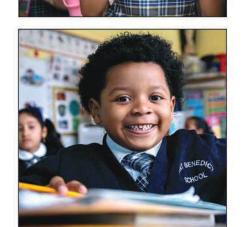


Leading *Tomorrow:*



The Archdiocese
of New York
Catholic Schools
Annual Report









letter from the SUPERINTENDENT Summer 2024

s the new superintendent of the Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of New York, it is my pleasure to share the 2022-2023 annual report with you.

It was an honor to receive the appointment to this position from His Eminence Cardinal Dolan, and I am grateful for his trust in me to serve as superintendent. Coming aboard at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 academic year, I can truly say that each day since has been a new adventure! I have been continually delighted to learn more about the incredible communities that comprise the schools of the Archdiocese. Within this report, you will read more stories and gain a sense of the good work being done. Something truly special is happening here, and I am blessed to be a part of the great support teams in the regional and chancery offices.

It has been my long-held belief that a leader stands on the shoulders of those who have gone before them, and so I take this moment to share a word of gratitude for my predecessor, Michael Deegan, who announced his retirement in the winter of 2022. Michael has given more than five decades of his life to Catholic education, from his start as a teacher all the way to the helm of the Archdiocese of New York's Catholic schools office. We thank him for his service to the schools of our Archdiocese, and wish him a well-deserved, restful retirement.

You and I are here because we deeply believe in Catholic education and the impact that it has and will continue to have on countless lives. I hope that this report inspires you and gives you a greater sense of how much we have to be proud of. With most sincere gratitude, I thank you for your continued support of our mission.

Sincerely in Christ,

Sr. Mary Grace Walsh, ASCJ, Ph.D

Superintendent of Schools



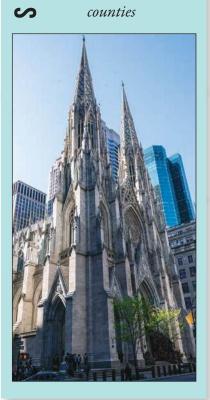
our STUDENTS

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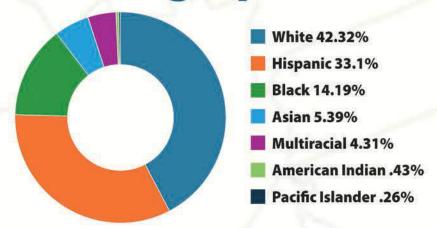
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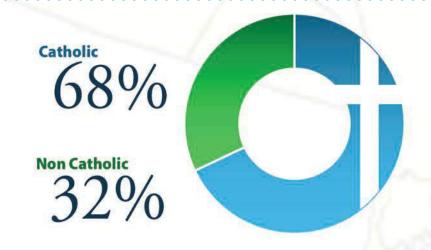
Serving
three boroughs
and seven
surrounding
counties





Demographics

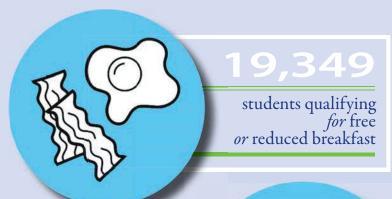






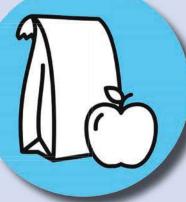


by the NUMBERS



20,173

students qualifying for free or reduced lunch





scholarship facts

scholarships provided annually

9,000+

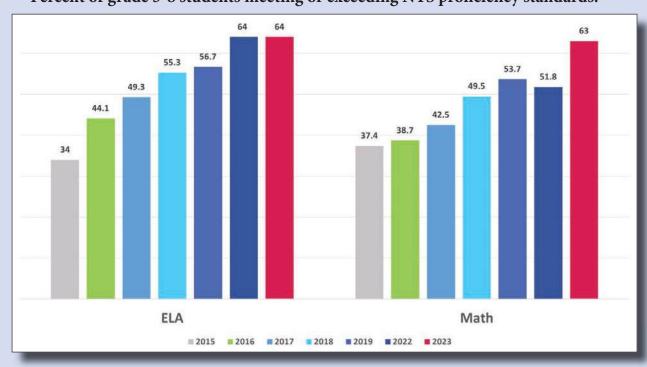
\$15 MILLION+

scholarship dollars provided annually



student SUCCESS

Percent of grade 3-8 students meeting or exceeding NYS proficiency standards.





Grounded in Faith:

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

hat were our schools doing during Respect Life Week to teach students about the value of life through the lens of their Catholic faith?

In conjunction with the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese, a set of lessons focused on the value and dignity of life were created and implemented for use with our students. The lessons are implemented during Respect Life Week, designated in the months of October and January each school year. The lesson plans were specifically designed to be appropriate for the different age levels in our schools, from pre-kindergarten through high school. The topics are quite varied and address Catholic teachings on God's creation, the beginning of life, caring for others, and suicide, just to list a few. Parents are given access to the lessons so that they are aware of what their children are learning and be able to discuss the topics at home. The lessons employ a variety of instructional materials, including videos and activities. The Respect Life Office also arranges for speakers to address junior high and high school students on these topics, and those presentations are well-received.

he National Eucharistic Revival is a call to be more intentional about catechizing and evangelizing about the Eucharist. In light of this national initiative, how did teachers implement teachings about the Eucharist into their lesson plans and instructional activities?

At every opportunity, teachers were offered professional development to assist them in locating resources that would supplement the lessons contained in the religion textbooks. Thanks to the internet, many Catholic resources are available to our teachers and students. The best lessons were the ones that enabled the students to experience the Eucharist at Mass and adoration, as well as Eucharistic processions. The opportunity to learn about the Eucharist through modern-day people, such as Blessed Carlo Acutis, was key to these experiences. Also, when the school and the parish work together, much can be achieved. The partnership of the school, pastor, priests, deacons and directors of faith formation programs are essential to evangelization efforts.

hat standout programs or initiatives would you like to highlight from 2022-2023?

Our schools follow the guidelines and curriculum of the Archdiocese. We emphasized our Catholic heritage by encouraging visits to Saint Patrick's Cathedral and by giving our students opportunities to pray traditional devotions while exploring ways to live our faith. Service projects are a major part of our schools. Each school responds to global needs by donating to a mite box from the Propagation of the Faith. They also respond to local needs through food collections which are often run to support the parish food pantry. Our students truly live out the Gospel message!

VALUES INFUSION PROGRAM

The Values Infusion Program ensures that our Catholic faith permeates each subject area and the way of life of our Catholic schools. These resources include specially highlighted values with correlated Scripture verses as well as suggestions for prayer and how school communities can model Catholic culture in relation to the liturgical calendar.



ARCHDIOCESAN GRAPHIC NOVEL

The Catholic Schools office assisted with the completion of *Building the Kingdom:*The History of the Archdiocese of New York.

This resource shares the story of our Archdiocese's incredible history and impactful mission, in the engaging format of a graphic novel.



Scholas Citizenship is an educational program for the formation of high school students through participation in social, civic, and political commitments. The program seeks to bring students closer to their community from a constructive perspective, where young people become creators of projects that respond to problems and allow for change in their community.

It has been implemented at eight Archdiocesan high schools, engaging over 60 students.



from our youngest learners

SETTING US APART

The adults that serve our early childhood programs are part of their Catholic school's faculty and ground their daily interactions with children and each other in their own faith-based values. Catholic teachings, prayers, and traditions are explicitly integrated throughout the curriculum. Whether government-funded or not, all of our programs are part of their school communities that instill a strong sense of values, service, and respect for all children from a young age.



PRIORITIZING FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Many schools created interactive family engagement activities on two-way communication platforms to keep in touch and provide a way that families and children could collaborate on assignments or projects at home. Teachers facilitate live sessions where families could participate virtually as guest readers, attendees on virtual field trips and audience members when their child presented a project to the class. Individual programs sponsored community projects and events for families, such as health fairs, service days, community garden planting at the school, family field days and much more.



we BUILD tomorrow's.

to our high school graduates

TOP GRADUATION RATES

High schools in the Archdiocese of New York continued to have a 99% graduation rate in 2023, and of those, 97% went on to post-secondary education. Each school offers a robust curriculum of college preparatory programs, AP courses, and—thanks to the generosity of our donors—the opportunity to participate in the Modern States program.



ABUNDANCE OF PROGRAMS

High schools in the Archdiocese of New York participated in programs such as:

- ALA Career Day
- Catholic Relief Services
- E-Sports
- Engineering Tomorrow
- Foroige
- March For Life
- Modern States
- NY Catholic Youth Day
- Scholas







. LEADERS today!





PEDAGOGY WITH A PURPOSE

Throughout the year, the Office of the Superintendent of Schools attended several professional development sessions about the NSBECS (National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Education), led by Dr. Melody Wyttenbach, executive director of the Roche Center and faculty member for the Lynch School of Education and Human Development at Boston College. The standards are research-based, routinely updated, and widely adopted. The Archdiocese of New York uses the NSBECS as a framework to benchmark the work we do through a common language and a shared methodology.

PRINCIPALS MEETINGS

Each year, the Catholic Schools office facilitates a number of gatherings for new principals, to orient them to their new role and support them throughout their first year. In August, 12 newly appointed principals were onboarded with content covering spiritual, instructional, and administrative leadership. Throughout the academic year, the new principals were reconvened to cover a variety of practical and philosophical topics. Additionally, all principals were convened twice annually for meetings that provided spiritual enrichment and professional development in equal measure.



SPIRITUALITY DAY

The annual principals' retreat was held at the Breakers Hotel in Spring Lake, NJ. With breathtaking views of the

Atlantic Ocean, administrators reflected on the theme of Following in the Footsteps of the Master Teacher.

The day away concluded with a commissioning service.





MISSION

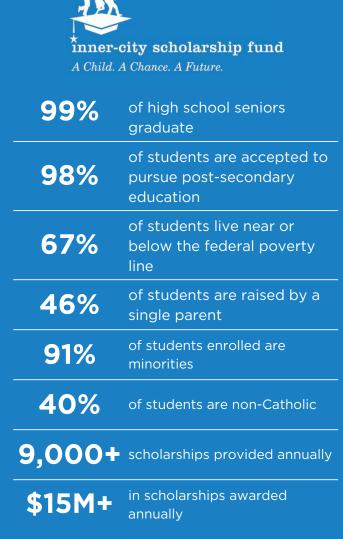
Inner-City Scholarship Fund changes lives for the better by providing families with demonstrable financial needs the opportunity to give their children a quality, values-based K-12 Catholic education within the Archdiocese of New York. Inner-City exists to ensure that the gift of an excellent Catholic school education continues to be a viable option for both current and future students of all faiths.

OPPORTUNITY

Students attending Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New York spend their days in welcoming environments, where they are safe and supported. Dedicated teachers encourage students toward their individual potentials and help them establish core values that endure throughout their lives. Small class sizes, accountability and mutual respect combine to create a setting that prepares students for academic achievement and emotional and spiritual growth. Something very special happens at these schools—students become their best selves.

CONTACT

1011 First Avenue | Suite 1800 New York, NY 10022-4112 212.753.8583 InnerCityScholarshipFund.org





deliver an excellent return on investment. 85% of Inner-City expenditures are directed to students, schools and programs, which far exceeds the 65% level of efficiency and accountability recommended for charitable organizations by the Better Business Bureau. Tax ID: 51-0453629





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Office of the Superintendent of Schools

Archdiocese of New York

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