



ST. JOSEPH
ACADEMY

SJA AT A GLANCE

SJA BUILDS
COMMUNITY
KNOWLEDGE
KINGDOM
FUTURE

MISSION

ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY IS A CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION SPONSORED BY THE FELICIAN SISTERS. OUR MISSION IS TO EDUCATE CHILDREN TO BE SUCCESSFUL LIFE-LONG LEARNERS AND PROBLEM SOLVERS. WE ARE GUIDED BY THE FELICIAN CORE VALUES FOR MINISTRY: RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY, COMPASSION, JUSTICE AND PEACE, TRANSFORMATION, AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE POOR. WE PARTNER WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY TO FULFILL THIS MISSION.

VISION

To be the premier early childhood education center and K4-8th grade school on Milwaukee's south side.

BELIEF

Children learn best in an environment where they are challenged, listened to and treated with respect and where the focus is not just on academics, but on the whole child. Our programs are designed to give children of diverse learning styles and educational abilities the very best in academic instruction, guided by our core values - Respect for Human Dignity, Compassion, Justice and Peace, Transformation, and Solidarity with the Poor.

HISTORY

St. Joseph Academy is sponsored by the Felician Sisters, an organization that has been present in Wisconsin for nearly 140 years. In 1908, they opened an Orphanage and in 1967 our Early Childhood Education Center. They have continuously served the city's south side by providing services to fulfill the ever-changing needs of our community. We currently have 5 Felician Sisters on staff.

Organization Facts

- > Serves children **6 weeks-8th grade**
- > **548** Students (468 School, 80 Early Childhood Education Center)
- > Total revenue **\$5,651,492**
Total expenses **\$5,629,788**
- > **74%** of students receive government support or benefits
- > **75%** increase in school enrollment in the past 4 years
- > **95%** average student attendance over the past 4 years
- > **100%** of students qualify for free breakfast and lunch

FAMILY SERVICES

- > Family advocacy services includes goal setting, crisis intervention and referral services
- > On- site trainings in child development and education, health and nutrition and skill building
- > Accessible bilingual and bicultural staff
- > Scholarship programs or financial assistance
- > Before and after school care for families as well as a summer program through partnership with the Boys & Girls Club's Community Learning Center
- > Hot Breakfast and Lunch free to all students

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER

Accreditations: We hold the highest YoungStar Accreditation Rating of 5 stars through YoungStar and National Accreditation Commission. We are 1 of only 46 in Milwaukee County to have NAC Accreditation.

Offers Head Start and Early Head Start programming

Child Development Milestones:

- > 86% of children show improvement in cognitive skills
- > 77% show improvement in communication skills
- > 79% show improvement in social-emotional skills
- > 76% show improved literacy skills

SCHOOL

Regular curriculum includes Religious Education. One hundred thirty students have made their First Reconciliation and received First Eucharist during three years of the program

Joined Milwaukee Parental Choice Program and Wisconsin Parental Choice Program in 2009

Accredited by AdvancEd and WRISA (Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools)

Parent Teacher Organization, 98% of parents participate in conferences, regular family or parent events

Specialty learning for Middle School - Science, Social Studies, Math and English

Every student has access to a laptop to enhance learning

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

UW-Milwaukee, MATC, Alverno College, Marquette University, Next Door, UW-Extension, Blood Center of Wisconsin, Villa St. Francis, United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County, Boys & Girls Club, Hamilton High School, Girls on the Run, Boy Scouts

School Student Statistics

- > **35%** of our students are English Language Learners
- > **96.5%** student attendance rate
- > **20:1** student to teacher ratio
- > **468** total students K4-8th
- > **50%** female students, **50%** male students
- > Ethnicity Breakdown:
91.6% Hispanic Latino, **4.3%** White, **2.4%** Two or More Races, **.9%** Asian, **.6%** Black or African American, **.2%** American Indian or Alaska Native

DPI Report Card:

- > **73.2** overall score - Exceeds Expectations
- > **Above state average** in Reading (ELA) growth
- > **Far above state average** in closing the Achievement Gap in Reading and Math