



DIocese OF  
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

# A SNAPSHOT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



DEPARTMENT OF  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

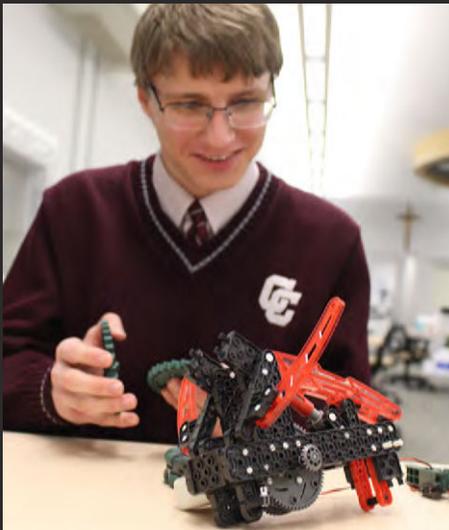


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## Mission

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.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston continues to work diligently to provide an education of intense academic rigor within the context and practice of our Catholic faith. Our Catholic schools have always been a tremendous resource for the faith community. Our teachers and administrators do not allow complacency to set in, but strive to increase our tradition of Catholic identity and academic excellence. Catholic Church teaching and the Gospel values will continue to be the vision that our schools use to set up the mission in each Catholic school. We work hard to develop the next generation of Catholics in West Virginia. As Catholic faith communities, we make every effort to educate the whole person through numerous initiatives, tuition assistance, and an active faith life.

Our schools are always striving to improve and become better institutions with our constant focus being on what is best for our students. Our Catholic schools proudly provide learning and innovative skills to prepare our students for a rapidly changing life and work environment in the 21st Century. A focus on creativity and innovation; critical thinking and problem-solving; and communication and collaboration; is evidenced by an increased emphasis on project-based, hands-on activities which are enhanced through technology. Many of our schools include STEM/STEAM projects or even labs for the students to participate in dynamic activities that challenge them in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math.

We take great pride in our students across the Diocese. Academic success is one of the highlights of our schools. Our high schools are producing graduates who are not only going to college at a rate greater than 98%, but, more importantly, are attending the college or university of their choice. Last year's seniors were offered more than \$25,000,000 in scholarships which clearly demonstrates that our Catholic high schools are producing the kind of students that colleges and universities are searching nationally to admit into their programs. Add to that, our elementary schools are clearly providing the foundational support that is necessary to succeed in secondary and higher education.

## System at a Glance

- 19 elementary Schools and 6 high schools
- 5,175 elementary & secondary students
- Over 500 professional staff
- 10% of students represent minorities
- 16th largest West Virginia school system in number of students
- 5th largest West Virginia school system in number of schools
- 12 counties are served by West Virginia Catholic schools

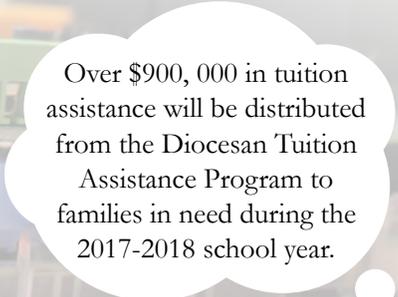
Throughout this publication you will see all that our dedicated staffs are doing to meet not only the basics of educational expectations, but rather supersede these expectations. Please accept this invitation to explore our Catholic schools.

Thank you for your continued support of our Catholic Schools.



*Richard M. Barnabei*

**Richard M. Barnabei**  
Superintendent



Over \$900,000 in tuition assistance will be distributed from the Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program to families in need during the 2017-2018 school year.

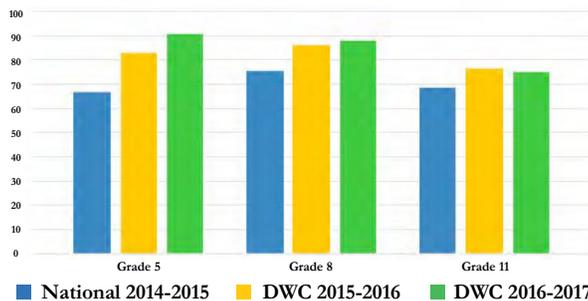
## Catholic Identity

Our Catholic schools are grounded in Gospel values and Church Tradition from beginning to end. Whether it is in the classrooms, sports arenas, assemblies, or service projects, the Catholic faith is being lived by the entire school community.

Catholic Schools have:

- ⊕ Daily religion classes
- ⊕ Prayer throughout the school day
- ⊕ Weekly and monthly Masses
- ⊕ Student and faculty retreats
- ⊕ Reconciliation services
- ⊕ Living Rosaries
- ⊕ Service clubs and organizations
- ⊕ School-wide service hours
- ⊕ Involvement in the parish
- ⊕ *Camp Magis* - for all 7th grade students
- ⊕ *The Summit* - for all 10th grade students

### 2015-2017 ACRE Test Results



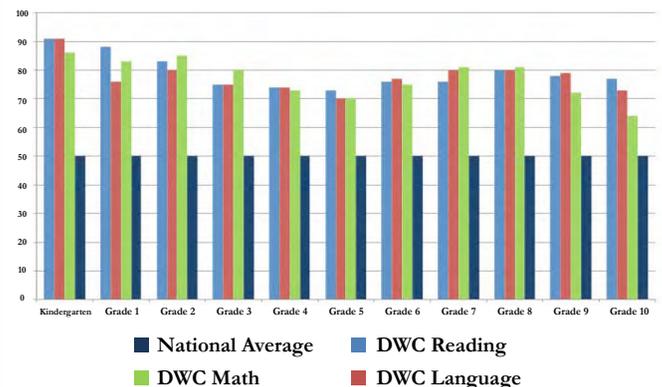
Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston scored higher than Catholic school students across the nation in the Assessment of Catechesis/Religious Education test (ACRE).

## 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 in our Catholic faith.

- Our students are recognized with numerous awards earned at the local, county, state, and national levels.
- Members of the Class of 2017 were offered more than \$25 million in college scholarships.
- Members of the Class of 2017 are enrolled in nearly 80 different colleges and universities.
- The Classes of 2011 – 2017 had 42 National Merit Semi-Finalists and Finalists.
- The Classes of 2011 – 2017 had 15 students nominated as Presidential Scholars.

### 2016-2017 Terra Nova 3 Test Scores NP MNCE (Mean Normal Curve Equivalent)



Students in grades K-8 scored higher than the national average.

# DID YOU KNOW?

Schools across the Diocese are implementing mobile technologies including Chromebooks and iPads. In addition, schools are utilizing a program called Nearpod to enhance the use of the 1:1 devices.

Teachers continually receive training on new learning and teaching strategies. In the summer of 2017, over 50 teachers attended technology workshops. During these workshops, there were networking opportunities and training sessions on a variety of technology topics including: Makerspaces, Nearpod, Coding and Google Apps for Education, and more.

We have 28 international students who are attending our schools in the 2017-2018 school year.

Religion teachers in our schools participate in the University of Dayton's online Virtual Learning Community of Faith (VLCFF) program, in which they enhance their learning on a wide range of religious education topics.

Schools across the Diocese are utilizing Google Apps for Education in order for students to use technology to create, share and collaborate on a variety of projects.

Seventeen schools were awarded Bishop's Cross Merit Grants in 2017 totaling over \$67,572 to implement new and innovative projects across our schools, such as: media production, STEM projects and Chromebook implementation.

The class of 2017 had a near 99% graduation rate and nearly 98% continued on to higher education.

The School Based Health Program (SBHP) is housed in two of our elementary schools and funded by the Sisters of St. Joseph Health and Wellness Foundation and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. It provides health and wellness programs and screenings for students. In addition, the SBHP website provides information and a periodic newsletter for all schools.



Students from the class of 2017 were accepted into a wide range of colleges, universities, and military academies across the United States. To view the full list and more "Did You Know's?" visit us online at

[WVCatholicSchools.org](http://WVCatholicSchools.org)

