



OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

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August/September 2011

Office of the
Superintendent
of Catholic Schools

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Thank you for choosing a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Hartford for your child's education. I know that the administration, faculty, and staff look forward to working with your child during the 2011-2012 academic year. Catholic schools play an important role in our Church and nation. During his United States visit in 1987, Pope John Paul II identified Catholic schools as being a "Gift to the Church and a Gift to the Nation." That same sentiment was echoed by Pope Benedict XVI in his 2008 visit to The Catholic University of America as he spoke to Catholic educators in the context of "...nurturing the soul of a nation."

Some of the data by the National Catholic Educational Association and Office of Catholic Schools that you may find interesting include:

- Our students achieve higher state and national scores on standardized tests.
- Our standards-based curriculum prepares students for postsecondary success.
- Our students and graduates work and collaborate across international, religious and cultural lines.
- Our schools lead the nation in graduation and college attendance rates.
- Our students exceed state graduation requirements.
- Our schools sustain a culture of community, values, respect, and responsibility.
- Our students are more likely to engage in community service.
- Our urban Catholic schools create lasting advantages for individuals.
- Our students excel at co-curricular activities.
- Our schools create a safe, nurturing, and caring environment.
- Our graduates earn high levels of education and income.
- Our schools represent a financial investment that pays off.
- Our schools educate the whole person – body, mind and SOUL.

You, as parent/guardian ambassadors for Catholic education, are the best spokespersons for this life-giving educational institution that nurtures the soul of students and a nation. The time is now for you to share with others the advantages of a Catholic school education. Know that your child's school takes great pride in recognizing the value of your child entrusted into their care. The administration and faculty strive for students to encounter the living God and prepare them to become productive, virtuous and successful citizens. So please, go and spread the good word about Catholic schools!

Be assured of my best wishes and prayers as you work with the school administration, faculty, and staff in making this school year a memorable and positive experience for your child. You indeed made the right choice in a Catholic school education...**an education for a lifetime.**

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Dale R. Hoyt
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of Hartford