



DEPARTMENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

A Snapshot of Catholic Schools



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



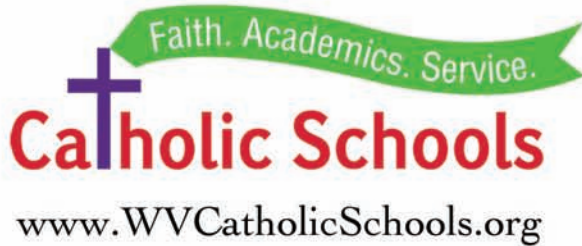
“Catholic Schools are a reminder of Jesus Christ in today’s world. We have an obligation to proclaim the Gospel in our communities and our system of schools give us the best opportunity to spread Christ’s Gospel message to those we serve.”

Most Reverend Michael J. Bransfield
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

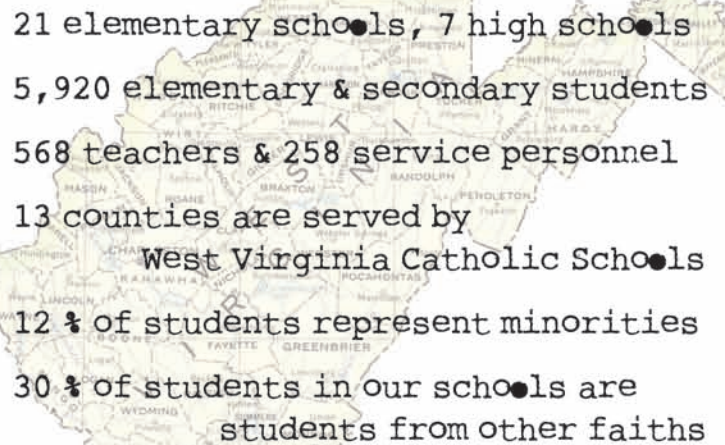


MISSION

The Catholic school communities of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston are committed to providing quality education in the Catholic tradition for all students in a nurturing, Christ-centered environment. We accompany families in challenging children to recognize, develop and share their God-given gifts and talents.



System at a Glance



21 elementary schools, 7 high schools
5,920 elementary & secondary students
568 teachers & 258 service personnel
13 counties are served by
West Virginia Catholic Schools
12 % of students represent minorities
30 % of students in our schools are
students from other faiths



GOOD NEWS IN EDUCATION

Many times this "tag line" is used to describe our national Catholic school landscape. The statement of course is aligning itself with the very words used by Jesus Christ, Our Savior.

The question I ask is, "When is the Good News really news?" The simple answer to that question is too often we might not know. We, as Catholic schools, don't give ourselves enough credit and as a result many times fail to celebrate our many accomplishments... that our schools are clear in their Catholic identity, producing children that excel academically and our schools themselves are working hard to make themselves financially sustainable.

Throughout this report you will see statistics and information that show that Catholic education across the Diocese not only meets the basics of educational expectations, but rather supersede all expectations. Good News in Education to be sure!

I am proud to say that it takes more than bricks and mortar to define a school or school system. Two plus two will always equal four in any school in the region. What makes our Catholic schools different is the experience that goes along with that learning of math, science, reading and such. Our Catholic schools have Gospel values alive in every subject that we teach and each relationship that we cultivate. Our Catholic schools develop the whole child to live as Christ taught us and in His light, and these truths are infused in every moment of the day in a Catholic school.

Our schools are developing students who not only maximize their potential and make you proud as parents and parishioners, but more importantly are alive in the Spirit of Christ and are willing to go out into our communities, and the world as a whole to make a substantial difference for the sake of others.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent de Paul Schmidt".

Vincent de Paul Schmidt
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Diocese of Wheeling Charleston

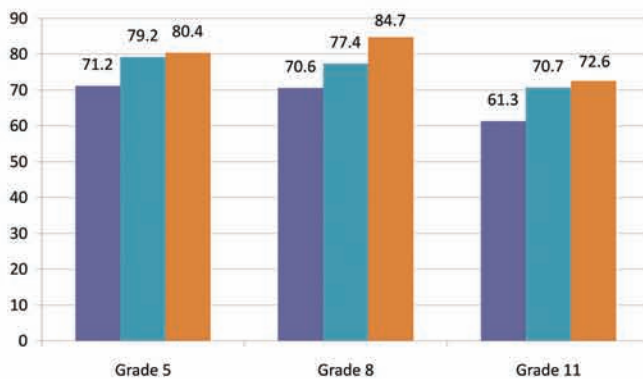
Catholic Identity

From beginning to end, each day in a Catholic school is grounded in Gospel values. From the classroom to sport arenas, from academic assemblies to services projects, Gospel values are being lived out by the entire school community. Each year our students contribute thousands of service hours through their initiative and support of local, national and global projects.

The Catholic School experience includes:

- ✚ Daily religion classes
- ✚ Prayer throughout the school day
- ✚ Weekly and monthly masses
- ✚ Student and faculty retreats
- ✚ Reconciliation services
- ✚ Living Rosaries
- ✚ Service clubs and organizations
- ✚ Involvement in the parish

2009-2011 ACRE TEST RESULTS



■ National

■ DWC 2009-2010

■ DWC 2010-2011

Students in the 5th, 8th, and 11th grades in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston scored higher than Catholic schools students across the nation in the Assessment of Catechesis/Religious Education test (ACRE).

Academic Excellence

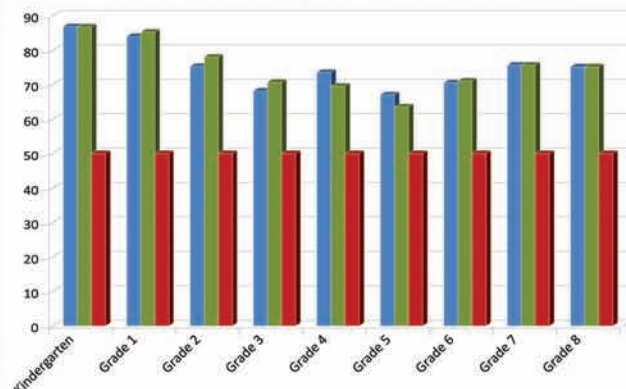
In the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, we seek to provide an education of academic excellence that is both instructional and formative; an education that offers a synthesis of faith and reason; an education rooted our Catholic faith.

- Our students are recognized with awards earned at the local, county, state, & national levels.
- Members of the Class of 2011 were offered more than 14.5 million in college scholarships.
- Members of the Class of 2011 are enrolled in over 60 different colleges and universities.
- The Class of 2010, 2011, & 2012 had 17 National Merit Commended Scholars, Semi-Finalists, & Finalists
- The Classes of 2010, 2011 & 2012 had 9 students nominated as Presidential Scholars.

2010-2011 TERRANOVA TEST SCORES

■ National Average
 ■ DWC Reading
 ■ DWC Math

Students in grades K-8, scored higher than the national average in reading and math.



Did You Know?

Two of our elementary schools have School Based Health Programs, funded by the Sisters of St. Joseph Health and Wellness Foundation and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, that provide health and wellness education programs and screenings for students in their schools and other nearby Catholic schools.



Many schools are exploring the possible use of mobile technologies, including iPads, to enhance teaching and learning.

All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston are accredited through AdvancED, which provides school accreditation at the national level.



There are 21 innovative pre-schools operated by Catholic schools in West Virginia.

Over 70 students from our Diocesan high schools joined others from across the country at a recent Right to Life March in Washington, D.C.

Nearly \$700,000 in tuition assistance will be distributed to families in need from the Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program during the 2011-2012 school year.

All schools in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston have SMART Board technologies; over half of our schools have Smart Boards in every classroom.

Our Catholic high schools have a 97% graduation rate.

Students from the class of 2011 were accepted to a wide range of colleges and universities across the United States and in other countries including Boston University, Emory University, Drexel University, Duquesne University, Universidad de Guatemala, Bard College, Otterbein College, New York University, Purdue University, University of Arizona, Texas A & M University, University of Loyola-Chicago, De Paul University, Valparaiso University, University of Louisiana, Wittenberg University, University of San Francisco, University of Miami, University of Virginia, University of Southern California, University of New Hampshire, La Roche College, Long Island University, Villanova University, Northeastern University, University of Dayton, Coastal Carolina University, Wake Forest University, Denison University, Xavier University, University of Cincinnati, Concord College, The Catholic University of America, Carnegie Mellon University, United States Naval Academy, Elon University, Washington & Lee University, University of Notre Dame, Washington & Jefferson College, Case Western Reserve University, Clemson University, University of Tennessee, The Ohio State University, University of Kentucky, Radford University, Penn State University, University of Pittsburgh, Virginia Tech University, High Point University, University of Alabama, St. Vincent College, University of Mississippi, Syracuse University, George Washington University, Auburn University, Northeastern University, Purdue University, Queens University, University of Georgia, Wofford College, Vassar College, Mercyhurst College, St. Louis University, Art Institute of Cincinnati, Gonzaga University, Furman University, University of Kansas, University of Louisville, Virginia Commonwealth University, University of Chicago, University of Toronto, Woodford College, West Virginia University, West Liberty University, University of Charleston, Fairmont State University, Shepherd University, West Virginia Wesleyan College, Bethany College, Marshall University, Wheeling Jesuit University, the state's only Catholic institution of higher education.

Students enrolled in Catholic schools serve others by reaching out to local, state, national & global communities.



There are three nationally recognized Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.



Our students participate in numerous activities ranging from drama productions, quiz bowls, debates, trips abroad and musical ensembles as well as math, science, foreign language, writing and other academic competitions.

