

Annunciation is a Catholic parish school delivering a tradition of excellence in academics, faith, and values.



Closer Look

ACADEMICS

Annunciation School is accredited by the Minnesota Non-Public School Accrediting Association and is a member of the National Catholic Education Association and the Minnesota Catholic Education Association.

Curriculum

Annunciation prides itself on its strong academic curriculum. We employ many strategies to meet the needs of students. Teachers differentiate instruction so as to reach all our learners. Teaching aides as well as volunteer tutors assist the teachers and frequently give one on one help to students, both to challenge and support learning. Our Excel Lab supervisor works with small groups of students to boost skills in reading and math.

We employ specialists in computers, creative arts, physical education and a full-time librarian. Students in grades kindergarten through eight have scheduled time with all specialists. Each week students have the opportunity to borrow books from the school library.

Spanish

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade study Spanish. They learn about the culture as well as the language. Students are typically prepared to enter either second or third year Spanish in high school.

Stretching the Classroom

Students participate in learning experiences that go beyond the conventional classroom to enrich and reinforce our curriculum. These experiences include: Art Adventure, Artist-In-Residence, Book Fair, Buddies/mentors, Carnaval, Christmas program, Geography Bee, Lovelace Book Awards Reading Challenge, Math Masters, Science Fair, 6th Grade Environmental Camp, Spelling Bee, Quiz Bowl and Zoo Overnight and various field trips.

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Classes

Annunciation School offers kindergarten through eighth grade classes on a single campus. Our Middle School classes are conducted in a dedicated wing of the building. There are two classes per grade with an average class size of 24 students.

Outstanding Instructors

Fifty percent of our teachers have dedicated at least 10 years to Annunciation School and its students. More than half have earned or are working toward an advanced degree in their subject area. Seven of our teachers are Annunciation graduates.

Prepared for Success

Annunciation graduates are known for their leadership skills and academic preparation in high school. They are accepted into rigorous programs and advanced placement classes such as the International Baccalaureate program. Nearly all of our students are accepted into the high school of their choice.

Kindergarten

We offer both part-time kindergarten and a full-day kindergarten. Our unique program offers flexibility to suit the needs of your child and family. Kindergarteners can go full day, every day or opt for a part time schedule. Parents can choose to have students in school either two (Monday, Thursday) or three (Monday, Thursday, Friday) full days. The arrangement must be made at the beginning of a trimester—whether at the beginning of the year or second or third trimester.

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FAITH & VALUES

Spirituality

At Annunciation, we are committed to learning based on Christian values. The religion curriculum instills an understanding of the importance of Catholic traditions. Students are taught to live their faith, to lead by example, to become active members of the community, to respect God’s gift of life and earth and to affirm and respect the diversity and dignity of others. Students take part in all-school Masses and in smaller grade-level liturgies in the school’s chapel. Sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation is family-based and coordinated through the parish’s faith formation office.

Community

Nurturing strong relationships for both students and parents is the very foundation of our outstanding community. There are various opportunities to participate in the success of our school including the Annunciation Parent Organization, the School Board and its committees, classroom programs, chaperoning, and coaching. Social gatherings such as Silent Auction, First Morning Coffee, and Septemberfest foster community fun and friendships.

Social Justice

Many programs reinforce the importance of sharing our talents in service to others. In the school itself, our mentor/buddy system fosters caring, understanding and friendships among older and younger students with programs such as “Study Buddies” and “Prayer Partners”. In the greater community, our students volunteer to support our sister school in Haiti, Holy Rosary Church of Minneapolis and St. Stephen’s Shelter. Students take great pride in the number of meals our school has packed for Feed My Starving Children, a worldwide hunger relief effort based in Minnesota.

BASICS

School day

Classes at Annunciation begin at 8:05 a.m. for grades one through eight and for half-day kindergarten. Half-day kindergarten classes are dismissed at 11:00 a.m. Full-day kindergarten and grades one through eight are dismissed at 2:25 p.m. School days consist of seven class periods plus a 30-minute lunch. All students participate in an outdoor recess, weather permitting.

Academic Schedule

Classes at Annunciation School generally begin the Wednesday before Labor Day weekend. Paperwork Day is held two days earlier to process forms, receive teacher information, and register for activities. The academic year is divided into three 12-week trimesters. Parent/teacher conferences are held twice a year, fall and spring.

Student transportation

Students walk, bike or arrive by car. Many school families work together to carpool. We do not participate in the Minneapolis School bus system.

Uniforms

Students at Annunciation wear uniforms in grades one through eight. Kindergarten students do not wear uniforms. At Annunciation, uniforms are more than a Catholic school tradition. Wearing uniforms helps students focus on their work while eliminating fashion distractions. On a few occasions each year, students are allowed a “non-uniform day.” Please refer to the School Handbook for a complete Uniform Policy. In July before each school year, there is an onsite school uniform sale represented by official Annunciation School vendors. There are also opportunities to buy used uniforms on Paperwork Day and throughout the year.

Lunch

Annunciation offers a complete hot lunch program for students who choose not to bring their lunch. The hot lunches are prepared, delivered, and served every school day to our students. A full lunch consists of a hot meal and milk and currently costs \$2.50. Milk only is 50 cents. Free or reduced price lunch may be available according to family income. Please see Financial Assistance on p. 5.

Homework

Homework at Annunciation is given to students at the discretion of each teacher. Homework is manageable and appropriate to each grade level.

OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL DAY

Extracurricular

Extracurricular activities that are available include, but are not limited to, athletics, IMPROV, chess club, Lego club, art classes, yearbook, AYM (Annunciation Youth Ministry), Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, music lessons, Mad Science classes, and Projects Fair.

Athletics

Annunciation School has a proud tradition of fielding sports teams. Sports include soccer, baseball, softball, volleyball, and basketball. Annunciation has an athletic director and the teams participate in the SSYO League for most sports. A large number of Annunciation School students participate on sports teams regardless of their abilities. The teams are coached by parents and teachers who volunteer their time and talents.

Music

In addition to providing students with a strong background in the creative and performing arts, Annunciation School also offers on-site music lessons on piano, violin, guitar, and band instruments. Students may also participate in several bands including Concert Band, String Heaven(guitars), Jazz Combo, Rock Band and Irish Flute Band.

Faith in action: Annunciation Youth Ministry (AYM)

Annunciation Youth Ministry or AYM, is a phenomenally popular program for students beginning in 7th grade. AYM combines organized social activities, spiritual development, mission trips, outreach to area charities and to our sister mission parish in Haiti.

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TUITION

Tuition 2007–2008*

	IN-PARISH	OUT-OF PARISH
Kindergarten (full-day)	\$3,475	\$5,260
Kindergarten (half-day)	\$2,300	\$3,700
1st-8th grades first child	\$3,275	\$5,060 per child
1st-8th grades second child	\$2,925	
1st-8th grade third child +	\$2,525	

* TUITION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE FOR 2008–2009 SCHOOL YEAR.

Half-day Kindergarten does not affect the tuition of siblings in grades one through eight. In other words, a half-day kindergarten student does not count as a “first child” for families with more than one student.

Parishioner Status 2008-09

To qualify for In-Parish tuition rates for the 2008-09 school year, a family must be

- Actively engaged in praying with the Annunciation community
- Properly registered in the Church of the Annunciation as of April 1, 2008. *Exceptions made if your family has recently moved into the parish area.*
- Contributing financially to the parish. The active typical giver pledges about \$100.00/ month to parish stewardship.

Parish registration is done at the Parish Center or you can pick up forms at the School Office.

Financial Assistance

Annunciation has a long tradition of helping parents with the cost of education. Annunciation is very pleased to assist you in providing a Catholic education for your children in our parish school by means of need-based tuition grants. A third party, FACTS Grant & Aid of Lincoln, Nebraska, handles the application process confidentially.

Applicants can apply online beginning in January at www.factstuitionaid.com. Paper applications are also available through the office of the school president. Questions? Call toll-free 1-800-390-4950 or email help@factstuitionaid.com.

Free or reduced price lunch may be available based on family income. The financial aid process determines qualifying families.

Fundraising Commitment 2007-08 School Year

In addition to tuition, there is an obligation for fundraising support of the school in the amount of \$100 per child. This is an obligation. It is not optional and is due by November 15, 2007. This amount may be raised in the form of a tax-deductible contribution in connection with a school-sponsored fundraising event (traditionally a Marathon). In the event that a family does not meet this obligation via fund raising, the family will receive a statement from the school.

EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

The Annunciation School Extended Day program provides quality before and after school care that is both fun and safe. The Extended Day Program encourages children to socialize with friends and provides time for games, crafts and homework.

Program Specifics

The Extended Day Program is conveniently located in the lower level of the school.

Time is set aside each day for reading and homework. Children can choose group activities or individual ones. Interest centers include arts and crafts, reading, music, creative dramatic play, games, manipulative and constructive toys, and food preparation. Time is spent outdoors on the playground and children have access to the gymnasium and to computers.

The staff to child ratio for the Extended Day Program is 1:12.

Snacks and milk are served every afternoon soon after students arrive. At 4:30 p.m. students are given time to eat a snack that they've brought from home.

Hours

School Days 7:00 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. and
2:25 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Full Days 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Calendar

On several days during the school year, Annunciation School is closed but the Extended Day program is open all day to serve the students and their parents. On these days, field trips by bus may be offered.

Full-day programming is available on teacher in-service days, Minnesota Education Association convention (MEA weekend), teacher/parent conferences days, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Presidents' Day.

The program is not open during Winter Break, Spring Break, Thanksgiving Day and the Friday after Thanksgiving, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Labor Day, and Memorial Day.

Summer Program

The Extended Day Program is also open during the summer beginning soon after the final day of school and running until a few days before the school year starts up again. The Extended Day Program's Fun In The Sun is filled with fun activities and two to three field trips each week. The summer program is available for incoming kindergarteners.

2007-2008 Fees*

Morning session	\$5.00/session
Afternoon session	\$14.00/session
Full-day	\$30.00/session
Summer	\$30.00/session

* FEES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE FOR 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR.

A non-refundable registration fee of \$45 per child (\$25 fee for each additional child) is required. Upon registration, parents will receive The Extended Day Program handbook with more specific information.

Questions? Contact Jeff Wisdom, Director of Extended Day, 612-824-9993, ext. 210