



Northern Illinois District
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Education Ministry Update

By Lois Stewart, Mission Facilitator for Schools, serving Commissioned Workers

Although there have been bumps and hurdles along the way, God has blessed the NID as we travel through the 2020-2021 school year. We know that God holds all of our schools, workers, students, and families close to Himself. All schools are focusing on the 3 Ws – Word, Wellness, and Witness.

Each day, the leaders and teachers in our schools have the blessing to witness faith to the children and families that enter. Our NID schools have been blessed with many new families this year (many due to the need for in person instruction). This gives our schools a great opportunity to share the love of Jesus each day in class and through chapel.

Here are some examples of how families have responded to the sharing of Jesus' love in our schools:

- A Kindergartener started attending school this year, because her parents knew she needed an in person experience. Within a few weeks, her parents enrolled her two siblings –both in intermediate grades. Next fall, her younger siblings will begin in the PreK program . . . from one to five in the same family! The family is becoming members of the church!
- It's enrollment time. One parent shared at recent conferences, *"We knew we would like it here. We didn't realize we would love it here! We're staying!"* Helping so many families get to know Jesus has been a great blessing. So many are joining the church and looking for ways to be involved. What a blessing it is for us to see God at work through the ministry of the school!
- One family shared that their daughter went to preschool at one of our NID schools. They put her in their public school for kindergarten so she could experience it. *"We immediately saw the vast difference of not just the learning environment but the teacher-student-family interactions."* This student is now back at the NID school for first and second grade. *"The teachers have been very caring, attentive, warm, and engaging, but no compromising class rules and expectations. They responded immediately to inquiries about the pandemic. From the front office to principal, teachers, and other staff, everyone is really nice, caring, and engaging. This school has been a wonderful choice for the role models living their Christian faith in all interactions."* They have endorsed this school to family and friends.

To God be the glory for our schools and workers!