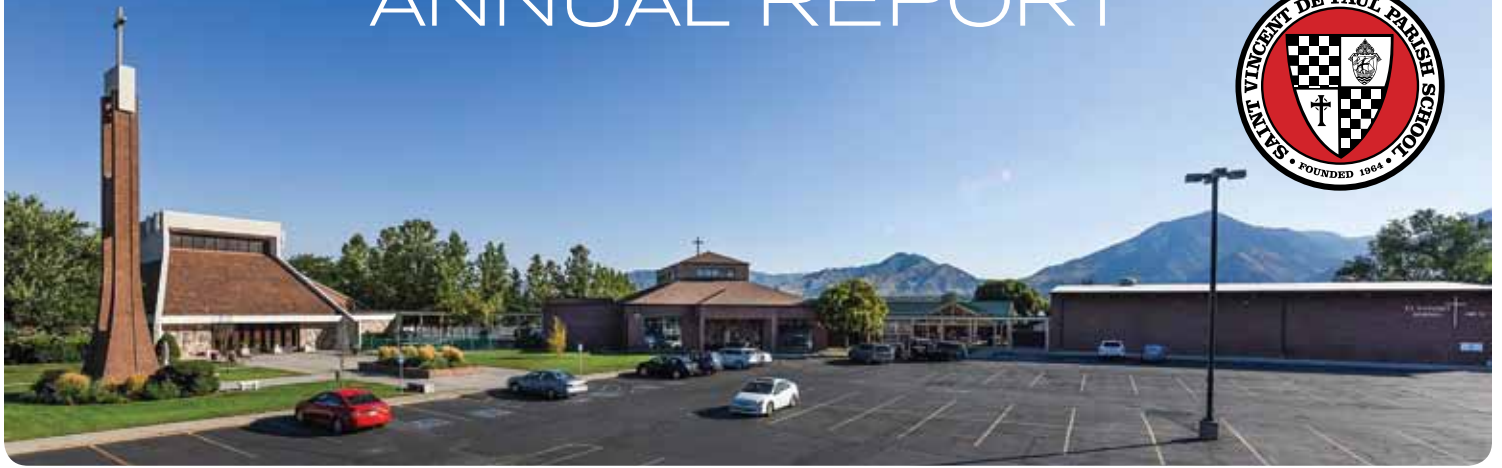


SAINT VINCENT de PAUL PARISH SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT



The New Mission Statement

*Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School is a Christ-centered community
where each person is a valued child of God.
We are dedicated to cultivating the mind and the heart.*

Part of the story of the new Mission Statement is common, but the other part was driven by the Holy Spirit.

As most organizations do these days, St. Vincent School periodically reviews its foundation documents with its stakeholders. During the 2016-2017 school year, we reviewed the mission statement with the faculty and staff, the School Board, the Home and School Association, and Fr. Norman. Drafts circulated throughout the school year, comments were considered, and multiple new drafts were formed.

By the end of March, we had a decent draft that reflected many important aspects of our school such as its focus on community, and its commitment to academics and spirituality. However, the

mission statement was more informative than inspiring, and no one had come up with any brilliant ideas for improving it.

Finally, one day in late April, a wonderful idea came to one of our staff members (who wishes to remain anonymous). The staff member says that she was just walking outside when this popped in her head: St. Vincent de Paul Parish School is a Christ-centered community (this part we already had) *where each (member) is a valued child of God*. Fr. Norman heard this new phrase and suggested that we change the word “member” to “person.” This new phrase began the mission statement’s transition from simply stating facts to saying what sets this community apart and reminding us of God’s call to treat others with love.

However, the second sentence was still not finalized, and we began August without a completed mission statement. The inspiration for the new second part came from Bishop Solis. He was speaking to principals about his vision for Catholic Schools, and said, “We have to be more than just academics. We have to cultivate the mind *and* the heart.” From that message came the second part of our new mission statement: *We are dedicated to cultivating the mind and the heart*.

The full mission statement was presented to Fr. Norman, the School Board, and the faculty, and was approved. Each classroom in the school displays

the new mission statement, and we trust that it will inspire people in this community for years to come.

Important Dates

Happy New Year from the Faculty and Staff of Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School!
Here are some important dates to plan for the year ahead:

- **Auction: An Evening at Casino Royale**
February 10th, 5:30 p.m.
- **Saint Patrick’s Day Parade**
March 17th, 10 a.m.
- **Missoula Children’s Theatre Production: The Wiz of the West**
March 24th, 12:30 and 3 p.m.
- **Talent Show**
April 19th, 1:30 p.m.
- **Grandparents’ Day**
April 27th, 9 a.m.
- **Spring Concert**
May 8th, 6:30 p.m.
- **May Crowning**
May 10th, 2:15 p.m.
- **Last Day of School**
May 25th - 11 a.m. Dismissal



Bishop Oscar Solis visited St. Vincent School on April 21, 2017.

The “Saints Among Us”

Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School has a history of celebrating the arts through its “Artist in Residence” program that teaches students about the types of materials and techniques used to create different art media. Students work with an artist to create a work of art in the medium the artist chooses, such as paintings, glass art, wood carvings, dance, leather art, even ceramics. Towards the end of last school year, students were challenged to help create a painting to be titled “Saints Among Us.”

The project began from a conversation between Fr. John Norman, Saint Vincent de Paul Parish pastor, and school principal, Gary Green. Fr. Norman expressed how much he enjoys the student art projects that hang in the Benvegnu Center on the parish grounds: a mosaic of Saint Vincent de Paul and a “puzzle” image of Saint Louise de Marillac. Green had always wanted to have students create a painting with saints. The idea of “Saints Among Us” was born. “Fr. Norman and I met to discuss utilizing the tradition of Catholic art for the project wherein the universal is brought to the local, and where constraints

of time do not limit the art,” said Green. “Then I consulted Vice-Principal Sarah Lambert and middle school religion teacher, Monica Howa-Johnson, about which saints and holy people to include. Each saint or holy person on the painting has a strong link to Saint Vincent School or was included to reflect the diversity that is present in our Church.”

Paula Smithson, then a mother of children in the school and an art teacher, was contacted to help with the project. She had 24 middle school students each draw one of the 24 chosen people, and then those drawings were transferred to canvas. Students in grades four through eight helped paint the outlines of the people and create the background. Smithson and some students finished the painting in the summer, and the project was presented to Fr. Norman and the parish community at

Mass after the new school year began.

“The project is now hanging in the Benvegnu Center, and the school has provided a legend that guides people to identify who is who in the painting. We also have information on the featured persons detailing why they were chosen, along with an explanation of the other items in the painting. ‘Saints Among Us’ reminds us of our calling to be saints and of our strong connection to the universal church,” said Green.



Students who worked on the “Saints Among Us” project present the final painting to Fr. Norman with Principal Green



2016-2017 Awards and Recognitions

Diocesan Science Fair Winners:

Nicholas Falkner: 1st Place Engineering for 8th grade and Overall Engineering winner; Kate Yarrish: 1st place Environmental Science for 7th grade and Overall 7th Grade winner; Kate Borgmeier: 1st place Plant Science for 7th grade and Overall Plant Science winner; and Indya Fiessinger: 2nd Place Chemistry for 7th grade.

Salt Lake Valley Science & Engineering Fair Placements:

Kate Borgmeier: 3rd Place in the Plant Science Division; Nicholas Falkner: 1st Place in the Engineering; Electrical & Computer Science Division and the UDOT Specialty Award for Creativity and Innovation in Transportation. His award gained him a nomination to compete this fall in the Broadcom Masters event in Washington D.C.

Spelling Bee Winners:

Chloe Mason took 1st Place and Jackson Green took 2nd Place in the Saint Vincent Spelling Bee. They were two out of 160 kids participating in the Salt Lake County Spelling Bee and represented us well.

Parade News:

Saint Vincent School was highlighted in the Deseret News for our participation in the Saint Patrick's Day parade. The Hibernian Society of Utah awarded our entry First Prize in the Parochial Schools Category.

School Presentations

- Internet safety night for parents: Covered important topics and resources on how to protect their children from online predators via social media and console games.
- Utah Opera assembly: Students



Gina Bachauer International Piano Foundation assembly with Jason Hardink from Utah Symphony

Geography Bee Winners:

Genevieve Johnson won the Saint Vincent Geography Bee and competed in the state level competition of the National Geographic Bee.

Art Contest Winners:

Lauren Barklow won the Shirley Venus Award at the Utah State Fair for a scratchboard depiction of a lion. Landon Ouellette won first place in the Rocky Mountain Region Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest, which earned the class a visit from Smokey himself. Landon's poster moved on to the national level. James Anderson was the 4th grade central region winner in The Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands Arbor Day Poster Contest.



Smokey the Bear visits 1st grade

Lego League:

The Saint Vincent School Lego League team attended the Lego League regional competition in February and took 2nd place for Best Robot Design.

- experienced the musical art of opera and learned about vocal technique.
- Brandon Heugly, camp director for the Utah Alliance for Children (and Murray School District employee) gave a presentation geared specifically for parents/guardians of children with AD(H)D. He discussed strategies that are available to help students with AD(H)D.
- The Gina Bachauer International Piano Foundation assembly: Jason Hardink, Principal Symphony Keyboard of the Utah Symphony, performed and talked about musical composition.
- Salt Lake County Animal Services did a presentation for our younger grades to learn about animal safety and care, ways to approach animals, and signs to look for before approaching an animal you do not know.
- Oak Canyon Jr. High from Lindon, UT visited our school and shared several

Knights of Columbus "Keeping Christ in Christmas" Essay Contest:

Winners from the 2016 contest were Talen Eischeid, Gabi Gitlin, Dominic Fedor, Erika Kruckenberg, Anna Patterson, Indya Fiessinger, and Nicholas Falkner. Honorable Mention was awarded to William Haney, Caroline Sessions, Camden Candilora, Xander Gonzalez, Gavin MacDonald, Jeremy Miller, Tatum Trentman, Kate Yarrish, Piper Chenoweth, Maria Galvez, and Kate Williams.

Artistic Notes:

Saint Vincent School bell ringers and choir performed at the State Capitol for the Capitol Centennial Celebration. They were the only Utah Catholic School to perform for the century celebration. Missoula Children's Theatre held their week-long performing arts program after school in April. This year's production was "The Tortoise vs. The Hare."



Saint Vincent bell ringers and choir perform at the State Capitol Centennial Celebration

interactive science demonstrations.

- Contemporary Catholic music artist, Sarah Hart, gave an uplifting assembly on being a good disciple, and how music and prayer go hand-in-hand.
- The Utah Anti-Bullying Coalition "Stand for Kindness" message inspired our students and the live concert from recording artists, Foreign Figures, had them rockin' in the stands!



Contemporary Catholic musician Sarah Hart school performance

"Lettuce Be Healthy" at Saint Vincent School

Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School has been developing a community garden for the past four seasons where students, parents, and teachers work together to till the land and plant and harvest the crops. These crops are then donated in fall to the Saint Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen to help make meals for the homeless. This past season, the garden took on a new educational component entitled the Lettuce Be Healthy Project where middle school students not only prepared the land and tended to the crops, but also learned healthy and nutritional ways to cook with vegetables.

Traditionally, the garden's crops have consisted of mostly squash, zucchini, and pumpkins. That was expanded this past spring to include carrots, radishes, spinach, lettuces and herbs. In fall, the crops were harvested with a sampling of the vegetables and herbs prepared in a cooking and tasting demonstration class taught by Aimee Toner, a Saint Vincent School parent and owner of Aimee's

Home Cookin' Spice Rubs. The students learned how to cook fresh produce in a healthy way and made great tasting kale chips and vegetable dishes. The remaining harvest was donated to the soup kitchen to help feed the homeless.

"It was a great experience," said Toner. "The kids were fully engaged and excited to be cooking with their hands.

They really stepped it up and got into the demonstrations and tasting the fresh foods we prepared. I would love to do this again."

Saint Vincent School thanks Whole Foods for their Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grant given for the Lettuce Be Healthy Project and Intermountain Healthcare for their support of the community garden.



Educational Field Trips

- Middle School students attended a showing of "Hidden Figures," and those interested in theater toured Hale Centre Theatre.
- The 1st and 2nd graders saw a production of "Aesop's Fables" at The Children's Theater.
- The 6th Graders saw "The Nile Project" at Kingsbury Hall where a group of musicians from the Nile River region of Africa played traditional African instruments and music.
- Saint Vincent Middle School students took a field trip to the Big Cottonwood Watershed Plant. They learned how our water is made safe for drinking.
- A group of Saint Vincent Middle

School students saw the Utah Shakespearean Festival's traveling production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." They also got to have an hour-long workshop with the actors.

- Second Grade took a field trip to Thanksgiving Point in April for the Tulip Festival.
- Saint Vincent 3rd Grade went on field trips in March to the Clark Planetarium and Primary Children's Hospital.
- The 5th Grade went to The Leonardo and learned how science, technology, art, and creativity connect!
- Seventh and 8th grade saw "To Kill a Mockingbird" at Hale Centre Theatre.



Second grade field trip to Thanksgiving Point



Sixth grade visit to Kingsbury Hall



Fifth grade visit to The Leonardo

Celebrating Random Acts of Kindness Week

Marie West, counselor at Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School, organized the first annual "Random Acts of Kindness Week" November 14 – 18, 2016. The week was set up with planned themes and activities centered on encouragement, gratitude, and caring for others.

The week started with Mindful Monday in which students were greeted with signs and happy face balloons all over campus, welcoming them back on Monday morning. Mrs. West gave each student a sticky note with a personal note of encouragement to begin their day. A "Kindness Mural" in the hall was hung where students and staff wrote down something they did recently that was kind. The mural was covered with an array of students' kind acts.

Thoughtful Tuesday was focused on becoming a "RAKtivist," short for Random Acts of Kindness activist. Students were encouraged to think like kindness ambassadors. A card with one act was given to each student to complete by the end of the week, such as holding the door open for a fellow student, or telling a friend why they are special. When the task was completed, the card was put in a jar located in their classroom. By the end of the week, each teacher had a jar filled to the brim with their students' kind gestures.

Worthwhile Wednesday focused on family. Students were encouraged to think

about who they love and appreciate in their family. Each student made a card for a family member expressing gratitude for what makes them so special. Thankful Thursday was for staff appreciation. Students wrote notes or decorated pictures thanking each staff member.

The week concluded with Friendly Friday which focused on spiritual reflection. During Mass, Father John Norman spoke in his homily about kindness and love, and their importance in the Catholic faith. Principal Gary Green spoke to the students after Mass saying, "We hope that what we did during Kindness Week stays with you forever and is a continual reminder to be mindful of what we say and do to others."



Preserving a Strong Legacy at Saint Vincent School

School Endowments

The Catholic Foundation of Utah endowments are essential to the sustainability of Catholic schools in Utah. Through the generosity of many benefactors who have contributed to these endowments, Saint Vincent School has been able to not only preserve its strong legacy of student achievement and success, but also continue to provide educational excellence into the future as well as financial assistance to eligible families through tuition scholarships. Last year, we gave out \$116,684 in tuition assistance. Please consider creating your own family-named endowment in honor or in memory of a loved one (family named endowments begin at \$10,000), or donating to one of our existing endowments listed below. Donations can be made online at svdpes.ejoinme.org/donation.

- St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School Endowment Fund
- Catherine Meyer Condas Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Natasha Michaelson Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Judi Stokes in Honor of Burnell & Phyllis Beebe Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Karen Sudar Giacomini Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Presentation Sisters and Monsignor Benvegna Scholarship Endowment Fund
- McCarthy Family Foundation Fund
- Cathy Hagan Reed Endowment in Memory of Alice Cecelia O'Hara Fund
- James C. and Alice Harte Endowment Fund
- Mark and Tina Longe Endowment in Honor of their Children: Ryan, Sarah, and Jeremy
- Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic School Special Endowment Fund

Giving Back

Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School collected \$5,208.79 in All School Mass Collections for Saint Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen, National Ability Center, Utah Food Bank, Ronald McDonald House, Catholic Relief Services, and Primary Children's Hospital. The students also conducted food and clothing drives throughout the school year benefitting a variety of organizations, including our Parish Food Bank and the Knights of Columbus winter clothing drive.

Alumni News and Awards

Congratulations to the following Saint Vincent School alumni (class of 2013) who graduated high school last May.

Judge Memorial Catholic High School:

Matthew Benvegna (University of Utah), Adrian Chavez (University of Utah), Abigail Garside (University of Arizona), Eric Heideman (University of Utah), Mikayla Herrera (Salt Lake Community College), Markie Hoggan (University of Utah), Samantha Kendell (University of Texas, Dallas), Albert Sanchez (Salt Lake Community College), Zachary Shaffer (Ohio State University), Jackson Start (University of Utah), John Luke Thomas (University of Alaska, Anchorage), Kathleen Wilkerson (University of Utah).

Matthew Benvegna graduated with First Honors and received the Bishop of the Diocese of Salt Lake City Award for Outstanding Scholar-Participant in Activities, and he received Academic Excellence Awards in Mathematics for

AP Statistics and in Social Studies. Also receiving Academic Excellence Awards, were Zachary Shaffer for Theatre and Eric Heideman for Instrumental Music and the Edison Award for Science.

Juan Diego Catholic High School:

Nash Elder (California Polytechnic State University), Lewis Rasmussen (University of San Diego), Jacob Sanderson (University of Utah), Derek Stuercke (Carroll College), Eslley Tan (University of Utah).

Nash Elder graduated with Honors, was awarded the Academy of Sciences, served a leadership role in Campus Life, was a finalist for Valedictorian/Salutatorian, and was awarded the Saint Thomas Aquinas and Juan Diego Boy Awards. Lewis Rasmussen served a leadership role in Campus Life. Eslley Tan graduated with Honors and was a finalist for Valedictorian/Salutatorian, the Saint Sebastian Award, and the Juan Diego Boy Award.

Grease is the Word:

Lewis Rasmussen (class of 2013) played Danny, the lead male role, in Juan Diego's production of Grease. Nya Elder (class of 2016) was also in the play.

2018 National Merit Scholarship Program:

Logan Seat and Alexander Junkins (class of 2014), current seniors at Judge Memorial, were recognized as Commended Students

in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students account for more than two-thirds of the approximately 50,000 high scorers on the PSAT/NMSQT and were presented with Letters of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise.

Law and Order:

Dona Sansone (class of 2008) was accepted into five different law schools, and Christian Barbiero (class of 2006) passed the bar exam and was sworn into the Utah State Bar. Mario Widdowson (class of 2008) graduated from the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology and Criminology and graduated from the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office Academy where he currently serves as a Deputy. He has also been accepted into graduate school at Westminster College and will pursue a Master of Arts in Community Leadership.



Eric Heideman ('13) wins the Donut Dash in November

Graduation Stats

The Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School, class of 2017, are currently attending:

- Judge Memorial Catholic High School (73%)
- Juan Diego Catholic High School (7%)
- Public/Other Schools (20%)

Statement of Activities 2016-2017

SCHOOL RECEIPTS:

Tuition & Fees	\$1,315,664
Nano Nagle Income (1/3 profit paid to school)	8,000
Grants Received	300
Extended Day	167,450
*Fundraisers	147,415
Diocesan Support	50,077
Contributions (Special & General)	45,668
State of Utah/Carson Smith	74,455
Diocese Scholarships	10,800
Interest Income	4,964
Nano Nagle (Tuition & Fees)	488,304
Nano Nagle (Fundraisers & Donations)	18,639
TOTAL SCHOOL RECEIPTS	\$2,331,736

SCHOOL DISBURSEMENTS:

Instructional & Admin	
(Salaries, Benefits & Supplies)	\$1,324,214
Operation & Maintenance	308,742
Student Activities	22,134
Extended Day (Salaries, Benefits & Facility)	81,049
Unrestricted Endowment Donation (CFU)	50,000
Capital Asset Expenses	63,223
Grant Expenses	300
Fundraising Expenses	341
Nano Nagle Expenses	475,442
TOTAL SCHOOL DISBURSEMENTS	\$2,325,445
EXCESS SCHOOL RECEIPTS	\$6,291

INCOME

*Fundraisers (Main):

Scrip Program	\$25,376
Auction	\$111,786
Uniform Sales Commission	\$11,307

Retirement Celebration for Rosemary Bennet and Carol Barman



Last May, Saint Vincent School held a retirement celebration for two long-time, dedicated employees – Rosemary Bennet and Carol Barman. Bennet served the school for 22 years as the secretary, as well as a substitute teacher, and recess and lunchtime supervisor. She continues to substitute teach and volunteer at the school whenever the need arises. All of her grandchildren have gone through the school; the youngest one is in the third grade this year. In an interview with the Intermountain Catholic, Bennet said she accumulated a wide range of stories and memories. “Watching my grandchildren going from pre-k all the way to graduation and being able to see them every day... Being able to meet and care for all the kids – I never treat anyone different. Trying to take care of them and being here for their needs has been great. It’s been a great job. It’s fun to see where we started and where we are. It’s just amazing to see how far we have come. ...I spend a lot of time at the

school. It’s like my second home.”

Carol Barman served as Development Director for 17 years, but was a part of the community for 24 years beginning with her daughter’s enrollment in kindergarten. During the celebration event, Barman said that one of her fondest memories at the school was seeing how parents stepped up and volunteered. “I couldn’t have done my job without their help,” she said. In an interview with the Intermountain Catholic, she remembered how much she has enjoyed seeing all the changes that occurred at the school. “I really enjoyed seeing all the things that happened through Saint Vincent’s – the pavilion, the prayer garden, all of those things. It has been fun to see all those areas grow. I have been very blessed to be able to help families, too. This has been my community. A lot of our families are friends today. I love Catholic education. Saint Vincent’s has been a great place to work for. I worked for Mark Longe forever, and then Gary

Green. They are both excellent leaders.”

Longe, who was in administration at the school for 19 years and is the current Superintendent of Utah Catholic Schools, and Green, current Saint Vincent School Principal, also spoke at the dinner and thanked them both for their dedication. “That person at the front desk is the most important person you can have at the school because they really transfer that message, that Gospel message of love. That we are all for sharing that love of Christ for others, and that’s she,” said Longe. “Carol, thank you for your commitment, and I thank you, as the former principal, for waking up this school; and as the superintendent I thank you for what you have done for the system, because you have helped other people to understand.” Green added, “Rosemary always helped in whatever was needed. I really admire Carol because of her selflessness. She doesn’t ever settle; she goes and helps and achieves.”



Bennet family celebrating Rosemary’s retirement

This Year’s Auction

Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School presents an evening at

CASINO ROYALE

Saturday, February 10, 2018
5:30 p.m. – Midnight

POKER DANCING CRAPS

LIVE AUCTION SILENT AUCTION

Tickets on sale November 14, 2017
\$80 per person
Includes appetizers, dinner, and 2 drink tickets.
Cash bar available.

stvincents-school.org



Left to right: Jody Gibson (St. Vincent Accountant), Tom Barman (Carol’s husband), Mark Longe, Carol Barman, and Jodie Palmer (former assistant to Carol)

Saint Vincent Attends University of Utah Engineering Program

Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School sixth graders attended the Elementary Engineering Week hosted by the University of Utah, College of Engineering in March. The University opened up registration for this free program to provide an opportunity for older elementary students, grades five and six, to be introduced to the field of engineering while learning practical applications of engineering concepts and scientific principles. This was the first time Saint Vincent School was selected to participate in the program.

Accepted classes were assigned a day during the week to attend and participate in activities. The day's activities included a straw towers building challenge that implemented structural engineering and design principles, constructing paper boats to float on water and test buoyant force by seeing how many bolts they could hold before sinking, and participating in a "Fish Blitz" race where student teams constructed fish out of clay and raced them across water.

The goal of the race was to design either the quickest or slowest fish in the sea using the scientific principle of water resistance. Team Sloths, comprised of Saint Vincent students Trevor McMillan, Olivier Baende, Atlas Tran, Bagat Alor and Jess Chisholm, won the Slowest Fish of Clay award.

Each class was also asked to bring a working catapult they designed and built for a contest held at the event. The catapult was required to be designed and built by a student and be able to launch a large marshmallow into an aluminum pie tin target placed twelve feet away. Dr. Teresa Musci, Saint Vincent Middle School science instructor, oversaw the Saint Vincent students and conducted a class contest to determine which catapult they would take to the University. "The students were definitely motivated to construct and test their catapults. In addition, this was an excellent activity that complied with the engineering part of our new Next Generation Science Standards curriculum," said Musci.

Max Toner, 6th grade, built the

winning catapult with Teo Kjolseth, also in 6th grade, coming in a close second place. Both students represented the class and demonstrated on stage how well Toner's catapult worked by launching marshmallows at a target as they competed against other schools' winning designs. "I thought it would be cool to bring Teo up with me because he was close behind me in our class catapult contest. It was a little nerve wracking to compete against kids from other schools, but I like a challenge and it certainly gave me one. I thought the day was really fun and a good experience," said Toner.



St. Vincent de Paul Parish School | (801) 277-6702 | stvincents-school.org

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St. Vincent de Paul Parish School

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