



## Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools

Main Office:  
151 N. Monroe St.  
Monroe, MI 48162  
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### Exciting Project in the St. Michael Campus School Building

Long before the COVID-19 Pandemic, the St. Michael the Archangel Parish Leadership Team was working on the Missionary Strategic Plan for the parish and realized there were several great needs at St. Michael Parish and specifically in the school building: more preschool classroom space, a more appropriately located office for Mrs. Reynolds, our Director of Early Childhood Education who oversees our childcare center, more storage space, and an updated kitchen that would benefit both the school and parish.

St. Michael Parish is blessed to have the Luella Amolsch Trust, which has directly supported our school for many years. The trust serves our families by providing scholarships and funding. A portion of this trust can be utilized every few years to complete capital projects within the context of the school.

With the aforementioned needs identified, we set out working with the Amolsch Trust and an architect to modify our school building to better suit our growing needs. The MCES Childcare Center was started in 2012 to serve as a safe & welcoming environment for families. We serve children starting at 6 weeks of age through preschool. Each fall we enroll many preschool students and have full classrooms. MCES has a nearly 90% retention rate from preschool into Young 5s and Kindergarten. This means the vast majority of our preschoolers enter our school-aged programs. The preschool program is vital to the success of MCES. In order to create an additional preschool classroom, we will need to modify an area of the current building. As with any building, age takes its toll. The kitchen is outdated and the old gym bathrooms are unused and wasted valuable floor space. By rethinking our use of this area, we can make the MCES and parish use of the gym & kitchen a much better experience.

Though the COVID-19 Pandemic has created challenges, the project is in the best interest of MCES because it will allow us to grow and utilize the St. Michael Campus to its fullest potential.

**The project consists of two main parts, which will be done simultaneously beginning this week.**

**Part 1:** The Stage, Gym Office and Early Childhood Education Office will be demolished and converted to one large, State of Michigan licensed preschool classroom. Windows will be added to the front of the building, a sink will be installed and all electrical will be updated. Several updates will be made in the gym to allow for better audio/visual presentations.

**Part 2:** The kitchen and adjacent, unused restrooms will be demolished and converted into a larger kitchen and storage room for tables, chairs, and PE equipment. The kitchen will have up-to-date appliances, equipment, plumbing and electrical. A portion of the current kitchen storage will be



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converted to office space for the Director of Early Childhood Education, relocating her office to a location adjacent to the Daycare Center Entrance.

The full cost of this project will be funded by the Amolsch Trust. We are grateful for Ms. Amolsch's support of Catholic education and our parish! My goal today is to just let you know about this exciting project and the great things we have on the horizon at St. Michael campus.

The project will be completed by Mid-American Group of Newport and their sub-contractors. There should be little disruption to the school and childcare operations and should be completed within 150 days. We will post updates as this exciting project progresses.

Thank you for your support and prayers of Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools. I hope you have a Merry Christmas!

