

The Office for Catholic Schools fosters collaborative communities among all shareholders through high quality professional development to positively impact student learning and develop Christ-like servant-leaders for today's world. We work in the spirit of communion, solidarity and subsidiarity.

April 30, 2018 Bi-Weekly Report

Important Dates to Remember:

- MAP Testing window April 30—June 1, 2018
- [Safety Training—North Region—May 3, 2018](#)
- [Safety Training—Central Region—May 8, 2018](#)
- [Safety Training—Southern Region—May 16, 2018](#)
- [Principal Meeting at Palisades—May 17, 2018](#)
- Leadership Academy—May 17, 2018
- Executive Principal Meeting—June 5, 2018
- Leadership Academy—June 5, 2018

TO DO List:

- [Complete Budget](#)
- May [Principal Monthly Tasks](#)
- Please complete the [OCS Website Survey](#)
- [MAP Fusion Conference \(Portland\)](#)
- Time to volunteer!!
[Special Olympics USA Games, Seattle - July 1-6, 2018](#)

PD Opportunities:

- [Diversified Learners Committee](#)



Kristin Dixon

Superintendent

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"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and became my disciples." Jn. 15:8

In these April days, a leader can feel alone in some difficult decisions. The Gospel this past Sunday rang especially true given the lens of the April rain, and the phone calls we have received in the Office for Catholic Schools. Last week a principal, in a moment of frustration and sadness, shared that it is difficult to really open up with colleagues in the region because "...we compete for the same kids, we compete for everything." I admit, as a principal, I have felt a similar sense of desperation. Each of us can go down the path of not enough students, not enough teachers, not enough resources, not enough... With this heavy heart, we start to approach our work with a sense of scarcity, as opposed to one of abundance.

How do we get above that wave of concern that seems so large and ominous and causes doubt to creep in to all our good work? In last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus promises "much fruit" if we **remain** with Him—if we **remain** faithful to Jesus' mission. In fact, the word "remain" appears eleven times in this Gospel! It is good to ask ourselves during these moments of doubt, am I focused on **my mission**, or am I focused on **God's mission**? Jesus promises that through our commitment to God's mission, we will "bear much fruit" and deepen our call to discipleship.

So, what does that look like? I believe it looks a willingness to participate as partners. We value and express gratitude for the gifts within our own communities. We value and trust in the partnership with our principal colleagues and in the Office for Catholic Schools. Catholic education is a ministry of the Church. Knowing that we are all working for God's mission of bringing Jesus to our students, families and teachers, we can move us to a place of grateful abundance. The fruit of this labor is illustrated in the way we approach our work. Jesus is calling us to walk the talk of discipleship. We are called "to walk by faith, not by sight."

Please know that we keep our leaders very close in prayer at the Office for Catholic Schools. We are so grateful for the many gifts that you provide your communities, every day, and in every moment.



Karen Tarabochia

Governance, Operations, & Personnel

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Open Enrollment for Benefits

ANNOUNCE & ENCOURAGE EMPLOYEES TO READ, REVIEW & Act

All employees receiving paid Benefits will receive a mailing from the Benefits Office, announcing Open Enrollment. Open Enrollment for Healthcare, Insurance, and Spending Accounts should and must be reviewed. This is the once-a-year opportunity:

Enroll, or switch plans, or Add/Drop spouse and children to/from coverage!

Enrollment is open: May 1- May 15 !

Contact Benefit Services Office with Questions. (206) 382-4566

Email: BenefitsServices@SeattleArch.org.

Everyone must re-enroll in the HAS and FSA plans, and those plans are being funded for the employee again this year. (Enrolling to use the benefits in HAS and FSA requires a password that can be found in the mailing from the Benefits Office.)



Kaitlyn O'Leary

Curriculum, Early Learning
& Government Programs

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Last Call for Registration: GRACE Catholic Educators Forum!

The registration deadline has been extended to May 10th! [Click here](#) for more information and to register now.

GRACE Teacher Leaders—Principal End-of-Year Conversation Guide

We are asking that all principals and teacher leaders engage in a brief end-of-year conversation. [Click here](#) to access the conversation guide. Principals, please submit a [short summary](#) of your conversation using this form by **June 15th**.

OSPI Compliance: Private Education Participation in Federal Programs

The [application to participate in federal Title programs](#) is due on **April 30th**. The best practice when completing this form is to check that you are interested in all programs. Later, you can decide not to participate in a program.

Summer Professional Development Opportunities

[Click here for some great summer professional development opportunities](#). Title IIA funds can be used to participate in all of these!



Sandy Barton Smith

Catholic Identity
& Essential Services

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ACRE—Thank you!

51 schools are wrapping up their ACRE assessment for Grades 5 and 8 and we are learning! I will connect with all ACRE testing coordinators this week to ensure that everyone is ready to close the Spring window!

Homemade—Schoolmade SIGNS to honor the SO Athletes!

If your school would like to create signs for the Special Athletes coming from the 50 states, this would be a great families or campus ministry activity. Here are the guidelines: Hand-held signs 14 x 14 inch-max or up to 3 x 5 feet for group posters.

Special Olympics has shared that they are not allowed to use the imagery of the 5 concentric circles that the Olympic Games uses - it's proprietary. Currently, the 50 state teams have not been posted yet so signs are generic until the states post their teams...not sure when the rosters will come out. I.e: <https://www.specialolympicsusagames.org/washington> Therefore, going forward, we are focusing on a spirit of friendship and hospitality, spirit of inclusion, celebrating the sports venues, and FUN! You can bring finished signs to the **May 17, 2018 Principals' Leadership Meeting** or find me before June 28. Our DL team will bring them to the mile-long **July 1st CHEERLINE** at the UW Campus and we will deliver on your behalf.

For other Special Olympics USA Games info: <http://www.ocsw.org/site/content.php?r=4808-Special-Olympics-USA-Games-Seattle-July-1-6-2018&s=a0ad348e5d070240f983dbb580a09554>

September Leadership CIC Retreat

We have invited **Father Ron Nuzzi** to return to us as we continue to strengthen our CIC Foundation and invite ALL school leaders to be a part of this important time. PLEASE calendar now so you can attend all aspects of the CIC Leadership Retreat on Thursday, Sept. 20 through Friday, Sept. 21st. Our CIC Retreat will focus on **Task 5: Community Life**. Those who can come in on Sept. 19th Wednesday afternoon, will be treated to great OCS hospitality and fun! Special thank you to **O'Dea, Kennedy Catholic, St. Anthony School, and St. John School** who will be welcoming Father Nuzzi to their schools on Monday-Tuesday, May 7-8. Father will be absorbing community life in our schools and with this action-research, Father Nuzzi will then create our retreat based on our needs.



Jack Huber

Data Management

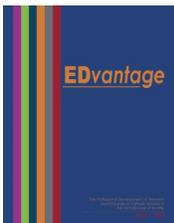
Jack.huber@seattlearch.org

Update on Alma

Guided by the Strategic Plan, OCS is still working toward the goal of all schools using the same student information system (SS). At the same time, OCS is dedicated to wise stewardship of our financial resources which means we respect the investment you've made in your SIS, such as PowerSchool, to adapt it to your needs. We're working toward a goal of one "deal you can't refuse" SIS that prevails over competing products in functionality, flexibility, ease of use, responsive training, customer service and support, and cost-effectiveness.

This year, based on last year's SIS Committee recommendation, seven schools piloted Alma. The pilot went well and the schools have good things to say about it. Because Alma is a new company it is still actively developing its features and that development is going well. Alma understandably wants to strengthen its partnership with us and serve more schools next year. To that end Alma has recently offered webinars of which a number of schools have taken advantage. The schools that piloted Alma this year are staying with the product, and at this point we're pleased to report that a handful of new schools have decided to migrate to it next year (2018-19) or are actively considering it.

We believe Alma holds great promise to soon become this "deal you can't refuse" SIS product and actively encourage your school to explore the product and consider adopting it next year.



EDvantage Professional Development Opportunities 2017-2018

The [2017-2018 EDvantage](#) is now available. Please share this link with all your school personnel.

If you have any questions, please contact Janeal.grosinger@seattlearch.org



Kelly Surapaneni

Leadership Development

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Leadership Academy

We are taking nominations for the 2018-2019 cohort of the Leadership Academy.

WHO: Aspiring administrators

WHEN: 1 Summer Workshop-**August 15-16**

5 Tuesday Meetings throughout the school year from **3:00pm-6:00pm**

WHERE: Chancery (Orr Conference Room), 910 Marion Street, Seattle WA 98104

Here is the survey link for those interested in applying: [Leadership Academy Interest Survey](#)

Or contact Kelly Surapaneni at KSurapaneni@fulcrumfoundation.org.

Contemplative Leaders in Action (CLA) in Seattle

Application for the 2018-2020 cohort is available now!

Are you in your 20's or 30's and searching for a community of peers who are striving to be purposeful leaders grounded in faith?

Contemplative Leaders in Action (CLA) is a two-year faith formation and leadership development program for young adults (20's and 30's) rooted in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. While the program nurtures individual growth, it also strives to develop a cohort of leaders who can bring the dynamics of faith and justice to lead their families, co-workers and communities.

Application deadline in May 14th. Visit www.contemplativeleaders.org to learn more and access an application. You can also learn more about the Seattle regional program via www.contemplativeleaders.org/seattle.

Questions? Email Regional Coordinator Maria L. Ochoa at mochoa@contemplativeleaders.org.



Tim Hunt

Marketing &
Financial Services

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Registration / Advertising Survey!

We want to know how this year's registration is going and how it compares to past years. If you haven't already done so, [please take 5 mins to complete this survey!](#) This will be helpful to inform our advertising strategies and make changes to our tactics, if necessary.

Google Analytics—Support Available to set your Website up!

The OCS and the Fulcrum Foundation are eager to help schools take advantage of free services to measure traffic on their websites. Google Analytics is one such tool and we are very lucky to have the support of Bob Covey to help set this program up. Below are a list of 5 steps to setup Google Analytics, which you can do independently or [contact Bob](#) for step-by-step assistance.

There are 5 basic steps in implementing Google Analytics on your web site.

- Identify the Google Analytics (GA) Administrator & be sure they have a Gmail account
- Identify the School Web Site Administrator and be sure they can access your web site with administrator privileges
- Generate a Tracking ID
- Add the OCS permissions and GA: Verify Google Analytics Dashboard access.
- Have the Website Admin install GA snippet.



Tom O'Callahan

E-Rate & Technology

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E-Rate Task Force

70% of the E-Rate funding requests have been approved for FCC funding. Last year it took until August for 70% approval. This improved response time from the E-Rate organization will simplify the billing process and help schools schedule their Internet upgrades during summer.

Technology Strategy and Planning

The tech task force visited nine schools during the past two weeks to discuss current and future technology and assist with plans to modernization the IT infrastructure. They have received an overview of the 2019 IT network modernization program, the proposed design and funding information. Discussions included planning for higher performance classroom WiFi networks and fiber optic Internet connections.



Kristin Dixon

Elementary Accreditation

Karen Tarabochia

Secondary Accreditation

2018-2019 Accreditation Team Member Registration—NOW OPEN

If you would like to be on an accreditation team for 2018-2019 please register online. Please register to be on either an [Elementary Team](#) or a [Secondary Team](#). We will hold all training meetings at the beginning of the previsit meeting date, unless you are notified by OCS. If you are assigned to an accreditation team and are unable to attend the previsit date, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Janeal.grosinger@seattlearch.org

High School Accreditation Teams

We will have 2 high schools who will have Accreditation Visits in the 2018-19 school year. If the principal would like staff to be trained for serving on visiting teams, to gain experience in the Accreditation process, please have staff [register for a team](#). If you have questions, please contact Karen.Tarabochia@seattlearch.org. Training will be held in September.

Annual Progress Reports

Access to the Progress Reports has been removed from the schools that worked on it this year. Mrs. Dixon will review each report and add her comments. Once that is complete, I will open up access to each school again.



Archdiocesan School Board Awards— DUE ASAP

We are approaching the final deadline for submitting your nominations. Please send your nominations to janeal.grosinger@seattlearch.org as soon as possible.

The **Sister Mary Taylor Award** was established by the Archdiocesan School Board in January, 1986 to recognize distinguished service to Catholic education by teachers, staff, administrators and those who have made outstanding gifts of their time, talent and resources in the service of Catholic schools. The award is named in honor of Sister Mary Taylor, SNJM, a well-respected teacher, administrator and Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Seattle.

The **Archbishop Alex J. Brunett Award** was established in 2011 by the Archdiocesan School Board to recognize distinguished service to Catholic education by a pastor, priest or deacon. The award is named in honor of Archbishop Alex J. Brunett, in

Would you like to nominate your pastor or school leader for this year's Archbishop Brunett or Sr Mary Taylor awards? Please [Click here](#).

Safety Training with Seattle Police Department Captain

We are hosting a facilitated discussion with Paul McDonagh, Captain with the Seattle Police Department. Captain McDonagh is sought out for his training across the country. He will guide us through a scenario-based training model to build our understanding and skills to respond to threats and on-site violence.

Participants will:

Review Archdiocesan parish and school safety policies to support our parishes and schools.

Understand through discussion and scenarios of the four stages of emergency planning to include: 1) prevention; 2) mitigation; 3) response; 4) recovery

Sample emergency policies with best practices will be offered.

Captain McDonagh emphasizes the importance of taking steps in preparedness, especially in light of current events.

Lead Chancery personnel will be trained first followed by 3 regional trainings for pastors, principals, pastoral associates and/or safety delegate(s).

Click here to register for one of the regional trainings:

- [Safety Training—North Region—May 3, 2018](#)
- [Safety Training—Central Region—May 8, 2018](#)
- [Safety Training—Southern Region—May 16, 2018](#)



Educational Leadership Grants

Fulcrum provides partial scholarships for aspiring administrators and principals to pursue degree programs and/or principal certification programs in Educational Leadership. Beginning in April 2019, you can apply for scholarship funds in Educational Leadership or principal certification to our partner programs (Creighton University, Gonzaga University, Saint Martin's University, Seattle University, University of Notre Dame, and University of Portland). For more information contact Susan Ocoma susan.ocoma@fulcrumfoundation.org