

ST. CHARLES SCHOOL

Academic Excellence - Christian Faith

Social Responsibility - Community Ties

Cassville, Wisconsin

Introduction

We believe that tradition and Scripture are the foundation on which we build Catholic attitudes and values. We implement this philosophy through a nurturing environment for academic and Christian learning. We are dedicated to seeing our students live Sacramental life of the Church and their Catholic faith, now and in the future.

Each student entrusted to us is a unique gift from God. Spiritual, intellectual, personal, social, and physical growth is promoted through individualized instructional experiences which provide the skills necessary for their success.

Families at St. Charles devote countless hours to helping students. They raise money for the school by selling food and magazines, or shopping with the purchase of SCRIP. Parish and family members volunteer to read with students, correct spelling books, and work in the school library. We are truly a family at St. Charles. We honor and cherish our children by showing them moral values as we teach the word of God.

We believe that parents are the primary educators of their children. Our supportive staff is trained and dedicated to providing an individualized program in a small class setting for students. Many of our former graduates have earned high academic honors in high school and college. Our alumni enjoy successful careers and appreciate the education they received at St. Charles.

Our school is unique in its strong Catholic identity, enthusiastic families who support our programs and commitment to learning and growth in each student.

Contact Information

Barbara Mason, Principal
521 E. Dewey St.
Cassville, WI 53806

Father John Meinholz, Pastor
Cluster office located in Bloomington
Home phone Bloomington (608) 994-2526

Phone: (608) 725-5173

Parish Office Phone (608) 725-5595

Email: scschool@pcii.net

website: <http://stcharlesschoolcassville.org>

School Sponsorship

St. Charles parish, Cassville, Wisconsin

Expert Faculty

Principal's Credentials

- Masters in Education Administration UW Platteville
- Bachelor's in Elementary Education UW Platteville

Faculty Credentials

- Lacy Kasten - BS Elementary Education, early childhood focus
- Karen Runde - BS Elementary Education, reading focus
- Caroline Cooley - BS Elementary Education, MS in Library science
- Mary Ploessl - BS Elementary Education
- Karen Gibbs - BS Elementary Education
- Joe Cox - BS Physical Education
- Brandi White – BS, Performance experience, dance studio owner

Support Staff

- Linda Cliff – school secretary
- Jeff Jensen – parish and school maintenance

Enrollment Procedures

1. Complete registration forms (sent out in mid-July) and set up a payment schedule with the principal
2. Meet with the child's teacher and tour the school before school starts in the fall (optional)

Tuition: 4K - 8th grade (full or partial scholarships always available!)

<u>Children</u>	<u>School Fees</u>	<u>Surcharge</u>	<u>Total</u>	
One child:	\$ 182.00	\$ 660.00	\$ 852.00	(\$ 4.62/day/180 days)
Two children:	\$ 248.00	\$ 780.00	\$ 1028.00	(\$ 5.60/day/180 days)
Three children:	\$ 300.00	\$ 866.00	\$ 1186.00	(\$ 6.48/day/180 days)
4 or more children:	\$ 346.00	\$ 982.00	\$ 1328.00	(\$ 7.27/day/180 days)

Note: new families to our school receive a one-time, \$250 "Welcome" discount in tuition.

We can work out any type of payment plan that works for you –

We have a Scholarship Fund for families who may need tuition assistance. Please contact Barbara Mason for information.

Scholarships

We offer scholarships to anyone who qualifies, based on income or family circumstance.

MARRIED – 1 child in St. Charles

*The base tuition would change for additional children enrolled.

Gross Income	Tuition*	% Scholarship	New Tuition	2 Payment Plan
\$42,500 - \$45,000	\$852.00	80%	\$170.40	\$85.20 in August and \$85.20 by February
\$40,000 - \$42,499	\$852.00	90%	\$85.20	\$42.60 in August and \$42.60 by February
\$0 - \$39,999	\$852.00	100%	\$0.00	No Tuition Due

SINGLE – 1 child in St. Charles (**Income Limits are Lower**)

*The base tuition would change for additional children enrolled.

Gross Income	Tuition*	% Scholarship	New Tuition	2 Payment Plan
\$21,250 - \$22,500	\$852.00	80%	\$170.40	\$85.20 in August and \$85.20 by February
\$20,000 - \$21,249	\$852.00	90%	\$82.20	\$42.60 in August and \$42.60 by February
\$0 - \$19,999	\$852.00	100%	\$0.00	No Tuition Due

New students to our school receive a \$250.00 “Welcome” discount which would reduce these numbers significantly.

Other family circumstances can affect scholarship awards as well.

Make an appointment today!

Parish Support

\$700 for a single parent family \$1400 for a two parent family

Payment terms can be arranged with Fr. John Meinholz or Barbara Mason

Measuring Success

- The ITBS test is administered in grades 3-7 in October - Results are shared with parents at the fall parent/ teacher conference
- The ACRE test of Catholic faith is given in grades 5 and 8 in the spring
- Many of our students go on to be active members of the National Honor Society in high school and a majority of the valedictorian and salutatorians are St. Charles graduates

Academics and Curriculum

- Multi-grade delivery model
- Religion is infused into all classes
- 4K/5K self-contained, combined classroom (Mrs. Lacy Kasten)
- 1st/ 2nd self-contained, combined classroom (Miss Karen Runde)
- 3rd /4th self-contained, combined classroom (Mrs. Caroline Cooley)
- 4K and 1st – 4th Math (Ms. Karen Gibbs)
- 5th – 6th Homeroom (Mrs. Mary Ploessl)
- 7th – 8th Homeroom (Ms. Barbara Mason)
- 4K-8th Physical education, Computers, and 5-8 Health– Wednesday-Friday (Mr. Joe Cox)
- 4K – 8th Music – Tuesday only (Miss Brandi White)
- Title 1 Reading services - Daily (Mrs. Therese Wood)
- Speech and Language services are offered from Cassville Public School to our students
- Students in grades 5-8 may take band and chorus classes at Cassville Public School
- Fr. John teaches religion classes as often as his schedule permits
- Parent and community volunteers work with teachers and students as time permits
- A county nurse visits the school once a week
- Students attend Mass and participate in the service once a week on Tuesday mornings
- School starts at 8:10 am and is dismissed at 3:20 pm
- Lunch is served at the public school at noon – all students have recess afterward
- Students in 4K-2 grade have morning recess

At Each Level:

Four and five year old kindergarten

- Four year olds come for a full day on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- Five year olds come full days, five days a week.
- They are working on social skills, phonics, number recognition, counting, and play-based learning.
- Reading, math, handwriting, phonics, social studies, science, religion, art, physical education and music are all part of the curriculum
- Students work at a pace appropriate to their learning
- Computers are incorporated into their curriculum, especially in the areas of reading and language
- Students who are most advanced can practice skills that challenge and stimulate their minds

First and second grade

- Focus is on reading and developmental skills
- First and second grade classes are taught separately for math, reading/language and handwriting
- Students are combined for science, social studies, religion, art, music, computers and physical education
- Students work at a pace appropriate to their learning
- Computers are used several times per week for instruction and enrichment
- Students who are most advanced can practice skills that challenge and stimulate their minds
- Second graders make their First Reconciliation and First Communion in the spring

Third and fourth grade

- Focus on reading mastery and organizational skills
- Reading, math, handwriting, phonics, social studies, science, religion, art, physical education and music.
- Students learn to work cooperatively in small group activities
- Become eligible to serve at mass
- Computers are used several times per week for instruction and enrichment

Fifth and sixth grade

- Focus on increasing independence and accountability as they move from classroom to classroom
- Students are expected to maintain and complete assignments without direct teacher supervision
- Students have access to band and chorus classes at Cassville Public School
- Computer usage increases

Seventh and eighth grade

- Focus is on high school preparation, study skills and accountability
- Students begin learning Spanish
- Develop leadership skills working with younger students
- Read daily announcements, take lunch count, hang and remove the flag
- Computer usage increases to include some coursework online or using software
- Eighth grade prepares for graduation by holding two fundraisers
- Seventh and eighth graders have a combined homeroom

Math

- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Math series for grades 4K to 6 and a Wright Group pre-Algebra and Algebra textbook are used in 7th and 8th grades.
- Classes are adjusted to the individual needs of each child with practice appropriate to their level of achievement.
- Manipulative are used to teach concepts.

Reading

- The four year olds explore reading, writing, phonics, and language for 25 minutes daily, through a program called “Happily Ever After,” from the makers of “Superkids”
- Students in kindergarten through second grade receive 90 minutes of instruction daily in reading, phonics, language, spelling and writing with the “Superkids” program
- Students are offered a reading rich environment with exposure to many types of books, stories and plays
- Third and fourth graders are reading for information and pleasure as their vocabulary and interests expand, they also learn voice through the use of “Reader’s Theater”
- Fifth and sixth graders use a combination of basal readers and novels
- Seventh and eighth graders read novels

Language arts

- Handwriting is taught through sixth grade – “Writing Our Catholic Faith”
- Vocabulary and spelling are taught at every grade level and use SpellingCity.com
- Grammar is taught at every level
- The mechanics of writing are taught along with a variety of styles of writing including an online component at 7th and 8th grade
- Reference skills are reinforced in many formats

Social Studies

- Students learn geography and history in their social studies classes
- A wide variety of methods are used to help students understand the past and make it relevant to their daily lives today
- Speakers, pen pals or field trips often expose students to other cultures

Science

- We use McGraw-Hill and Glencoe Integrated Science (2012) with online resources
- Our science curriculum integrates religious concepts and scientific inquiry
- Students actively explore their world and connect concepts to their daily lives

Religion

- Students receive formal religious instruction 3-4 times per week and attend a school mass once per week.
- We follow the liturgical year of the church.
- Students know the teaching of our faith in both their minds and hearts when they leave our school.

Art, Music and Physical Education

- Art projects are based on crafts, art history , art appreciation and skills
- Music productions several times a year, singing at mass – once weekly
- Physical education focuses on healthy living through nutrition and exercise - twice weekly

Co- curricular Activities

- Volleyball and Basketball are now community teams in combination with the public school
- Track and Field is offered at Cassville Public School for 8th grade
- Area 5 Spelling Bee is held each spring
- Band for students in grades 5-8 at public school

Special Needs Services

- Service plans for learning disabled students
- Service plans for Speech and Language services
- Title 1 Reading/Math – we have our own teacher 4 days per week

Faith and Spiritual Development

- Participation in the liturgy
- Daily prayer and petitions
- Celebration of Church Feast Days
- Drama and music
- Weekly Mass

Special Events

- Pet Mass (October)
- Catholic Schools Week (January)
- Music Concerts (Christmas and in Spring)
- First Reconciliation (about February) and First Communion (April or May)
- 8th Grade Graduation and Kindergarten Graduation (May or June)
- End of year field trips (May or June)

Other Services

- Tutoring by Volunteers
- Lunch program through the public school
 - Free and reduced lunch program available for all qualified students
- Fully monitored email accounts for students in grades 5-8
- Online grades available for parents and students through Teacher Ease

Parent and Family Involvement

- Formal
 - Parent teacher conferences after 1st and 3rd quarters
 - Home and School organization
 - Enrollment Management Committee
 - Education Commission
 - Parish Council
- Informal
 - Family information packets sent home regularly to keep parents up to date
 - Volunteering in classrooms or outside of school
 - Attending special events and field trips
 - Helping out at events and during fundraisers

Common Misconceptions

- Tuition is too high. I can't afford it.
 - Scholarships are available – many qualify for partial or even full scholarships!
 - Tuition can be paid all at once or in several small payments throughout the year – whatever works best for you!
 - Our tuition is very small compared to other Catholic schools - kept that way by parish support
- They only take practicing Catholics.
 - Not true! We accept anyone who wants a religious based education.
 - Children are expected to attend school mass and participate in Christian instruction but not to receive the Catholic sacraments
 - We accept families from any religious denomination, practicing or not.
- St. Charles is going to close soon.
 - Rumors have been out there that St. Charles is on the verge of closing its doors. This is simply not true.
 - We have dedicated donors, parishioners, and families who will continue to support the school to keep it open for years to come.
 - **We do need families to believe in us and send their children to our school.**

Frequently Asked Questions

- How much is the tuition?
 - The tuition amounts are found on page 2 of this document
 - Tuition paid by parents is only a small fraction of the actual amount needed to educate a child (teacher salaries, building utilities and materials for students)
 - The parish pays a large percentage of the actual costs for the school
- Is financial aid available?
 - Generous donors who keep our scholarship fund available to anyone who needs it.
 - All information collected is kept strictly confidential! Only the principal handles your paperwork.
- Would I qualify for a scholarship?
 - The basic financial qualifications are on page 3 of this document.
 - Don't qualify? Come in and talk. You may have other circumstances that will enable you to qualify for a partial or even full scholarship.