



Saint Raphael School

Annual Report 2025-2026

A Message From Our Administrative Team:

Dear School Community,

As we reflect on this past year, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the many ways our school has grown, flourished, and stayed true to the mission that defines who we are. Each day, we strive to live out the calling to be One in Christ, Strong in Faith, and Rich in Legacy, and this year has been a powerful testament to that shared purpose.

One in Christ:

Unity has been at the center of our work and our relationships. From collaborative learning in the classroom to service projects that connected students, families, and parish partners, we witnessed a community that consistently chose compassion, respect, and support for one another. Our commitment to Christ-centered education continues to guide every decision and every interaction within our school walls.

Strong in Faith:

Faith formation remained not just an element of our curriculum but the heartbeat of our daily life. Whether through prayer, liturgy, sacramental preparation, or moments of reflection woven throughout the school day, our students deepened their understanding of God's love and learned to express their faith with confidence and joy. We are proud of the intentional ways our staff and families helped nurture a spiritual environment where children see their faith as both a gift and a responsibility.

Rich in Legacy:

This year we celebrated the traditions, values, and history that make our school a cherished community. We honored the generations who built the foundation on which we continue to stand and renewed our commitment to carrying that legacy forward with excellence. Academically, spiritually, and socially, our students advanced in ways that reflect the strong heritage of this institution: one built on integrity, service, leadership, and love. As administrators, we are humbled and grateful to walk alongside such dedicated educators, supportive families, and remarkable students. Thank you for your partnership, your trust, and your unwavering belief in our mission. Together, we continue to build a school where hearts grow, minds flourish, and faith thrives. May God bless our community abundantly in the year ahead.

Our Mission Statement:

Saint Raphael School is a Catholic Community where we live our faith, strive for life-long academic excellence, and leave the world better than we found it.

Ken Mitskavich, Principal

Mary Sak, Assistant Principal

Nathaniel Tosi, Assistant Principal





Expanding Our Campus:

One in Christ

This year marked an exciting milestone for our school with the opening of our brand-new playground and pavilion, an investment not only in campus improvements, but in the well-being, creativity, and development of the children and families we serve. Designed with inclusivity, safety, and imagination in mind, the playground features age-appropriate structures, sensory-friendly elements, and natural play areas, while the pavilion provides a welcoming space for students to gather, learn, and connect. Every detail encourages exploration, collaboration, and joyful play that supports our commitment to nurturing social-emotional growth alongside physical development. From the moment they opened, these spaces quickly became places filled with joy, laughter, and community. Together, they serve as living expressions of this year's theme, *"One in Christ"*, reminding us that unity, friendship, and shared experiences are at the heart of a faith-filled Catholic school community.

Throughout the day, students from all grade levels can come together on the playground and under the pavilion, forming connections that strengthen our sense of family. Older students model leadership and kindness, while younger students build confidence, cooperation, and trust. These interactions, rooted in respect and care, reflect the Catholic values we strive to nurture: seeing Christ in one another and treating each person with compassion. Play and shared outdoor experiences remain some of the most powerful ways children learn to communicate, collaborate, and grow. In these spaces, students practice inclusion, patience, forgiveness, and teamwork in meaningful ways. Teachers and staff will be also using the pavilion for outdoor lessons, prayer, and school gatherings, further enriching the student experience.

The creation of this new playground and pavilion was made possible through the generosity and partnership of donors, families, parishioners, volunteers, community partners, and the dedicated planning of our staff. Their shared vision transformed our outdoor area into a vibrant space for activity, learning, and connection. The unity demonstrated in bringing this project to life reflects the strength we have when we work together with a shared purpose. As our children run, explore, learn, and gather each day, they are doing far more than playing, they are building relationships, growing in confidence, and learning values that will shape them for years to come. These new spaces stand as lasting symbols of who we are: a community connected, caring, and committed to growing together as *"One in Christ"*.



Strengthening Safety for a Stronger School Community:

This year, our school continued its commitment to providing a safe, secure, and nurturing environment through a series of significant updates to our security measures. These improvements reflect more than operational enhancements, they express our faith in action. As a Catholic school community, being **“Strong in Faith”** means caring deeply for the well-being of every child entrusted to us. Our security initiatives are rooted in that responsibility: to protect, to prepare, and to create a space where students can learn with confidence and peace. The new security measures include upgraded entry systems, enhanced campus surveillance, improved communication protocols, and ongoing safety training for faculty and staff. Each improvement was thoughtfully designed to strengthen our ability to respond swiftly and appropriately to emergencies while preserving the warm, welcoming environment that defines our mission. By reinforcing both our physical campus and our internal procedures, we live out our call to stewardship, safeguarding our students that God has placed in our care.

Saint Raphael School takes a thoughtful, layered approach to keeping students safe throughout the day. Our updated Safety Plan has built-in levels of support that include regular drills, staff training in first aid and emergency response, and the use of tools like walkie-talkies, cameras, new check in procedures (Raptor) and a new secure PA system. Arrival and dismissal are carefully managed with controlled access, traffic flow measures, and staff positioned both inside and outside to escort and monitor students. During the school day, students are guided between classrooms, lunch, recess, and restrooms, while hallways are routinely checked and the Welcome Center is always staffed. For special events like all-school Masses, doors are locked in the church, staff and BVPD officers are present, and extra security is provided, all reflecting our commitment to creating a safe, welcoming environment for every student.

This year, we also introduced an additional level of support by inviting trained parish volunteers into the building. These dedicated volunteers serve as additional “eyes and ears” throughout the school day, helping monitor hallways and common areas while assisting staff and greeting visitors. Their presence reflects our shared commitment to protecting our students and demonstrates the powerful role that faith-filled service plays in strengthening our school community. Their partnership reminds us that safety is a collective effort, made stronger when many hearts and hands come together.

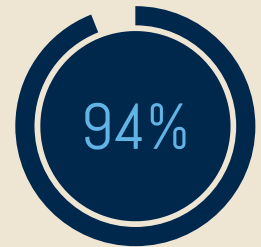
Our enhanced security measures supported by dedicated volunteers, reflect how we remain **“Strong in Faith”** and steadfast in our commitment to the students we serve.

Strong in Faith



Saint Raphael School at a Glance:

Total Enrollment 608



In 2024-2025 68 out of 72 students attended Catholic High School after graduation.

Faculty and Staff

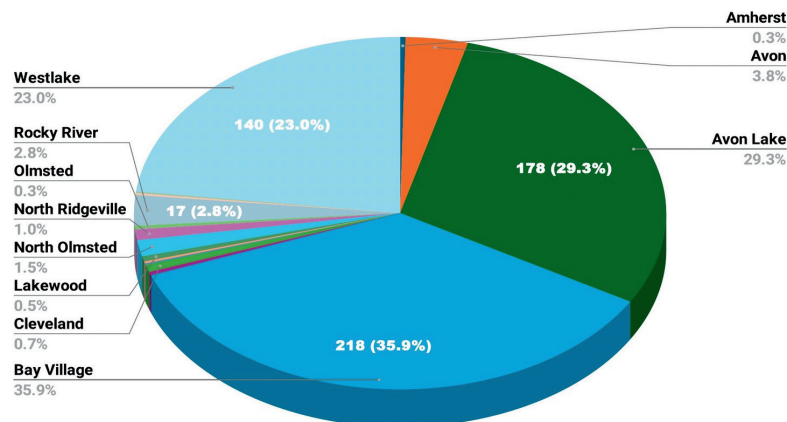
PRINCIPAL	1
ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS	2
FULL-TIME TEACHERS	33
PART-TIME TEACHERS	2
SUPPORT STAFF	10
MASTERS DEGREES	19
ENROLLED IN MASTERS PROGRAM	3
JURIS DOCTOR	1



Support Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	1
SECRETARY	1
TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR	1
SCHOOL BOOKKEEPER	1
STREAM COORDINATOR	1
TEACHER AIDES	3
KINDERGARTEN AIDES	2

Communities Served



Auxiliary Staff

INTERVENTION SPECIALISTS	3
WILSON TUTORS	2
GENERAL EDUCATIONAL TUTORS	2
SPANISH TEACHER	1
FULL-TIME NURSE	1
GOVERNMENT CLERK	1
SPEECH THERAPIST	1
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST	1
SCHOOL COUNSELOR	1

Raiders Club

The Raiders Club is a before and after care program for working families of Saint Raphael students. This club accepts children in grades kindergarten through sixth. The morning club includes quiet activities, games and optional gym time. The afternoon club includes a snack, drink, homework time, and other educational activities such as crafts, recreational activities, special events, field trips, computer time, movies, and more.

Home and School Association

We are a dedicated partner in the academic progress and faith formation of students at Saint Raphael School. A parent-run organization created to work together with the students and faculty to make Saint Raphael the very best it can be.



Co-Curricular Activities

Teacher commitment and parental involvement inspire and allow us to provide our students with a variety of co-curricular activities. We are proud to offer an assortment of engaging programs that truly enrich the lives of our students.

- Art Club
- Band
- Scouts
- Brain Brawl
- Builders Club
- Chess Club
- Choir/Cantors
- Classroom of Champions
- Drama Club
- Eager Engineers
- Garden Club
- Girl Scouts
- Lego Club
- Math Competition
- News Team
- Peace Project
- Personal Finance
- Power of the Pen
- Raider Readers
- School Newspaper
- Science Olympiad
- Service Club
- Ski Club
- Student Ambassadors
- Student Council
- Student Liturgy Committee
- Yearbook

CYO Sports

- Football
- Cross Country
- Track
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Cheerleading

A Legacy Of Excellence: CYO Sports At Saint Raphael School:

Class of 1991
CYO Football Team



For decades, Saint Raphael School has been “*Rich in Legacy*” within the Cleveland Diocese CYO program, providing students with athletic experiences that extend far beyond competition. Rooted in our Catholic faith, CYO sports at Saint Raphael emphasize character formation, teamwork, perseverance, and leadership, helping students grow both on and off the field. Through opportunities in basketball, volleyball, track, cross-country, football, and other sports, students develop confidence and discipline while learning the importance of commitment and sportsmanship. Central to the success of our program is the dedication of our coaches, parent volunteers, and staff, who generously give their time and talents to mentor and support our student-athletes. Their guidance ensures a safe, inclusive, and encouraging environment where every child is valued.

Rich in Legacy

At Saint Raphael, athletics is a true ministry that integrates prayer, reflection, and service into practices and games, and reinforcing values such as integrity, respect, and resilience. As Athletic Director Shane Fitzpatrick explains, “CYO athletics at Saint Raphael is about much more than wins and losses. It’s about forming young people who understand the value of faith, teamwork, and responsibility, and who carry those lessons with them long after their playing days are over.”



CYO sports also play a vital role in strengthening our school and parish community. Families gather to cheer on our teams, friendships form across grade levels, and shared traditions are celebrated through seasons of hard work and achievement. This rich athletic legacy continues to inspire future generations, shaping students into compassionate leaders, committed teammates, and active members of their faith community.



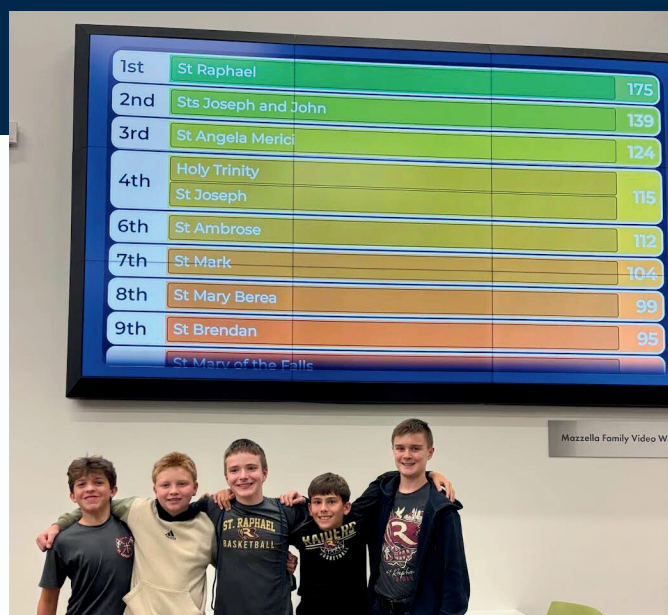
Our alumni play an important role in continuing this tradition. Many former Saint Raphael students return to support CYO athletics as coaches, volunteers, officials, and enthusiastic supporters that share firsthand how their experiences helped shape their character, faith, and leadership. “*Rich in Legacy*,” CYO at Saint Raphael has always set the standard. The tradition of excellence, high achievement, and sportsmanship has pushed us to be our best on the court, in the classroom, and in our faith.



Achievement, Leadership, and Service:

This year, Saint Raphael School implemented **Amplify CKLA** (Core Knowledge Language Arts), a research-based literacy program aligned with the Science of Reading in grades K-5. CKLA provides systematic and explicit instruction in phonics, vocabulary development, and language comprehension: key components proven to improve early literacy outcomes and long-term reading proficiency. Through the use of content-rich texts integrated across science, history, and the arts, students build essential background knowledge that directly supports reading comprehension and critical thinking. This structured approach to literacy instruction ensures consistency across grade levels while supporting measurable growth in reading skills and academic achievement.

CKLA



Curriculum Highlights:

- Art Show
- Living Wax Museum
- Kindergarten Circus
- Science Fair
- Ohio Day
- Poetry Jamboree
- Harvest Day
- Special Person Day
- Jesus Day
- Christmas/Band Concerts
- PBIS Program
- Spritual Olympics
- Right to Read Week
- Book Fair
- May Crowning
- Talent Show
- Rock the Challenge
- Catholic Schools Week
- Camp Damascus
- 100th Day
- Debate Day
- Capstone
- Court in the Classroom
- Field Day

MAP Testing

We are pleased to share that, due to the hard work, dedication, and commitment of our teachers and students, Saint Raphael School maintained or improved MAP assessment scores in every grade level and subject area tested. Saint Raphael continues to exceed national norms across all areas of the assessment. The 2025 aggregate results for student achievement are as follows:

Reading - 93rd Percentile

Mathematics - 94rd Percentile

Notable Achievements:

- The Builders Club was honored with the National Builders Club Service Project Award in recognition of its outstanding "March the Madness Out of Hunger" food drive, highlighting students' commitment to service, leadership, and community outreach.
- The Saint Raphael Academic Team earned first place in the U.S. History Classroom of Champions Competition held at Saint Edward High School, demonstrating exceptional knowledge, preparation, and teamwork.
- For 18 consecutive years, SRS has been honored with the Thomas Edison Governor's Award for Excellence in STEM Education.
- Students in fourth through sixth grades participated in the Science Olympiad, competing against other schools. The event featured 22 challenges that assessed their problem-solving abilities and tested their knowledge of science topics through written exams and STEM building tasks.
- The Music, Band, and Cantor programs enriched student learning through performance, cultural experiences, and leadership in liturgical life. Students attended professional arts performances, including the Cleveland Orchestra, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, and The Nutcracker ballet. Cantors led music at all-school Masses and special liturgies, while the Concert and Cadet Bands shared their talents through school and community performances, pep rallies, and seasonal concerts.
- STREAM students earned both second- and third-place honors in the Cardboard Arcade division of the X-STREAM Games for grades 3-5, showcasing creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.
- Saint Raphael Academic Team students demonstrated academic excellence at the Saint Ignatius Brain Brawl tournament, where the "C" Team earned the Division 2B flight championship. This achievement reflects the team's dedication, preparation, and strong commitment to scholarly competition.
- The 5th and 6th grade Math Teams were recognized with several ribbons for their efforts and achievements in competitive events.
- Through service and community outreach, students collected and donated over 1,000 pairs of socks to Lakewood Community Services Center during "Socktober" and celebrated World Kindness Day as a school on November 13, reinforcing a culture of compassion and service.



Opportunities to Benefit Saint Raphael School



THANK YOU

*for supporting the mission of
Saint Raphael School*

Scan the QR Code to
donate online.



*Turning taxes into tuition with the
Catholic Community Foundation*

Make a charitable donation to the new Angel Scholarship Fund and turn your “tax dollars into tuition” through an Ohio income tax credit of up to \$750 (\$1,500 if married filing jointly) against your tax liability. Donations can be designated to benefit Saint Raphael School.

Saint Raphael School

525 Dover Center Road
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

Phone : 440-871-6760

Admissions Line : 440-360-7332

Website : saintraphaelparish-school.com

Alumni :

Saint Raphael graduates are encouraged to stay connected about potential alumni social events, volunteer opportunities, community events, and more. If you have questions, comments, or want to join our alumni association, please email alumni@saintraphaelparish.com.

Pastor : Rev. Daniel F. Schlegel

Parochial Vicar : Rev. Ryan M. Arto

Principal : Mr. Ken Mitskavich

Assistant Principal : Mrs. Mary Sak

Assistant Principal : Mr. Nathaniel Tosi

Saint Raphael Parish/School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

LET'S CONNECT!

