school campus is bordered by St. Joe Road on the southeast and Riverbend Golf Course on the south and west side.

Our Lady School is easily accessible from all areas of the city of Fort Wayne. St. Joe Rd. connects to Maplecrest Road which connects to I-469. I-469 provides a link around Fort Wayne and connects to I-69.

St. Joseph Township covers an area of 35.63 square miles. Of this total, 0.11 percent of this is water. The mostly suburban township is situated in Allen County and includes portions of the cities of Fort Wayne (Indiana's second largest city) and New Haven. The St. Joseph River flows through the western part of the township.

As of the 2010 Census, the population was 72,245 out which 24.3% were under the age of 18. There are 29,375 households out of which 48.4% are married couples living together. 11% have a female householder with no husband present, and 36.8% are non-families.

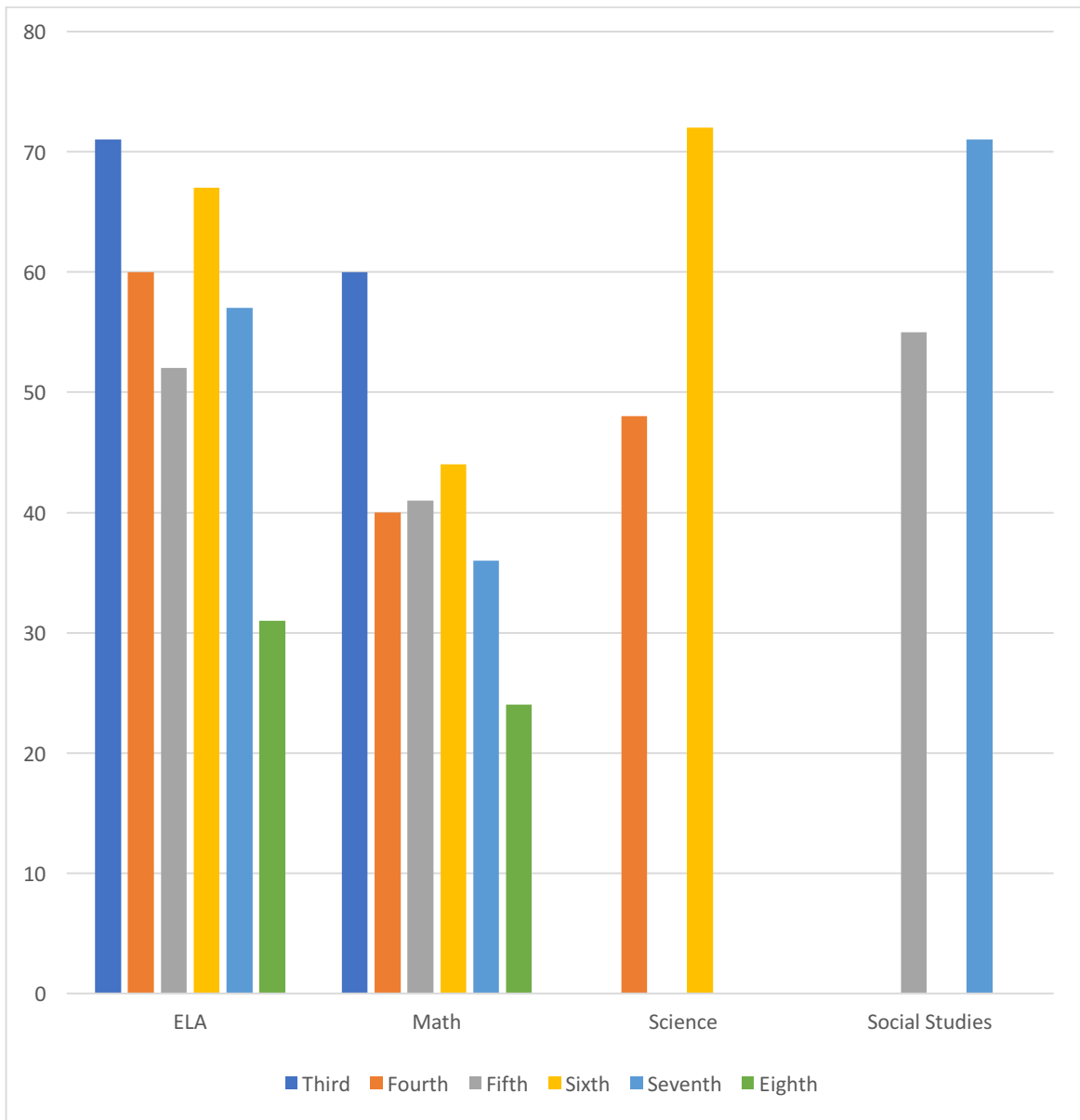
Attendance

In 2016-2017 school year, our attendance rate was 95.2%

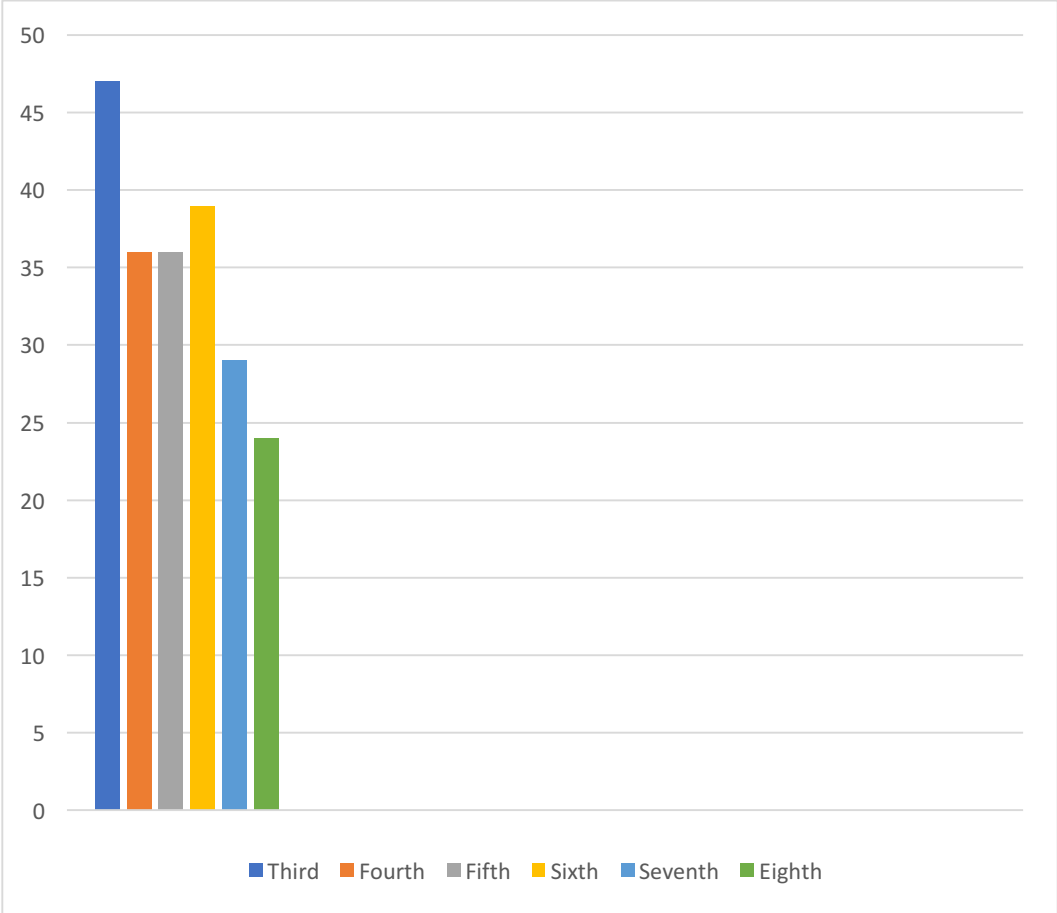
Assessment Data

The graphs below show the ISTEP+ scores for the Spring 2017, which was Our Lady School's first time taking the ISTEP+ exam. When looking at the scores, we will be focusing on teaching comprehension strategies, which will encompass both fiction and non-fiction in the ELA, Social Studies, and Science areas.

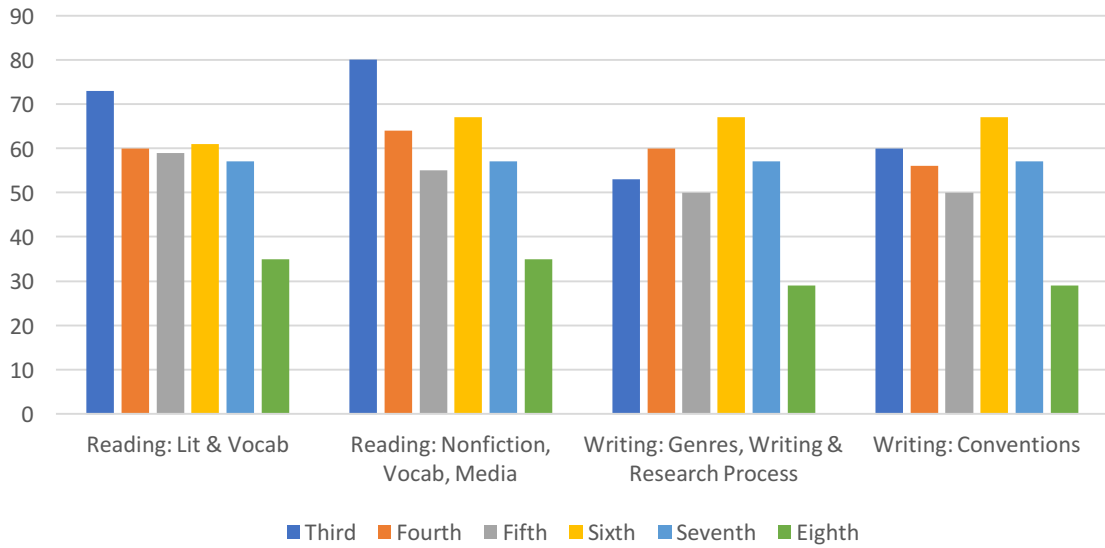
Percent of Students Passing ISTEP+ In English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies by grade level in Spring 2017



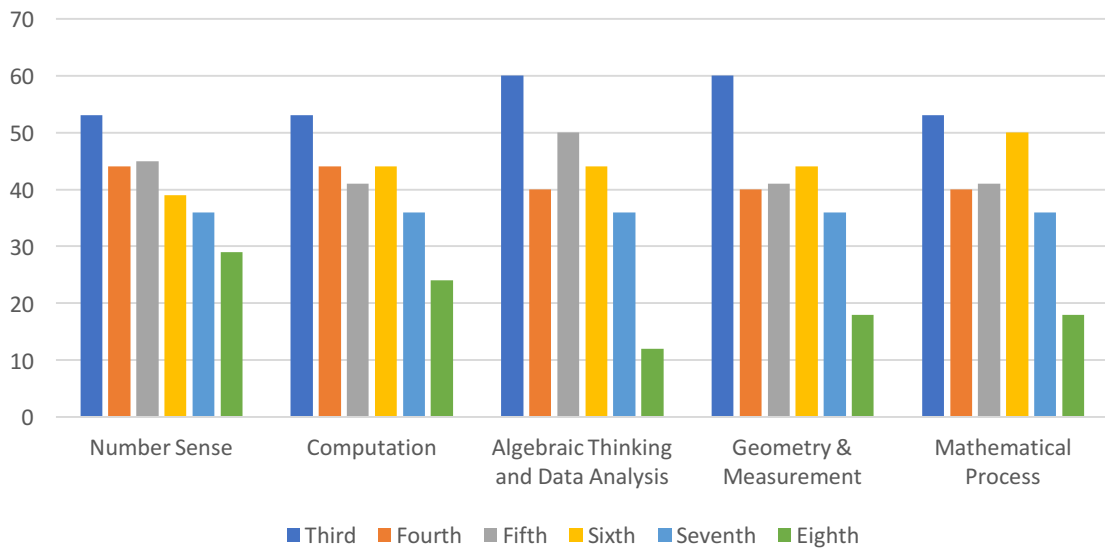
Percent of Students Passing both English Language Arts and Math portions of ISTEP+ in Spring 2017



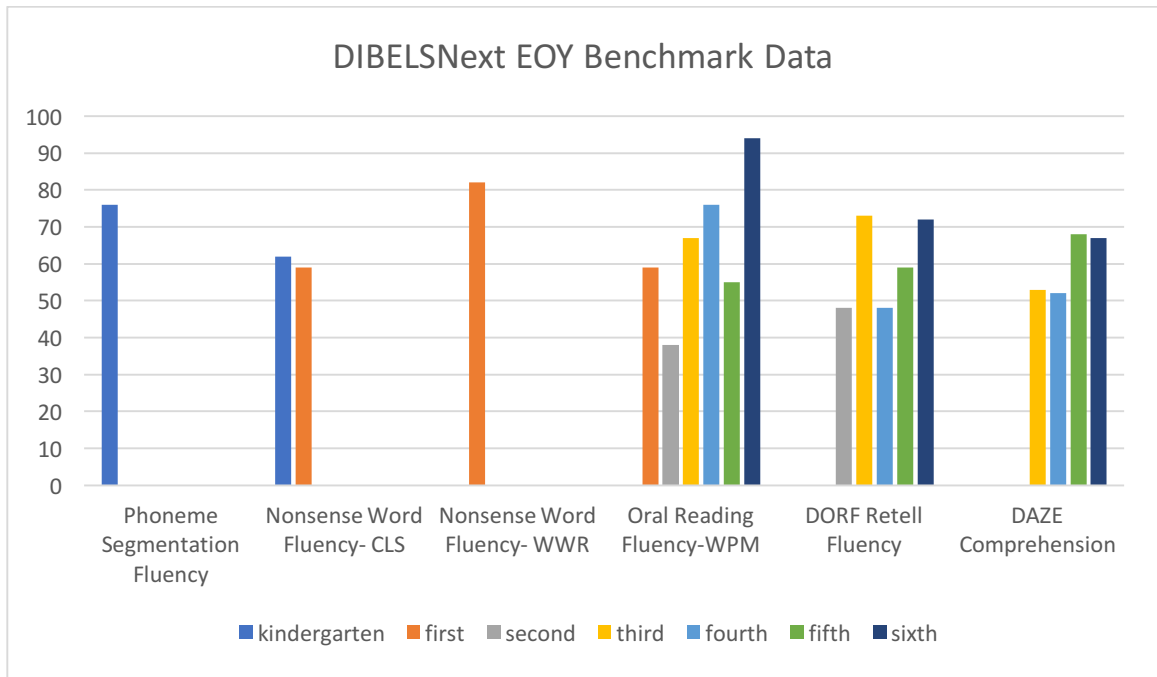
Total Percent of Standards Mastered In English/LA 2017



Total Percent of Standards Mastered in Math 2017



The graphs below show DIBELSNext End of Year Benchmark Data for the 2016-2017 year for grades kindergarten through six. We want 85% of students reaching Benchmark in the below categories by EOY. In spring 2017, only sixth grade had 85% or more of students reaching benchmark in DIBELS Oral Reading Fluency. The DAZE scores demonstrate a lack of comprehension with at most 68% of students passing at a benchmark level in 5th grade. This data supports the need for comprehension instruction in grade three through six. Kindergarten through grade two data demonstrates a need to improve reading fluency which will improve comprehension in the future.



Curriculum

Our Lady's curriculum is aligned to the Indiana state standards with Catholic perspectives, values and morals integrated into lessons. We use a more classical approach and focus on the liberal arts. We follow the diocesan ACE curriculum model. All teachers have the Indiana State Standards in their possession and are required to put the state standard numbers in their weekly lesson plans. The ACE curriculum is digitally available to the teachers. Teachers are to integrate subject areas as much as possible to promote retention, comprehension, analysis, application, synthesis, and evaluation of what is being taught.

Grades kindergarten through six have a daily 90-minute reading block and 30-minute reading intervention block. Students in grades seven and eight have a scheduled "resource room" time daily for 30 minutes. Students have the option during that time to go to the resource teacher or have concepts retaught by the classroom teacher.

In addition to the basic subjects, Our Lady School begins teaching Latin in kindergarten. Kindergarten through second grade uses the program *Song School Latin*. Grades three through eight use the Latin programs published by Memoria Press. As our students learn the foundations of Latin, we will continue to increase the level of difficulty. Latin will help our students with grammar and vocabulary, since the majority of the English language is derived from or has roots from Latin. Learning Latin will also help students progress in learning the more difficult vocabulary in multiple subject areas, like science, theology, and social studies.

Theology is also taught beginning in kindergarten. Teachers utilize the Catechetical guidelines put forth by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend along with the Faith and Life Series. Theology is integrated into all subject areas as much as possible.

Five students in 2016-2017 school year received the benefit of tutoring through Title 1 funds. This school year is still to be determined on what students will benefit from the Title 1 funds. The tutor that we use for afterschool Title 1 tutoring is also a part-time special education teacher at Our Lady School, which allows her to have in depth knowledge of the needs of those students.

Approximately 14% of our 2017-2018 school year students have a disability. Currently, we have one student with APC Level 1 primary disability and the rest of the students have either APC Level 2 and/or 3 disabilities. All of these students receive services or consultation from the Local Education Agency, Fort Wayne Community Schools. Our Lady School employs 1 full time and 2 part-time resource teachers to help the students meet their goals in their Individualized Service Plans. Our Lady School promotes full inclusion and only removes students from the classroom on an as needed basis. Students with a primary disability of APC Level 1 or 2 receive 90 minutes of support per day.

Technology

In 2016-2017 school year, we had available to the teachers a computer lab that included 16 desktop computers that used a Whitelist for a filter. We found that the Whitelist restricted use of the Internet too much to allow for students to utilize the lab for research. This year we have installed a strong filter instead of using a Whitelist. We are in the process of ordering 2 mobile laptop carts for the building with 20 computers in each cart. Laptops with the filter will allow the teachers to utilize the technology in their classrooms.

We also have six mini I-pads that were purchased summer 2017 now available for teachers to use in their classrooms. All students have an account with MobyMax to use at home or in school, if the teacher chooses.

Professional Development

In the spring of 2017, teachers participated in a 3-hour training on classroom management conducted by a certified special education teacher from Fort Wayne Community Schools.

In June 2017, two teachers attended a 5-day conference by the Institute for Catholic Liberal Education that focused on instruction in all basic subjects, Catholicism, and classroom management.

In July 2017, nine teachers and the principal attended the Classical Latin School Association conference for 3 days. The conference focused on instruction at the teacher's grade level in all subject areas.

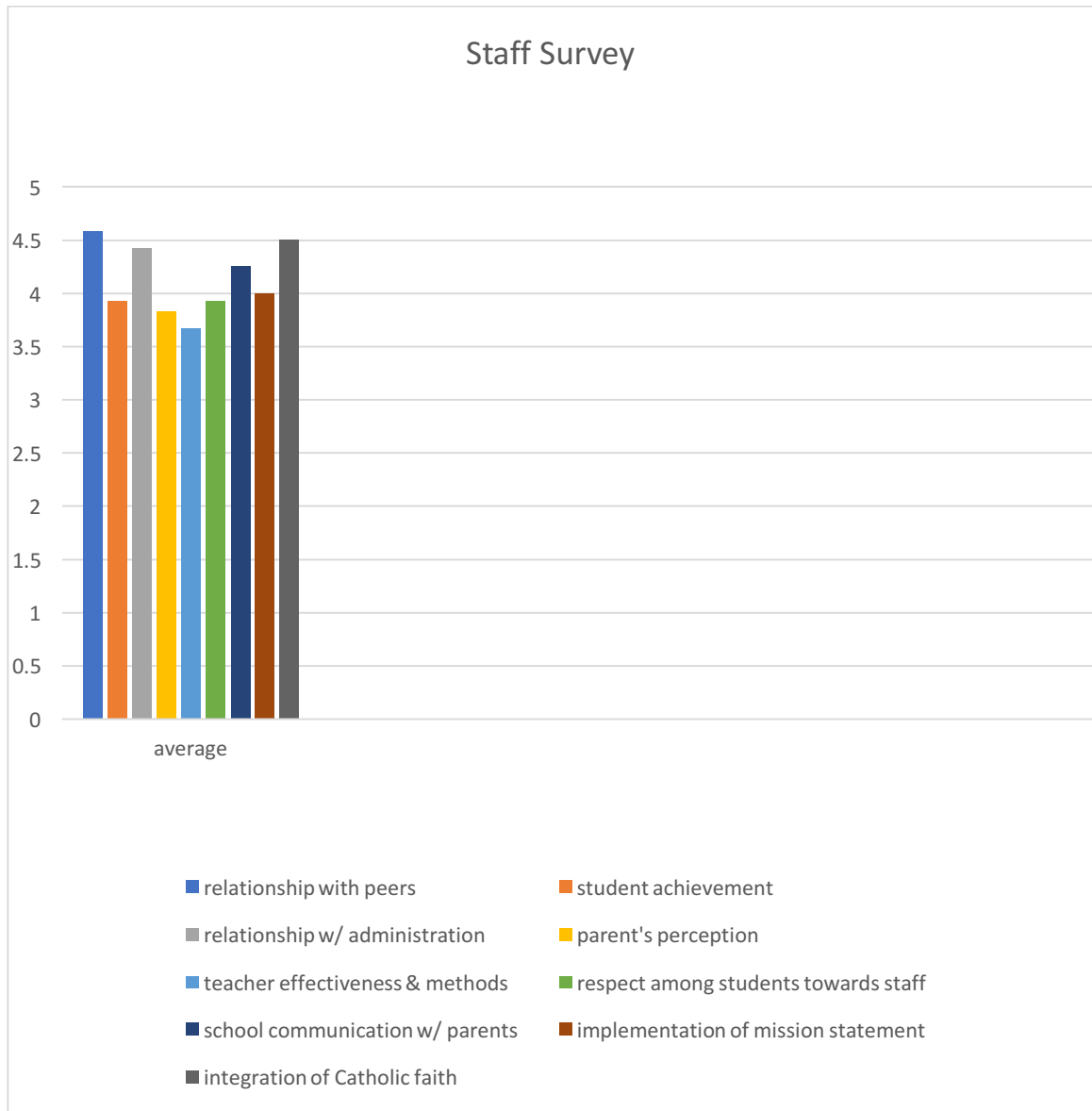
In the 2016-2017 school year first year teachers (9 teachers) participated in the New Teacher Success professional learning program sponsored by the diocese implemented by the Northeast Literacy Council.

In the 2017-2018 school year, all first through third year teachers (8 teachers) will participate in the New Teacher Success program implemented by the Northeast Literacy Council. Teachers will be divided into groups based on their years of experience in order to direct the professional development to the teachers' needs.

In the summer of 2017 most teachers participated in the NWEA MAP training on reading reports and learning how to use the data to drive instruction. Many teachers also participated in a 1 day training on differentiation conducted by the Northeast Literacy Council.

Staff Climate Survey

A survey asking questions about the staff's perception of the climate of the school was given to all 22 staff members in a Survey Monkey email. Twelve surveys were returned. The results show that the climate is relatively very good. The area that staff feels needs the most improvement is in the teacher effectiveness and methods of instruction, which supports having our overall goal being to improve comprehension instruction.



School Improvement Plan Goal

Staff Development Outcome	Measure of Effectiveness	Student Outcomes
All teachers will increase their knowledge of and how to instruct students on comprehension strategies.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Class percentage at EOY Benchmark in DAZE DIBELSNext in grades 3-6 will increase by 10%. 2. In grades 1-2, 85% of students will have an EOY Benchmark on RTF on DIBELSNext. 3. In grade 7-8, students NWEA MAP RIT scores will increase from BOY to EOY 4. In kindergarten, students will be able to draw pictures of main character and event of stories. 	All students will demonstrate improved skills in comprehension.

Level	Activity	Person Responsible	Evidence of Attainment	Resources	Timeline
Knowledge	Professional Learning In-service on Comprehension	Faith Wise	Sign-In Sheet	FWCS instructional coach	10/19/17 and 11/14/17
Model/ Demonstration	Teachers who need further help implementing the program into their classrooms will observe a teacher, chosen by the principal who is excelling at teaching strategies.	Jill Perkins, principal	Principal and teachers	Other teachers	10/20/17 to 5/30/18
Practice	Semester visit by principal or other teachers to observe instruction	Jill Perkins, principal & teachers	"Walk Through Evaluation"	FWSB evaluation form	10/20/17 to 5/30/18
Follow up	Teachers will share ideas and examples of student work at staff meeting	Teachers	Discussion	Student samples	February 2018
Long Term Maintenance	New teachers will be given access to <i>Strategies That Work, 3rd edition: Teaching Comprehension for Engagement, Understanding, and Building Knowledge, Grades K-8</i>	principal	Tour of book room	<i>Strategies That Work, 3rd edition: Teaching Comprehension for Engagement, Understanding, and Building Knowledge, Grades K-8</i>	10/20/17 to 9/15/18

