## Frequently Asked Questions about St. Paul's

#### What is the most important part of St. Paul's?

In our school your child will be in God's Word every day giving them a firm foundation for a lifelong faith in Christ. With weekly chapel, daily religion time, prayers and devotions each day their spiritual growth will be nurtured by caring, Christian teachers.

## What does the Kindergarten day look like?

We have an all-day Kindergarten program and our school day lasts from 8:15-3:20. Watch <u>A</u> <u>Day in Kindergarten</u>.

#### What is the earliest I can drop off my child?

In the morning your child can wait in the library of the school starting at 7:45. From 7:55 to 8:05 we have gym time or go outside to get some movement and get our brains ready for a day of learning.

#### What about the teachers?

All of our teachers have over 10 years of experience teaching at multiple levels. We are here because this is what we love to do. All teachers are licensed by the state of Nebraska and participate in staff development workshops each year to grow in their knowledge.

#### How are parents involved in the school?

As a parent you have the opportunity to help in the classroom by signing up as a room parent. You can also assist us by driving and chaperoning on our field trips. We have a Parent Teacher League that meets about 4 times a year for fellowship and fundraising to support our school. Our main fundraiser for PTL is the Wine & Cheese Tasting every March. We ask that parents serve on one of our PTL committees to support our school in a variety of ways.

### What are your class sizes?

Typically our classes range in size from 12 to 18 students. Our smaller class size benefits our students by providing more one on one time with the teacher.

### What about recess?

We understand how crucial recess is for children's development and learning, so we have recently installed outdoor classroom areas in our playground. These areas are helping all students to benefit from recess with music, art, nature elements and more cooperative play. We utilize these outdoor spaces in other subject areas as well, so that we can spend time learning outside in God's creation. We also have teacher-led P.E. classes daily, and recess for at least fifteen minutes *twice* a day.

#### How are you keeping up with technology?

We have a computer lab for our students to use as well as iPads in our classrooms. Our teachers stay up to date by attending technology courses, and many have completed Tec 21 through Concordia University.

#### What opportunities are available for music?

Our students have music classes 3 times a week. We also sing in church once a month to thank St. Paul's congregation for supporting our school. After school for upper grades there is a bell choir and a guitar choir for those who are interested. Fifth grade band is also an option in our building.

## How will I communicate with the school and the Kindergarten teacher?

The school sends home a weekly newsletter which is emailed to you – paper copies are also available. In Kindergarten we use a daily folder with a homework and communication log. You can call, text, or email Mrs. Eisele with more urgent questions.

### What if my child struggles academically?

Our teachers will work with you to help you find what best works for your child. If your child qualifies for services we have Title I Reading, Speech, and Occupational Therapy available for them right at our school. For other needs children can be transported to the public school system for the amount of time that best benefits them.

## What if my child struggles with behavior in the classroom?

Kindergarten is a time of great growth and learning. First semester much of that involves learning how to be a student in school all day long, and learning how to get along with many different personalities that all exist in the same space. If your child is struggling with appropriate classroom behavior Mrs. Eisele will stay in close contact with you so that together we can find solutions that work for your child. If

you have concerns about this area I encourage you to check out <u>Our Class Behavior Plan</u>.

# Will the transition from St. Paul's to a public Middle School be difficult for my child?

We hear back often from teachers and parents of Middle Schoolers that their child was very well prepared academically. Being in God's Word daily also sets a foundation for making responsible and mature decisions as these students leave our building.

### What are the costs of going to St. Paul's?

Tuition and fees cover almost 50% of the cost of educating your child. The remaining cost is funded by St. Paul's church congregation. For a child attending Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade the congregation pays over \$17,000 total because they deeply value your child's Christian education. See our tuition and fees sheet for more info.

## What if I really want to send my child here but cannot afford it?

Please talk to our Principal, Mrs. Duever. In the past we have been blessed with some generous donors. They offer to sponsor students who could not otherwise attend our school, because they know how important Christian education is. Our Board of Education also hosts a golf tournament fundraiser each year and all the proceeds go towards our scholarship fund.

Still have questions?
Contact us at 402-223-3414

St. Paul's Lutheran School 930 Prairie Lane Beatrice, NE 68310 school.stpaulbeatrice.org