As part of All Things New, Archbishop Rozanski recently sought additional input and feedback from current parish school teachers and school families about their Catholic school experiences. Below is an overview of all the responses from parent/guardians across the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Teachers and school families have provided excellent and important feedback to the Archbishop regarding the values and desires of our employees and parents as they relate to the future of Catholic education in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

**Parent/Guardian Survey**

**Elementary School (K-8) | October 2022**

**Number of your children currently enrolled in Grades K-8**

<table>
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**Number of your children not yet enrolled in Grades K-8**

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**Catholic Education exists to support parents as the primary formators of their children in the practice of the Faith.**

In light of this, which of the following statements best characterizes your family’s Sacramental participation? Regarding Sunday Mass attendance:

- We attend Mass rarely (less than monthly) (20%)
- We attend Mass occasionally (1-2 Sundays per month) (26%)
- We attend Mass frequently (3-4 Sundays per month) (24%)
- We attend Mass every Sunday (30%)

In light of this, which of the following statements best characterizes your family’s Sacramental participation? Regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession:

- My kids go to Confession in school, but I/we go rarely or never (70%)
- My kids go to Confession in school, and I/we go regularly (every 1-2 months) (12%)
- We go to Confession a few times per year (15%)
- We go to Confession monthly (3%)
- We go to Confession rarely (less than monthly) (20%)
Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis celebrate the Liturgy with students. To support your family’s Sacramental participation at the parish, what best describes the level of school Mass attendance that you would hope for in the school (priest availability taken into consideration)?

- **My family prefers that our child/children attend a school Mass each school day.** (4%)
- **My family prefers that our child/children attend a school Mass at least once per week.** (74%)
- **My family would prefer that our child/children attend a school Mass at least twice per week.** (21%)

Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis offers students the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To support your family’s Sacramental participation at the parish, what best describes the level of availability for Reconciliation/Confession in school that you would hope for (priest availability taken into consideration)?

- **My family prefers that our child/children receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at school as often as the school schedule allows.** (21%)
- **My family prefers that our child/children receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at school during Advent and Lent.** (53%)
- **My family prefers that our child/children receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at school on a monthly basis.** (26%)

Students in Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis participate in service programs to assist them in fully living out the Gospel command to serve. Which statement about community service opportunities best meets your family’s current desire?

- **My family supports on-going community service opportunities at school.** (65%)
- **My family supports annual community service opportunities at school.** (17%)
- **My family supports quarterly community service opportunities at school.** (18%)
In order to ensure school viability, the class sizes which result from the All Things New initiative are likely to be larger in many of our Catholic schools than what they are currently. Which of the following statements most accurately conveys your mindset concerning class size? (We believe that offering any consideration of less than 20 students per classroom is inappropriate because it is not fiscally viable)

- I would not send my child to a school with classes larger than 20-25 students (34%)
- My family supports a School Model that contains grades K-8 on the same campus. (69%)
- Class size would not determine my family’s choice to attend/not attend a Catholic school. (19%)
- I would not send my child to a school with classes larger than 25-30 students. (28%)
- I would not send my child to a school with classes larger than 30 students (with a certified teacher’s aide). (19%)

A School Model defines the physical structure of the school (for example: a school in one building, a school with multiple campuses, etc.). All Things New may require multiple campuses for a particular school. Which K-8 School Model best meets your family’s needs?

- My family supports a School Model that contains grades K-8 on the same campus. (69%)
- My family supports a School Model that includes multiple campuses. (3%)
- My family supports either School Model. (28%)

Demographics support the fact that 50% of our families currently attend schools outside of their parish boundaries. How far would your family be willing to drive for a Catholic education?

- My family would drive the necessary distance to attend a Catholic school. (8%)
- My family would drive 30 minutes for a Catholic education. (4%)
- My family would drive 20 minutes for a Catholic education. (30%)
- My family would drive 10 minutes for a Catholic education. (59%)
What tuition scale structure would your family support?

- A tiered tuition scale for families (73%)
- A per child tuition scale for families, regardless of the number of children. (18%)
- An expectation that parents pay the actual cost to educate each of their children. (9%)

If the tuition scale were a tiered structure, what tuition range is affordable for your family?

- Between $5,000 - $6,000 for the one child rate (33%)
- Between $6,000 - $7,000 for one child rate (9%)
- Less than $5,000 for the one child rate (33%)
- My family will pay the needed tuition for quality religious education and a competitive teacher compensation package. (25%)

A goal of All Things New is to offer a more equitable rate of compensation to all of our teachers who are currently compensated less than their peers in the respective local school districts. Would your family support an increase to your current tuition for teachers' salaries to increase?

- My family would support an increase in tuition for teachers' salaries. (79%)
- My family could not afford an increase in tuition for teacher’s salaries. (18%)
- My family would not support an increase in tuition for teachers’ salaries. (3%)
ALL THINGS NEW
Narrative Response Themes
Elementary School Survey (K-8) | October 2022

What are 1-2 aspects that you love about your Catholic school that you would like to see continue?
1. Sense of community
2. Small class size
3. Proximity to home
4. K-8 in one building
5. Teachers and staff
6. Catholic faith teachings & celebration of the Sacraments
7. Academic program
8. Diversity of students
9. School tied to a parish
10. Learning Supports/Individualized instruction

What is the “new” you would like to see in Catholic elementary schools as a result of All Things New?
1. Teacher salary increase
2. Increased educational resources
3. Diversity of students and staff
4. Stronger formation of students, staff, and parents in the faith teachings and practice
5. Qualified teachers/specialized teachers in teaching areas
6. Affordable tuition
7. Higher enrollment
8. Facility improvements
9. More vibrant parish life connected to the elementary school
10. Sustainable financial model for Catholic education

Additional Questions/Comments
1. How long is the educational footprint good for?
2. Concern for the loss of Catholic families in Catholic schools and throughout the Church
3. Tuition should decrease to stabilize enrollment
4. Concern about multiple campus drop-offs and pick-ups/providing transportation
5. The survey is not gathering input on Catholic HS
6. Concern for teachers losing their jobs
7. Concern for the loss of a community feel in elementary schools and parishes
8. Concern of class size - the reason for choosing Catholic school vs. public school
9. Concern about the timeline of announcements and transparency in decision-making
10. A school must be tied to an active parish and have at least one parish priest for sacraments
11. Concern of wealthy parishes/schools being allowed to stay open over those that struggle financially