



St. Catherine's Elementary School

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Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

On behalf of the St. Joseph's Parish Education Committee (PEC), I would like to welcome new families to St. Catherine's and to thank you for choosing our school. I would also like to welcome back returning families and thank you for your continued support of St. Catherine's school community.

St. Catherine's Elementary School is committed to providing high-quality education while proclaiming and building the kingdom of God. St. Catherine's is more than a school - it is a community of families who value Catholic education and recognize the importance of educating their children in a faith-filled environment. Enrolling your child/children in a Catholic school has many rewards. Not only do we provide outstanding academic programming and a wide-variety of extra-curricular activities to enhance students' experiences at school, St. Catherine's grounds students in their faith, creates life-long learners and encourages the Catholic leaders of the future.

Existing families continue to be the best source of advertising we have for our school. I would like to encourage you to continue to promote our school and encourage new families who may be considering Catholic education to join our school community.

The enriched community we share at St. Catherine's is fostered by the direct involvement of parents and families through the Parent Participation Program. Your interest in all areas of the school plays an important role in the development of your child. This includes sharing your talents and time in areas that may be removed from the educational process yet are integral to school operations as a whole. Parent participation also plays a fundamental role in ensuring that our operating costs are kept as low as possible. We appreciate your continued involvement and commitment to fulfilling your roles within the school community.

The PEC is sensitive to the costs of sending your child/ren to an independent school. St. Catherine's operates on a tight budget. The following page provides revenues and expenses charts, as well as some information on the tax receipt which significantly reduces the cost of tuition. It is important to know that over 80% of expenses relate to instructional expenses, including educational staff salaries and benefits, and classroom supplies.

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St. Catherine's is blessed with a dedicated, experienced and talented staff and, in accordance with the compensation package mandated by the Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA) Board of Directors, they will receive a modest salary increase. As a result, tuition rates have increased to partially offset this increased expense. For 2020-2021, the Activity Fee remains unchanged at \$60 for primary students (Kindergarten to grade 3) and \$80 for intermediate students (grades 4-7).

As a Catholic school belonging to St. Joseph's Parish, I encourage you to be involved in your parish as well as our school. The Catholicity promoted at St. Catherine's on a daily basis is rooted in regular attendance at weekend Mass and involvement in the parish.

We look forward to making new memories in the next school year as we embark on new experiences with friends new and old. Thank you for being part of our journey as we strive to make St. Catherine's the best it can be.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cara Husdon
Chair, St. Joseph's Parish Education Committee