# VOL. 1, ISSUE 8 | JUNE 10, 2022





## Dear Parents and Benefactors...

STMA has been so blessed this year. It hasn't been without trials and difficulties, but looking back it has been the amount of good, the amount of learning and growing in virtue, the number of happy, joyful faces that walk through the halls each day that shines most clearly.

My proudest moment this year was not when the students earned the top 1% spot in their state standardized tests. Rather, it was witnessing our oldest students sing with gusto and love. It is not common for young people to learn how to sing these days, and it is even more uncommon to have early adolescents sing with reckless abandon—with all their heart. This is a true testament to not only our dear choir teacher, Jerome Cole, but to all the staff who created a culture of excellence, love, and support where students are cool when they are kind, hardworking, and sing without fear.

We look forward to seeing many of you this summer, and we cannot wait for the start of our second year when we will almost be tripling our numbers from year one.

Let's keep one another in prayers until then.

God bless!

June 22nd: STMA All-School Picnic

Please join us for our annual school picnic to celebrate the feast of our patron, St. Thomas More! This year's picnic will be held on Wednesday, June 22 from 5:30-8:30 at the Quaking Aspen Picnic Shelter at Potato Creek State Park. <u>CLICK HERE</u> For more information and to RSVP. We look forward to seeing everyone at the park!

#### July 9: Scott Hahn at St. Patrick

Dr. Scott Hahn will be speaking at St. Patrick Parish in South Bend on Saturday, July 9 from 9:00 am to noon. The program will start with Mass at 8:00 am. The cost is \$20. This St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology event is sponsored by St. Thomas More Academy. <u>CLICK HERE</u> for more information and to register.

Anthony Biese, Headmaster

## Student Corner



#### Hannah, Kindergarten

Q: What do you like best about going to STMA?

A: That we get to do fun things like going on adventures in art class.

Q: What adventures have you been on?

A: We got to make a stage and put on our play downstairs in the school where we haven't been before.

Q: What is the best part about having Ms. Havard as your teacher?

A: She's fun and when it's a super nice day outside we have extra recesses!



Q: Have you had any special activities in your classroom this year for science?

A: Yes! We had butterflies.

**Q:** What happened with the butterflies?

A: We watched them grow into beautiful butterflies from teensy caterpillars.

Q: Did your butterfly have a name?

A: Mine was Fatima.

Q: What do you want to be when you grow up, Katie?

A: A mom!

Katie, Kindergarten







Lydia, 1st grade

Q: What is your favorite part of school at STMA?

A: I like playing with my friends at recess and salvation history.

Q: What do you like most about salvation history?

A: I like every bit of it!

Q: What would you like to be when you grow up, Lydia?

- A: I want to be a scientist like my mom.
- Q: What would you like to study?
- A: I want to study nature.



#### Leo Pienta, 1st grade

Q: What has been your favorite thing this school year?

A: Ms. Havard!

Q: Why?

A: Because I love her personality and that she is just a really good teacher.

Q: Do you know what you want to be when you grow up?

A: A racecar driver. An Indy race car driver!

Q: How did you decide you want to do that?

A: Because my dad really likes Indy cars and so I just started really liking Indy cars, too.

Q: What is something interesting that you did in school this year?

A: Doing our butterflies!

Q: What did you like the most about the butterflies?

A: It was really fun to watch them grow more and more. And it was really fun to watch them get into a cocoon and get out of their cocoon and fly away.

Q: What do you want to be when you grow up, Annabelle?

- A: A baker!
- Q: Why a baker?

A: Because my grandmother died when I was 2 or 3 and her favorite thing was baking and I just really enjoy it. My favorite thing to do in baking is cracking the eggs!

Annabelle, 1st grade





Edmund, 2nd grade

Q: What is the most interesting thing you've learned this school year?

A: Probably spelling.

- Q: Why spelling?
- A: Because I like learning words.

Q: What's something you've enjoyed about having Mr. Furneri as your teacher?

A: We do drawing and science.

Q: What do you want to be when you grow up, Edmund?

A: A biologist.

Q: Why a biologist?

A: Because I like learning about life.



Mimi, 2nd grade

Q: What is the happiest part of your day?

A: Playing with my friends at recess.

Q: What is something you like to play at recess?

A: We like to do different things on different days. I'm really good at jump roping. My record is 148 times in a row!

Q: What have you enjoyed about your teacher, Mr. Furneri?

A: How much energy he has. And how he always makes learning so much fun.

Q: What's an example of something fun you've done this year in class?

A: We made chariots and had a chariot race. And we caught a baby bunny and I held it! Q: What is something you've really enjoyed learning this school year?

A: Science.

Q: What have you liked about science?

A: I liked drawing plants and doing a lot of fun activities.

Q: What would you like to do when you grow up, Jonah?

A: Landscaping.

Q: Why landscaping?

A: I like helping my dad in the yard.

Q: What has been your favorite thing about having Mr. Furneri for a teacher this year?

A: That's a tricky question! He lets us do a lot of fun things for science. And he just makes every subject a lot of fun.

Jonah K., 3rd grade





Josiah R., 3rd grade

Q: What is the happiest part of your day at STMA?

A: Recess! I like playing football and catch with the baseball.

Q: What is your favorite subject?

A: Math.

Q: What is something you've enjoyed learning in math this year?

A: I really like geometry. I liked learning about shapes.

Q: What have you enjoyed most about having Mr. Furneri as your teacher?

A: He's funny and he lets us do activities that we wouldn't do at other schools.

Q: Like what?

A: We made cardboard chariots and raced them on the recess field!



#### Annie, 3rd grade

Q: What is the happiest part of your day at school?

A: I really like doing drama. We get to practice our plays and have a lot of fun.

Q: What do you think is your favorite memory from this school year?

A: I really liked it during science one time when we put on big socks and we rubbed them around on the carpet to make friction. When we touched each other's fingers there was a spark!

Q: What have you enjoyed about your teacher, Mr. Furneri?

A: I like how he thinks up fun, creative things. Like when we were doing homophones he let us play homophone bingo. He always lets us have lots of fun in class time!

## Q: What's been your favorite subject this year?

A: Probably physics.

Q: Why physics?

A: Because everything in the universe uses physics. Like the moon for example. Without gravity, which is physics, it would either be crashing into Earth or floating off into space.

Q: What is something you really enjoyed about having Mr. McAuliff as a teacher?

A: He likes to help the students that are having a problem.

Q: Do you have any exciting plans for the summer?

A: Yeah! We are going to move to Champaign, Illinois.

## Benjamin B., 4th grade





## John B., 5th grade

Q: What have you enjoyed about coming to school at STMA?

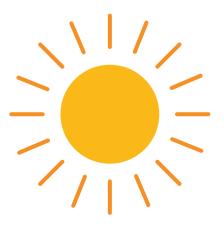
A: Recess and sports. I really like football.

Q: Is there anything that has surprised you about coming to South Bend?

A: It's always cloudy!

Q: What's one of your favorite things about having Mr. McAuliff?

A: He plays basketball with us in the gym and he's also really funny.





### Charlotte, 5th grade

Q: What is your favorite subject?

A: Recess!

Q: What do you like playing at recess?

A: I like playing with my friends. Magic games. I like magic.

Q: Have you learned about any interesting Saints this year?

A: St. Agnes! One of my favorites. Just one year older than me when she was martyred. Q: What do you enjoy the most about going to school at STMA?

A: They teach in a way that is not stern but more charitable.

Q: Did you enjoy doing the school plays?

A: Yes! It was really fun. We didn't give up when it was hard. We worked on roles for at least over a month.

Q: Do you have any exciting plans for the summer?

A: We have all the Lord of the Rings Lego sets but most of them are broken so I'm planning on rebuilding those. We are also going to Olympic National Park in Washington State.

Jonah S., **5th grade** 



# Our Lady of Fatima & May Crowning May 13, 2022











## Cubs Baseball Field Trip May 25, 2022















A special thank you to all the parent chaperones that made our day at the ballpark possible!



Grandparents' Day

June 1, 2022















A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO Ms. Cramer for all of her work with the students in drama and art this year!

## ST. THOMAS MORE, PRAY FOR US!