

# Saint James Catholic School

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## History & Tradition

Saint James School has a long standing tradition of providing a well-rounded education in a Catholic setting for over 130 years. The first Saint James School building was erected in 1876 just west of the present structure. (The original structure remains at that location today as a private residence.)

A convent/school housing grades 1-12 was built in 1901 on the site, which currently serves as the south parking lot. The present school was dedicated in 1957 with four sisters of the BVM teaching grades 1-8. The current staff continues to maintain the tradition of providing quality academic programming while guiding students in grades preschool through fifth as they develop into life-long learners of their Christian Faith.

## WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT SJS

*"Our school is awesome!"  
2nd grader*

*"I liked the small classes, because I got more personal attention." - SJS Graduate*

*"Everybody knows everybody - it's like a large family. Communication is good."  
SJS Graduate*

*"I felt I learned to respect myself and others there."*

*"I felt my confidence was built up by teachers". SJS Graduate*

## Take a GOOD look at us!!

### How we measure up...

- The average percent of students in grades 2nd-6th proficient in reading is 88%. \*\*
- The average percent of students in grades 2nd-6th proficient in Math is 80%. \*\*
- The average percent of students in grades 2nd- 6th proficient in science is 81%. \*\*
- The average percent of students in grades 2nd - 6th proficient in social studies is 89%. \*\*
- Students in grades 4th - 6th make an average of 1.3 years annual growth in achievement. \*
- Students perform at an average of 1.1 years above the National Grade Equivalent on Iowa Assessments. \*
- We provide Comprehensive Language Arts, reading, spelling, Math & Science Programs that align with Iowa Core.
- Nine St. James Alumni have been named Valedictorian or Salutatorian at the public school in the last 10 years.

\* Data retrieved from 2011 Iowa Assessments.

\*\* IA Assessments NSS scores used to determine Proficiency.

### WHAT IS NEW ???

State Free Preschool Grant  
NEW Apple Lap-tops AND iPads  
Smart-boards and mimio boards  
New administration  
New building addition 2009

## CURRICULUM PROFILE

- A long standing tradition of all-day everyday kindergarten
- 2 age appropriate, licensed preschool programs
- A commitment to an average teacher to student ratio of no more than 1:15
- A rigorous, developmentally appropriate curriculum meeting the needs of the individual learner
- Daily religious instruction
- School wide and classroom service learning
- Special Education Services, speech, hearing, vision
- Title I services provided on site
- Multi-aged school families
- Theme days
- Multi-age grouping of intermediate grades combined with self-contained and departmentalization
- Involvement in public school instrumental music program
- Intermediate grades basketball program
- KidZone: A fully licensed after school program
- Busing provided by public school
- Fully functional Mac and iPad lab
- Successmaker

*St. James School maintains a policy of open enrollment to people of all races, ethnic origin or religious affiliation.*