

# CSO Newsletter

December 2017



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## Greetings from the Catholic Schools Office!

As we begin the new liturgical year, the Catholic Schools Office thought it might be a fitting time to start a new tradition. In this season of hope and preparation, we are happy to send you the first edition of what we hope will become a biannual CSO Newsletter. Through these newsletters, families and friends can stay connected to not only what is happening in your own parish or school but to what is happening within the diocese. We hope you enjoy!

### MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Blessed Advent! I hope this finds you and yours well, enjoying the preparations for the Season, and finding a few precious moments of peace and reflection.

In October, I was fortunate to participate in a day-long retreat with the principals of the diocese. One of the takeaways from our presenter was to keep a daily log of gratitude. As part of my Advent goals, I have committed myself to starting and keeping this log.

As I visit school sites, I am continually reminded of the many gifts of the Diocese of Stockton. We are blessed with faculty, staff and administration who work tirelessly and who give the gift of themselves for the formation of our students. We have students who compete on the fields, courts and greens, toil in the classrooms, exhibit their love of God through service to others, and who are strong in character and rich in respect and discipline. We are privileged with families, parents and grandparents, who are our partners in the education of their children and sacrifice for their commitment to Catholic education, a commitment which allows us to not only survive, but to thrive.

As you reflect upon this school year, I pray that your decision to place your child in Catholic education will be an entry in your gratitude log.

On behalf of the Catholic Schools Office, I wish you all a healthy and happy Advent season and a blessed Christmas.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marian DeGroot Graham".

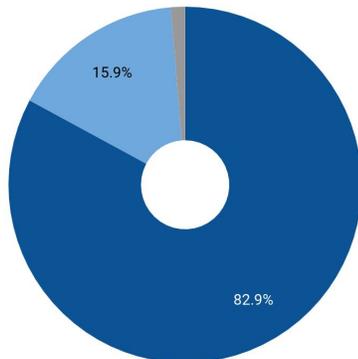
Marian DeGroot Graham

## A FEW DIOCESAN FACTS for 2017/18

- ❖ The Diocese of Stockton consists of **11** elementary schools, **two** high schools, and **nine** preschools.
- ❖ As of September 15th, we **enrolled**
  - **2273** elementary students
  - **1199** high school students
  - **413** preschoolers
- ❖ In August, we **welcomed** new to our diocesan schools
  - **709** students
  - **531** families
  - **65** faculty and staff
- ❖ Our **administrative team** welcomed
  - **3** new principals
  - **1** new high school president
- ❖ **\$2.2 million in tuition assistance and scholarships** was awarded, including \$249,500 from SEEDS.
- ❖ **98% of our 2017 high schools graduates** entered into a post secondary program.

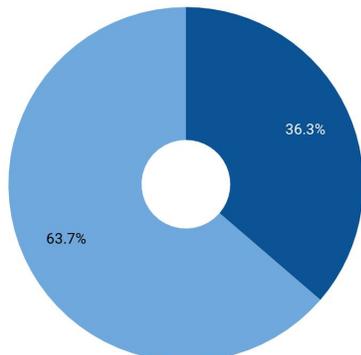
### ❖ Religious Affiliation of Student Body

- Catholic
- Non Catholic
- Undefined



### ❖ Ethnicity of Student Body

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino



## PARTNERSHIPS

The Diocese of Stockton has been blessed with many partnerships this year. In addition to our collaboration with parents and parishes, our schools have worked closely with University of Notre Dame and Santa Clara University.

Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program has been providing support in many areas:

- ❖ This year, four ACE **Teaching Fellows** were placed in schools across the diocese, i.e., Our Lady of Fatima, St. Stanislaus Catholic School, St. Bernard's Catholic School, and St. Mary's High School. [For more info.](#)
- ❖ Two members of our teaching staff participate in the **Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program**. Upon completion of 25 months of studies, candidates will earn a Masters in Educational Leadership and will be prepared to lead in our schools. [For more info](#)
- ❖ As part of our ongoing improvement plan, the Catholic Schools Office has been working with consultants from Notre Dame's **STEM, Mathematics, Literacy** and **Religion** departments. Our focus is to improve curriculum and instruction and to increase student learning.
- ❖ Through the **Latino Enrollment Institute**, the **Catholic School Advantage** program has been working with our elementary pastors and administrators to increase enrollment across the schools. [For more info.](#)

Santa Clara University has provided support and professional development in leadership and catechetics.

- ❖ Principals participated in monthly classes as part of the **Academy for Leadership** program.
- ❖ In June, 45 faculty and administrators enrolled in our **Ethics Camp**. Ethics Camp offered faith formation development for teachers which meets the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) criteria for Catechetical Certification.

## PLEASE JOIN US



# Catholic Schools

**Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.**

Please join us in celebrating Catholic schools.

**January 28 - February 3**

Kindly [contact your local Catholic school](#) for a schedule of events.

## DON'T FORGET!

**Registration for 2018/19**  
is just around the corner.

It is not too early to start applying for tuition assistance.

To apply for **SEEDS**, [please click here](#).  
*If you currently have a FACTS account,  
please use your login information.*

## PRAYER CORNER

Christ has no body but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
Compassion on this world,  
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.  
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.  
Christ has no body now but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
compassion on this world.  
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

*by St. Teresa of Avila*

## WHAT'S NEW?

- ❖ In July of 2017, we launched a new position: **Curriculum & Instruction Coordinator**. The goals of this position are to support classroom instruction and to work directly with principals and teachers. This position is shared by Judee Sani and Kellie O'Connor
- ❖ Effective in January 2018, all elementary schools will be piloting **Renaissance STAR testing**. Students in grades K - 8 will be taking the STAR Math and will take either the STAR Early Literacy or STAR Reading tests. Training will take place on January 16th and the first testing period will shortly follow. A second testing will be scheduled for later in the year. The Star assessments will provide frequent and focused appraisal of our students and open new doors to growth and success.

Schools in the Diocese of Stockton will no longer be taking the Terra Nova in the spring. [Click here to learn more](#).

## MEET THE CSO STAFF



*Kellie O'Connor, Carina DeLeon, Marian Graham, Rebecca Moreno, Judee Sani*

- ❑ Director for Catholic Schools: [Marian DeGroot Graham](#)
- ❑ Curriculum and Instruction Coordinators: [Kellie O'Connor](#) & [Judee Sani](#)
- ❑ Business Development Consultant: [Carina DeLeon](#)
- ❑ CSO Administrative Assistant: [Rebecca Moreno](#)

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or to learn more about the schools in our diocese.