

Catholic School Core Principles

All schools should be **Joyfully Catholic, Diligently Achieving, Intentionally Self-giving; Prudently Managed, and Forward Thinking**. There should be attention to the following:

1. Joyfully Catholic

Personnel – teachers who embrace the faith; who are happy about being Catholic, who want to learn more about the faith and also to deepen their relationships with Christ; who are active in their parishes; and who are beautiful witnesses of the faith to their students, parents, and the entire school community

Curriculum – instruction reflects a Catholic worldview, grounded in the moral theology and social justice teachings of the Church; the contributions of Doctors of the Church and other Church scholars are presented, in age-appropriate ways, to students; Catholic sources and resources are used as instructional materials

Environment – we respect the human dignity of everyone we encounter within our schools and community, and live powerful witness to the Gospel of Jesus; we embrace Virtuous Behavior Formation because it is how Jesus would guide; our school buildings and classrooms display Gospel-centered art and other beautiful images that inspire thoughtful contemplation

Community – we recognize parents have the original, primary, and inalienable right as the first educators of the child. Schools share in the responsibility of educating all God's children; All members of our school communities are joyful witnesses to the Catholic faith

2. Diligently Achieving: Our schools focus on guiding students to develop their God-given talents by attending to the individual needs of each students' spiritual growth, academic success, and emotional well-being. All schools provide faith formation, rigorous curriculum and instruction, and a virtue-based approach to students' personal development. Schools embrace differentiated instruction, MTSS, VBF and a culture of data. Student performance is assessed regularly, and demonstrates continuous improvement

3. Intentionally Self-Giving: Our service toward others is rooted in an individual, age-appropriate, discernment process that asks students to reflect on their God-given talents. Reflecting on their work, students will learn to hear God's desires for them and others in fulfillment of the Gospel

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4. Prudently Managed: We are blessed by the financial gifts to our schools from benefactors, parishes, and fundraising. We utilize all finances to the glory of God by prudently budgeting, and incorporating strategic planning. Communication to all stakeholders provides transparency and allows for opportunities for cultivating relationships.

5: Forward Thinking: We continually use data, both historical and projected, to set a strategic vision and plan for our schools. The plan is comprehensive and reflects the true cost of operating the school and implementing the strategic plan. Above all, we call upon and rely on the Holy Spirit to provide us with the wisdom to guide these and all our efforts.