DEAR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:

With the start of the new year, I am pleased to present our 2022 Annual Report for Catholic Schools. This report is an accurate reflection of the state of the Catholic schools within the Diocese of Green Bay.

In January of 2018, the Diocese of Green Bay launched our Strategic Mission Plan for Catholic Schools. Critical to this was working together to build Catholic schools that have as their primary mission forming disciples of Jesus Christ who love Jesus and live his mission. We are fortunate to have dedicated administrators, faculty and staff members who have embraced this focus. The dedication of those who serve the children entrusted to their care is second to none! This is reflected in our 2.5% enrollment growth of the 2022-2023 school year and our 5% growth since we started our Strategic Mission Plan.

Turning on the news these days can be extremely distressing. Our Catholic schools, however, serve as a shelter from the storm for our young people and as a beacon of hope for the future. This faith-filled, holistic education provides young souls with a solid foundation, enabling them to make a positive difference and to model what it means to be a disciple of Christ to the world. It is in our Catholic schools that dedicated faithful teachers and administrators work together in harmony to achieve two goals: 1) To help get each child in their care into heaven; and 2) To make sure that each child in their care receives the best possible education.

Working together with our pastors, our Catholic Schools will continue to engage families to meet their spiritual needs and fill the pews each week.

As we look to the future of the Church, we take seriously the vision that Bishop David Ricken has outlined in his 2022 pastoral letter, “Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist: Disciples Called To Worship,” to strengthen parishes, schools and communities alive with missionary disciples and the “Five Alive” practices. It’s no longer about what we can manage or afford, it’s about what we build, and how we grow and live with zeal for the love of the Lord. It’s about being great and living to our fullest potential! Our Catholic schools are actively engaged in forming disciples of Christ who will walk in His footsteps and invite others to join us in the journey.

Sincerely,

Todd Blahnik
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

BISHOP’S PASTORAL LETTER

Bishop Ricken continues to lead all on a journey of missionary discipleship. During these “Worship Years,” we are invited to grow deeper in encountering Jesus Christ through the sacrifice of Mass.

Bishop Ricken celebrated an All Schools Mass for the schoolchildren on October 25, hosted by St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish in Neenah. Each school was invited to send 10 representatives to participate in this special event.

On December 1, Bishop Ricken, along with the Office of Catholic Schools, hosted a luncheon with the Diocese of Green Bay’s Catholic School Presidents and Principals. As the keynote speaker of this event, Bishop Ricken focused on sharing his pastoral letter, “Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist: Disciples Called To Worship.” Our schools serve both the faith community and society by educating children and young people and enable them to build and deepen a relationship with Christ.

He asked school leaders to take a dive into his pastoral letter with their staff and to utilize the study guide in order to gain a deeper understanding of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and to share and teach our students the importance of Sunday worship. The more we unlock the meaning of the Mass and rediscover its power and beauty, the more equipped we are as leaders of our schools to share Jesus Christ with our staff, students and families at our Catholic School. As Bishop Ricken states in his pastoral letter, “We must always celebrate Sunday Eucharist with the joy of Christ whom we encounter as the one who loves and saves us.”

The Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) portal will be open for the 2023-24 school year from February 1 to April 21. Families may begin to register at that time.

All families must reside in Wisconsin and new participants must meet the current income eligibility requirements.

• If your school participated in the Choice Program for the 2022-23 school year, students who received a Choice Voucher will need to reapply to continue in the program.

• Current families of existing Choice schools who did not receive a voucher but have a child entering grades PK4, K, 1st and 9th grade are eligible to apply.

• New families to a school are eligible to apply at all grade levels.

The application portal can be found at https://sms.dpi.wi.gov/ChoiceParent/ Please contact your school with any specific questions.
NEW ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENTS

The Office of Catholic Schools welcomed two new Associate Superintendents this past summer, Liz Goldman and Jamie Hahn. Both are returning to their home, the Diocese of Green Bay, after spending a number of years with the Diocese of Madison as Catholic School Principals.

Liz, Associate Superintendent of Instruction and Academic Accountability, will focus on faith integrated professional development along with coordinating diocesan activities in the areas of curriculum development and instruction, Catholic identity and assessment.

Jamie’s responsibilities as Associate Superintendent of Mission Effectiveness and Leadership Formation include working with principals and school board leadership formation, accreditation processes and school advancement, as well as mission effectiveness in strategic planning efforts.

THE NATION’S REPORT CARD SHOWS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS EXCELling POST-PANDEMIC

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), a biennial report of the U.S. Department of Education, notes Catholic schools outperforming public school counterparts in almost all categories.

LEESBURG, Va. — According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), Catholic school students performed at or near the top in reading and math compared to public schools coming out of the pandemic. On October 24, NAEP, also known as the Nation’s Report Card, released its findings for math and reading for grades 4 and 8. NAEP is considered the most consistent measure of U.S. student achievement over time and a lens into student success.

As one commentator observed, if Catholic schools were a state, they would be the highest performing state in the country. The data also shows that Catholic schools are near the top in learning outcomes for students receiving free and reduced-price lunch, demonstrating the system’s commitment to underprivileged students. Although Catholic school students experienced a statistically significant five-point drop in grade 8 math, Catholic school students’ average scores remained 15 points higher than the average scores of their grade 8 public school peers.

“One of the reasons Catholic schools performed so well is that our teachers showed up for the kids. In every state, we were among the first to transition to distance learning, and after that brief time, also among the first to return students to a safe in-person environment. That’s why I call our educators heroes,” said Lincoln Snyder, NCEA President/CEO. “This is a proud moment for our Catholic schools, but we’ve got a lot of work ahead of us. The nation’s top priority must be working together to help our kids grow and excel as we emerge from this pandemic.”

Setting an industry standard, more than 90% of Catholic schools opened safely, in person, five days a week with hybrid options during the pandemic. This is compared to approximately 56% of public schools. Catholic schools worked to meet the educational, economic, mental health and spiritual needs of students and staff. This intentional dedication to Catholic school education also has shown an enrollment increase in Catholic schools as reported in the NCEA Data Brief: 2021–2022 Catholic School Enrollment.

The reading and mathematics assessments are given every two years to students at grades 4 and 8. The reading portion measures reading comprehension by asking students to read selected grade-appropriate materials and answer questions based on what they have read. For math, the assessment tests knowledge and the students’ ability to apply their knowledge in problem-solving situations. Both results present a broad view of students’ reading and math knowledge, skills and performance over time in public and non-public schools. Aside from Catholic schools, other private schools did not meet the minimum standard of responses to be included in the 2022 assessment.

NAEP is part of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). Since 1990, it has been the primary federal entity collecting and analyzing data related to education in the U.S. and other nations. NCES is located within the U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences. NCES fulfills a congressional mandate to collect, collate, analyze and report complete statistics on the condition of American education; conduct and publish reports; and review and report on education activities internationally. To view the details of the full report go to: www.nationsreportcard.gov.

For more information on NCEA, visit www.ncea.org and connect with NCEA on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube.

Source: www.ncea.org/NCEA/How_We_Serve/News/Press_Releases/The_Nation_s_Report_Card_Shows_Catholic_Schools_Excelling_Post-Pandemic.aspx
# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORT

## THE COMPASS

**School/System**  | **Address**  | **President/Principal**  | **City**  | **Grades**  | **Email**  
---|---|---|---|---|---  

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**GREEN BAY**

**President/Principal**

- **Renee Cowart**
  - Principal
  - St. Edward Catholic School

**City**

- **Green Bay**

**Grades**

- **PK-8**

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**School/System**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Address</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Grades</strong></th>
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<td>St. Thomas More Catholic School</td>
<td>1420 Harvey St., Green Bay WI 54302</td>
<td>Dr. Jamie Froh Tyrrell</td>
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<td>Chesterton Academy</td>
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**NORTHEAST REGION**

**President/Principal**

- **Paul Guadalupe**
  - Principal
  - St. Joseph Catholic School

**City**

- **Oshkosh**

**Grades**

- **PK-6**

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**NORTHERN REGION**

**President/Principal**

- **Paul Guadalupe**
  - Principal
  - St. Joseph Catholic School

**City**

- **Oshkosh**

**Grades**

- **PK-6**