

# Catholic Schools Office

## Mission and Goals

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Worcester form an educational system which proclaims the existence of God to the larger society. By providing space and time for the holy and the sacred, a Catholic school encourages its students to develop a relationship with God. United with the Bishop of Worcester and strengthened by centuries of commitment to the Gospel message and a tradition of academic excellence, Catholic schools provide an education which forms the character and develops the intellect of each student. They seek to prepare graduates who are men and women of character and intellect, confident of their mission and ability to transform the world.

## Programs

- Pre-K to 12 Catholic education to students throughout the Diocese and beyond
- Religious enrichment days for all staff in collaboration with the Religious Education Office
- Collaborate with the Religious Education Office to insure teachers of religion have the proper certification

Process, distribute and administer financial aid assistance to eligible students in all Catholic schools

- Provide financial guidance to Central Catholic Schools administrators and to parish schools as requested
- Full Diocesan-wide professional development days and technology training for teachers
- Content specific professional development programming for teachers during the school year and in summer sessions
- Curriculum development and support
- Provide research and support for the implementation of new programming such as STEM at SPM and the Advanced Academy at SBCCHS
- Provided research and support to implement a curriculum mapping program enabling all teachers to have access to the teaching units and best practices of other teachers in the diocese
- Assist with public relations via our website as well as print, radio and television media
- Increase awareness of the value of Catholic education by marketing Catholic schools through outreach to businesses, organizations and to non-school pastors
- Build collaboration with colleges and universities to benefit our schools ( PD, dual enrollment, committee work)
- Serve as a resources to individual school boards as requested
- Serve as a resource regarding State and Federal legislation and resources that impact Catholic schools
- Work with local and state officials to increase services to Catholic schools and their teachers
- Serve as resource to pastors of parish schools regarding investigation of personnel or student matters as requested
- Work with the school attorney to provide, at no cost to any school, guidelines and templates for implementation of legislation affecting schools such as the bullying policy template.
- Collaborate with the Office of Healing and Prevention on providing and exchanging current information on legislation regarding school safety
- When requested by pastors, provide guidance and or facilitation in the hiring of new administrators
- Have provided administrative coverage and/or support during the long-term absence of a principal
- Facilitate Terra Nova testing for administrators
- Conduct diocesan-wide science fair and declamation competitions