

# Parents as Partners

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please partner with us and support our faculty and Catholic education.

The Budgeted cost to educate SMS Student.. \$4,500  
 Tuition .....\$3,280  
 The gap .....\$1,220  
**\$1,220 per student!!!**  
**~ \$265,960 must be found**

Dear St. Mary's Parents,

We work very hard to keep tuition as low as possible in order to meet our Catholic mission, serve an economically diverse population, fill our school, and keep a St. Mary's education accessible to as many as possible. Our tuition remains among the lowest of Catholic elementary schools in the Northwest.

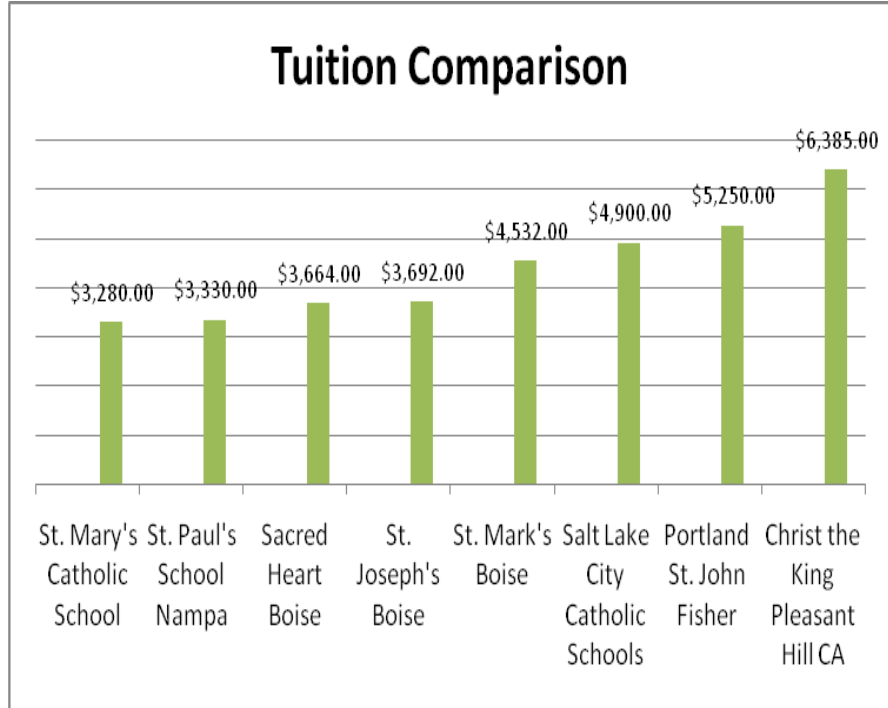
We raised tuition 5% this year to fund building maintenance issues, meet increases of health care costs, provide our teachers step increases, and cover the rising costs in our operating budget.

The **budgeted cost** to educate your student at St. Mary's this coming year is approximately **\$4,500**; note that this amount is more than what we charge for tuition. Donations help us make up most of the difference.

We have three main sources of revenue that supplement tuition:

1. A parish subsidy of \$90,000 annually by St. Mary's Parish.
2. The St. Mary's School Creegan Foundation contributes \$25,000 to \$30,000 annually.
3. St. Mary's PTO contributes \$75,000; most of which comes from the proceeds from the Ball and Auction.

***Please consider investing in our school via your enrollment contract.***



## Parents as Partners Program

Through the Parents as Partners Program, we ask you, our parents, to help bridge the gap between the tuition rate and the actual cost to educate your student. The program helps St. Mary's in three very important ways. First, it helps us keep tuition low and open our doors to students that otherwise could not attend. Second, by investing in the Parents as Partners Program, you help us pay a fair wage and build and retain our first-class teaching staff. Finally, by holding down our tuition and enrolling more students, we move closer toward our full capacity of 252 students. This helps our financial position and the quality of our programs. To the degree you can, **please join us in this important program by making a gift you can afford on your enrollment contract.**

### St. Mary's Tuition Facts

- The budgeted cost to educate each St. Mary's student in 2013-14 is approximately \$4,500.
- 20% of St. Mary's students received some form of financial aid in 2012-13.
- Total amount of aid given during the 2012-13 school year was \$101,442! Almost 9% of our total budget!
- At least five percent of our families at St. Mary's have an annual adjusted gross income below \$30,000.
- Financial aid includes: Tiered tuition, Unreimbursed Diocesan employee tuition benefit, Regular Tuition Aid, and Scholarships.

***Parents as Partners payments are donations and may be eligible for the Idaho Education Tax Credit. Half of the first \$2,000 donated may be refunded as an Idaho tax credit! Check with your tax professional prior to making any donations.***