



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
265 KING ST. CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60014

PHONE- 815.459.0496 FAX- 815.459.0591
WWW.STTHOMASCL.ORG

PLAN FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

265 King Street

Crystal Lake, Illinois

(815) 459-0496 phone

(815) 459-0591 fax

www.stthomascl.org

Strategic Plan

Gina Houston

Principal

Gina Ruffolo

Assistant

Principal

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School in Crystal Lake, provides faith formation and academic excellence for all students desiring a Catholic elementary education, that encourages them to become life-long learners. The uniqueness of each student is developed and recognized in an environment that is God centered. By teaching and modeling Gospel values, we encourage each student to become socially responsible as Catholic leaders.

VISION

Students will actively participate in their Catholic faith, demonstrate academic knowledge that far exceeds expectations, be skilled and innovative in their use of technology and other resources, and be inspired for life-long learning.

Teachers will tailor their instructional techniques to individual learning styles, be superior instructors through Investment in professional development, model creativity, unity and Catholic social principles.

Parents will clearly understand the mission of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School School and their role in its actualization. As first teachers, the parents will feel intimately connected with and supportive of their children's total development, especially faith formation.

INTRODUCTION

This document represents the work of the 2015-2016 St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School Education Commission.

The general purpose of the St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School Education Commission is to support and implement the philosophy of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School, whose aim is to integrate the teaching of Gospel values with the total curriculum, and then to create an environment where Christian community can be experienced through liturgy, the sacraments, and social action.

In addition, the Commission members are charged with the responsibility of overseeing the school's strategic plan. Each year, school Education Commission members are asked to provide leadership for the plan's goals and complete an annual report of the progress their committee has made on their goals.

The following represents members of the Education Commission who during the 2015-2016 School Year worked on developing a new perpetual strategic plan. Their efforts in this endeavor and continued support of St Thomas the Apostle is appreciated.

Lisa Os, President
Nancy Offdenkamp, Vice
President
Jorge Arza, Secretary

Kristin Giangregio
Kelly Marry
Michelle Simon
Jim Van Bosch, Strategic Plan Chairman

STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW

This planning process is being guided by the St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School's Education Commission and is involving the principal, assistant principal, faculty, parents, priests, and community leaders. Beginning in April 2015, the school's Education Commission and other participants will devote time, energy, and enthusiasm to crafting the future of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School, a plan that will set the direction for the school while building on a solid foundation of Catholic education.

The planning process is built on goals established during the 2015-2016 school year by the Education Commission with guidance from the principal, assistant principal, and the pastors. The goals contained in the plan are derived directly from the Mission of the school. The success of the Strategic Plan is contingent upon the belief that key stakeholders-both internal and external-must be involved in shaping the results of this planning endeavor. The analysis of both internal and external data, collected as determined by the strategies/action steps for the plan's goals, are essential to create a clear vision for the future of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School.

The Strategic Plan goals can be found in Section VI of the plan. For each goal, a lead person or persons are listed along with commission members who have volunteered to serve on the goal committee. The lead person is encouraged to convene their goal committee at least two meetings per year to discuss and accomplish the strategies for the goal. The lead person is also encouraged to involve St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School students and parents of students, parishioners, and faculty, as appropriate in carrying out the strategies to achieve the stated goal.

Additional participants added to the goal committees by the lead person or persons should be communicated to the Strategic Plan Chairman so they can be added to the master list.

An annual goal update report (See Section IV) is to be submitted to the Strategic Plan Chairman each April, on or before April 17 of each year so a Strategic Plan update report can be presented to the School Commission at its May meeting.