



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

3401 SW MYRTLE ST • SEATTLE WA 98126 • P 206 935 0651 • F 206 938 3695 • GUADALUPE-SCHOOL.ORG

2023-2024 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE



Throughout the years, Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic School (OLG) has been known within the community as a leader of adaptability and service to all. We espouse the ability to be *Welcoming to All* in both our parish and school which implies that we adapt to the ever-changing world of education in order to provide the best possible experience to our students. We excelled in the last couple of years in rapidly re-opening safely to in-person learning after COVID closed all schools, as well as offering excellent online learning and hybrid formats in the interim times.

Thus, despite any obstacles or limited resources, Our Lady of Guadalupe School always strives to provide the best level of education to its students, while supporting our teachers and school families through a wide variety of programs geared towards academic excellence, tuition assistance, professional development and more. This is why every year; Our Lady of Guadalupe School brings our community together to support a specific need or project through both our Fund-A-Need / Raise-the-Paddle and our Annual Fund Drive.

At the March 2023 School Auction, the OLG team was truly excited to introduce the **Academic Excellence Initiative** as the focus project.

This project was designed and presented in three stages, each with a specific financial goal in order to reach and complete that stage. Thanks to the incredible and generous support of our school families, parish and community members, as well as our local business partners and committed volunteers, we were able to reach the **project goal of \$50,000!** This has allowed us not only to get the project immediately started but also plan each of the stages with the assurance that we will be able to see the project be executed fully, from beginning to end, from current year (Spring of 2023), through this summer's learning opportunities, and throughout next year with impact felt for years to come.

WHAT IS IT?

What is the Academic Excellence Initiative?

School leaders, inspired by a mission and vision of success for all learners, require specific tools and resources to achieve the desired outcomes.

The Academic Excellence Initiative is a **school-wide project** that will begin with an in-depth look at our school community's readiness to embrace and educate learners from all levels and with different abilities, determine the additional resources needed for success and develop an individualized program from early brainstorming to full implementation.

By partnering with a specialized team of consultants, we will enhance our current school platform to build an even stronger inclusive community, while creating excellence in teaching and learning.



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Why was the Academic Excellence Initiative selected as the right project to focus our resources on this year?

At Our Lady of Guadalupe School, we believe Catholic schools can be educational settings that meet the needs of all learners. However, as our student population is rapidly changing, so are the needs of our students. Catholic schools are seeing a drastic increase in students with neurodiversity, emotional regulation and behavioral needs, as well as mental health challenges.

Our Lady of Guadalupe School's mission directs us to work in partnership with each student's family to create a nurturing environment where children are challenged and supported to grow intellectually and spiritually, in service and in leadership. It is vital that we understand and meet the various needs of our students and offer on-going support and professional growth opportunities to our educators who are called to meet these needs.

HOW ARE GOING TO DO IT?

What are the three stages of the project?

ONE: ASSESS: School-wide Inclusion & Development Review

- a. Consultant Multi-Day Onsite Assessment, Evaluation & Report
- b. Summer Learning Stipends supporting our teachers.

TWO: TAKE ACTION: Professional Growth Opportunities & Support for our Faculty

- a. Fall Workshop(s) for all faculty addressing opportunities to enrich and support our diverse community.
- b. Additional curricular material for our diverse classroom environments

THREE: EXPAND AND CONTINUE: Additional Access to Curricular Resources

- a. On-going training and support
- b. Personalized coaching around assessments, instruction, student and teacher well-being

WHAT IMPACT WILL THIS HAVE?

What impact will this project have?

As outlined above, the project will consist of a school-wide needs assessments, program/community readiness studies, and program evaluation protocols. Based on the findings of these assessments, a specific plan to address all relevant areas of opportunity and improvement will be presented and executed.

This plan will include enhancements on how instruction is delivered in all classrooms, align inclusive programs with strategic goals and objectives, as well as engagement in a series of specific workshops for teachers and school staff throughout the school year.

These and other actions will lead to have an even stronger welcoming community where all students belong and can address their different learning needs and unique abilities. It will also assist our teachers in deepening their knowledge of specific learning needs and the best resources, tools, programs and strategies to effectively support them.

All this, we are confident, will subsequently reflect in an improvement of academic outcome for all students, making OLG an even better home for our diverse community.



To learn more about the project, the school and how you can support us, please contact Carla Mayuri, Development Director, at (206) 935.0651 Ext. 122 or at cmayuri@guadalupe-school.org.