

Genesis Feasibility and Readiness Study
For a Lutheran School
Prepared for the
Steering Committee
Ascension Lutheran Church Wichita, Kansas

Genesis Feasibility
Report
September 2024
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Introduction

Missouri Synod Lutherans have long seen a need for integrating all learning with faith in Jesus Christ. They have listened to the mandate of Holy Scriptures in Matthew 28:19-20 . . .

. . .” Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And, surely I am with you always to the very end of the age” (NIV)

Lutherans understand that their duty as parents and members of the Body of Christ is clearly stated in Proverbs 22:6 . . .

. . . “Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it” (NIV).

The Feasibility Study is provided as help for the Ascension Lutheran church to explore the opportunity to initially start a Lutheran K-5 School program.

The services provided consist of work by a trained and experienced Lutheran School professional. Consultants are trained to help conduct surveys, review demographic data and conduct interviews. Consultants summarize information received and offer recommendations based on the consultant’s best judgment as a professional educator.

The role of the consultant is to recommend and advise. Consultants do not make decisions for congregation. The Feasibility Study is intended to serve as a guide for the committees, boards, and the congregation. *The primary goal of this project is to help make a decision.*

Therefore, recommendations not to open a Lutheran school program or to delay opening a Lutheran school are considered as productive and successful as studies that recommend opening a Lutheran school program

This report is intended to summarize some of the data and various elements that must be considered regarding the feasibility of starting a Lutheran school. After review of the data, recommendations, and discussion with the Steering Committee the congregation will need to determine whether or not it is time and they are ready to move ahead with the more advanced phase of establishing a school program. You are commended for the decision to undergo this project as a resource for considering the feasibility of a Lutheran school. I trust that the summaries and recommendations will help you as you seek God’s will and minister to His children and their families.

The Feasibility Study Process

The Ascension Lutheran Church of Wichita, Kansas made application for a “School Readiness Study, Genesis Project” in August 2023. A study to test the feasibility and readiness of starting a Lutheran school at Ascension Lutheran Church was begun with the help of a Genesis Project consultant. This study report has included: the Vision Statement-Case for a Lutheran school, the LCEF Demographic Study Summary, *preschool parent survey, congregational membership surveys* a summary of many interviews conducted by the consultant over the three days in August 2024, research of 16 area School programs, demographic observations and recommendations.

The purpose of the Feasibility Study was to

- Assess the interest of congregation and community in starting a Lutheran K-5 school
- Assess the interest and the ability of parents in sending their children to a Lutheran K-5 school program
- Assess potential congregational and third source funding for a Lutheran school
- Assess the market for potential students
- Assess attitudes toward the potential location of the facility
- Provide data and information from which interested parties can decide the establishment of a new Lutheran school program

The Feasibility study included gathering of hard and soft data based upon the following:

- LCEF demographic study
- individual interviews totaling 26 individuals
- 107 surveys received from congregational members and preschool parents
- An analysis of data gathered by researching 16 schools in the Wichita area.,

Acknowledgements

Special thanks are appropriate and should be extended to members of the Steering Committee who, in addition to the regular business associated with their congregation and personal working responsibilities assumed the challenging task of researching the opening of a Lutheran school. The information on the following pages includes the findings of the individual interviews, demographic observations, survey findings and recommendations. The summaries of attitudes, together with quotations, are intended to assist in clarifying not only the spirit of the respondents but also to help the committee understand the points of view and needs of the people from the interviewees' perspective. All quotes remain anonymous to assure confidentiality. A thankyou is also extended to those who took time to be interviewed.

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund of the Missouri Synod provided demographic information. As with any successful effort of God's Church on earth, many people with varying abilities and spiritual gifts are working together on common goals.

Steering Committee

Ascension Lutheran School Steering Committee

Glen Cork

Ana Heil

Lonn Poage

Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer

Rev. Scott Goltl

CASE

K-5 Lutheran School

Case for a K-5 School
Ascension Lutheran Church Wichita, Kansas

Mission Statement for Ascension Lutheran Grade School

A vision for Christian education in west Wichita

Introduction

Ascension Lutheran Church is a community of faith that seeks to follow Jesus Christ and share his love with others. We believe that God has called us to serve our neighbors and the world through various ministries, and especially through the spiritual and academic formation of children. We recognize the need for a Lutheran grade school in our area that can provide a high-quality, Christ-centered education for children from kindergarten to fifth grade. We have a vision for a school that will nurture the spiritual, intellectual, social, and physical development of our students, and prepare them for lives of service and leadership in the church and society.

Our Mission

Our mission is to partner with parents and the congregation in providing a Lutheran grade school that:

- Teaches the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the foundation of all learning and life.
- Cultivates a love for God and his Word, and a desire to grow in faith and discipleship.
- Develops academic excellence and critical thinking skills in all areas of the curriculum.
- Encourages creativity, curiosity, and exploration in a stimulating and supportive environment.
- Fosters respect, compassion, and responsibility for oneself and others.
- Equips students with the knowledge, skills, and values to face the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

Our Values

We value:

- Christian education: We believe that education is a gift from God. We seek to integrate the Christian faith and worldview into all aspects of learning and living. We affirm the

Lutheran confessions and the authority of the Scriptures as the norm for our teaching and practice.

- **Spiritual formation:** We believe that God is at work in the lives of our students, shaping them into the image of his Son. We will provide opportunities for worship, prayer, Bible study, service, and fellowship that nurture their relationship with God and his people.
- **Academic excellence:** We believe that God has created us with various gifts and abilities, and that he calls us to use them for his glory and the common good. We will offer a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum that meets or exceeds the state standards and prepares our students for further education and lifelong learning. We will employ qualified and dedicated teachers who are committed to professional development and innovation.
- **Character development:** We believe that God has called us to live as his children and witnesses in the world. We will model and teach the Christian virtues of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We will promote a culture of respect, honesty, integrity, and accountability among our students, staff, and families.

Conclusion

We invite you to join us in making this vision a reality. We believe that God has blessed us with the resources, the people, and the opportunity to start a Lutheran grade school at Ascension Lutheran Church. We pray that he will guide us and use us for his purposes and glory. We look forward to partnering with you in this exciting and important ministry.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who are the families that the school will serve?

The Ascension Lutheran grade school will serve any family that values a Christian education and wants their children to grow in faith and learning. The school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or any other protected category. The school welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and beliefs, as long as they respect the school's mission and vision.

Where will the school be located?

The school will be housed in the current facilities of the Ascension Lutheran church located at 842 N. Tyler.

What is the expected range of tuition?

The exact cost of tuition and fees will not be precisely known until the summer of 2026. Tuition is estimated to be in the range of \$6000 - \$6,500 per school year with registration fees and other possible fees in addition.

Will there be any scholarships available?

Yes. It is Ascension Lutheran church's desire to offer scholarships and assistance to those who would like to attend the school but find the cost prohibitive.

What will the school curriculum and program look like?

Based off the survey results, it seems parents are looking for a hybrid environment where their children can learn a traditional curriculum in a small group Montessori style setting. We would aim to create this hybrid environment, where children are given the opportunity to get more small group flexible lessons catered to their academic level rather than whole group lessons catered to the lowest academic individual. We would also offer a balanced approach to the school day with rigorous lesson time paired with plenty of outdoor/ recreational time where students can grow gross motor and socialization skills.

Sample Daily Schedule (2nd Grade & 3rd Grade):

7:30-7:40: Arrive/ Wash Hands/ Unpack

7:40-8:00 am: Recess 1

8:00 am-8:20 am: Morning Large Group

8:20- 11:20 & 1:00-3:00: small group lessons & class work time

Monday: AM: Language Arts PM: Religion/ Christian Worldview

Tuesday: AM: Mathematics PM: Geography/ World Studies

Wednesday 8:30-9:00 Chapel

Wednesday: AM: Science PM: writing & Library

Thursday: AM History or Social Studies. PM: Art & Music **TPP**

Friday: AM: Makeups Extra Help/ Reviews PM: Gym & Gardening **TPP**

11:30-11:55: Lunch

12:00-12:30: Recess

12:35- 12:55: Read Aloud (Teacher Reads to Students)

1:00 pm-3:00pm: PM small group Lessons

3:00 pm-3:15: Clean up Classroom/Pack up

3:15 pm-3:30: Group End of Day Meeting

3:30 pm: Dismissal

art, gym, music, and gardening would be rotated on different days for different grades to allow teachers a planning period 2x per week. Specials would be combined K and 1st together and 2nd and 3rd together.

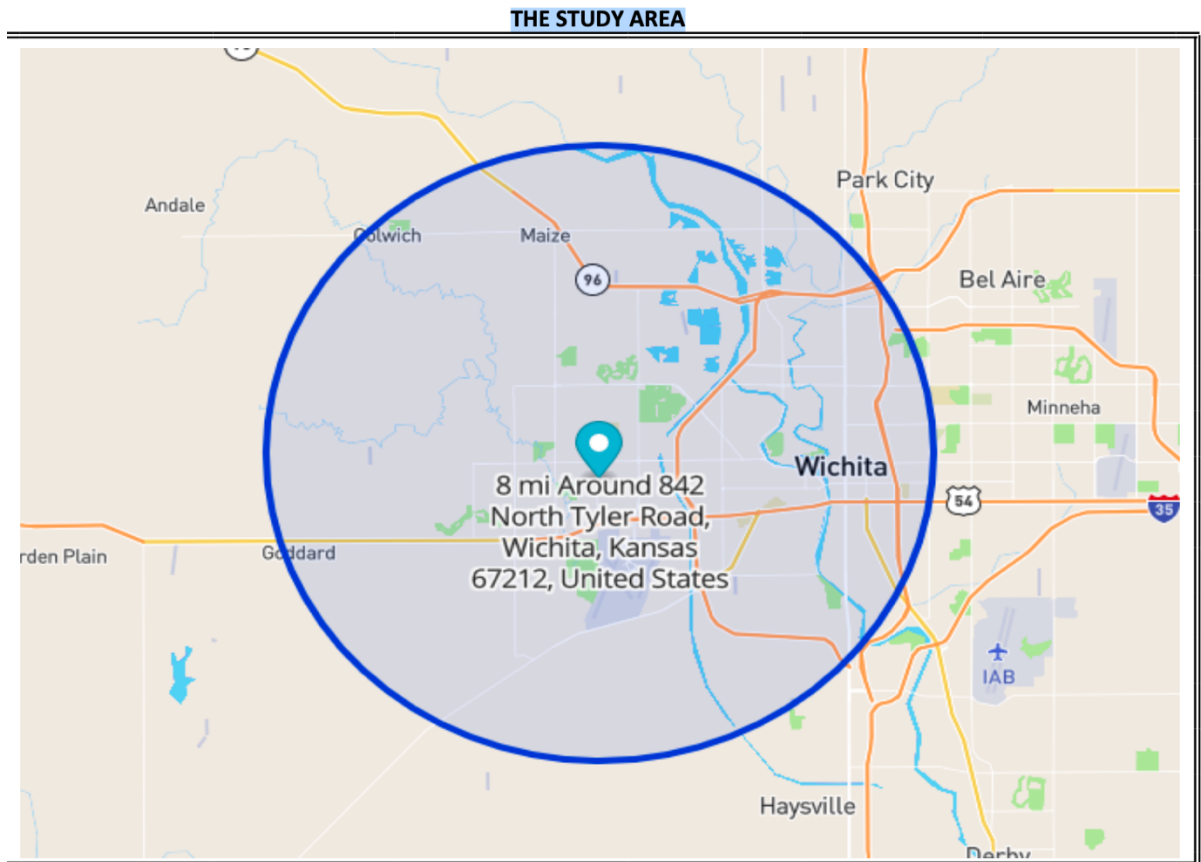
We would be using a combination of Christian curriculum that may include the following: Enduring Faith, Apologia, The Good and the Beautiful, Super Kids
May also include non-Christian curriculum for reading/spelling that may include: McRuffy Press, Worldly Wise, Crack the Code

How many children will be in a classroom? We plan to have one teacher per grade with each classroom at 17 children.

Who Endorses and Supports the Establishment of The School?

1. **Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer, Rev. Scott Goltl, Rev. Brendon Moore**
 - If the Ascension congregation chooses to proceed with the Lutheran grade school ministry, Pastor Mike and Pastor Scott and Pastor Brendon fully support the mission of the school and are committed to ensuring high-quality education and deep spiritual formation for young people.
2. **Kansas District Leadership:**
 - Rev. Justin Panzer, District President for the Kansas District LCMS
 - Rev. Daniel Grams, Assistant to the President for Congregational & School Services
 - Jim Bradshaw, Assistant to the President for Education and Youth
3. **Ascension Staff:**
 - Kendra Herbig, Ascension Preschool Director
 - Erica Mason, Ascension Open Arms Child Development Director
 - Cyndy Bressler, Ascension Youth Facilitator
 - Chris Trull, Ascension Business Manager
 - Marty Smarsh, Ascension Facilities Manager
4. **Ascension Lutheran Church Leadership:**
 - Keith Mann, President of the congregation
 - Tim Milleville, Chair of the Lay Ministry
 - Sara Flemming, Ascension Commission of Education Chair
5. **Genesis Project Feasibility Study Committee:**
 - Lonni Poage, Retired Superintendent of Schools
 - Ana Heil, Gifted Teacher in the Wichita Public Schools
 - Glen Cork, Active Member and School Supporter
6. **Area Clergy:**
 - Rev. C.J. Luttinen, Senior Pastor of Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Wichita
 - Rev. Scott Snow, Senior Pastor of Holy Cross and School in Wichita

DEMOGRAPHIC REPORT#1
Lutheran Elementary School
Ascension Lutheran Church
8-mile radius from North Tyler Rd
Wichita, Kansas
2024



Introduction

This document is the Demographic Report for the study area identified an 8-mile radius around 842 North Tyler Road Wichita, Kansas. Ascension has a reported (2022 LCMS statistic) Baptized membership of 1521, Confirmed membership of 1275 and an average worship weekly attendance of 390.

Ascension Lutheran Church is seeking to form an educational ministry that reach out to children and families in the area. This outreach includes, without limitations, the possibility of starting a

new Lutheran elementary school. The following is a report by Genesis Consultant on the demographic information for the Feasibility Study area.

The study was completed with the use of the LCEF demographic study, ExecutiveInsite data that reported information from 2023 and subsequent years while also projecting data based on trends into the year 2033. In some instances, information for 2033 was not available. The data gathered reflected information from a specific area identified around the 8-mile radius from 842 North Tyler Rd.

The collective data provided by LCEF gives a total picture of the area being studied not only for an elementary school but may also provide data for multiple ministry possibilities. While all the data in different areas of the ExecutiveInsite report are important, reviewed and studied, this report will focus on what was determined as “key” information to establishing a Lutheran school.

OBSERVATIONS

Population and Household Trends:

The **population** projection for the study area shows a -0.4% decrease from 2023 to 2028 and a projected -0.7% decrease in population from 2028 to 2033. While considering the population as “stable,” The population change reflects a declining growth rate through 2033, from 263,390 ('23) to 263,045 ('28) there is a projected increase in population to 264,915 (2033).

The data also reflects the number of **household trends** related to growth. From 2023 to 2033 there is a declining number of households from 102,551 in 2023 to 102,345 in 2033.

If family household growth follows populations growth it would be reasonable to assume that the increasing population per household comes from additional children. However, within the study area, this is not the case. Family households are not growing as fast as the population suggesting the growth may be the result of growth of non-family adult households.

The Family Household by Size category reflects the “2-person household” as the largest percentage of household types. However, it also reflects a small decrease over a five-year change.

Racial Ethnic Trends:

When considering ministry programs diversity in population ethnicity is always an important factor to take into consideration. Programs, practices, staffing and events are all impacted. The Racial Ethnic trends of the study area show the Asian, Black, White and Latino projections remain constant and reflect very little changes in population. The population with the highest percentage is Caucasian.

Age Trends:

The average Age Trends permits us to view key times in the life of a community in order to understand the aging trends in a particular study area. Those times are the 2000 census, the last census, where the average age was 35 years, 2010 where the average age was 35, 2023 where the

average age is 38, 2028 where the projected age is 39 years, and 2033 where the projected age is 40 years. The study area has a slowly aging population, which also impacts program populations. The median ages for the study area and the state of Kansas is estimated to be about 35-40 for the same years listed.

Phase of Life – Age Trends:

Reviewing the Phase of Life Trends provides insight into the age distribution of a population. The indication from the data shows the Before Formal Schooling, ages 0-4, and Required Formal Schooling, ages 5 to 17 decreasing as a percentage of the total population. Still, those two age categories represent from a quarter to a fifth of the total population ages 0-65 and over.

The category of Before Formal Schooling, ages 0-4, reflects the following population numbers:

Population Ages 0-4. Before formal Schooling

2010-----	19,893	8%
2023-----	17,865	6.8%
2028-----	17,582.	6.7%
2033-----	17,890	6.8%

Population Ages 5 to 17. Required formal Schooling

2010-----	47,954	19.2%
2023-----	46,893.	17.8%
2028-----	44,262.	16.8%
2033-----	43,982.	16.6%

The data also reflects a growth in the Single and Young Families category, ages 25 to 34, from 35,334 in 2010 to 36,283 in 2033. The largest Phase of Life category is the Family & Empty Nesters ages 35 to 54. These two categories comprise a 36% of the total population. Coupled with the “Single and Young Families” the “Families & Empty Nesters” ages are 35-54, there are still a number of child bearing/rearing years in those categories. Could these this categories impact new or different approaches to family ministry?

The category with growth and change is the sixty-five plus age comparison with the total population.

School Age Population Trends

School Age Trends	2010	2023	2028
Early Elementary Ages 5 to 9	18,904 / 39.4%	17,793 / 37.9%	17,108 / 38.7%
Late Elementary Ages 10 to 14	18,257 / 38.1%	17,702 / 37.8%	16,807 / 38.0%
Total Ages 5-14	37,161	35,495	33,915

Household and Family Income Trends

Reviewing income trends! As a committee reviews the cost of education, the fees or tuition that will be needed must be set to meet expenses. The data will also be important to review for the potential outside support that may be needed to assist with tuition and fees.

The average household income data projects an increase from \$74,542 for 2023, to \$81,546 for 2028. The per capita income trend, which is calculated by dividing the total household income by the number of individuals in the family, shows a projected Per Capita increase during the same years growing from \$28,825 to \$31,562.

There is a decrease for the household income categories of less than \$99,999. In the categories ranging from \$100,000 to more than \$199,999 there reflects an increase. The study area indicates the family income forecast categories of \$100,000 to more than \$200,000 are one and a fourth to one and a half times more than the state of Kansas’s overall income forecast.

The estimated current year average household income is \$74,202. The average household income is projected to grow by 9.9% to \$81,546.

The estimated per capita income for the current year is \$28.825. The per capita income is projected to grow by 9.5% to \$31,562.

The Median family income in 2023 is \$73,681 and is projected to be \$73,033 in 2028.

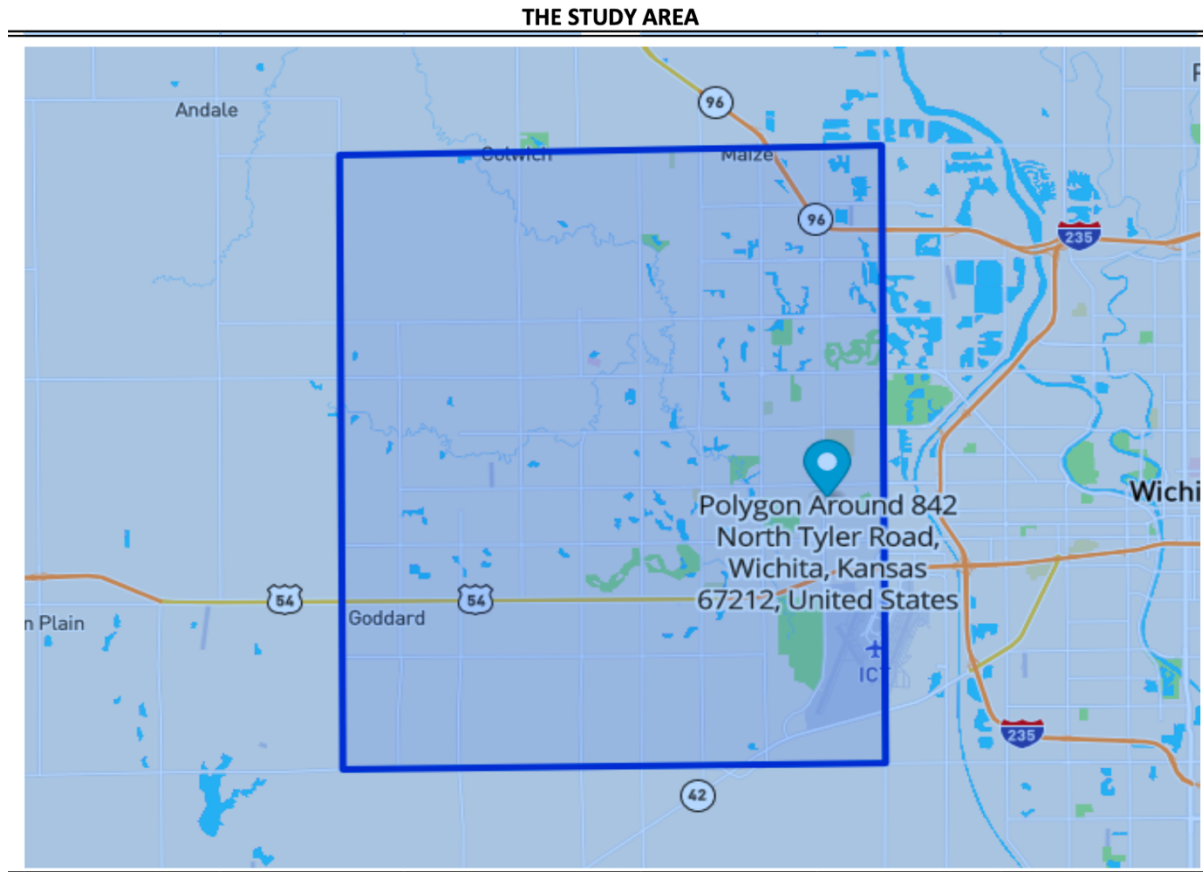
Family Income Trends

The number of families with annual incomes above \$100,000 is projected to grow over the next five years. For the current year, it is estimated that 30.8% percent of all family incomes will exceed \$100,000 per year. In five year’s that number is projected to be almost 31.3%.

Most Populated Income Trends

Largest Category family Income	2023 / %	2028 / %	
\$35,00 to \$49,999	8,850 / 13.4%	8,158 / 12.9%	
\$50,000 to \$74,999	13,433 / 20.3%	13,126 / 19.9%	
\$75,000 to \$99,999	10,269 / 15.5%	10,274 / 15.6%	
\$100,000 to \$149,999	11,955 / 18.1%	11,989 / 18.2%	

Demographic Study #2
Polygon Around 842 North Tyler Rd
Wichita, KS



The Polygon study area is distinctly west of the Arkansas River. Historical reference regarding traffic patterns and economic and social patterns it was determined that the school population would be supported primarily from families west of the Arkansas river encompassing the Polygon around 842 North Tyler Road.

Basic trends in this polygon study reflect a greater degree of supporting evidence for starting a Lutheran school at or near 842 North Tyler Road:

Population

The estimated 2023 population within the study area is 96,882. The 2028 projection would see the area grow by 3,966 to a total population of 100,848. The population within the study area is growing somewhat faster than the statewide growth rate. While the study area is projected to grow by 4.1% in the next five years, the state is projected to remain stable at -0.5%. The study area's estimated average change rate is 0.8%.

Population Per Household

Population per Household: The relationship between population and households provides a hint about how the community is changing. When population grows faster than households, it suggests an increase in the persons per household. This can only happen when more persons are added either by birth or other process such as young adults in multiple roommate households or young adults returning to live with parents. In some communities this can occur when multiple families live in the same dwelling unit.

Households

The households within the community are growing but not as fast as the population, thus the average population per household in 2010 was 2.76 but by 2028 it is projected to be 2.79. Compare this to the statewide average which for the current year is estimated at 2.58 persons per household.

Family Households:

Family households provide an additional hint about the changing dynamics of a community. If family household growth follows population growth, then it would be reasonable to assume that the increasing population per household comes from additional children. However, within the study area, this is not the case. Family households are not growing as fast as the population, suggesting the growth may be the result of growth of non-family adult households.

Phase of Life

Phase of Life Ages	2010	2023	2028	2033	2010%	2023%	2028%	2033%
0-4 Pre formal schooling	5,583	6,047	6,608	7,304	7.1	6.2	15.8	15.8
5-17 Formal school	17,986	16,148	15,942	16,393	21.7	16.7	15.8	15.8
18-24 College-career starts	5,931	10,509	9,724	9,089	7.1	10.8	9.6	8.7
25-34 Singles/young families	10,152	12,954	15,170	14,745	12.2	13.4	15.0	14.2
35-54 families & empty nesters	24,199	21,991	21,666	23,270	29.2	22.7	21.5	22.4
55-64 Enrichment yrs.	9,815	12,860	12,254	11,670	11.8	13.3	12.2	11.2
65+ retirement yrs.	9,049	16,372	19,484	21,444	10.9	16.9	19.3	20.6

School Age Trends

Sch. Ages	2010	2023	2028	2010%	2023%	2028%
Elementary Ages 5-9	6,536	5,888	6,270	36.3	36.5	30.3
Late Elem./Middle School 10-14	7,162	6,359	6,904	39.8	39.4	27.0

Household and Family Income

Family income trends reflected in 2023 shows that 60 percent of the families with income from \$75,000 to \$200,000. The Median Income for families in the polygon study in 2023 was \$79,417.

Mosaic Segments:

Mosaic is a geo-demographic segmentation system developed by and for marketers. Instead of looking at individual demographic variables, a segmentation system clusters households into groups with multiple common characteristics. Demographic variables that generally cluster together would include income, educational levels, presence of children and occupations among others. The Steering Committee will want to review the Mosaic Segments provided by the LCEF study. In all but one of the fifteen Mosaic Segments the categories and their data were well above the state average.

The Steering Committee will want to flush out financial affordability for families in the surveys that are conducted.

Demographic Summary

The information provided by the LCEF demographic study area for Ascension Lutheran Church gives the feasibility study needed information, which helps develop reasonable goals and ideas but may also provide challenges for which the Steering Committee will need to seek answers or solutions.

The data reflects a slowly aging population, a projected increase in school age population and households. Of the households with children under 18, married couple households are decreasing while single parent households are increasing. This data reflects the change that is occurring in the polygon study area.

There is an increase in average household income trends,

Finances and support are another area that the feasibility study and Steering Committee will need to flush out. The data is showing an increase in numbers in the income categories from \$50,000 to more than \$149,000. It will be important to consider the cost of not only start-up of a program for elementary children but the affordability for families while

meeting their other expenses. Salaries usually comprise 80-85 percent of similar school program budgets.

Location is a primary consideration for the location of a Lutheran school. While convenience of location for families is important the study area data does not reflect the drive time to work. It will be important to take into consideration the convenience or ease of use for families to “drop off and/or pickup” their children. Once a program has developed a quality reputation which is Christ centered, student focused, educationally successful with caring teachers and **embraces family involvement and relationships**, parents will travel out of their way to have their children attend an elementary school at Ascension where children are successful, and loved.

Finally, the Steering Committee and Congregation will need to be committed to WHY? **WHY start an elementary school program?** The clarity of understanding the answer to that beginning question by Steering Committee, Congregational members and eventually administrators, teachers and staff will serve to direct the ministry of such a program. WHY must be the starting point that will ensure lasting support. Families won't come and stay with you because of WHAT you do or HOW you do it but they will come and stay with you because of WHY you do it! You win hearts before you win minds. This consultant continues to lift the up the possibility of this program in prayer.

RESEARCH DATA

S-u-r-v-e-y-s

Surveys help planners to develop a basic understanding of issues by asking for the opinions of individuals that may have influence on a decision or how a plan or program may be implemented. Questions are asked for the purpose of soliciting specific responses needed for thorough planning. Surveys also help to communicate potential school programs and events. A wise planner always seeks the counsel, wisdom, and advice of others to ensure planning accuracy and soundness.

Based on the LCMS 2022 membership data provided, there is approximately 1521 baptized souls, 1,275 confirmed members of Ascension Lutheran Church of Wichita, Kansas.

107 Survey Responses from Congregation members, Open Arms members and members of the Community were received.

-----Survey Results-----

Survey Religious affiliation, location and children:

Religious affiliation: 68.2% indicated LCMS Lutheran
10.2% Other Protestant Denomination
11.3% Catholic
10.3% Muslim/Jewish/Agnostic/Atheist/Unsure/Questioning/Christian

Location: 72% of the Respondents indicated they lived in West Wichita

Children: Numbers, grades, attendance:

58.9 percent of the Respondents had children or grandchildren that are school aged or will be by August 2026

Survey respondents indicate that by August 2026, **21** children would be entering preschool, **20** children would be entering Kindergarten, **20** children would be entering first grade, **18** would enter second grade, **12** entering third grade, **8** entering fourth grade, **4** in fifth grade and **8** in sixth grade.

When asked how likely would you be to transfer your children from their current school to a Lutheran School at Ascension if/when it opens **44.4** percent indicated that they would consider transferring their child(ren) to Ascension Lutheran School. Those indicating that they would not transfer their child(ren) to Ascension Lutheran School was **12.7** percent. Children not currently old enough for school was **12.7** percent and **9.5** percent indicated they would definitely transfer their child(ren) to Ascension Lutheran School. Other responses with smaller percentages include, children that were older and those considering the cost.

What about a “Junior Kindergarten” which would be a ½ day transitional time between pre-k and Kindergarten? **Twenty-four** said YES, they would enroll, **nineteen** indicated NO and **twenty** respondents were UNCERTAIN.

Since **sixth grade** is generally part of middle school in the surrounding districts would you enroll your child(ren) in sixth grade at Ascension Lutheran School? **Sixteen** would enroll, **twenty-three** would not enroll and **twenty-four** were unsure.

When asked about what **tuition range** would be feasible for your family to spend per child, the following responses were given:

\$5,500-\$6.500 -**twenty-two** responses

\$6.500-\$7.500 – **five** responses

Sixteen responses indicated that neither of the tuition ranges were feasible even though they would like to send their child

Fifteen responses indicated that they would be willing to volunteer for the school for a reduced tuition

Survey Coments:

Survey results show how people are willing, or not, to support Ascension Lutheran School in the following ways:

23.4% with Financial Donation

18.7% Willing to contribute to a scholarship fund for families that cannot afford tuition.

36.4% Willing to support through donations of materials.

19.6% By volunteering as a classroom aid or lunch room supervisor.

23.4% By volunteering to complete non-student facing tasks such as clerical work, clean up, etc.

6.5%. By being a classroom teacher

21.5%. By helping to market and promote Ascension Lutheran School

23.4% I am not able to help at this time.

15.0%. Do not support Ascension starting a school.

The 107 survey respondents were asked to rate the qualities of a school individuals would look for when choosing a grade school for their child. The results in most important descending order were: 1. Safety; 2. Caring Environment; 3. Academically Rigorous; 4. Biblical Worldview; 5. Exposure to people from different backgrounds and; 6. Lutheran.

Services that would make Ascension Lutheran School most appealing to families were:

1. A teacher student ratio below 1:20;
2. Music, art, technology, agriculture; hot lunches;
3. Athletics, Spanish, after school care.

Educational ideas Ascension Lutheran School should prioritize. Survey results show the following as most important in descending order:

1. Traditional, math, reading and writing instruction;
2. Critical thinking/reasoning skills;
3. Flexible learning that is individualized to each child and physical movement/outdoor time;
4. Daily Religious instruction;
5. Experiential or project-based learning;
6. Technology skills.

Other Qualities, Services, or ideas would be important to your family if you were considering sending a child to Ascension Lutheran School: (32 Comments/Responses)

- Affordability
- Transportation
- Core family values and teaching kids self awareness and responsibility.
- Low cost
- Transportation (partner with Catholic schools for transportation?)
- Maximum outdoor time and “life skills” along with classical education
- Classical curriculum instruction, integration with other Lutheran congregation in Wichita.
- Low tech and high access to outdoor play.
 - Montessori or Waldorf style education would be very intriguing in a faith-based setting.
- Highly qualified teachers are also a must.
- I want my girls to be in a school system that is able to promote individualized learning if needed. ----I would absolutely send them if the school was able to take a somewhat Montessori approach to learning and have less focus on test scores and more focus on mastering the material and promoting their interests as well as promoting kinetic learning and lots of physical movement time!
- No children
- I’m interested in being the athletic director of this school and possibly kitchen manager.
- It seems that schools right now have bullying issues, so a strong anti-bullying policy would be important to me. Stopping those interactions when they are young, hopefully will help prevent when they are older.
- A fear of sending my kids to any private religious school would be that the school shelters them too much. I know people who have rebelled or are extremely naive since they only attended religious schools and didn’t get the outside world experience at the same time.
- Secularism
- Strong and qualified administration in charge of the school
- It’s important to our family to go back to the basics, not enforce government curriculum. I believe it’s important to teach in different ways that will be most effective for different children, not being restricted to a desk/sitting all day.
- I will not be sending my children
- Most important are safety, making sure technology is current, there is daily biblical teachings and there is some sort of athletics department.
- Involvement with pastors
- Individualized Education Plan for a student with learning delays
- Qualified, caring teachers and family activities.
- Caring teachers
- Conferences and being able to accommodate his 504 plan for autism. WE WOULD LOVE THIS! -----And want to apply for a scholarship. We have a deeply trusted Open Arms with our child education for two or three years now, and are excited at the prospect of being able to continue that in a place we know and trust, especially in todays world. We have a deeply trusted Open Arms with our child education for two or three years now, and are excited at the

prospect of being able to continue that in a place we know and trust, especially in today's climate

- Transportation, paras (volunteers) to work with students who need extra help so teachers can focus on rest of class.

- Has anyone contacted Bethany Lutheran and others about why they closed their schools?

- Teachers who are not woke, and do not have a leftist world view.

- Having an environment where non biblical current world views are not pushed on my child

- Cost

- Affordable tuition

- Accreditation, counseling, professionalism of teaching staff, positive and caring atmosphere

ASCENSION LUTHERAN SCHOOL INTEREST SURVEY

The following are the key takeaways from our school interest survey.

MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS

The following factors were most important to our community when choosing a school for their children.

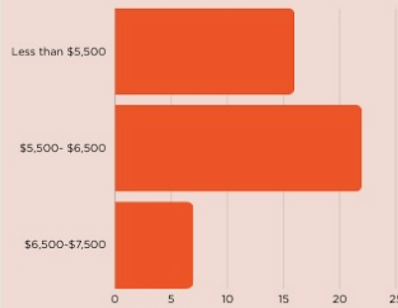


CAPACITY

This is how many students that will be in grades K-3 are interested compared to the number of seats we would be able to offer .



TUITION



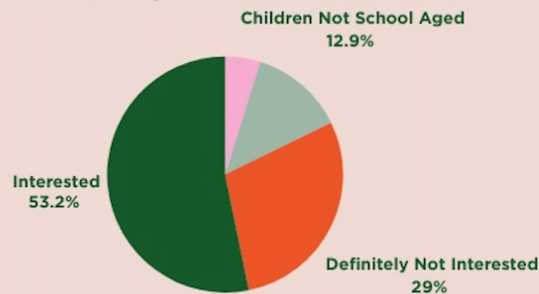
This is what families feel they could afford to pay for a private Christian education.

DEMOGRAPHICS



COMMUNITY INTEREST

Over 50% of the 107 people who took the survey were definitely or strongly interested in sending their child to a school at Ascension.



Summary of Surveys

Information revealed with surveys provides planning guidance, and time for prayerful consideration as a congregation is considering “What does God want us to do?”

General Themes and Sentiment

- Interest and support shown in the surveys is needed for the start of a Lutheran School.
- Largest response across all questions expressed the desire for a caring, safe, Christian education with a “traditional” instruction in reading, writing and math.
- There are concerns from parents on paying full cost of tuition - there were numerous references to the cost for attendance and a willingness to volunteer to help tuition.
- More than 50 percent of survey respondents indicated they were strongly interested in sending children to a Lutheran School at Ascension.

Affordable, reasonable tuition is important, especially given families with multiple children enrolled. Class sizes, “traditional” approach in teaching reading, writing and math in Christian environment, and quality teachers are also to be considered.

Surveys did not give a clear indication of how much financial support the congregation would be willing to share in the expense of the school while supporting students with their tuition. There are still questions to be answered regarding financial support, and governance that will need to be flushed out by the Steering Committee.

The 107 total number of survey responses include members of Ascension church congregation, Open Arms Child Development Center families and some responses from the community. The responses generally reflect a positive over all interest in the possibility for starting a Lutheran School. It would be very informational if a parent-specific survey was given exclusively to preschool families enrolled at Ascension’s preschool and exclusively to Open Arms Child Development Center families. Since it would be reasonable to anticipate that an elementary school at Ascension would primarily draw attendance from those two sources initially in addition to the community.

Once the school program is in operation and families/parents are involved and develop a relationship with the excellent staff and program, families from the community will come to know about the school and want to have their children enrolled.

Interviews

The individual interviewees were receptive to the interview process and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings about the proposed elementary school program. The following summary of the interviews represents the major themes expressed by those interviewed. While quotations are taken from individual interviewees, they are cited as representative of those interviewed in general.

When asked to describe the quality of schools available in the community the responses were complimentary but there were concerns expressed about “potential teaching and subject matter requirements” referring to gender issues. Several interviewees commented about the change in an “open school movement” for families choosing which public school they want their children attending. There were expressions of concern for the faith life of children and students “given our current social culture in the U.S.”

Reaction to the Case/Vision Statement

The CASE, seen earlier in this report, for a potential Lutheran School was developed to serve as conversation piece for people to visualize potential reality. The challenge is to create a vehicle and a process for people to express in clear language their hopes and dreams for the school. The Case becomes a document or instrument that cultivates and solicits support.

General reaction to the Case was favorable by the interviewees regarding the start-up of a Lutheran school. There was an openness by all interviewees to discuss Christian education and the possibility of a Lutheran School, grades K-5, at Ascension.

From listening to the interviewees with limited connection to Lutheran school education, it is apparent that there has been an interest in a Lutheran School education for some time. The Open Arms and Ascension’s onsite preschool programs “would be a natural feeder into a Lutheran school if one would start.”

Reaction to the Case/Vision Statement also included:

“Must have LCMS teachers; should have an affordable price; the Mission is important, add one grade each year; the impact on the community with a school would be good; Christ centered education; family-church-home; reasonable for a start-up school, numbers of available children seems good, timing is good to start a program as families are seeking better schools to the west and northwest areas of Wichita.”

Important Qualities of a Lutheran School

A variety of important qualities of a Lutheran school program were shared starting with; “receiving Christian education instruction and, faith-based experiences from loving and caring teachers and visible-relational pastoral leadership” was one of the most important qualities that the school program could offer to children and families. “Relational activities with families” in their child’s education and in the congregation were also expressed.

The quality of the program was emphasized along with a Lutheran mission emphasis. Included in an educational quality list was “technology, variety of activities, help with transition from fifth

grade to sixth, independent work, excellent administrative structure, excellent curriculum, elementary playground, improved facilities, and children with special needs.”
“Need to have strong Christian, faith-based curriculum, hands on learning, active learning, kindergarten program should look the same as the elementary, quality program, family activities, small class sizes, good programs for children, Christ centered education, quality curriculum and must have quality teachers, strong identity to build educational and family community.”

Why a Lutheran School?

While some of those interviewed had no children that would be of school age they indicated that a Lutheran school “would be a blessing for children to experience.” “Lutheran schools are known for their quality education programs and “the children and families would be blessed”. The overwhelming response to Why a Lutheran School was “to share the Good News of Jesus.”

Major Obstacles

When asked about major obstacles to establishing a Lutheran school the interviewees shared the following, “not having financial support, being able to “get” good staff/teachers.” “The congregation just not being ready financially or with the facility or family support with children”.

-Finances, use of current facility with “other” church groups/activities, (*sharing occupied space*) limited congregational experience about operating a school, an attempt to previously start a school but a failed experience, affordability of parents, not enough kids or teachers, unknown startup costs, unknown impact on the congregation. Initial and long- term continued funding, finding quality teachers and facility were spoken of repeatedly.

Funding the School

All agreed that the school should be funded primarily with tuition/fees, with some support from the congregation and third source funding. Concern was expressed about the financial magnitude of funding and the administration of a school program. There was reference made to the fact that, “can our congregation assist financially with the school program in a strong supportive way, especially initially?”

Additional Counsel for the Steering Committee

When asked to give additional advice and counsel to the Steering Committee as they continue their work the following comments were made:

“Communicate, why we are doing this!” - often w/ clarity

“Must start with and have a business plan – show us!”

“Share information and ask for our thoughts/input!”

“Generally, be careful of decisions that are made.”

“Think of family connections/relationships not just kids.”

“Make long term plans, not just immediate.”

“To attract families consider naming the school in a similar manner to Open Arms where families do not feel that the program is only for Lutherans.”

“Address school governance/administration.”

“K-5 or K-8?”

“Keep the mission the focus.”

“Keep communicating.” ---repeated many times!

“Plan ed. Program that is unique to different learning styles.”

“Think through and develop a time line.”

“Be pro-active.”

“Must have before and after school supervised care”

“Set up and have an endowment in place for tuition assistance.”

“Salaries are very important to pay qualified teachers.”

“Don’t be cheap.”

“Think parent needs not exclusively children’s needs as you enroll families not just children.”

Summary of Interviews

In general, people were genuinely open to the discussion of a Lutheran school. Concerns arose around adequate number of available committed students/families and adequate support and long-term commitment to make it work without “dragging down the congregation into debt.” There was general support for the need of more and frequent direct communication that allow for personal responses and verbal reflection on what this might mean or questions that may want to be asked.

When posed with the question to the congregational interviewees for supporting Lutheran school education, the response was generally favorable from the interviewees who “liked” the idea of a Lutheran elementary school.” However, while the CASE from the Steering Committee helped to create a vision and illicit discussion and opinions, getting the commitment for students, setting reasonable tuition, acquiring staffing, determining financial support from the congregation, all will need to be done with God’s people working together.

There was clear uncertainty of how beginning a school program could be done? Additional assistance will be needed to help the process to keep moving forward.

While there was general appreciation for the exploratory work that is being done, there was also support for “finding answers” to the start of a school that will impact ministry and mission of a school that will also support the ministry His church. Matt. 28:19-20.

Professional Opinion

The Steering Committee Ascension Lutheran Church of the Wichita, Kansas area, undertook this feasibility study using the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Genesis Feasibility Study process to assist in helping to decide about the possibility of starting a Lutheran school. The process officially began at the July 18, 2023 with a Full Board meeting at the Tyler Campus. Project 3:20 plan was presented to “investigate starting a school at the Tyler Campus. Application was made on August 1, 2023. Assessment of School Readiness forms were completed by the Congregation’s Chair, Head Pastor and the LCMS Kansas District Education Executive. An LCMS Genesis Consultant was assigned who made an initial orientation visit with the Steering Committee, January 20, 2024 outlining the Genesis study process and steps needing to be completed for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod school readiness study Genesis Project. Those completed steps are contained in this report and are the basis for helping congregation to make an informed, God pleasing decision.

Many who participated in the confidential interviews and surveys shared their appreciation for the opportunity to express their personal opinions regarding the establishment of a Lutheran school. The feasibility study process provides opportunity for members to assess the potential new program that may be offered to families in their congregation and community.

Counsel appreciates the efforts made in the gathering of statistics from the surveys. There clearly is interest from families, via data, surveys & interviews, for starting a Lutheran school. The Interest Survey that was conducted for grades K-3 reflected 50 interested students with having a possible capacity of 80 students. Of the 107 survey responses the respondents indicates that by August 2026, 21 children could be entering preschool, 20 children would be entering Kindergarten, 20 children would be entering first grade, 18 would enter second grade, 12 entering third grade. Fifty-three percent of the 107 surveys taken were interested in sending their child to a school at Ascension.

More detailed information will be needed from the congregation to determine the actual level of support and commitment to move ahead with the start-up of a school program. Twenty-nine percent of the 107 surveys indicated they were definitely not interested in a school at Ascension. Survey respondents indicated that they would be willing to support the school by contributing in the following ways:

23.4% with Financial Donation

18.7% Willing to contribute to a scholarship fund for families that cannot afford tuition.

36.4% to support through donations of materials.

The congregation will need to review their annual statistical data that reflects on the events, activities and finances of their congregation and determine how that will impact their current ministries while moving ahead with a Lutheran school start.

There are positive considerations reflected in the surveys. Parents are seeking a Christian education for their children. The demographics of the area reflect young families as a growing category of population, therefore, the availability of children for a school has strong potential. The congregation members and interviewees are concerned about the feasibility of a Lutheran school start as there are many uncertainties and unknowns at this time that focus on finances initial and long term. There are significant concerns for developing long term plans of financial

commitment, and satisfactory facilities that will need to be addressed and agreed upon if a school at Ascension is to start.

Can a **new** school program at Ascension impacting the faith of children, students and families begin at 842 N Tyler? Your congregation and leaders have done their due diligence by first gathering the data and listening to what their parents and families are saying about a school start through the Genesis Feasibility Study. The study contained in this report reflects not only desire but the necessary information to help move forward. Continue to pray!

Summary

Today Synodical Lutheran School data shows that there is a growing percentage of nonmember students in their schools. In other words, fewer Lutherans and more nonmember or no church home at all for children, but the ministry continues.

A Steering Committee, was started to more intentionally and formally determine whether it is viable to have a school at Ascension begin in the North Tyler area of Wichita, Kansas.

The purpose of the Feasibility Study was to assess the following:

- Interest of the congregation and community in starting an elementary school.
- Interest and ability of parents in sending their children
- Potential congregational support and funding
- The market for potential students
- Attitudes toward a potential school at 842 N Tyler

In the areas listed above your Consultant finds a desire and willingness to support the start of a formal school program. The LCEF Demographic study reflects significant number of children of elementary school age in the areas that were studied in the designated Polygon around 842 North Tyler. This is an area of significant growth for Wichita.

Additional startup plans and actions must first be formulated and acted upon. Congregational support will need to be more definitive and more thoroughly developed. Funding and facilities will also need to be given a priority before proceeding. Developing a realistic achievable financial business plan will help a school to start with strong support.

Is the congregation ready? Does Ascension have the desire to work together in a new ministry, that touches the faith lives of children and their families? Few ministries or building projects tied to ministries, in the life and history of the church have begun with 100 percent support. However, at the right time in the life of a church, expanded ministry by way of a Lutheran School will prove to be a blessing as God's people come together to support active mission work, evangelism outreach, faith nurturing, Gospel proclamation, disciple-ing and grace experiences through a Lutheran school.

Recommendations

The LCMS Genesis Feasibility Study was undertaken by the Steering Committee of Ascension Lutheran Church. The demographic study areas centered around an 8-mile radius and also a Polygon around 842 North Tyler Road to assess a demographic possibility for the start of a new Lutheran K-5 school program. Generally, when a congregation is moving in its ministry with new programs or projects there are uncertainties as well as excitement about how God will work to accomplish the task through His people. That movement within a congregation will not be without its challenges and will take time. However, trust and faith in God while seeking His will, helps a congregation to move forward with an intentional active ministry. Pray, seek His guidance!

Ascension Lutheran church gave support for a Genesis Feasibility Study. The study has now been completed. The Genesis feasibility study was to determine if a school startup would be possible. Should the Steering Committee wish to continue with the Recommendations and plans for a Lutheran School they will want to share the results of the Genesis Feasibility Study and also seek the official approval from the congregation to move forward with full intentions of starting a school. If it is given, then proceed.

Based on the findings of this study the following recommendations are presented for your consideration:

Recommendation 1

Move forward with a school start up IF:

- ___a. the school is to be a part of the ministry of the congregation!
- ___b. a goal goal of the school is faith development rather than getting new members for church!
- ___c. the school and congregation purposely develop and embrace relationships with the family whose child(ren) are enrolled in the school.
- ___d. there is a projected and accurate budget/business plan developed for the school.

Recommendation 2

Make arrangements to work with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund Real Estate Solutions.

There are many parts to consider if a school is to start, not the least of which is; How do we go about this start? Who can help guide and direct the work?

Counsel recommends connecting with the LCEF Real Estate Solutions (RES). Contact them through the LCMS District Office, and arrange for an initial meeting to help continue the process. LCEF RES can work with the Steering Committee and congregation to guide the work with, master planning, financials concept design, additional data collection, marketing analytics, CapEx & estimates, design development, construction documents, administration, schedules and more. This should be your initial step.

Develop a time line for tasks to be addressed and issues resolved. Counsel also recommends that the Steering Committee enlist the assistance of those with knowledge in school facilities and playground development that would be used initially for the elementary school part of the K-5 program, in addition to addressing health and safety issues which are critical factors of concern when working with children. Any construction or renovation of a facility will need to be factored into the general start-up costs and shared with the congregation. The Steering Committee will want to reference the data and information for planning and developing of a school program while working with the LCEF RES program of development.

The actual start of a school will depend in part on how diligent you are about the work of starting, and how committed and united your congregation is to embrace the program. Seek and share accurate information. Work out details and timelines for a program destined to impact lives through God's work using the people of your congregation. Enlist the counsel of Rev. Daniel Grams, LCMS Kansas District Education Executive.

Recommendation 3: Identify a School Startup Task Force

Counsel recommends, at the appropriate time, that a School Task force be identified with broad representation to work through the detailing tasks setting up the organizational development phase of the proposed school program. Various committees may need to be appointed.

A business plan or ministry plan that will include these key issues should be developed:

- Administrative structure
- Financial planning----three to five-year projection
- Curriculum development
- Recruitment and enrollment planning
- Human resource planning
- Marketing

This plan should be presented to the governing body for approval. (See Addendum A for clarity with this phase.)

Recommendation 4: Enlist A Facilitator

Counsel recommends that a facilitator be appointed whose responsibility it will be to help with the School Startup Task Force work, as well as help guide the progress of the various subcommittees. Once the congregation's commitment to the school is made, and at the appropriate time, start the process for adding an administrator/principal who can facilitate the startup planning & activities /steps with LCMS District Education Executive.

Recommendation 5: Communicate

Counsel recommends that the School Startup Task Force develop and implement a timely comprehensive communications process for the different congregational organizations as well as the congregational membership. A date or timeline establishing communicating progress milestones should be established in order for communication to be intentional, and frequent. Develop a strategy for an effective process. Bring no surprises.

Recommendation 6: Capital Campaign

Determine with LCEF RES and the District, if a capital campaign is needed for scholarships, and initial funding and/or long-term funding of the school program. Implement a capital campaign if the need is identified.

Recommendation 7: Search for an Administrator

Counsel recommends, at the appropriate time, that the School Task Force in harmony with the congregation/governing board, conduct a national search for a Lutheran Elementary School Administrator who would be in place in advance of the school's opening to help develop the program, to assist with recruitment and to be involve with staff selection as needed. Networking with the Education Executive, Rev. Daniel Grams, of the Kansas District and the LCMS National office will serve as excellent resources for qualified candidates.

Recommendation 8: National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA)

Counsel recommends that the School Task Force, at the appropriate time, secure National Lutheran School Accreditation for the Lutheran school. Documents for NLSA can be downloaded from the internet at www.luthed.org. This document can serve as an immediate and important guide for developing a quality Lutheran School.

Addendum - A

Clarification of Recommendation 3:

Appoint a School Task Force

In all areas of development, the District LCMS office may prove most helpful in proceeding with counsel and advice.

The responsibility of this task force is to set up various subcommittees with specific goals in mind. The following critical goals should be considered as a part of each subcommittee's agenda before starting the school (a school administrator will prove very helpful early on in the process):

Administrative Planning

- Prepare guidelines of operation, communication, and finances.
- Prepare facility use guidelines and reporting responsibilities.
- Secure recognition by government agencies.
- Prepare a School Board policy manual.
- Recommend the head administrator – develop a job description.
- Work with the District Education Executive to identify and meet District and LCMS processes that are needed.

Financial Planning

- Determine an initial policy for funding the new School.
- Prepare a budget to cover the organizational phase.
- Develop a comprehensive plan to cover capital needs, exploration costs and one- to three-year operational costs.
- Project a tuition rate.
- Develop a tuition financial aid policy that is funded by an established foundation
- Propose a specific congregational support system.
- Investigate potential resources from the community----special gifts and endowments.

Facility Planning

- Conduct a needs assessment.
- Review ordinances and codes with the City zoning commission, safety, fire, health, etc. for Schools.
- Project renovation costs.
- Prepare a long-range plan and cost estimates for the site and facility needs.
- Determine facility use limitations, if any, with School in operation and the need for use by congregational functions and develop guidelines.

Curriculum Development

- Develop a set of guidelines and principles for curriculum design and selection.
- Provide a preliminary cost estimate of needed instructional equipment and supplies.
- Develop a recommended outline of curriculum for the first year of operation, including course suggestions, activities, worship and ministry/service involvement, and extracurricular events.

Recruitment and Enrollment Planning

- Develop an enrollment policy.
- Develop a recruitment/enrollment activities calendar.
- Develop a transportation strategy and policy if needed.
- Determine the number of students who may realistically attend during the first two years.

Human Resources Planning

- Develop staffing policies, procedures and criterion for staff selection.
- Develop a two-year staffing plan.
- Provide a preliminary cost estimate for needed staff.
- Secure a list of available candidates for teaching positions.

Marketing

- Develop strategies to communicate the school's mission to its public.
- Develop and use the eight "P's" of effective marketing
 - Prayer
 - Purpose
 - Product
 - People
 - Price
 - Place
 - Performance
 - Promotion

Addendum – B

Individual Interview Questions

Genesis Feasibility Study Interview Questions for a Lutheran School Genesis Feasibility Study

Interview Questions –

1. What, if any, relationships have you or your family had with Lutheran schools?
2. How would you describe the quality of education available to the young people and their families of this community?
3. Are there any particular aspects of the vision on the proposed Lutheran School described in the Case to which you would like to react at this time?
4. If you had a young child who would be able to attend the proposed Lutheran School what would be the main reason for having your child (ren) enrolled/attend? Not enrolling?
5. What attributes, qualities, programs or services, in your opinion, will this Lutheran School need to provide if it is to attract families from the community/area?
6. What would you see as the major obstacles to the establishment of this proposed Lutheran School?
7. Typically, support for a Lutheran School comes from three sources: 1. Fees 2. Congregation 3. Fundraising Would you please comment on how you personally feel the proposed Lutheran School in this community will need to be funded considering these three sources?

8. In your opinion, would the Lutheran and Christian leadership of this community provide support for the proposed Lutheran School?
9. Which local schools would attract the same students that might enroll in the proposed Lutheran School?
10. Can you suggest the names of people in the community or congregation that need to be involved to assure the success of this Lutheran School?
11. Would you see yourself volunteering in any way to support the Lutheran School?
12. What is your feeling about differentiating between members' and nonmembers' fees for tuition?
13. Is there any additional advice and counsel you would like to give the Steering Committee as they continue their work?
14. Do you have an opinion on school schedules? Do you prefer the traditional 10-month school schedule or would you be open to a year round schedule (11 months plus one month summer break)?

Addendum – C

Interviewees

Pamela Chambers
Jay Schweikert
Jack Smith
Doug & Lynae Reith
Barbara Tritsch
Seth Brees
Janet Delanty
Mel & Diane Winter
Leon & Karen Lungwitz
Beth Ortsdat
Mark & Betty Herbert
Sara Fleming
Jeff Olivra
Scott & Genelle Strong
Mike & Linda Freed
Steve & Kim Fisher
Steve Rorebeck

Addendum – D

(SEE LANDSCAPE COPY For Details)

RESEARCH OF WICHITA AREA SCHOOLS

An analysis of data gathered by researching 16 schools in the Wichita area

School	Tuition For One Child	Other Notes
Wichita Colligate School	\$18,035	Families may submit w2s and cost is determined based on financial situation, kindergarten, 5th, 6th grade are at a different tuition rate
The Independent School of Wichita	\$12,500	Kindergarten is slightly less and 5th and 6th grade slightly more. At least \$1,300 in additional fees assessed annually Students are "provided" a Catholic education as families attend church on required days, participate in sacraments, and tithe 10%
Wichita Catholic Schools	n/a	
Holy Cross Lutheran School	\$6,350-7,000	Discount for LCMS members, significant enrollment and activity fees
Classical School of Wichita	\$8,300	significant enrollment and activity fees, discount automatic bank withdraw and payment in full at beginning of year
Life Prep Academy		The tuition is based on several factors including your location and scholarships.
Freedom Prep	\$5,200	
Green Gate School	\$6,300	
Wichita Montessori School	\$10,880	\$500 enrollment fee and \$400 supply fee
Central Christian Academy	\$6,519	\$250 fees per child
Faith Lutheran School (Derby)	\$4,500	Limited fees
St. Paul's Lutheran School (Cheney)	\$1,800	How are they doing this?
Urban Prep Academy	\$4,500	click "enrollment packet" in the link
Wichita Friends School	\$8,120	
Trinity Academy	\$10,000	\$550 In fees
Berean Academy		not transparent on the website

LUTHERAN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S HANDBOOK

Guidelines For Starting A School

