



WELCOMING HEARTS. INSPIRING MINDS. IGNITING EXCELLENCE.







### WELCOME Minds and Hearts

### Children do not simply attend Saint Thomas More Catholic Schoolthey belong.

The moment students cross our threshold, they are welcomed into a warm and vibrant school family. Like any family, we get to know each and every child as a person and as a student. We uncover how they learn best. We empower them to discover their innermost gifts and talents. And, we love them as we do our own.

We are a place of high expectations, kindness and inclusion. We are known for our academic excellence and strong liberal arts program. Our high test scores are a result of knowing our students and meeting them on their own individual learning continuums. As a result, ninety percent of our graduates consistently test into high school honors classes.

In the Jesuit tradition, we welcome families of all backgrounds and faith traditions. We are open to all learners. Our student body is increasingly religiously, racially, economically and academically diverse.

### We support, we teach, but most of all, we inspire all children to be their best in all they do.

For more than a century, we have welcomed students in the heart of Saint Paul on Summit Avenue. Families from our local neighborhood and throughout the metropolitan area entrust us with their most sacred gift—their children. We honor that trust by welcoming hearts, inspiring minds and igniting excellence.

"The academics, music, art, athletics, warmth and inclusivity of STM were foundational. My children were well prepared for high school and college."

TIERNEE MURPHY, CURRENT AND ALUMNI PARENT





Long Tradition on Summit Ave Established in 1904



Minnesota's Only Jesuit Elementary School



Preschool, Elementary & Middle School



Committed & Passionate Faculty



Average Standardized Test Scores Above the 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile



Vibrant, Engaged Community



Service Projects Woven Into Curriculum



Studio Art Classes for All Grades

50% of graduates receive high school scholarship offers based on test scores

### 90%

of graduates test into honors level courses in high school 95% parent participation in parent-teacher conferences





Integrated Learning Among Grades



After School Care & Summer Programming



Spanish Language Class Begins in 4th Grade



Robotics, Scouts, Choir, Service Teams, Dungeons & Dragons



Baseball/Softball, Volleyball, Ski Club, Basketball, Soccer, Swim Team, Track



Music of the World for All Grades Band & Orchestra Optional



Weekly All-School Mass & Monthly Prayer Services



State-of-the-Art Technology Utilized Across Curriculum

25% currently receive financial aid



25% non-catholic students



### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Our strong liberal arts curriculum prepares our students for success in high school and beyond. As validation, high school leaders often tell us how well our students are prepared academically and socially for the rigors of high school.

#### **TEST SCORES**

Our students consistently score well above state and national averages on standardized tests, with a significant number in the top five percentile in national and state comparisons. Top tier test scores reflect our commitment to helping every student reach his or her full academic potential while ensuring solid preparation for high school.

#### LEARNING STYLES

We understand that not all students learn the same way. To allow all students to reach their academic potential, our coursework is designed to accommodate various learning styles, interests and abilities. We strive to meet students in their learning continuum.

### LANGUAGE ARTS

As students develop skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking, they learn the art of communication. Our students begin developing their speaking and presentation skills in kindergarten and continue to hone their skills by engaging in diverse writing and speaking opportunities through 8th grade. Mastering the art of communication leads to success in all subject areas.

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#### **MATHEMATICS**

Our innovative math curriculum begins with basic counting and continues through algebra and geometry. Our tiered teaching methodology promotes success among students who struggle and among those who work well above grade level. Our students become effective problem solvers, confident in their mathematical abilities and prepared for the world of tomorrow.



### SCIENCE

Our students develop essential scientific skills by investigating our world. Students begin with basic biological concepts and expand to units on earth, life and physical sciences, ecology, astronomy, geology and health. Students practice the scientific process through experiments and lab work while developing critical thinking and creative problem solving skills.





LIBRARY MEDIA • TECHNOLOGY • SPANISH PHYSICAL EDUCATION • ART • MUSIC



### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL A Foundation of Excellence



Students begin to discover their natural gifts and talents, unlocking their potential. Learning blossoms in our primary grades. These years are a time for students to develop strong work habits, social skills and organizational capabilities. Creativity is nurtured, new concepts are explored and students learn more about God and serving others as they further develop their spiritual life.

Interdisciplinary instruction puts information in a real world context. A project may incorporate multiple subjects and experiences, often drawing upon each other, while allowing students to uncover key connections. Students learn to communicate effectively by mastering the writing process across all content areas. Our crosscurricular focus on public speaking and presentation skills prepares our students for success in their academic careers and beyond.

- Believe & Read Program in grades K-3
- Singapore Math to challenge all levels
- Orton-Gillingham trained faculty and tutors
- Emphasis on public speaking skills
- Technology integrated into all classes
- Coursework designed to accommodate various learning styles, interests and abilities

### MIDDLE SCHOOL Preparing for High School & Beyond

We recognize and welcome the unique academic, social and emotional needs of middle school students. Our strong academic program sets high expectations while our educators provide the encouragement and support needed for success. Because we understand how adolescents succeed, our students shine.

Throughout these years, teachers coach students to grow in responsibility and independence. Students are challenged to work to their full potential and to strive for academic excellence while becoming kind and thoughtful people.

Our curriculum is relevant, challenging, integrative and exploratory. We maximize student success by employing various teaching methods because we understand that students learn in different ways. Our teachers are passionate about working with this age group and provide an inviting, supportive and safe environment that fosters leadership opportunities and develops critical thinkers.

- Regional Science Fair and National History Day competitions
- Washington D.C. off-campus learning trip
- Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center week-long off-campus learning trip
- Teaching and leadership relationships with younger students

## Special opportunities allow our oldest students to enhance learning, deepen faith and strengthen connections to the wider world.



### OUR JESUIT Values



### Saint Thomas More is the only Jesuit elementary school in the Twin Cities. We embrace Ignatian spirituality and develop the characteristics of a Jesuit school graduate in our students.

### COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

Students are inspired to be their best in all endeavors, whether academic, interpersonal, athletic or extracurricular. This commitment permeates everything in our school.

### **OPEN TO GROWTH**

Students develop an intellectual curiosity that promotes life-long learning. They become risk takers—challenging themselves and eagerly taking on new experiences.

### COMMITTED TO DOING JUSTICE

Service is promoted within the school by inspiring students to volunteer their time, energy and talent in social outreach initiatives such as our Free Store, Christmas Toy Giveaway, food drives and other efforts.

### LOVING

Students practice kindness, develop empathy and form strong friendships. Students know that they are loved by God and by our entire STM community.

### RELIGIOUS

Our school day begins and ends with prayer. Students participate in school-wide weekly mass and lead monthly prayer services.





### AN EXTENDED FAMILY

#### **OUR COMMUNITY**

Community is the heart of a Saint Thomas More education. Each student receives support and has a sense of belonging. Families, teachers and staff work, play and pray together and develop deep connections and life-long friendships. Monthly parent coffees, movie nights, dances and our fundraisers strengthen our community.

#### **ENGAGED PARENTS**

Our parents are involved in the life of our school. Every day they can be found on our campus tutoring students, volunteering in the library, helping in the dining room and working on our events.

#### **DEDICATED FACULTY**

Our teachers are more than academic guides. They support the development of the whole child—intellectually, emotionally, spiritually and socially—helping each student develop a sense of self-worth, satisfy their intellectual curiosity and become global citizens.

#### FAITH COMMUNITY

Our school is supported by the only Jesuit parish in the Twin Cities. Consistent with our Jesuit tradition, we welcome families of all faith traditions; 30% of our students are non-Catholic. All students are fully involved in the faith life of our community.



Tour Today!

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SAINTTHOMASMORE.ORG