



ST. RITA
SCHOOL

**State of the School
2023-2024**

St. Rita School Mission

St. Rita School inspires students in pre-kindergarten through grade eight to achieve academic excellence in a safe, nurturing, and faith-filled Catholic environment. We prepare students to be morally responsible, innovative thinkers who, in today's technology-guided global community, live and share the love of Christ.

Adopted 2016

School Creed

- **As a St. Rita student, I am taught to be responsible and respectful, a good steward and above all, to Love.**
- **At St. Rita School, I receive a Christ-centered education that helps me to grow in peace, courtesy, honesty and faith.**
- **By following the St. Rita Way, I help create a culture of life and love for me and all members of my St. Rita School family.**

Portrait of a St. Rita Graduate

- St. Rita graduates are Christ-centered, lifelong learners. They ask “Why?” and “How?” and “What if?” They show respect for authority, achieve with humility, and take responsibility for their actions. They know the value of community, the necessity of service, and the importance of living with integrity. They are prepared to adapt to a constantly changing world, but they are aware of the constants that never change: trust in God, concern for others, and doing what’s right because it’s the right thing to do.

School Officers

- Fr. Christopher Tiano, Pastor
- Mrs. Patricia O'Neil Tiezzi, Principal
- Dr. Beth Smith, School Board Chair
- Mrs. Maria Cammarota, Finance Committee Chair
- Mrs. Angela Farina, HSA President

Theme for 2023-2024: “Love in Action-The St. Rita Way”



- Our theme for this school year is:
- **“Love in Action The St. Rita Way”.**
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-8
“Love is patient, love is kind”
- We need to share God’s love and kindness by living His way at St. Rita School.

Enrollment

- 2020-2021 Enrollment - 347 students
- 2021-2022 Enrollment -337 students
- 2022-2023-Enrollment-359 students
- 2023-2024-Enrollment-359 students
- Class sizes range from 13-23 students
- One class of PreK3 (18) and Second Grade (22). Two classes of every other grade.
- New families -88 out of 91 acceptances
- 122 Inquiries—113 applications made

Demographic Information

- **Catholic** – 82%
- **Non-Catholic/Unaffiliated** – 18% (up 5%)

- **Racial Diversity** -
 - Asian-< 2%
 - Hispanic-19%
 - African American-12%
 - Non-Hispanic White- 67%

Student Town of Residence

- Hamden-196 students
- North Haven-58 students
- New Haven-31 students
- East Haven-12 students
- Meriden-11 students
- Wallingford-10 students
- North Branford-8 students
- West Haven-5 students
- Branford &Cheshire-4 students each
- Madison, Middletown & Prospect-3 students each
- Durham, Guilford, Woodbridge &Southington-2 students each
- Middlefield, Milford, & Orange- 1 student each

Staffing

- FT Principal
- PT Assistant Principal (4/5th time)-Sr. Anne
- Dean of Student Life
- 2 PT Administrative Assistants
- PT Enrollment and Marketing Director
- Full- time Nurse –provided by the Town of Hamden
- 3 PreK aides and 1 PT volunteer Kindergarten Aide
- 21 Full-time classroom teachers
- FT Middle School Religion teacher, FT Spanish Teacher
- PT specials teachers for Library, Music, Art, PE (long-term sub) and Spanish (PreK-5)
- 2 PT Instructional Interventionists
- PT ASCJ Sr. Barbara-Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- PT Athletic Director
- PT School Counselor
- PT EC Director
- PT Advancement (as of 1/24)

Faculty & Staff

PreK-Mrs. Bess McGrath, Mrs. Tiffany Palowski Mrs. Sue DeLucia, Mrs. Stephanie Dimesky, Mrs. Megan Marottolo, Mrs. Kristen Geltman, and Mrs. Antonietta Testa

Kindergarten-Mrs. Eilen Riley, Mrs. Jenay Alvarez, Mrs. Andrea Affinto,

Grade 1-Mrs. Erin Bonini and Ms. Kim Delvecchio

Grade 2- Mrs. Denise Gertz

Grade 3-Mrs.Erika DiRenzo and Mrs.Kaitlin Perrotti

Grade 4-Mr. Tyler Ferrara and Ms Lori Gill

Grade 5- Mrs. Dolores Fortuna and Mrs. Donna Soliwoda

Middle School Team-Mr. Donald Fay, Mrs. Suzanne Hamling, Mrs. Marie Rourke, Miss Alessandra Paglia Mrs. Leni Grossomanides , and Mrs. Cindy Brennan

Support Staff-Sr. Anne D'Alessio,Mrs. Joanna Robinson, Ms. Laura McKay, Mr. Michael Halloran, Mrs. Joanne Bruno, Mrs. Lisa Palma, Mr. Stephen Schmidt, Mr. Tyler Coffey, Ms. Erin Carmody, Sr. Barbara Matazzaro

Specialists- Mr. Joe Palowski, Miss Polina Mann, Ms. Deb Keyes, Mrs. Sheila Schreck , Ms. Jen Master, Mr. Peter Tehan, Mrs. Shirley Modena and Mrs. Melanie Wolff

INITIATIVES FOR 2023-2024

- Faith Formation
- NWEA Map Testing
- Curriculum Mapping
- Safety and Security
- Advancement Efforts

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Chorus
- Band
- Theater
- Coding Club
- Lego Club
- Robotics
- Student Council
- NJHS
- Italian Club
- Yearbook
- Volleyball
- Ski Club
- Soccer including intramural
- Basketball –grades 3-8
- Softball/Baseball
- K of C Spelling Bee
- Invention Convention
- K of C Christmas Tree Festival
- Christmas pageant/concert
- Respect Life Club
- McGivney Crew
- Composting/Recycling
- Computer Student Ambassadors Club
- Knitting Club
- Crusader Club

Programs/Projects

- Classroom sets of Chromebooks-Grades 3-5
- Chromebook Leasing Initiative for Grade 6 and 7
- Painted 4 classrooms/spaces
- Continue to replace A/C units
- Purchased the neglected property @ 1585 Whitney Avenue (PreK end of the building)
- New Math program for grades K-8
- Hired 2 Instructional Interventionists
- Hired a School Counselor
- Hired a new custodial company

Projected Capital Needs/Expenses 2023-2030

Need	Estimated Costs
Parking-Repair and repave	\$200K
Security Enhancements	\$200K
Roof Replacement/Solar	\$500K
Bathrooms	\$40K each X 4
Replace remaining Classroom Floors	\$50 K
Replace A/C units-1	\$15-18K each X 15
Install Elevator	\$200K
Gym Renovation	\$100K
Out of Town Busing	\$50K-\$60K per bus
Sinks in 1 st Floor Classrooms	\$3K per X 6

Archdiocesan Support

Archdiocese of Hartford Support	Dollar Amount
Archbishop's Annual Appeal	\$25,000
FACS-Foundation for Catholic Schools	\$500.



Per Pupil Expenditure

- Per pupil Costs
- St. Rita-\$6746.
- AOH Schools-\$7352.
- Hamden-\$24,479.
- St. of CT-\$22,769.
- Average tuition cost of surrounding Catholic schools
- ESCA, Branford-\$7345.
- St. Mary, Milford-\$6550
- St. Rita-\$6130
- Holy Trinity, Wallingford- \$6000
- St. Bridget, Cheshire-\$5539.

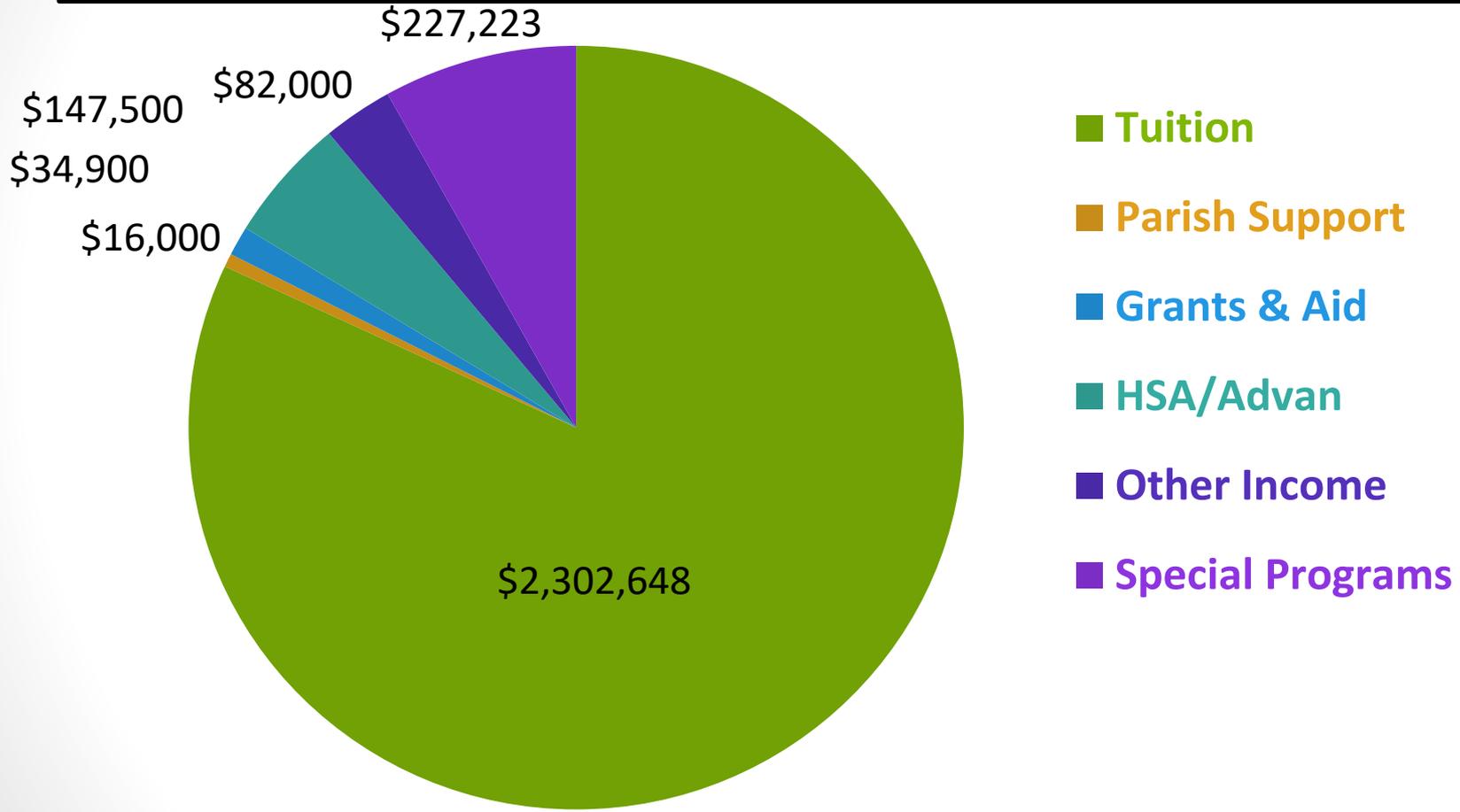
Financials

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Parish Subsidy – last three years	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$ 0 (did not take)
Delinquent Tuition	\$2182	\$<1000	\$<1000
Tuition Collection Rate	99%	99%	99%

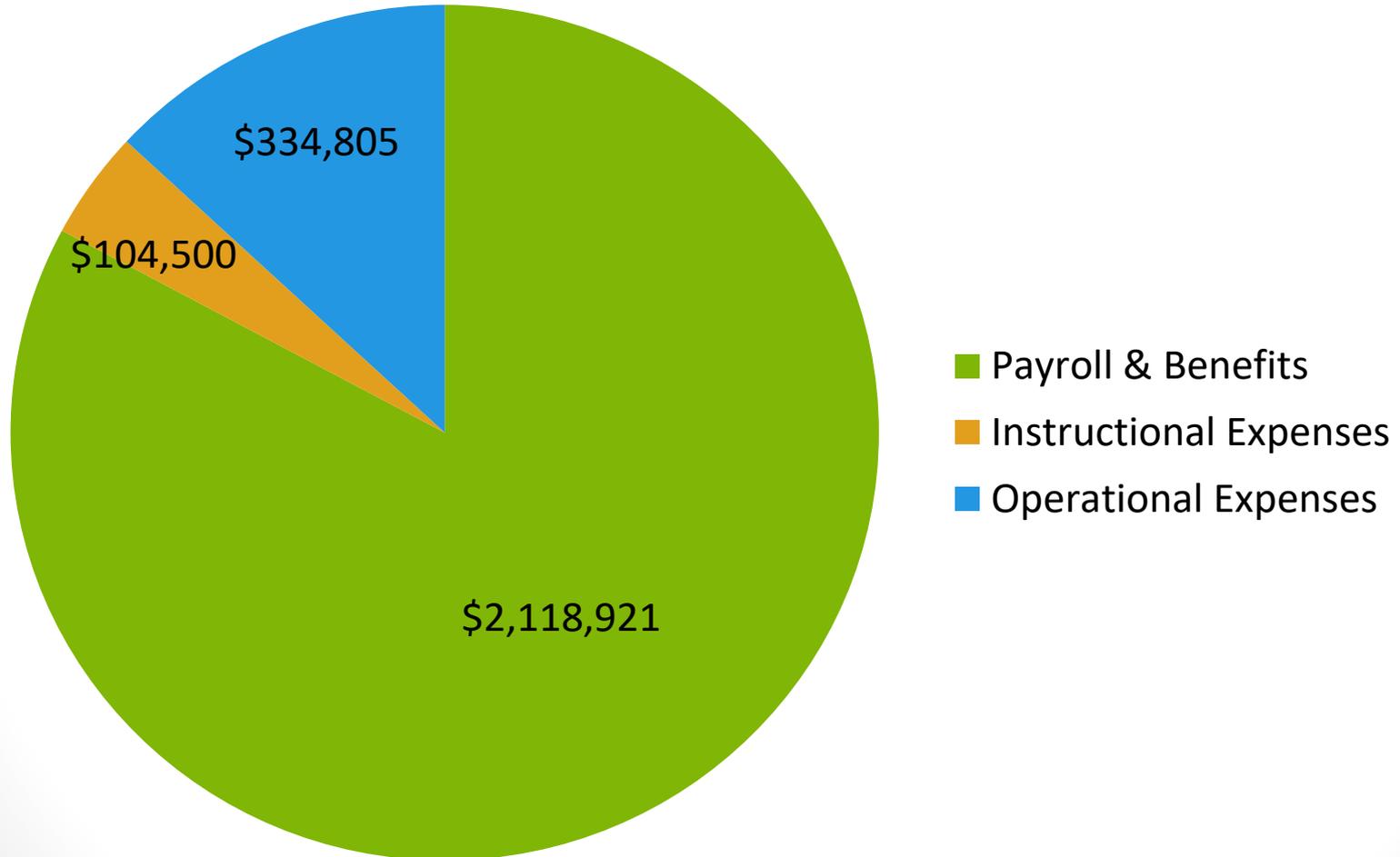
Budgetary Matters

- Balanced Budget –school did not take parish subsidy in 22-23
- Compilation Completed-auditor noted SRS was “a very fiscally sound school”
- Diocesan Audit Completed-minimal recommendations
- New teachers hired at or above the diocesan scale-\$40K minimum
- Teacher bonuses given at Christmastime (\$1K-\$2K) and year end (\$500-\$1K)
- Tuition discount for parish employees with children at SRS. % based on years of service.
- St. Rita School bought the property at 1585 Whitney Avenue

Financial Breakdown Income-2023-2024



Financial Breakdown Expenses 2023-2024



Goals

- **Catholic Identity**- To provide meaningful faith formation experiences for our faculty, students and parents.
- **Enrollment/Marketing/Advancement**-To reestablish the advancement program.
- **Academic Achievement**-To begin the process of curriculum mapping.



Success begins at SRS!

ST. RITA SCHOOL PROVIDES A NURTURING, FAITH-FILLED ENVIRONMENT THAT FOSTERS THE LOVE OF LEARNING, CHARACTER, AND FAMILY.



WHY ST. RITA SCHOOL?

Love in Action

ACADEMICS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FAMILY
CATHOLIC HERITAGE SERVICE CHARACTER RESPECT CLUBS
CONFIDENCE FAITH SPORTS KINDNESS LEARNING
LOVE

"St. Rita graduates do what's right because it's the right thing to do."