

The Rambler Report

REGIS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MAGAZINE FOR FAMILIES, FRIENDS & ALUMNI FALL 2020

Annual Report 2019 | 2020



Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

The Rambler Report

FALL 2020

PUBLICATION

Meghan Kulig, Communications Director
Shannon Rahkola, Graphic Designer

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St. Mary's, Altoona

PUBLICATION QUESTIONS

Meghan Kulig
mkulig@RegisCatholicSchools.com
(715) 830-2273, ext. 1402

DONATION QUESTIONS

Mark Golden
mgolden@RegisCatholicSchools.com
(715) 830-2273, ext. 1407

MAILING LIST & ALUMNI UPDATES

Ashley Wolterstorff
awolterstorff@RegisCatholicSchools.com
(715) 830-2271, ext. 1410





We were happy to welcome our students back to school five days a week in September. Like every school across the nation, we have faced many challenges as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are grateful for the flexibility and support from our current families, alumni, and community partners. Please continue to pray for our students and staff.

(PHOTO CREDIT | Marika Daniels)

Features

8 | ANNUAL GIVING HONOR ROLL

See the generous donors who helped support Regis Catholic Schools during the last fiscal year.

20 | 2020 REGIS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AUCTION

This year's event looked different due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, our generous supporters shined through! Learn how much money was raised to support tuition assistance at our schools.

22 | HAND SANITIZING STATIONS

Meet the Regis High School student who used his skills to help make hand sanitizer readily available to students and staff.

27 | ALL SEATS SOLD!


We are excited to announce that all of the seats in the Fr. Dowd Auditorium on the Regis campus have been sponsored!


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Regis Catholic Schools is accredited by Wisconsin Religious and Independent School Accreditation (WRISA) for grades K-12.

Cover Photo by Meghan Kulig

Report from the Dean

The More Things Change, The More...They Really Change!

It seems like it was yesterday when I would walk the halls of Regis Middle School and Regis High School as Chaplain. The Regis Catholic Schools Central Office was made of three people back then: Cindy Hofacker, Bea Candell, and Kathy Ruskin. Bill Uelmen was principal and would call me into his office from time to time with personnel suggestions. Whether it was encouraging me to talk with Paul Pedersen about getting his administrators degree, interviewing this young teacher named Eric Nelson for a religion teacher opening, telling me about this 24-year-old applicant for football coach named Bryant Brenner, or asking me to get to know a seasoned Catholic teacher he wanted to hire by the name of Laurie Zukaitis, looking back, my "best decisions" at Regis were because of Bill Uelmen. Were my seven years as Regis Chaplain the best years of my ministry? Yes, they were.

Fast forward to 2018 and I got a look at the "new Regis." At first, it looked very similar to the old Regis. Howard Campbell was allegedly retired, but I oddly saw him walking the halls every time I would drop by the high school office. Becky Santine is still the backbone of our arts culture at Regis, continuing to provide Regis with a spectacular choral program in addition to being one of the best vocal performers in Eau Claire. And, of course, there is Judine Brey who, due to her dedication to theatre and forensics, has made Regis her first home and her house simply a place she goes to sleep at night. Throw in Kayla Bahnhub, Carisa Smiskey, and Kelly Mechelke, all individuals I have worked with before, and Jackie Lutz, who I got to know through the passing of her father Greg Divine, and I could easily get away with saying, "The more things change, the more they stay the same."

However, if I were to end my piece here, it would simply be a whimsical rant riddled with idealized nostalgia, ignoring all incredible new developments in the Regis system. For example, I would have loved to have my own booster club for the religion department back when I was Chaplain! I would have loved to have a Campus Minister to help me during the first couple years I was at Regis before the Godsend of Laurie Zukaitis came on board as my assistant or, to put it bluntly, my "paperwork

and brain organizer." Cindy Hofacker would have died to have the amazing central staff that we have now with talents and organizational ability that are second-to-none.

In short, if I were to give a "State of Regis Address" as incoming Dean, my message would be plain: We have one of the strongest Catholic Schools in the state -

Let's be proud of that and let the light of Christ shine through it. And I haven't even touched on the fabulous work of our grade schools, which I look forward to getting to know better as Dean. Fear not grade school families! My omission of St. James Elementary School, Immaculate Conception Elementary School, and St. Mary's Elementary School is simply the occupational hazard of being a previous middle and high school

Chaplain. I'll give you some love in the pieces to come! In short, I am excited and proud to be your Dean. To reconnect with Regis in this new capacity has already provided some difficult challenges, but they are leveled by the fact I know the quality and gift this system is to the Eau Claire area and to Jesus Christ. It's an honor to be back. It's an honor to remember our past. It's an honor to embrace the gift of our present system. And it's exciting to be a part of sacred unknown that is our future.



Fr. James Kurzynski
Dean, Eau Claire Deanery

In October, Fr. James Kurzynski was appointed Dean of the Eau Claire Catholic Deanery for a term of three years. He replaces former Dean Fr. Derek Sakowski. Fr. Kurzynski was ordained a priest June 28, 2003 and his term as Dean began effective October 15, 2020.

Congratulations, Father!

Report from the President

Dear Current Families, Alumni, Stakeholders, and Friends,

We are happy to report our 2020-21 school year began with five-day a week in-person learning. We also provided virtual learning for those families needing/requesting this option. This opening was made possible because our leadership team and our teachers put forth amazing effort in organizing rooms with six foot distancing, masks for everyone, extra cleaning in all buildings, and the purchase of air purifiers for the Regis campus, the building with the most students traveling throughout the day. The extra work and time staff and the leadership team put in to keep everyone safe has been impressive. I am beyond grateful for them all!

A huge thank you to our families who adjusted so well to the many changes and requests. The recommendations regarding COVID-19 have been constantly changing. Our families have responded with compassion, understanding, and love. We are so blessed by the partnership we have with them. We are excited to have the Regis community in support of keeping children in school as much as possible.

Although COVID-19 has really been an added stress, some of the blessings that we are more able to see are: how valued in-person learning has been, how dedicated our staff is to their profession, how resilient and positive children are, and how supportive our families are to the Regis system. The gifts and donations from our generous supporters helped our system be able to afford the many expenses incurred to open safely.

As you will notice, this issue of The Rambler Report includes our annual list of generous donors who help make a high-quality Catholic education possible for our students. With that in mind, I extend a warm thank you to all of our donors. Every donation is very much appreciated, especially during this time when more people are in need of financial support. If you are not able to give financially, a way to help with our third source income is by supporting our Regis Catholic Schools Scrip program, which offers gift cards for purchase with a percentage of the profits going to help our system. If you are not familiar with this

program, please contact our Regis Catholic Schools Central Office at (715) 830-2273 for details. This is an easy way to support Regis with no extra cost to you if you are in the area.



*"And this is my prayer:
that your love may increase ever
more and more in knowledge and
every kind of perception, to
discern what is of value."*

- Philippians 1:9

As we embark on this Advent season, please join us in our dedication to the expectant waiting and preparation for our Lord's birth. I urge you to take time this season to observe with your family by utilizing the Advent wreath. It has been one of the best gifts I ever received for my family. The wreath and candles have lots of symbolism connected to our faith. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God and our everlasting life in Christ. The candles also have special meaning. Three of the candles are violet because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice. The first violet candle symbolizes hope. It represents the anticipation felt in the waiting. The

second violet candle represents faith. The third candle is rose and symbolizes joy. The fourth week we light the final violet candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait in peace for the birth of our Savior. The white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the "Christ Candle" and represents the life of Christ. The color white is for the purity of Christ.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly K. Mechelke".

Kelly K. Mechelke
President



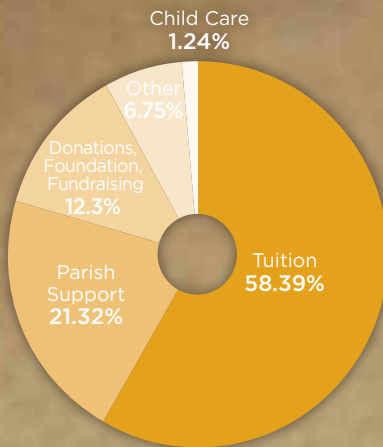
2019-2020 Financial Report

Revenue

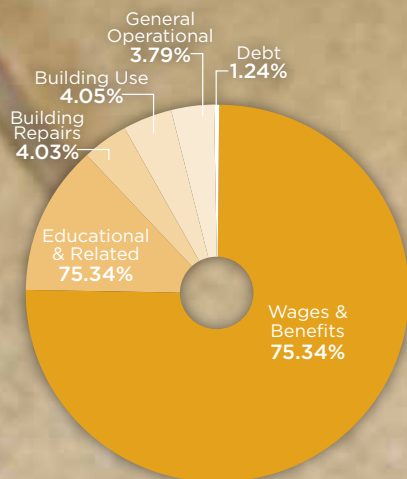
Net Tuition and Fees	\$3,821,268
Parish Support	1,395,355
Donations, Foundation, Fundraising	804,782
Other Food Service, Athletic, Scrip (NET)	441,523
Child Care (NET)	81,183
TOTAL REVENUE	\$6,544,111

Expenses

Wages and Benefits	\$4,877,762
Educational and Related Activities	824,482
Building, Repairs, Utilities, Maintenance, Depreciation	260,966
Building Use Agreements	262,443
General Operational, In-Service, Fundraising	245,525
Debt and Interest Payments	7,061
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,474,647
NET PROFIT	\$69,464



Revenue



Expenses



Enrollment & Academic Report



Middle & High
Schools



198



188



Elementary
Schools



208



113



114



Child Development
Centers



91



98



ACT Scores

Graduation
Year
2020

Mathematics

REGIS

STATE

23.1

19.9

English

REGIS

STATE

22.7

19.1

Composite

REGIS

STATE

23.5

20.1

Reading

REGIS

STATE

24.1

20.5

Science

REGIS

STATE

23.4

20.3

Annual Giving Honor Roll

Regis Fund & Tuition Partnership Program | July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020



Supporting Parish Society

Thank you for making Catholic education affordable!

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Newman Parish
Sacred Heart of Jesus -
St. Patrick Parish
St. James the Greater Parish
St. Mary's Parish
St. Olaf Parish

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Dirk & Clara Nohre
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Dennis & Margaret Pichler
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John & Angie Stombaugh
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Jim Sykes '63, Joan Vernetzy*

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Catherine Goebel

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**Matching Gifts*

Annual Giving Honor Roll

Regis Fund & Tuition Partnership Program | July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020



Robert & Elizabeth O'Driscoll
Virgene Oldenburg
Jim & Rosemarie Parris
Charles & Jennifer Peters
William & Susan Phillips
Steven & Dara Piltz
Kathy Pope
Chris & Karen Preston
Scott & Clare Rasmussen
David & Mary Jo Reinders
Jaci Ristau
Michael & Louise Roach
Sam Rubenzer
Margaret Savelkoul
PJ & Barbara Schaefer
Mary Schmitz
Fr. John Schultz
Timothy & Linda Schultz
Thomas & Joan Schwartz
Judy St. Arnault
Stephen & Jan Stein
Brad & Taylor Tarras
Margaret Thorsen
Tom & Barb Tinker
James & Dawn Ulwelling

John Hegenbart
Upland Distributing
Nancy Welter Hietpas
Chandra Wagatsuma
Tim & Sue West
Gerald & Marylane Whalen
John & Carole Whitman
David & Susan Whooley
Mark & Gail Wirz
Kim & Sue Wisniewski
Thomas & Jeanne Young

Rambler Society \$10-\$49

Sally Adams
Steven & Ellen Anderson
Anonymous
Bill Baxter & Joanie Bush-Baxter
Bill & Joni Berres
Sr. Diane Boehm
Mark Brindle
James Campbell
James & Carolyn Charais
Daniel & Shirlene Chart

Cal & Lauren Couillard
Roger & Jane Dale
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Mark & Amy Erickson
Patrick & Paula Flynn
Jim Gagnon
Sandra Gibbons-Vollbrecht
Dennis & Kari Gilroy
GK Lawn Care
Kate Hammer
Karen Hanzel
Mary Hayden
Kurt & Judy Hearth
Mark Helminiak
Susan Hinnendael
Nancy Hoag
Terry-Lynn Introwitz
Rose Johnson
Richard & Nancy Kaner
Christopher Karnes
Kent & Mary Kaufhold
Joshua Koehn
Gary Kragness

**Matching Gifts*

Annual Giving Honor Roll

Regis Fund & Tuition Partnership Program | July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020



Roger & Darlene Regez
Sandra Roswell
Paul & Katherine Ricciardi
Fr. Derek Sakowski
Patrick & Sara Schaffer
Erin Schifeling
Mike & Bev Schmitt
Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
Rosella Schulner
Jill Sizer
Adam & Jennifer Thorson
Chris & Lauri Usher
Mark & Sandra Walter
George Wanserski
Arnold Watkins
Michael Watkins
Pam Weaver
**United Health Group
Matching Gifts*
Ann Webb
Joel & Karen Willkom
Mary Wilting
Susan Wright

*Thank you for
your support!*

**If you have not yet
contributed to the
2020-21 annual
Regis Fund or Tuition
Partnership Program,
we invite you to please
consider doing
so using the enclosed
donation envelope.**

Dan Langlois
Dr. Lucas Lamadrid
Daniel & Lori Lavalley
Spencer & Sarah Lewis
Philip & Leslie Lyons
Ned & Joyce Martenson
David & Terese McCall
Georgia Mehr
Dennis & Pauline Meyer
Vince & Amy Michalski
David & Peggy Mickelson
Allen & Marguerite Middendorp
Myllin & Joan Misura
Mike & Marlene Moelter
Dr. John & Meri Jo Mueller
James & Jill Nayas
Joni Nienas
Andy & Brandie Niese
Michael & Sherri Olson
William & Arlene Ottinger
Mitchell & Jennifer Palmer
Robert Peters
Paul & Kathleen Petit
David & Sandy Pieterick
Ray's Place
Michael & Virginia Price



**Matching Gifts*

2020-21 Regis Fund



A Powerful Investment



Please let me begin by expressing my hope that all of you, your families, and your loved ones have been able to stay safe and healthy in the face of the global pandemic. My prayers are with all of you who have experienced the loss of a loved one or have had to cope with physical, emotional, or economic hardship as a result of COVID-19.

As the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded and continues to unfold, we are deeply grateful for the generous and continued support of our current families, alumni, grandparents, friends, and local businesses. During these uncertain times, we rely more than ever on the support of our committed and selfless donors. We thank you for all that you do for Regis Catholic Schools and its important mission.

The annual Regis Fund helps bridge the difference between the tuition charged at our schools and the actual cost to educate each student. Connection and community are more important than ever, and the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation makes it a priority to facilitate such opportunities in normal times and current times alike.

“SUPPORT REGIS TODAY, MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOMORROW!”

Gratefully,

Mark Golden '83
Advancement Director
Regis Catholic Schools

Deuteronomy 16:17

**“EVERY MAN SHALL GIVE AS HE
IS ABLE, ACCORDING TO THE
BLESSING OF THE LORD YOUR GOD
WHICH HE HAS GIVEN YOU.”**



If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Mark Golden,
Advancement Director, at (715) 830-2273, ext. 1407
or mgolden@RegisCatholicSchools.com.

What will
your legacy

JOIN **THE REGIS LEGACY SOCIETY** - AND LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY!

We honor and thank our generous benefactors who have named the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation as a beneficiary in their estate plan.

The Regis Legacy Society is reserved for those generous supporters who have included the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation in their estate planning in the amount of \$10,000 or more.

Planned giving creates a legacy that will benefit generations of students and help ensure that the educational and spiritual objectives of Regis Catholic Schools continue in the future.

Benefits include:

- Communications and other opportunities to share in the growth and achievements of our Regis Catholic Schools students.
- Your name(s) will join those of other honored Regis Legacy Society members on the recognition plaque located in the Regis High School main entrance.
- The ability to inspire others to make a lasting and significant commitment to the Regis Catholic Schools.



For more information on joining the Regis Legacy Society, please contact:

Mark Golden

Regis Catholic Schools
Advancement Director
(715) 830-2273, ext. 1407
mgolden@RegisCatholicSchools.com



2020

REGIS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AUCTION

Coming Together, Rambler Strong



Our annual event looked much different this year, but your support shined through! THANK YOU!

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we made the difficult decision to cancel our in-person Regis Catholic Schools Auction this year and move the event 100% online.

We still featured a number of great auction items, with online bidding opening Thursday, November 5 and closing Sunday, November 8. Bidding was open to anyone and everyone, allowing for many new bidders to get in on the action this year. Thank you to our current families, staff, alumni, and community supporters for your participation in this unique version of one of our biggest fundraisers.

We are happy to announce our 2020 Regis Catholic Schools Auction raised a total of \$69,898 in support of

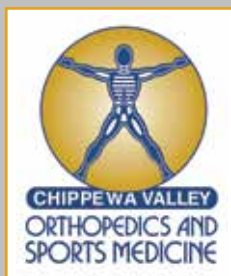
our St. Benedict Tuition Assistance Scholarship program, which makes tuition at our schools affordable for all families. All online purchases and donations this year helped support that program.

We are also happy to announce that of that total, \$17,535 came directly through cash donations via our online bidding site. We are overwhelmed and grateful for your support.

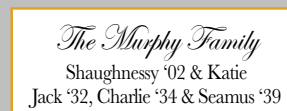
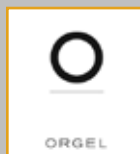
While we don't know what the coming year will bring, we can tell you we have reserved The Florian Gardens in Eau Claire for what we hope will be an in-person event on Saturday, November 13, 2021. Mark your calendars and watch for updates!

Despite the unprecedented nature of this year's Regis Catholic Schools Auction, our community partners

Platinum Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Thank you to our generous donors and lucky winners! Here are just a few of the fun auction items we featured this year:



Apple Watch Series 3



Getaway at Floods Island Resort in Chetek



Apple Air Pods Pro



Brett Favre Signed Minnesota Vikings Mini Helmet



12 Bottles of Italian Red Wine Shipped to Your Home



Echo Show



Green Bay Packers 2019 Team Football w/Stamped Autographs



His and Hers Trek Bikes

ers showed their continuing support of our mission and our students. Thank you for your generosity!

Bronze Sponsors

Marshfield Clinic
Health System
Markquart Motors
OakLeaf
Surgical Hospital
Merchants Bank
Student Transit
Mike & Gina Toutant
Dogtopia
Bourget Law

Green Sponsors

Chippewa Valley Eye Clinic
WIN Technology
Rock & Tait Exteriors, LLC
Decades Financial, LLC

Additional Major Donors

Mega Co-Op
Clearwater Dental - Dr. Leslie & Bill Spangler
Royal Credit Union
Rob & Amber Ridenour
M. Thomas & Kathleen Q. Edwards
Brackett Bar
Scott & Ann Hoffmann
Regis Court Dental Associates
Affiance Insurance Group, LLC
Families & Staff at
Regis High School, Regis Middle School,
Immaculate Conception Elementary School,
St. James Elementary School,
St. Mary's Elementary School
Regis Catholic Schools Central Office

RAMBLERS

Hand Sanitizing Stations

The Regis campus is home to nine beautiful new, hand-crafted sanitizer stations thanks to junior Zane Cullinan. Once Regis announced it would be reopening schools for in-person instruction, Zane reached out to Principal Pedersen asking if there would be a need for something like this. When he got a yes, Zane got to work!

Zane made each sanitizer station as part of his Eagle Scout project, going through multiple revisions before he got the design just right. He sends a special thank you to Scout Troop 31 out of Immaculate Conception Elementary School for its support of this great project!

Thank you, Zane!

What a great example of what it means to be a Rambler!

Congratulations

to Regis High School senior Michaela Niedzwiecki for being selected as a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Competition!



Students qualify for this scholarship competition by taking the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) as juniors in the fall. Out of all the students in the state of Wisconsin who took the PSAT test, Michaela was one out of only 330 total students who scored high enough to qualify.

Three types of National Merit Scholarships will be offered in the spring of 2021 and Michaela will find out then if she has been chosen to receive a scholarship award.

A unique musical experience!

Two of our Regis High School choir students were accepted into the 2020 WSMA State High School Honors Treble Choir...which had to go virtual for the first time ever this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Seniors Madelyn Ott and Chelsea Schaf participated in a “virtual” choir camp in June, and then everyone in the choir submitted videos of themselves singing three songs that were then put together into a virtual choir concert by WSMA in October.

You can watch the full concert video, which includes all of the Honors ensembles, online at <https://tinyurl.com/yy3567r7>.

(The Treble Choir is shown from 17:06 to 28:00 in the video, during which you can see Chelsea and Madelyn several times through the three songs.)



Madelyn Ott

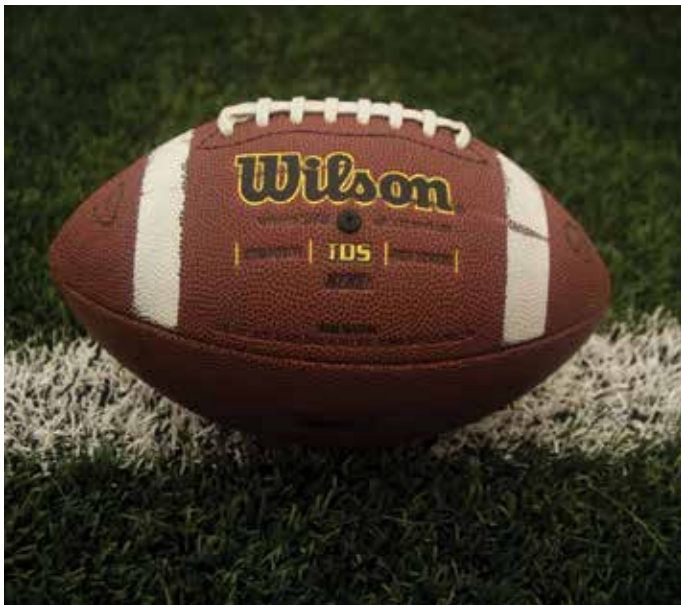


Chelsea Schaf

Congratulations!



Fall Sports Report



Football

The Regis Football team won its first five games of the season prior to the season being ended early on October 28. A couple of highlights include beating Mondovi 22-0 on the road and beating Stanley-Boyd 31-14 in the first game ever hosted at Regis High School.

We thank our 13 seniors for their leadership and commitment throughout the season and the last four years. This was a very enjoyable group to go to work with each day.

The team's defense and special teams carried the team in the beginning of the season, while the offense gained experience and improved. By the time the season ended, the team had become very tough and it would have taken a very good team to clinch a win. During a "normal" year, this year's Regis Football team would have been capable of making a very deep playoff run!



Volleyball

The Lady Ramblers Volleyball team ended the season going 7-2 down the stretch and received the two seed overall. The team grew an extreme amount from the beginning of the year and individual players earned honors for their contributions. Makenna Rohrscheib (1st Team All-Conference), Rachel Szepieniec (2nd Team All-Conference), and Emma Vinopal (Honorable Mention) were the letter winners.



Boys Soccer

The 2020 McDonell/Regis Soccer season brought with it many unknowns and proved to be ever changing throughout.

In a season that started with 16+ games scheduled, the team saw many opponents on the schedule opt-out of the season or go to conference only scheduling. This left the team scrambling for most of the season looking for additional games, and in some cases, even having the additional games canceled due to ongoing pandemic protocols. In spite of the almost constant dynamics of playing a season in the midst of a pandemic, the Saints managed to carve out a respectable body of work with a final record of 3-3. What's more impressive is this was done with a very young roster and very little depth.

The team was led by seniors Logan Hughes, Noah Helms, Anderson Lowry, Adler Bowe, and Matt Kent.



Cross Country

The Regis High School Boys and Girls Cross Country teams ended the season at a blizzarding meet in Osseo! All the athletes on the team performed exceptionally well in those difficult conditions and proved that their training throughout the summer was well worth it.

Throughout the season, all of the athletes showed continual improvement race after race, many attaining multiple personal records.

The Regis Girls team took a season high of second place in Cadott on September 22 and in Marshfield on September 1. Eydie Meyers and Hailey Talley brought home many top 10 finishes during the season.

Freshman Ava Moore came on the team with wings on her feet, showing the other teams that she will be a force to be reckoned with over the next few years. Seniors Sydnee Yengo and Jannah Mehtala finished their final high school cross country season on a high with personal records in the final two races. Madie Olson and Lily Radant brought themselves both to personal records in Osseo on October 1 and pushed themselves for massive improvement over the season.

Leading the boys team, sophomore Angelo Brantner pushed himself to new levels as both a leader and a runner, bringing home multiple top five finishes over the season with a high level of competition.



Girls Tennis

The Regis Girls Tennis team had another phenomenal season in 2020. The girls compiled a 17-1 overall record and were ranked #3 in the state. The team won its second consecutive sectional championship and qualified for team state.

The team sent singles Arianna Smith to individual state as well as the doubles teams of Evie Shepich and Caitlin Klink and Adrienne Morning and Teigan Petersilka. The doubles team of Morning/Petersilka finished as state quarterfinalists.

The coaching staff would like to thank seniors Arianna Smith, Caitlin Klink, and Adrienne Morning for their commitment and hard work.

The team was unable to compete at team state due to health concerns.



Girls Golf

The Regis-Altoona Girls Golf team finished first in the CloverCroix Conference, third at regionals and sectionals, and qualified two individuals for the state tournament.

Elli Anderson and Lydia Jensen represented the team at Blackwolf Run in Kohler. The team will miss the leadership of seniors Jayden Koenig and Sara Postl.



*"If you build it,
they will come!"*

...well, it was built and yes, they came!

What was built? The Regis Track & Field of Dreams.

Who came? The 2020 Regis Ramblers Football team.

For nearly nine decades, the Carson Park football field has played home to the St. Patrick's/Regis High School varsity football teams. This year, due to the current pandemic, Carson Park shut down the facilities for the football field ultimately leaving the Ramblers without a football field to call home.

In the history of our school, a varsity football game had never been played on school grounds. Here comes the "Field of Dreams" for the making of a historical and epic event.

The 2020 Regis Ramblers Football team were able to host two football games on Regis' own turf, thrashing Stanley-Boyd 31-13 on Saturday, October 10 and demolishing Osseo-Fairchild 43-14 on Friday, October 23.

Unfortunately, the Ramblers season came to a halt as we continue to deal with this pandemic. Instead of disappointment, let's appreciate what the Ramblers accomplished in their shortened season. The Ramblers finished 5-0, were awarded Co-Champions of the Cloverbelt Conference with the Durand Panthers, and the team made history...

playing the first varsity football game on school grounds. Well done 2020 Regis Ramblers Football team and coaching staff!



Please take a moment to give special thanks to those who have generously donated to the Track & Field of Dreams project. With their donations, we were able to build this physical education and athletic facility on the Regis High School campus that we are all proud of.

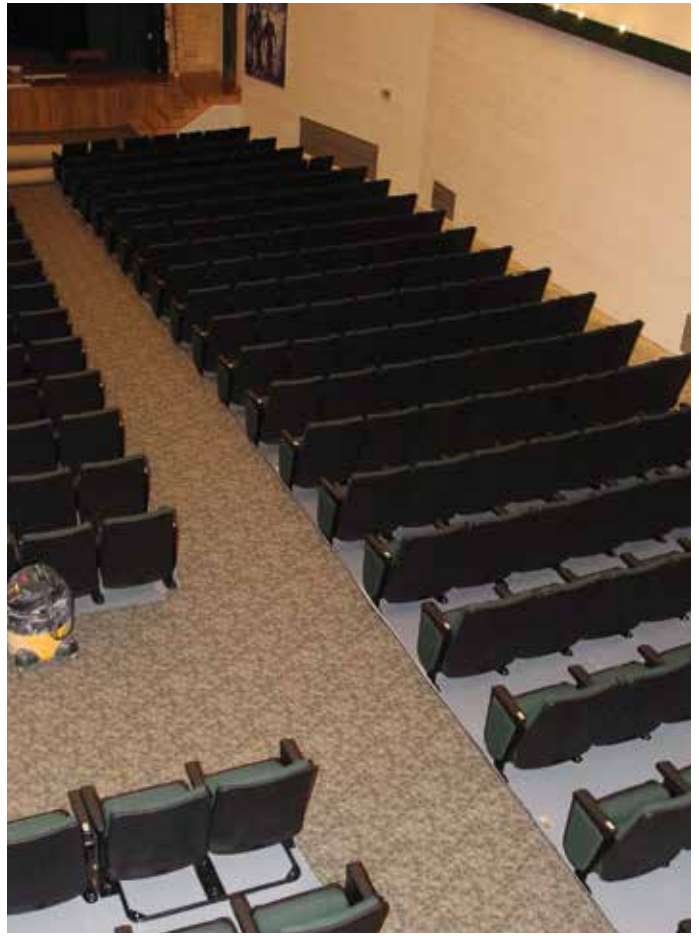


In honor of those who have donated, there will be a Donor Wall of Recognition coming soon which will be permanently located at the Regis field.

If you have not made a donation to the Track & Field of Dreams project, but wish to do so as

we continue to maintain and upgrade our athletic facility, please contact Mark Golden, Regis Catholic Schools Advancement Director, at (715) 830-2273, ext. 1407 or mgolden@RegisCatholicSchools.com. God Bless and Go Ramblers!

All Seats Have Been Sponsored! Thank You!



As you may already know, the Regis campus has been making many improvements inside and outside of the building over the past several years. One of these much-needed improvements was replacing the seats and making upgrades in the Fr. Dowd Auditorium. The project was completed several years ago, and our Regis Middle School and Regis High School students and staff continue to enjoy the new-and-improved space!

We installed 550 new, cushioned seats to improve the aesthetics and comfort for those who use the auditorium. This includes not only our Regis Catholic Schools students and staff, but community members, too. The old seats that were removed from the auditorium were original to the building and were the same ones many of you sat in when you attended Regis High School!

We asked our Regis High School alumni, friends, and families to help us get every single seat inside the Fr. Dowd Auditorium sponsored. Their generosity made this happen and at this time, there are no more seats left to be sponsored.

We extend a big thank you to those generous donors who helped make a lasting impact on the Regis campus. Whether you sponsored a seat (or seats) to honor a student or alumnus, recognize a past or present teacher, highlight a cast or event, or remember a loved one, your support truly made a difference.

Selfless Sacrifice for Catholic Education



Throughout our history, Catholic schools have never been possible without a great cost to those who believe in their mission. For many decades our schools were staffed by religious sisters living a vow of poverty. In current times, multiple parties make sacrifices: parishes paying large subsidies; donors with their generous gifts; parents paying tuition; and teachers willingly working for substantially less than they might make elsewhere.

Then there are those whose sacrifices on behalf of Catholic education go to heroic levels. I would like to remember one such man very dear to my heart (and many of your hearts) – Harry Boehm. He passed away this August at the age of 105. I don't think I've ever known a man with a more beautiful heart.

Upon his passing this August, Harry had “only” been a member of St. Mary's Parish for 42 years. Prior to that, he and his wife Rose were founding members of St. James the Greater. In 1963, St. James needed an 8th grade teacher. Rose stepped in at the age of 49 – free of charge. Never mind their raising 8 children and their deep commitment to putting them through Catholic schools. I remember verifying these points once with Harry after Rose's funeral in 2013. I asked him how they managed. He described his kids working on paper routes or for the Mega Co-Op. It was just something they all believed in.

I've never met a man like Harry. I learned so much listening to him about his fascinating 105 years of life: his years in the seminary, his teenage sledding

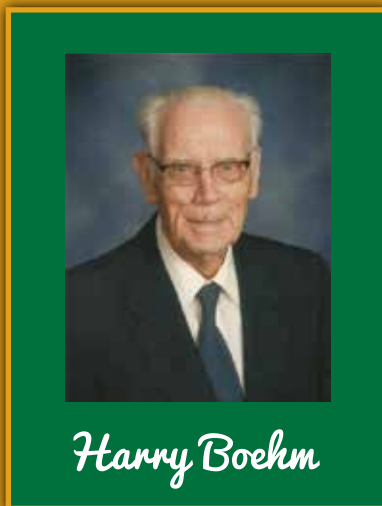
accident, and our bishop at the time telling him at about age 20 that he had a fine intellect but just didn't have the stamina to be a priest [meanwhile, 85 years later...]. No doubt, Harry's children, grandchildren, and everyone else are incredibly grateful that Harry fell in love with Rose, a tender love that was obvious to the end of her life and beyond.

Whenever I find it challenging to juggle the needs of two parishes and Hispanic Ministry, I find comfort in Harry's descriptions of other family members who were priests. One of his uncles, in the early 1900's, was pastor of twelve parishes – and this before the automobile!

But most of all, I will miss the love of God and neighbor that was so evident in Harry's heart. He had such a tender love and respect for every human person – even those (very few) that he struggled to like. I am not often allowed in health care facilities during these days of pandemic, but they made an exception this summer. I am so grateful to have made one last visit with Harry, giving him the sacraments one last time. I knew that I may never see him again. We said to each other “I love you” – and each of us knew that the other meant it with all sincerity. I shed an abundance of tears following that visit – mostly tears of gratitude for a great man who was (among so many other things) a great supporter of Catholic schools.

If we truly believe in the value of something, we are very willing to pay the cost. I want to say thank you to Harry and Rose and to many of you who continue sacrificing so much to make Regis Catholic Schools possible!

Submitted by Fr. Derek Sakowski



Mark Bechel '68 recently moved from Oregon to Colorado because of a new grandson. Mark and his wife are both retired. He does some part-time consulting for construction companies going through software conversions. He is an avid golfer and also enjoys fly fishing in retirement.

Bob Middeke-Conlin '00 published his book, "The Making of a Scribe: Errors, Mistakes and Rounding Numbers in the Old Babylonian Kingdom of Larsa" and has been awarded a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship by the European Commission to research literacy and numeracy in an ancient city.

Liz (Thorson) Montgomery '03 and her husband, Tom, welcomed their second child, Madeline Elizabeth, on October 16, 2020. She joins big brother Joey (3).



Mitch and Brittany Miller (Farley) '07 welcomed their second son, Zachary Daniel, on July 5, 2020. Mom, Dad, and big brother, Mason, are ecstatic!

Mitch is a Hearing Instrument Specialist with Miracle Ear and Brittany is a Neonatal Nurse at Gundersen Health System. They live in Onalaska, Wisconsin.

Reunions

Class of 1945 (St. Patrick's) | 75th Reunion

Due to COVID-19, this reunion has been postponed. More details to come at a later date.

For questions, please contact:
Mary Lou Tomashek at (715) 835-9506
or Mary Ann Culbert Gleason at
mgleason15@tampabay.rr.com.

(Friends from the Class of 1946 are welcome to join!)

Class of 1960 | 60th Reunion

Due to COVID-19, this reunion has been postponed. More details to come at a later date.

Class of 1970 | 50th Reunion

Due to COVID-19, this reunion has been postponed until August 13 & 14, 2021. More details to come at a later date.

Class of 1980 | 40th Reunion

Due to COVID-19, this reunion has been postponed. More details to come at a later date. Sign into our website to catch up and update your information!

www.classcreator.com/Eau-Claire-Wisconsin-Regis-1980/

IN MEMORIAM

Eternal rest, grant unto him/her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him/her. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

ST. PATRICK'S HIGH SCHOOL

George Elliott '42
David Mickelson '45
Jean (LaBerge) Mickelson '46
Rose (Carroll) Hagmann '46
Alice Drinkman '47
Shirley (Kelley) Welter '48
Jaclyn (Shepler) Bailey '50
Mary Ann (Derouin) Morgan '50

REGIS HIGH SCHOOL

Margaret (Stearns) Pichler '54
Timothy Cusick '57
Lorraine "Lori" (Benson) Baltes '58
Catherine "Cotsy" (Bement) Jones '58
Audrey (Miller) Collins '59
Richard "Dick" "Mac" McDonald '59
Larry McFarlane '60
Dr. David "Doc" Hehli '60
Gary Kruger '61
Robert Krumenauer '61
David Cusick '61
Louis Jasper '64
Thomas Fellenz '66
James Girolamo '68
Susan (Eslinger) Eckstaedt '69
Karen (Christopherson) Stein '69
Francis Maenner II '79
Patrick Loftesnes '84

FRIENDS OF REGIS

Thomas Badour
Harry Boehm
Warren Bowe
Faith Esser
Karen McDonnell
Philip Tremain
Janet Zais



Thank you to the families who named the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation for their memorial gifts.

Education Commision Report

Dear Regis Family,

My name is Bill Spangler. I am the father of three Regis current students (Sylvia, Nolan and Charlie), and a parishioner at Immaculate Conception Parish. While I did not attend Regis Catholic Schools myself, I feel like I have become part of the Regis family, and in turn, Regis has become part of my family. In my opinion, there is no substitute for Catholic education – faith formation, academic excellence, healthy social relationships, and a supportive environment – all in one place. There is nothing more valuable we can give our children.

In addition, to being a Regis parent, I currently serve as the Chairman of the Regis Education Commission. I know many of you reading this are now saying, “what in the world is the Regis Education Commission?” That is why I am writing this note.

First, a bit about the structure of the Regis system. We are a diocesan Catholic School system under the authority of the Diocese of La Crosse. Therefore, the ultimate leader of the Regis system is the Bishop of La Crosse (currently Bishop Callahan).

Since the Bishop has so much responsibility, the Diocese is divided into 13 regions, known as deaneries. The Bishop appoints one priest to serve as Dean, guiding the clergy and ministries of each deanery. In deaneries with a unified Catholic school system (such as the Regis system), the Dean is invested with pastoral authority for those schools to make sure they operate in conformity with Canon Law, maintain a strong Catholic identity, promote authentic faith development, and operate with strong leadership and sound management. The current Dean of the Eau Claire Deanery is Fr. James Kurzynski, pastor of St. Olaf Parish.

Obviously, the Dean has an especially important, many faceted, and challenging, job. Therefore, the Dean is assisted in his role by the Regis Catholic Schools President (Kelly K. Mechelke) and by the Regis Education Commission. The Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the Dean to help ensure that the school system is

operating responsibly, effectively, and efficiently, and planning appropriately to ensure that its mission will continue to be fulfilled well into the future.

As the Regis system is a joint ministry of the six Catholic parishes of the Eau Claire Deanery, each of these parishes is represented on the Commission by its pastor and an appointed lay person. The other members of the Commission include members of Regis’ administration, faculty and staff.

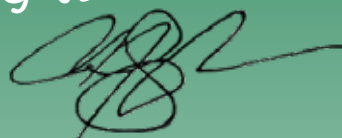
Generally, Commission meetings are open meetings, and minutes of meetings are posted on the Regis website.

While all of this may seem a bit confusing, I can distill everything down to this. The Regis Education Commission is a voice for the parishes, parishioners, families, and other stakeholders, that make up and support the Regis system. If there is ever a question, a program, a policy, or an issue, that you have regarding the operation, policies or management of the Regis system, the Commission can be your contact point.

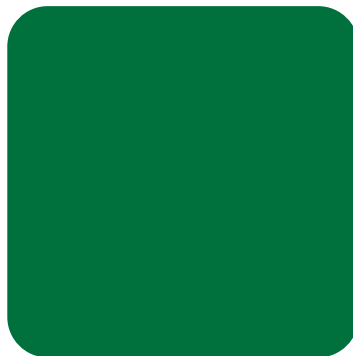
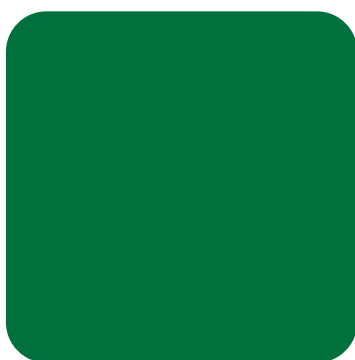
At any time, feel free to contact your parish’s representative on the Commission (contact information is included on the Regis website at www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/about/education-commission/), or me personally at wspangler@uwalumni.com or (715) 379-8188. We may not always have the answers you seek but will do our best to find them.

I hope this information is helpful to you, and I sincerely thank you for your continued support of Regis Catholic Schools!

Go Ramblers!



Bill Spangler, Chairman
Regis Catholic Schools Education Commission



Scrip makes the perfect Christmas gift!

Making your list and checking it twice? We have gift cards available for a number of popular retailers through the Regis Catholic Schools Scrip program!

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Friday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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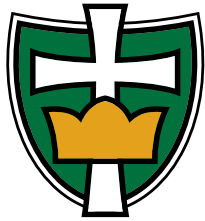
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St. Mary's Elementary School
Regis Child Development Center - Genesis Child Development Center

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Regis Catholic Schools is dedicated to educating students of all faiths in a Catholic, Christ-centered environment. We are united by Our Core Values of *Living Faith, Accepting Responsibility, Promoting Teamwork, Achieving Excellence, and Inspiring Leadership.*

