



Santa Margarita Catholic High School

WCEA Visiting Committee
Final Presentation

February 5-7, 2024



Mission and Catholic Identity

Areas to Celebrate:

- Vast amount of opportunities for students and staff to live out their faith through prayer and service
- Variety of opportunities for faculty and staff through quarterly Faith Formation gatherings, daily Mass and weekly Adoration
- Clearly, intentionally, and visibly demonstrates Catholic culture and faith

Areas for Focus:

- Clarify the mission statement in more concise terms
- Intentionally connect principles of Catholic Social Teaching to multiple areas of study within the school

SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL strives to bring the nurturing charism of Caritas Christi – the love of Christ – to our community of faith and learning. In the 13th century, Jesus revealed a vision of His Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, the patroness of our school. It is the heart of Jesus that impels us to live Caritas Christi. By embodying Gospel values we can be the heart of Christ in the world today.

OUR CORE PRINCIPLES

To live **CARITAS CHRISTI** is to be a person of:

COMPASSION,
who **ACTS** and **SPEAKS** with concern for others.
“Do nothing from selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves.” – *Philippians 2:3*

- Affirm the inherent value and dignity of each person
- Be present to another’s needs
- Forgive another, as you would want to be forgiven

HUMILITY,
who **UNDERSTANDS** themselves in relationship to God.
“The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.” – *Mark 1:45*

- Express gratitude to God for life’s many gifts
- Engage life as a “We” rather than a “Me” person
- Use one’s gifts in service to others

JUSTICE,
who **RESPECTS** and **ADVOCATES** for the dignity of **ALL PEOPLE** and **CREATION**.
“Blessed are those who do what is right, whose deeds are always just.” – *Psalms 106:3*

- Give generously without expecting something in return
- Speak and act truthfully in all circumstances
- Seek and promote the well-being of others

GOODNESS,
who reflects the image of God in **THOUGHT, WORD** and **ACTION**.
“You have been told what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.” – *Micah 6:8*

- Develop and demonstrate moral character that reflects the virtues of Christ
- Encourage one another and build one another up
- Accompany each other on life’s spiritual journey



Governance and Leadership

Areas to Celebrate:

- Dedicated to upholding effective governance, decision-making processes, and collaboration between the governing body, advisory committees, and the leadership team
- SMCHS has a highly effective leadership team empowered by the Diocese of Orange to bring the school's mission and vision to life

Areas for Focus:

- Growth in communication, transparency, board recruitment, and policy implementation
- Update job descriptions to accurately reflect current responsibilities and enhance transparency within the school community





Academic Excellence

Areas to Celebrate:

- Use of technology and training of students and faculty with this technology
- ASP Program is significant to student success
- Wellness Center
- Effective use of PLCs
- Emphasis on International student population
- Caring and devoted teachers and staff

Areas for Focus:

- Growing the PLCs to analyze data from assessments
- Integrating Catholic charism into curriculum more often





Operational Vitality

Areas to Celebrate:

- A clear communication strategy provides families information regarding the costs, tuition expectations and planning strategies
- Successful in fundraising efforts and providing adequate tuition assistance
- All practices focus on the realization of the financial plan to provide the necessary resources to support the effective articulation of the school's mission and vision
- The IT Department effectively supports the school's mission by managing technology to enhance learning

Areas for Focus:

- Finding competitive ways to recruit and retain excellent employees within the current economic environment
- Reinstate the CSB Finance Committee





Educational Improvement Plan

Areas of Vital Growth





Critical Area of Growth

Domain 1: Mission and Catholic Identity

- Intentionally connect principles of Catholic Social Teaching to multiple areas of study within the school.





Critical Area of Growth

Domain 2: Governance and Leadership

- SMCHS will improve communication with stakeholders through a combination of new channels and improved systems of distribution.





Critical Area of Growth

Domain 3: Academic Excellence

- SMCHS will improve on the practice of Professional Learning Communities in order to achieve equitable and consistent implementation of curriculum and assessment that recognizes and supports differentiated learning. PLC work will evaluate best practices and identify areas of growth both in student learning and delivery of curriculum.





Critical Area of Growth

Domain 4: Operational Vitality

- The school should explore ways to improve the recruitment and retention of excellent employees.





Celebrating Schoolwide Strengths



- The ASP Program does an excellent job of identifying and supporting students with diverse needs.
- SMCHS has a highly effective leadership team empowered by the Diocese of Orange to bring the school's mission and vision to life.
- Students actively live out their faith.
- Technology department does an excellent job of helping to ensure that technology is used for student learning and training users on the available tools.
- The Wellness Program provides students with outstanding support and resources.
- The ongoing development of PLCs to ensure alignment of curriculum and enhanced student learning.
- There is a overwhelming sense of community in the classrooms and around campus.
- It is evident that the teachers and staff are dedicated to the success of their students academically and spiritually.

Thank you SMCHS community!
We appreciate your commitment to your students
and to Catholic education.

