



Mission Statement

The School of St. Philip is a Catholic community dedicated to educating the whole child to greatness of mind, body, and spirit.

Annual Report to Stakeholders Spring 2025

Dear friends of the School of St. Philip,

The song that our fifth graders prepared and shared with the student body was "Lead me Lord" by John D. Becker...and lead He has! Our year has been full of learning experiences for both the staff and the students. I've continued to grow in appreciation for the vital role our families, volunteers, and benefactors play in the life of our school. Their commitment truly makes St. Philip a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Academic excellence remains at the heart of our mission. Our talented and hardworking staff continuously evaluate and refine their teaching methods to keep their classrooms engaging and effective. The adoption of a new reading curriculum, although tricky at times, has been a success and plans are in place to make it even more meaningful next school year. This year's NWEA scores reflect their efforts and the strong learning taking place throughout the building.

Our enrollment went up from 52 to 57 in the 2024-2025 school year which is a real blessing! We continue to look for ways to welcome new families into our school community. One highlight of the year was the addition of a "Kindergarten Signing Day" where new students signed a certificate, took a few pictures, and shared pizza with other new students and their families. We are always thrilled to see new faces as well as additional members from our current school families.

As we look ahead to the 2025-2026 school year, we carry with us the momentum of what we've built together. I'm excited to continue supporting our students, staff, and families as we pursue excellence, face new challenges, and celebrate all the good work happening at the School of St. Philip.

Joyfully in Christ,

Andrea Dietrich

Mrs. Andrea Dietrich, principal



Spiritual Growth and Development

- Each day starts with an all-school flag and prayer service. We read and reflect on bible passages and pray for our marathon intentions.
- We received a visit from Sister Mary Ruth an alumna from the School of St. Philip on the first day of school and during the last week of school. She shared with us the beauty of her vocation and answered the many questions of students.
- The third, fourth, fifth graders took part in the Diocesan Holy Field Trip in New Ulm and prayed the Rosary with other Catholic School students in the diocese.
- We had two all day retreats to dive deeper into the seasons of the Church. On both days, students attended Mass, received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spent time in Adoration. Advent Retreat activities also included the making and delivering of blankets to Birthright of Hutchinson and activities that helped us prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. Our Lenten Retreat included the making of care packages for dialysis and cancer treatment patients in the community and activities that helped us learn more about the Jubilee Year. Both days were enjoyed by students and staff.
- The whole student body gathered 4 times this year to pray the Rosary. We crowned Mary in May and celebrated our 2nd grade class when they made their First Holy Communion. Over 170 pounds of food were collected for the Meeker Area Food Shelf in November and Birthday Bags were made for children in need during Catholic Schools Week. Letters to veterans and those serving in the armed forces were lovingly made and sent.
- Students celebrated Mass together every Friday. Each grade took turns providing ministries at their assigned Mass.



Accreditation Update

The School's Strategic Plan (SSP) was reviewed with our families and staff. We worked on each of the goals and noted our progress. We revisit this document often ensure that we continue to make progress and guarantee that the School of St. Philip is the very best it can be.

You may access our latest School Strategic Plan (SSP) by visiting our school website: www.schoolofstphilip.org.

Accomplishments of 2024-2025

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the School of St. Philip:

- Staff and students grew in Faith and love for Jesus!
- Adopted and implemented a new Language Arts curriculum.
- Researched, purchased and implemented a new accelerated reader program.
- Updated our curriculum standards to incorporate the new diocesan standards for ELA.
- Instituted *Virtues in Practice*, a program that encourages children to grow closer to Jesus by imitating His life and virtues.
- Invited several guest readers into our building during "I love to read" month
- Hosted a Kindergarten Signing Evening with dinner and photo opportunities.



Goals for 2025-2026

- Continue work on revisions to our ELA curriculum.
- Develop and maintain a connection with alumni and donors by sending out a School of St. Philip Christmas card.
- Continue work on the creation of an endowment fund and a process for growing the fund.
- Continue to work on existing and new revenue streams to allow for a sustainable budget.
- Increase student enrollment through new and improved marketing strategies.
- Reaching out to stakeholders as we begin our year of self-study.

Finances

This past year, we received several generous donations and held some successful fundraisers. Our fall marathon was again fruitful. The "Believe it, Achieve It" event was well attended, and a thoughtful committee continues to work on growing this fundraiser. The School of St. Philip hosted another successful Rummage sale and garbage bag sale this year. In general, our attempts at fundraising go well but as with many Catholic Schools, there always seems to be a need for more income.



Kindergarten Graduates



5th Grade Graduates



2024 Marathon – We raised over \$70,000.

NWEA Assessment Results

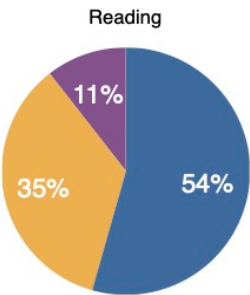
During the past school year, the School of St. Philip continued its use of the NWEA assessments to evaluate student performance and curriculum effectiveness. This marks our sixth year utilizing this tool to collect valuable data. The NWEA test helps us measure individual student growth as well as identify broader trends across the school.

We are proud to report that 90% of our students performed at or above grade level in both math and reading. While we are pleased with these outcomes, we remain committed to increasing the number of students achieving above-grade-level performance each year.

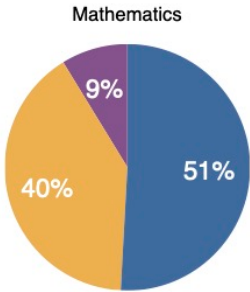
Our teachers regularly analyze NWEA results and use them to create targeted academic plans that support individual student growth. Special attention is given to students scoring below the 50th percentile to ensure they receive the support they need.

As with any standardized test, the NWEA offers just a snapshot of student learning. However, it continues to provide meaningful insights that guide and enhance our instructional strategies.

Reading		
Percentile Range	Grade Level Indicator	Grade K-5
1%-23%	Below Grade Level	6
24%-77%	On Grade Level	31
78%-100%	Above Grade Level	20



Mathematics		
Percentile Range	Grade Level Indicator	Grade K-5
1%-23%	Below Grade Level	5
24%-77%	On Grade Level	29
78%-100%	Above Grade Level	23



5th Grade pilgrimage to Grasshopper chapel.



Enjoying winter and the snow hill.



Spreading goodwill and cheer at the local nursing home.



Senator Lang reading a story in honor of I Love to Read month.