



# SPRING FUNDRAISER

## for Teachers' Salaries

*Dear Friends of the Schools,*

We are blessed to have dedicated teachers at Monroe Catholic Schools. It's a great place to work. Our teachers have unique advantages as educators here at Monroe. They work with smaller class sizes and with supportive parents who are incredibly involved in their child's education. We have outstanding students, exceptional teachers, devoted administration & staff, valued partnership between parents, volunteers, and the ability to work in a faith-filled environment. These joys make every day at Monroe Catholic Schools a blessing.

In this new position, I realize each day the impact our teachers make on our students and I struggle with how we can increase teacher salaries to a genuinely meaningful degree. After many years, we are currently in a better financial position and have the means to continue our work making our salaries more competitive. It is important to note that while this campaign is a push for a significant raise in salaries, this is not a new effort. We have made steady progress toward increasing teacher salaries over the past years. In 2014, the base salary was \$31,500. Today, in 2024, our teachers' salaries are better, but still fall far below public school salaries.

First Year Teacher @Public Schools \$51,787.63 @\*Monroe Catholic \$35,000 (-32%)  
Fifth Year Teacher @Public Schools \$63,791.18 @\*Monroe Catholic \$45,206 (-29%)

This spring, our goal is to raise funds to make an immediate, impactful raise in salary for our teachers—not just this year, but for years to come. Our teachers make anywhere from 21% to 43% less in pay than their public-school counterparts. **We have made great strides towards raising salaries; we must raise them more. Your gift will go a long way in making this happen.**

How would Monroe Catholic be impacted by raising teacher salaries? Better pay for teachers allows us to retain and attract teachers committed to our very special mission. This continued commitment to hiring outstanding teachers helps build enrollment. More students in these schools means more students exposed to a top-notch Catholic education—faith-based, academically excellent, and Christ-centered. **Our community benefits each time our graduates walk out our doors and into the world.**

We have earnestly been working toward increasing enrollment. Teachers are key to this effort. Twenty or more students will help cover the ongoing cost of increasing teacher salaries. We may choose to keep the focus of our annual **Spring Fundraiser** on teacher salaries for the next couple of years. This will help us continue to bridge the gap and make these raises sustainable.

Parents bear the burden of tuition. Through this campaign, we invite our greater community at large, our alum, and the parents of our alum, to join us and to play an integral role in this effort. Please help us spread the word to help support the **Spring Fundraiser for Teacher Salaries**. Join me in this worthy cause to help bring our teachers' salaries closer to an amount they greatly deserve. Any gift you can give is sincerely appreciated.

With Faith, Grace, and Passion,

*Frank S. Ostanik*  
Frank Ostanik  
Director, Catholic Schools of Fairbanks  
President, Monroe Foundation Inc.



**Top to Bottom:**

**Gena Horine: 14 years.**

Gena has a master's degree and currently makes 40% less than she would if she were teaching elementary school at the local public school.

**Marci Ward: 40 years.**

Marci has a bachelor's degree and makes 22% less than someone would at her level in the school district.

**Martha Bristow: 20 years.**

Martha has a bachelor's degree in technical journalism from Oregon and a master's degree in fine arts from UAF. She makes 38.5% less than our local public school teachers.

**Stuart Hudson 25 years.**

Stuart teaches band and orchestra. It is impossible to communicate the impact he has had on our students over that time. Stuart has a master's degree and makes 39.5% less than our local public school music teachers.

## Spring Fundraiser

### Will you help us raise teachers' salaries?

**Check Enclosed for \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
Please make payable to Monroe Foundation, Inc.

OR

**Bill my Credit Card** \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. / CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Spring Fundraiser/Teacher Salaries 2024

*ANY amount will help!*

**Join the Auto-Give Program!**

To provide ongoing support for the Teacher Salary Fund, I'd like to become a Sustaining Donor. Please charge my credit card the following amount every month or as often as I have indicated. (Auto gifts will be scheduled to begin in June.)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Other  
\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly \_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly \_\_\_\_\_ Annually

Note: You can change your gift plan at any time.

**THIS GIFT SENT IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF:**

**TO DONATE ONLINE:**

