

Faith. Academics. Service.

# Catholic Schools

The Archdiocese of Dubuque  
Catholic Schools Annual Progress Report 2011 - 2012



## Message from the Archbishop

Dear Friends and Supporters of Catholic Schools,

In this 175th anniversary year of the Archdiocese, and especially during Catholic Schools Week, it is good to remember that among the first actions of the soon to be created Dubuque

Diocese in 1836, was the establishment of its first school – St. Raphael Cathedral School. Following the opening of St. Raphael School, which started as an all boys' school, Bishop Loras worked with the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary to open an all girls' school in 1843, in Dubuque. Building on their success, Catholic schools became an integral component for the spiritual formation of Catholic youth in the Archdiocese. Countless religious sisters, brothers, priests, and laymen and women have worked diligently to provide the best possible Catholic school education to hundreds of thousands of youth these past 175 years.

As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, it is important to remember that these Catholic schools exist for and are dedicated to the faith development of Archdiocesan youth. Faith is the foundation upon which the schools have been built and faith continues to be the foundation for their success. It is in this faith-filled environment where prayer is welcome, Mass is celebrated, reconciliation occurs and spirituality is emphasized that our youth come to fully understand what it means to be Christian and what it means to be Catholic.

We can all take great pride in the academic success of our Catholic school students. These students demonstrate to us that a strong partnership with parents/guardians, administrators, teachers and with the students themselves, lead to great success. When these partnerships are coupled with high expectations and a solid work ethic for every child, God's gifts in these students can come to full fruition.

The service component of a Catholic school education thrives in our Archdiocesan schools. Students, staff, and administrators give back much to their local communities and parishes. These students' efforts to help the disadvantaged, shut-ins, those affected by disasters, and so many other unfortunate events should serve as an example to all of us. This desire to serve is inspired and cultivated every day in the Catholic school environment.

The Catholic school's commitment to faith, academics, and service does not come without great sacrifice and commitment from parishioners, parents, and staff. On behalf of all who have benefited from their Catholic school education and for all who continue to reap the rewards of a Catholic school education, I say thank you. The 175 years of Catholic school success in this Archdiocese would not be possible without your spirit of sacrifice and commitment. You remain in my prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Most Rev. Jerome Hanus, O.S.B.  
Archbishop of Dubuque



## Message from the Superintendent

This year's theme for Catholic Schools Week is "Faith. Academics. Service." This statement fully encapsulates the mission of our Archdiocesan Catholic Schools. These schools are led by outstanding educators and parish leaders who ensure that the students are challenged each and every day to grow in spirit, mind and body.

Faith is the cornerstone upon which Catholic Schools build. Our Catholic schools "are a vital part of the teaching mission of the Catholic Church" according to the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops. The most important "subject" taught in a Catholic School is spiritual formation of all – the students, staff, board, and parents. Spiritual formation is crucial in the development of the total person in a Catholic school environment. Spirituality and values are taught on the Catholic Church's terms, not the secular world's view.

Academics in Archdiocesan Catholic Schools are outstanding by any measure. Students at all grade levels achieve at an extremely high level in the Iowa Assessments (ITBS/ITED tests), the federally-established proficiency rates, and on ACT tests.

College success, as measured by college graduation rates of Archdiocesan high school alums, also reflects the quality of academic instruction, rigor, and accountability. Our Archdiocesan schools are most proud of the success students from families with low socioeconomic backgrounds have in our schools. No matter the families' situation, Archdiocesan schools help all students achieve their fullest academic potential.

Service is the "icing on the cake". Students in Archdiocesan schools contribute countless hours of service to each other, to parishioners, to their local community, and throughout the world. These students, under the direction of highly-trained staff, do so much to give to others. Service activities range from raking leaves in the fall and spring, visiting shut-ins to spending weeks at places like Catholic Heart Work Camps and Haiti. These examples are just a small fraction of all that our students accomplish to breathe life into their faith.

None of this is possible without the generosity of so many priests, parishioners, board members, faculty and administrators. It is important to stop during Catholic Schools Week to not only celebrate with our Catholic schools, but to give thanks to those who work to make each one possible and successful.

God Bless,  
Jeff Henderson, Ed.S.  
Superintendent of Schools

## Archdiocesan Mission Statement Vision 2000

We the Church of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, are God's people gathering together as a Eucharistic community to worship, sharing the Word of God, affirming traditional and emerging leadership roles and supporting families to model Catholic faith and morality for the next generation.

We commit ourselves to lifelong faith formation and to the service of humanity because we believe in the Risen Christ, in the wisdom and kindness of God, the author of life, and in the love the Holy Spirit bestows.

## Mission Statement of the Educational Apostolate Archdiocese of Dubuque

The mission of the Educational Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Dubuque is to promote lifelong faith formation which challenges individuals to:

- respond to God's continuous call to conversion to Jesus Christ
- form and be formed in Christian community life
- grow in knowledge of faith
- participate in liturgical celebrations in prayer
- collaborate in the Church's mission of evangelization



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## At a Glance

### Schools / Enrollment:

- There are 44 elementary / middle schools and seven secondary schools in the Archdiocese of Dubuque.
- Early childhood enrollment is 2,863, including infant care, daycare, and preschool. (There are 42 Early Childhood Centers in the Archdiocese of Dubuque, ranging from infant care to preschool programs.)
- Kindergarten through eighth grade enrollment is 9489.
- High School (grades 9-12) enrollment is 2,329.
- The student population is 9.1% ethnically diverse.
- 15.4% of the student population qualifies for free or reduced lunch under the Federal Nutrition Program.

### Staffing:

- There are 816 full-time certified staff and 198 part-time certified staff.
- Lay personnel comprise 98.8% of the faculty and the remaining 1.2% are sisters or priests.

### Dropout Rate – Grades 7-12:

- There was a .04% dropout rate in the 2010-11 school year. This compares favorably to the Iowa rate of 3.15% in 2010-11.

### Post-Secondary Education:

- At least 97.3% of the graduating seniors pursued post secondary education / training following graduation in May of 2011, as self reported by the seven high schools. *This compares favorably to a rate of 81.2% in Iowa public schools, according to the Annual Condition of Education Report, 2010.*

### High School Graduation Rate:

- The graduation rate was 99.8% in May 2011 in the seven Archdiocesan High Schools. *This compares favorably to a rate of 88.7% in Iowa public schools, according to the Annual Condition of the Education Report, 2009.*

Sources: Archdiocesan Status Reports, 2010-12; The Annual Condition of Education Report, 2011; N.C.E.A. Report, 2011; Annual Progress Report Data, 2010-11

## Archdiocesan Proficiency Levels

Proficiency is the percentage of all students in intermediate and high achievement levels

### 4th Grade

Year	Math	Reading	Science
08/09	88.6%	88.2%	
09/10	86.8%	85.2%	
10/11	89.5%	88.2%	88.3%

In Iowa 81.3% of the 4th graders are proficient in math; 81.6% in reading, 82.5% in science.

### 8th Grade

Year	Math	Reading	Science
08/09	87.5%	85.5%	90.7%
09/10	88.8%	82.8%	87.6%
10/11	89.4%	87.5%	91.9%

In Iowa 76.5% of the 8th graders are proficient in math; 74.4% in reading; 83.5% in science.

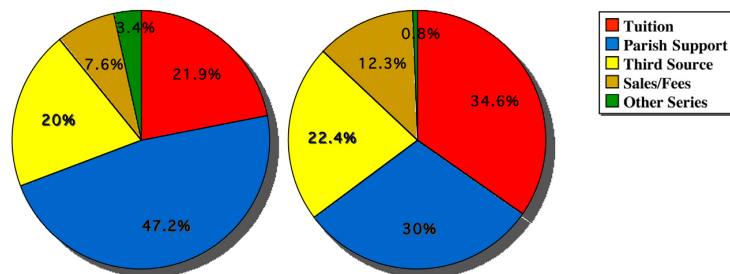
### 11th Grade

Year	Math	Reading	Science
08/09	89.2%	87.6%	89.9%
09/10	88.2%	89.6%	87.3%
10/11	88.8%	85.1%	88.3%

In Iowa 76.4% of the 11th graders are proficient in math; 76.8% in reading; 81.3% in science.



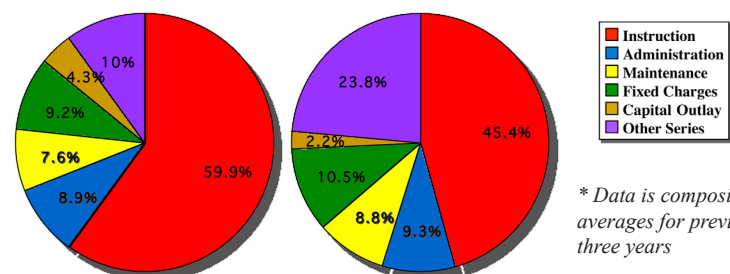
## Revenue Percentages for Catholic Schools



Elementary/Middle School Averages

Secondary Averages

## Expense Percentages for Catholic Schools



Elementary/Middle School Averages

Secondary Averages

Elementary (K-8): \$49,204,462  
 Secondary (9-12): \$22,753,842  
 Total Expenditures for Catholic Schools: \$71,958,304

\* Data is composite of averages for previous three years

