



Holy Rosary School, founded in 1913, is a private, accredited, Catholic school in West Seattle, Washington, serving 500 students in grades K-8. We continually seek to achieve our goal of educating the whole child: spiritually, technologically, intellectually, emotionally, and physically in preparation for a positive, productive future. Holy Rosary School seeks to instill the members of our school, parish and surrounding community with the compassion and desire to work together to build a strong foundation for our children. We have twice been awarded the prestigious “Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award” by the U.S. Department of Education. The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools that are either academically superior or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement to high levels. In addition to being honored at a ceremony in Washington, DC, where each school receives a plaque and flag signifying their status, these schools serve as models for other schools throughout the nation.

A strong curriculum today includes a comprehensive technology program, which needs to be continually upgraded. We must give our students the technology skills they will need in the 21st century. Having the latest technology available is a top priority at Holy Rosary School. This is strongly supported by our parents, staff and students. Our goal of placing a permanent SMARTboard in every classroom will be achieved this summer with the installation of the final 6 boards.

As we discover more and more about how students learn, we realize the importance of being able to engage a variety of learning styles. A SMARTboard is one tool that helps a teacher reach a student’s various learning styles including visual, tactile and auditory. Use of a SMARTboard facilitates multiple teaching methods and allows adaptation to differing learning styles and thus positively impacts student achievement in countless ways.

We believe the instructional outcomes for students using SMARTboards include; increased student motivation, enhanced interaction of students with curriculum, increased student achievement, additional methods for student assessment, and greater understanding of technology, resources and methods for research and presentation. Outcomes for teachers include more diversity in lesson planning and curriculum planning and variety in presentation style. The ultimate result is the development of new work force skills, as students are increasingly prepared to live, learn and work successfully in a digital communication age.

Teachers using SMARTboards report that their lesson planning methods change, lessons are more expansive, and their teaching methods are more varied reaching more diverse learners. Students report that they feel more involved in the lessons, believe they pay closer attention to lesson details, and see technology used effectively. This results in intrinsic motivation by students to grasp contemporary technologies expanding their repertoire of learning tools.

We believe all Holy Rosary students benefit directly from the technology of the SMARTboards. Their use enhances problem solving and decision-making by offering more resources for developing higher-level proficiencies in students. Students engage in learning practices that lead to new ways of thinking, understanding, constructing knowledge, and communicating their results.

Sarah Dahleen

Holy Rosary School – Development Director