

CATHEDRAL  
PARISH  
SCHOOL

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A Look At The past, Present, and Future

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# What does a Catholic school look like?

- We value a higher standard of academic excellence.
- We value each student as a unique person and recognize each individual's strengths and weaknesses.
- We value the time honored virtues of prayerful lives, honesty, respect, healthy living, and love of family.
- We value a safe environment where good things happen each day.
- We value the families who entrust their children to our care.
- It's a place open to all, not just Catholics, but always focused and proud of our Catholic Identity.
- It's a mission driven, parish and community led institution of learning in the purest sense.

# History of CPS



- Founded in 1916 by the Sisters of Saint Joseph
  - Sisters are still involved with school to this day.
- CPS has a strong legacy of families, which goes to the academic and spiritual strength of the school. Our pastor and teachers along with prominent business and community leaders have attended this school. Now their children and grandchildren attend CPS.
- The lyceum (gym, art room, and after care room) are the oldest buildings on campus built in 1926.
- Original two-story classroom building was torn down and rebuilt in 1960 – that same building stands today, although dramatically remodeled in 2008.
-  Department of Education ***Blue Ribbon Award*** winner for Academic Excellence in 2007.
- Official celebration of 100 years on April 3, 2016. **We aren't the best because we've been around since 1916. We've been around since 1916 because we are the best.**

# Today

- There are 276 students enrolled at Cathedral Parish School: 166 in grades K-5 and 110 in middle school.
- We employ 31 people, including two office staff, 15 full time teachers, seven resource teachers, a guidance counselor, two aides, a maintenance man, two after-care staff, and one administrator. We also sub contract a food service and a cleaning crew.
- We are accredited by two agencies
  - The Florida Catholic Conference (FCC) and the
  - National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA).

# Important Relationships

- The Cathedral Parish
- Our six sister parishes
  - Corpus Christi
  - Our Lady of Good Counsel
  - St. Ambrose
  - St. Anastasia
  - St. Monica
  - San Sebastian



- Cathedral Parish Early Education Center (CPEEC)
- St. Joseph Academy
- Office of Educational Services (OES) and the Florida Catholic Conference (FCC)
- School Advisory Board
- Diocesan Advisory Board of Education (DABE)
- Parents and Students
- PTO, Homeroom Moms, Student Council, and our wonderful parent volunteers

# Mission Statement

*We, the Catholic community of  
Cathedral Parish School,  
will be examples of Christian teachings,  
will serve others as Jesus would,  
will achieve academic excellence,  
and put Christ first in all we do.*

# Mission Statement

## Christian teachings and Christ

- We are first and foremost a *Catholic* school.
- Our job, together, is to raise the next generation of Catholics – they are the future of our Church.
- ACRE Test – to review our success teaching the Catechism.
- Weekly Mass
- Advent and Lent Reconciliation
- Daily religious instruction based on the Bishop approved religion curriculum.
- Morning and afternoon prayer as a school
- Prayer throughout the day to begin classes, before lunch, before tests, etc.
- Living Stations of the Cross
- Living Rosaries
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Advent Prayer services
- Lenten Stations of the Cross every Friday (beginning in 2012)
- May Crowning
- And more...



# Mission Statement

## Serving others as Jesus would...

### **Service and Justice**

- Monthly Sainly Behavior Program
- Character Education plan- Monthly Gospel messages and character elements taught in every classroom

### **Student Service Participation**

- Visit Early Education Center to read
- Lourdes Hall performance for the Sisters of St. Joseph.
- Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Catholic Charities canned food drive
- Blanket Drive for Japan
- Respect Life Club-sandwiches for St. Francis House
- “Dining with Dignity”
- Jump Rope for Heart (American Heart Assoc.)



# Belief Statements

- Each student is recognized and valued, as a unique child of God in his/her social, emotional, and academic needs.
- A Catholic school reflects the integration of Catholic faith and values for learning and life.
- Students experience faith based traditions as part of their education formation in Catholic schools.
- Student learning is a priority in this school.
- All students can learn; they learn in different ways and should be provided with a variety of instructional approaches to support their learning.
- Meeting student learning styles and special needs is primary in the development of programs, curriculum, and instruction.
- Students should apply their learning in meaningful ways.
- Mutual respect among students and between the entire school community creates a wholesome learning environment. A healthy learning environment is everyone's responsibility.
- Our school needs to function as a learning organization and promote opportunities for all those who have a stake in the success of the school to work together as a community of learners.
- The commitment to continuous improvement is imperative if our school is going to enable students to become confident, self-directed, lifelong learners.

# Academic Excellence

- Blue ribbon
- Full accreditation by two agencies
- Recognition for excellent test scores
- Algebra test levels in top 5 across the diocese
- Top students at St. Joseph Academy
- Top students around the County
- Noted alumni
- Strong Diocesan Curriculum



# Curriculum

Curriculum is about more than just standards and objectives, it is the whole process by which we educate. It's the sum of all experiences on our campus.

- We work with the Diocese of St. Augustine Curriculum which is comprised of the Florida Sunshine State Standards, the National Standards are incorporated where applicable, the concepts of Catholic Social Teaching, and recently we have begun incorporating the Common Core Standards.
  - [www.Corestandards.org](http://www.Corestandards.org)
  - 2010-2011: Social Studies (now adding Common Core).
  - 2011-2012: Language Arts, PE, Technology, and Spanish.
  - 2012-2013: Math, Religion, Music, and Art
  - 2013-2014: Science
- Key element is linking a book to both the objectives and core standards...a continuing process that is always under review.
- Modified lower grade report card (K-2) being released for 2012-2013 with skill/rubric based approach.

# Curriculum (cont.)

- Religious Instruction Everyday – Catholic Social Teaching
- Enrichment classes are HERE TO STAY.
  - Spanish
  - Art
  - PE
  - Music
  - Drama
  - Computers
  - Library
- Sports – teaching values of hard work, team work, and school spirit
  - Offer boys/girls basketball, co-ed soccer, girls' volleyball & boys/girls softball. All games are played against other catholic schools in Diocese.
- Clubs and After School Programs
  - NJHS, Math Tutoring, Zoo Crew, Video Yearbook, Baton, Mini Movers, Choir, out sourced music lessons, and more.

# Standardized Testing

## **Why do we take the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) instead of the FCAT?**

- The FCAT is designed only to evaluate how students are meeting the Florida Sunshine State standards.
  - No national comparison
  - No connection to cognitive abilities
  - High stakes based solely on accountability
- The ITBS is a norm-referenced test based on National Standards and the Common Core. Scores are normed based on all students in the country who took the same test in the same grade.
  - Provides feedback on how effectively our teaching is meeting the standards and allows us to identify weaknesses and strengths in a student's progression through the standards, as an additional measure to their grades.
  - The test is research based, built on 80 years of study.

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills

Critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, life and career skills are incorporated with today's technology.



- Computer Lab
- Mobile Lab
- Smart board
- Tablet computers
  - Currently working with the diocese to seek grants and possibly corporate backing to move with a major laptop and/or tablet initiative. They are the future. From textbooks, to portable work stations, and data input/analysis.
- E-readers
  - Eighth grade pilot program allowing students to bring their own in.
- Elmo cameras
- Use of educational websites and online resources linked to textbooks, library databases, etc.

# Facilities

## Renovation

- Renovated two story building (8 classrooms) in 2008
  - Built new kindergarten rooms
    - Cost – Nearly \$100,000 a year of our Festival proceeds go directly to repaying the mortgage on these renovations. Will proceed with additional renovations once the mortgage is paid in full.
- In the past two years we have:
  - Built a new fence that has simultaneously protected the perimeter of our campus and provided a sophisticated aesthetic for residents of St. George and Charlotte streets.
  - Resurfaced the paved parking lot
  - Treated all of our flat roofs with a water proof product guaranteed against leakage for the next decade.
  - Repainted the gym (Urban Plunge volunteer group)
  - Built new picnic tables (Urban Plunge volunteer group)
  - Repainted the main office and office hallway (parent volunteer)

# Facilities

## Needed Improvements

- Major Playground Renovation
- New flooring or carpet in the main office
- Adding a religious statue to the alcove on the Kindergarten building (St. George Street) and playground
- Refurbishing the Mission Bell
- Battling termites and paint issues in the Lyceum stairwell
- Classroom optimization
- Dismissal plan evaluation
- Parking lot alignment/space for major events

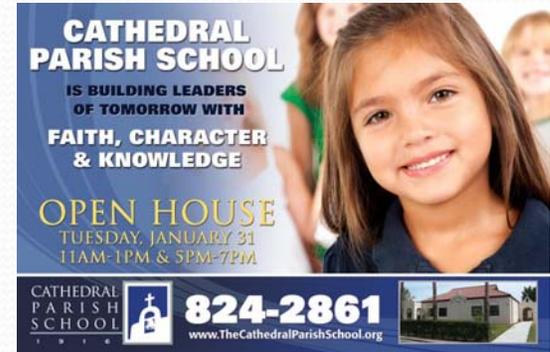
# Budget and Tuition

The Goal is to make it about Mission and not Money.

- Catholic Social Justice – people need access to Catholic Education
- Challenges to our budget
- Need to adequately compensate our teachers
  - Teachers are expected to receive an increase for the first time in a while... they already make 90% of public school teachers scale.
- Catholic School Budgets:
  - Roughly 80 percent of income is tuition
  - Roughly 80 percent of expenses are instructional
  - The rest is made up of contributions, fundraising, and income from services (lunch, after care, books, etc.)
- Building the Foundation
  - Two main entry Points are Kindergarten and 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - 2012-2013: Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade each will have two classrooms. Fourth and fifth grades each will have one classroom. Middle school remains the same.
  - We will work to maintain responsible class sizes, so we can keep Catholic education affordable.
- Tuition for the 2012-2013 school year will be structured around a 3% increase.
  - Registration fees will remain the same, however, to any family who refers a new student; the school will credit you back the \$150 registration fee.
  - Classroom fees/book fees/MBS Direct
  - Financial Aide – Scholarship Fund – Fund Raising
  - Alumni appeal may be an option to help offset tuition costs

# Marketing

- Open House
  - Media
    - Direct mail campaign
    - St. Augustine Record & Palatka Daily News
    - Cable TV 30-second commercial on HGTV, Fox News, USA, Nickelodeon, Family and Lifetime
  - Tours
  - Early Ed and other Pre-K visits with Open House information
- [www.thecathedralparish.org](http://www.thecathedralparish.org) is constantly being updated and improved
- Social media
  - Facebook, Twitter
- Early Ed Center and Pre-K outreach programs
- Alumni outreach (looking to expand interaction)



# Marketing Outreach

## **Inside our community**

- Encourage your child to succeed
- Be active in your support
- Provide fair, constructive feedback to teacher and principal
- Avoid gossip and engaging in hearsay
- Consider a contribution to the CPS Scholarship Fund, aimed at providing financial aid to our families in need

## **In the St. Augustine Community**

- Promote CPS by word and example
- Promote our faith in the same manner
- Tell our great stories
- Share the ideals of Hope, Truth, Community, and Faith

# School Improvement Plan (SIP)

- Fourteen month long self study
- Focused on student performance
- Stakeholder, parent, student, and teacher surveys
- Formal review of ITBS and COGAT scores
- Formal review of school action plans from previous SIP
- Analysis of school success meeting all of the standards of the Florida Catholic Conference school standards

## ACRE Testing

- Analysis of our success teaching Catholic concepts. Students in grades 5 and 7 will be tested.

# SIP: Six areas of Self Study

1. Profile
2. Mission and Beliefs
3. Student Learning
4. Instructional and Organizational effectiveness
5. Action Plans
6. Accreditation Standards Review

SURVEY – ANALYZE–PRIORITIZE–SET GOALS-ACTION STEPS  
TAKE ACTION

We'll communicate with you every step of the way.

# Next Steps

We'll communicate with you every step of the way.

- Re-Registration information
- Feedback
  - Response form
  - SIP surveys
  - Future Online surveys
- Tell a friend about CPS
- It takes a village! We need your involvement and your skills, fundraising ideas, etc...

# A Blessing

“To all of you I say: bear witness to hope. Nourish your witness with prayer. Account for the hope that characterizes your lives by living the truth which you propose to your students.

Help them to know and love the One you have encountered, whose truth and goodness you have experienced with joy. With Saint Augustine, let us say, ‘we who speak and you who listen acknowledge ourselves as fellow disciples of a single teacher.’”

From Pope Benedict as he spoke to Bishops, professors, and educators in 2008.

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