



*Bethlehem*  
**ACADEMY**

INSPIRING TRUTH SINCE 1865

**[bacards.org](http://bacards.org)**

*Bethlehem Academy, a Catholic school in the Sinsinawa Dominican tradition, strives to empower its students and staff to achieve personal, spiritual, and academic excellence. We challenge ourselves to love as Jesus Christ loved, to lead, to serve, to inspire, and to seek the truth: Veritas.*





### *Letter from the President/Principal - Melinda Reeder*

Dear Bethlehem Academy Alumni, Supporters, and Families:

This fall begins my third year serving Bethlehem Academy as your President/Principal. I continue to be astounded by the rich history of our school and those who gave so much to make today possible. Our senior class is now the 158th graduating class from Bethlehem Academy. This monumental celebration is only possible because of our founders, the Sinsinawa Dominicans. Today, our school continues to be guided by Sinsinawa Dominicans who as an Order are celebrating 175 years.

Providing excellence to our scholars each year is essential to the mission at Bethlehem Academy (BA). To ensure excellence, we continue to expand upon our offerings and programs. In 2021-22, we welcomed Father John Powers as our BA Chaplain; he leads weekly Mass and instructs our middle school scholars in theology. We expanded courses to further develop young scholars' intellect and provide more educational options. We added the House System, helping scholars build relationships across all grades, 6-12. The House System is partnered with the Positivity Project, where we focus on a key characteristic each week and discuss personal traits and strengths within our theology classes. In addition to our course and theology options, this past year our scholars also had the opportunity to travel both to Rome and Belize, serving out our mission worldwide.

We closed the 2021-22 academic year with success in the classroom, increased enrollment, and a surplus in our budget allowing us to achieve numerous school projects, including: a new parking lot, interactive boards in the classroom, new classroom doors, new middle school science materials, expanded scholarships and building funds. As we begin our 2022-23 school year, it is a great year to be a Cardinal at Bethlehem Academy, where we continue to focus on our mission, "to achieve personal, spiritual and academic excellence." Our enrollment grew for the third year in a row, all debt is paid off, and investments in the future are secured. I look forward to visiting with you in the year ahead. My coffee pot is on; please stop in to learn more about all of the exciting news at BA! GO CARDS!

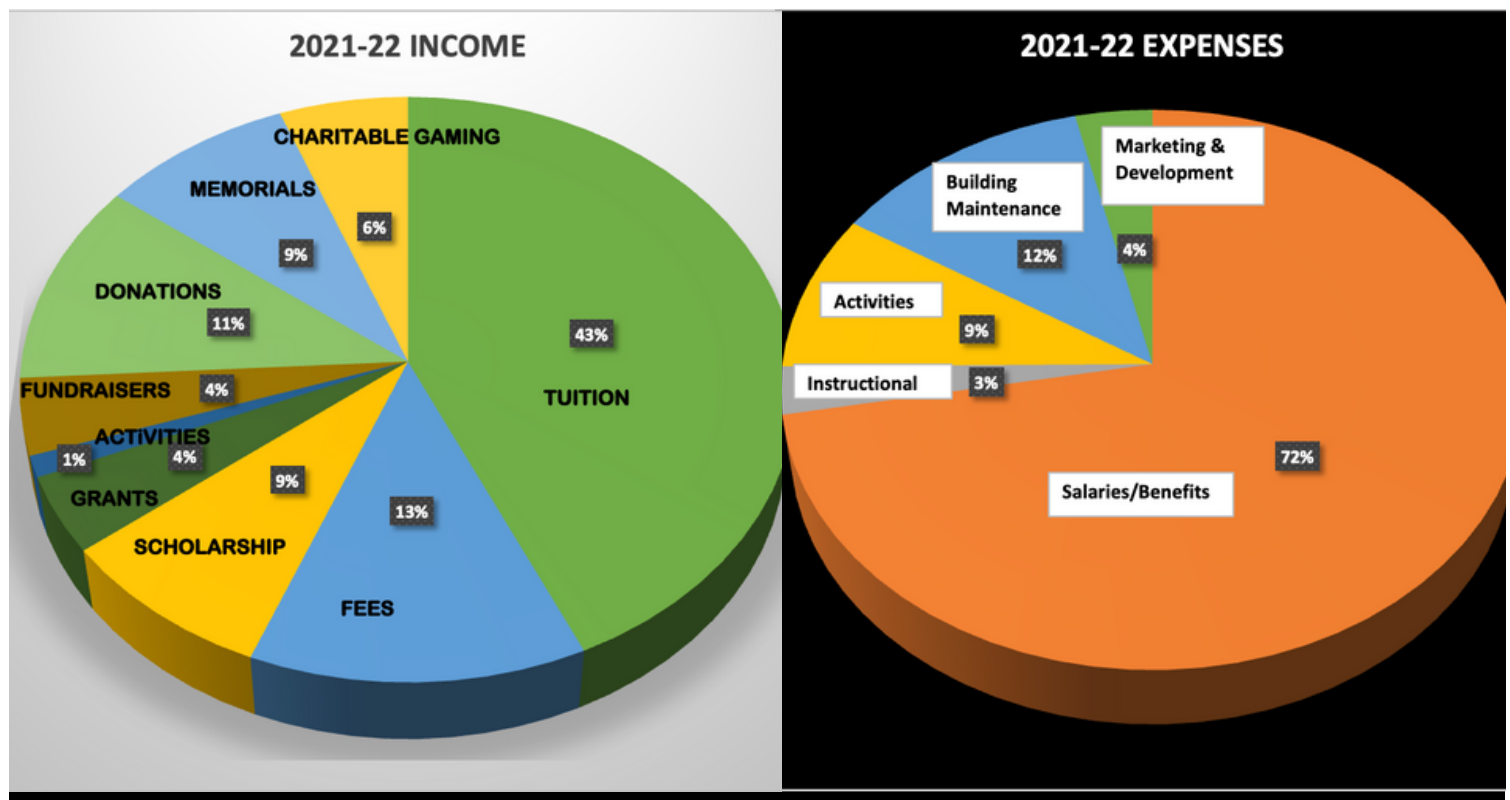
Blessings, Melinda Reeder, President/Principal

# OUR LATEST NUMBERS

## STRATEGIC PLAN & FINANCIAL UPDATE

Bethlehem Academy manages a 2.1 million dollar budget through the dedicated commitment of BA staff, the Finance Committee, the BA Board of Directors, and under the guidelines of the Sinsinawa Sponsor's Council. Last year was a record year of fundraising at BA. We surpassed all goals and closed the year by paying off debt and completing building and maintenance projects, including the parking lot and new classroom doors.

BA also achieved several of our Strategic Plan goals. We expanded scholar participation and prayer opportunities and added new classes and programs for scholars along with educational opportunities, trips, and cultural experiences. Thanks to our Fund-A-Need donors, BA updated classroom technology with all new interactive boards. Teachers adopted a new school information program and received an increase in salaries and stipends. Additional staff also joined BA to support our growing enrollment. A full review of updates is available on our website ([Plan](#)).







## **CLASS OF 2022 PROFILE**

**2021 Graduates: 36**

**Average GPA: 3.31; 10 Summa Cum Laude Graduates (3.9+ G.P.A.)**

**Four-Year College: 69%; Two-Year College: 17%; Work: 8%; Jr Hockey: 3%; Gap Year: 3%**

**College Scholarships/Grants Awarded: \$1,190,324**

**Average Award/College-Bound Graduate (31): \$38,398**

**U of Minnesota College Credits Earned (CIS): 123; AP Classes Taken: 44**

**One Eagle Scout, 8 Service Cord Recipients, 16 National Honor Society Members**

**1 Junior Hockey Player; 2 DIII Athletes; 8 three-sport senior athletes**

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Bethlehem Academy was founded in 1865. Since its beginning, Catholic doctrine embraced through the Dominican charisms have led graduates to serve in the faith and follow their vocation. Our story of graduates is a story of our Catholic faith, inspired to make a difference for others - a difference for life!

79 Sisters

1 Bishop

3 Brothers

13 Priests\*

\*2 recent graduates presently in study

1 Deacon

12 NET Team Members (2000-2016)