



# 2022 Catholic Schools Annual Report



Catholic Schools  
DIOCESE of DALLAS

Dear Friends:

We are pleased to present this impact report which highlights the progress and achievements of our Catholic Schools over the past year. As Pope St. John Paul II stated, "The mission of the Catholic school is the integral formation of students, so that they may be true to their condition as Christ's disciples and as such work effectively for the evangelization of culture and for the common good of society."

Our commitment to creating a better future for our community has driven our school leaders, faculty, staff, pastors, and Catholic Schools Office to work tirelessly.

In this report, you will find information on our programs and initiatives as well as data and statistics that demonstrate the impact of our work for 2022. It showcases the dedication of our faculty and staff, and the support of our partners, who have helped us make a real difference in the lives of the young people entrusted to our care. We hope this report will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of the impact we have had and the progress we have made toward our mission of forming students as Saints and Scholars.

We are proud of what we have accomplished thus far and are committed to continuing our work to create positive change for the future. We believe this report will give you a better understanding of the impact of our efforts and the important role that Catholic schools play in creating a better future for all.

In Christ,



Most Reverend Edward J. Burns  
Bishop of Dallas



Verónica Alonzo, Ed.D.  
Associate Superintendent



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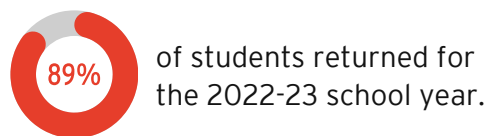
# School Growth




**Our Diocese of Dallas Catholic Schools** have continued to see unprecedented growth and our overall enrollment has returned to pre-pandemic levels. An increasing number of families are choosing Catholic education for the first time.

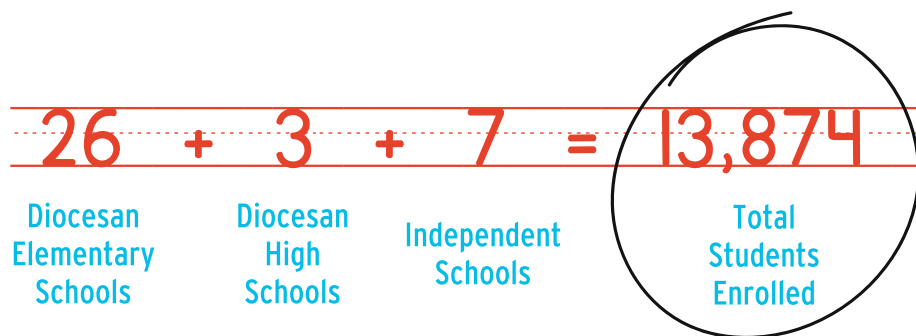
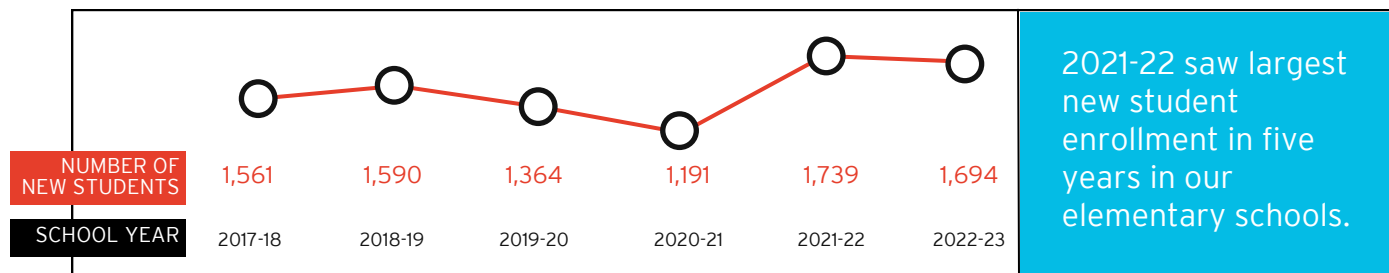


across our 29 diocesan Catholic Schools going into the 2022-23 school year.

Nationally, Catholic school enrollment is up 0.2%.



	2022-2023	10,454 students
	2021-2022	10,195 students
	2020-2021	9,789 students



"Catholic education has changed my life in many ways. It didn't just give me a wonderful education which I am blessed to have; it also helped strengthen by relationship with God. St. Bernard has given others and myself incredible opportunities that will prepare us not only for high school, but for life."

Fabii, St. Bernard Student





# Forming Saints

We believe that God has gifted every human being with unique talents and a specific purpose, and we see this with the uniqueness of each of the Saints. Within our Catholic schools, each student entrusted to our care can become who God created them to be.

## Catholic Identity



of our high school students feel they are growing closer to God in their Catholic school



of elementary school parents feel their child learns about Jesus and his life



completed by our Diocesan high school students



"I love being at a Catholic school because we get to learn about God and get to go to Mass every Thursday. Going to a Catholic school has made a difference in my life."

*Brisa, Student at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic School*



## Belonging

A study by the Springtide Research Institute found that 40% of young people feel as though they don't have anyone to talk to, which significantly increases anxiety. Their research found that a sense of belonging is the antidote to this loneliness. The Oklahoma Capacity Study out of Oklahoma Center for Education Policy (OCEP) helps us measure belonging and trust in all of our students, and allows us to compare our students' experience with that of other participating private, public, and charter school students around the country.

19%  
MORE LIKELY

to say that students in their school care for one another

(compared to their peers in private, public, and charter schools around the country who participate in the OU Study)



14%  
MORE LIKELY

to feel they can depend on their peers for help

(compared to their peers in private, public, and charter schools around the country who participate in the OU Study)



3 out of 5  
students feel proud to belong to their school

MORE THAN HALF  
of our students feel connected to their school



# Forming Scholars

Despite these challenging years for students, families, and educators around the world, our Diocese of Dallas Catholic Schools continued to shine as communities of academic excellence. In 2022, our students demonstrated impressive gains in their recovery from the effects of the pandemic.

## Iowa Testing Results

The Iowa Assessment measures student progress on specific learning standards. Our students quickly recovered from the COVID-19 drop in 2020, outpacing their peers in other public, private, and charter schools across the country.

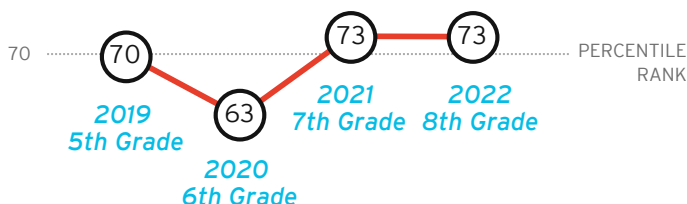
If Catholic schools across the country comprised a state, it would have been the top performing state in 4th & 8th grade math and reading, significantly outperforming the national charter and public school averages.

(2022 National Assessment of Educational Progress)

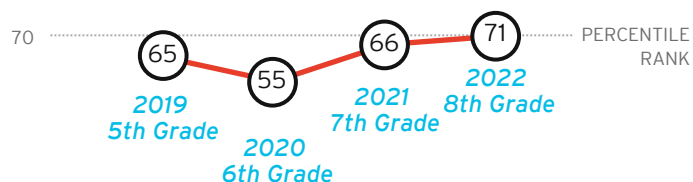
On average, our elementary school students scored better than 73% of their peers in reading and 71% in math in 2022.



### Iowa Reading

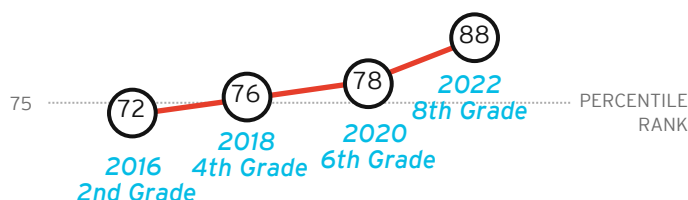


### Iowa Mathematics



## CogAT Testing Results

The Cognitive Abilities Assessment (CogAT) measures general and abstract reasoning skills including problem-solving, critical thinking, higher reading comprehension levels, writing, and independent learning. Again, the recovery from COVID-19 was significant amongst our students, with a 12% increase in our students' average national percentile rank from 2021 to 2022.



Same students progressing 2nd through 8th grade

# Forming Scholars

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## Blue Ribbon Schools



Two Blue Ribbon Schools were named in 2022: **Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas** with their second award, and **All Saints Catholic School** with their third win. Our schools have been awarded 13 times in the past decade.

67%

of our students scored a 3 or higher out of 5 on the AP Test.

*Historically, our students continue to score higher than their peers across the state and country.*

97%

of our graduating high school students in the class of 2022 are attending a four-year university.



## Saints and Scholars Curriculum Standards

Developed in the Diocese of Dallas in partnership with Via Learning, our Saints and Scholars Curriculum Standards integrate faith and rigor across content areas. Curriculum implementation on our campuses began in 2019, and is ongoing across our 26 Diocesan elementary schools.



Learning Process and Applied Standards require that students not just acquire knowledge, but are able to apply their learning in a real-world context using critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication skills.



Catholic Identity Standards integrate faith across the curriculum, illuminating students' knowledge of the world and of self with the joy of the Gospel.

Since their development, other Texas dioceses including Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Galveston-Houston, and Tyler have adopted these standards.



"The Saints and Scholars Curriculum Standards have been an excellent tool for our teachers to build units of study with depth and rigor. [They] are game changers in creating activities and assessments that reflect 21st century learning and faith formation."

**Leslie Reeves, Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs**  
**St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School**





# Educators

Being an educator in a Catholic school is more than a job - it is truly a vocation. Our educators work alongside our parents to support our students' intellectual formation, as well as their emotional and spiritual growth.

## 2022 Educators of the Year:



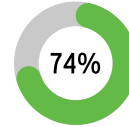
**Pamela Aguilar**  
Good Shepherd  
Catholic School



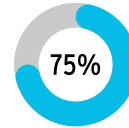
**Jeff McCormick**  
St. Bernard of Clairvaux  
Catholic School



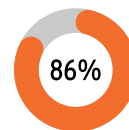
**Suzy Zinser**  
Mary Immaculate  
Catholic School



74% of our educators are Catholic.



3 out of 4 parents feel that teachers set high expectations for their students.



86% of our teachers returned for the 2022-23 school year.

## 2022 TCCB ED Teacher of the Year:



*Texas Catholic Conference of  
Bishops Education Department*

**Mr. Michael Alfery**  
Bishop Dunne  
Catholic School



# Tuition and Financial Aid



18%

of students  
receive some form of  
Diocesan tuition assistance



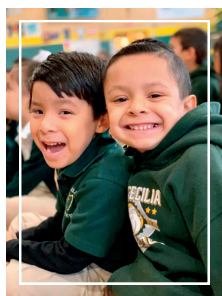
**\$9,874**

average **cost to educate** for diocesan elementary schools for 2021-22

**\$7,125**

average **tuition** for diocesan elementary schools for 2021-2022

*The HALO Initiative coordinates funding from the Diocesan Education Endowment Trust and the annual Bishop's Invitational Golf Tournament.*



**30%**  
*Elementary  
Students*



**Students Qualify  
for Free or  
Reduced Lunch**

**11%**  
*High School  
Students*



# Student Well-Being

**Each student within our Catholic schools needs** something different to thrive, and their well-being continues to be our top priority. We made great strides in supporting our students' mental, physical, and emotional wellness over this past year, with even more to come.



## Crisis Management Planning

In 2022, all of our schools updated their Crisis Management Plans alongside the Diocesan Office of Safety and Emergency Management. They received advanced training in critical incident response and were advised on the Standard Response Protocol and Standard Reunification Method on which our Crisis Management plans are based.

## Integrated Safety Procedure

Looking ahead to 2023, all of our Diocesan schools will utilize an integrated school safety software tool to enhance campus protections and facilitate emergency communication within the school, the Diocese, and with local law enforcement.



## Safe Environment Training

Adults who work within our schools, whether as employees or in a volunteer capacity, are required to complete annual Safe Environment training to spot signs of abuse and to ensure that young people are not placed in vulnerable situations. Educators receive additional training through VIRTUS to ensure the safety of their students.

## Protecting our Students' Mental Health

By the end of 2023, all of our campuses will have a minimum of two adults certified in Youth Mental Health First Aid, a national program that trains adults to support adolescents experiencing mental health or addictions challenges.



# Growth Beyond The Classroom

Young people are constantly learning and growing, and our schools provide them with opportunities to explore their talents beyond the classroom. Through athletics, visual and fine arts, and creative and academic competitions, students learn even more about themselves.

## Athletics

### The Dallas Parochial League (DPL)

is the official athletic league for students in 5th - 8th grade in our Diocesan elementary schools - the only one of its kind in the state.

6,000

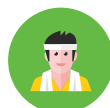
student athletes

29

schools

12

sports



5,000+



coaches

certified through Notre Dame's *"Play Like a Champion"* initiative, the highest number in any Diocesan athletic league in the country. Participants learn proper coaching techniques integrated with faith-based leadership and mentoring practices.



In December, the first swim meet in over five years brought together



190 SWIMMERS  
14 SCHOOLS

High school students participated and excelled in the **Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS):**

#### District MVP (5A)



Men's Football  
*Bishop Dunne*

#### District Coach of the Year (5A)



Men's Football  
*Bishop Dunne*

#### 2022 District Champions



Women's Basketball  
*Bishop Lynch*



Men's Cross Country  
*John Paul II*



Men's Soccer  
*John Paul II*



Softball  
*John Paul II*



Women's Track and Field  
*John Paul II*



Men's Tennis  
*John Paul II*



# Growth Beyond The Classroom

CONTINUED

## 2022 State Champions:



Women's Basketball  
*John Paul II*



Men's Basketball  
*John Paul II*



Women's Soccer  
*John Paul II*



Women's Swim  
*Bishop Lynch*



Wrestling  
*Bishop Lynch*



39

The Class of 2022 from our  
Diocesan High Schools has  
student-athletes  
currently playing at  
the collegiate level.



"Playing sports has become very important today, since it can encourage young people to develop important values such as loyalty, perseverance, friendship, sharing and solidarity."

*Pope Saint John Paul II*

## Fine Arts Highlights

John Paul II was awarded the **TAPPS Henderson Cup** for earning the highest number of points through their participation in TAPPS Athletic and Fine Arts championships throughout the year.

For the 5th time in a row, John Paul II Cardinal Belles took 1st Place in Division I at the 2022 TAPPS Dance Competition. Bishop Lynch took 2nd Place.

John Paul II took 3rd Place in Cheer; Bishop Lynch took 2nd Place in Speech; and at the TAPPS Art Competition, John Paul II took 2nd Place and Bishop Lynch took 4th Place overall for 6A.



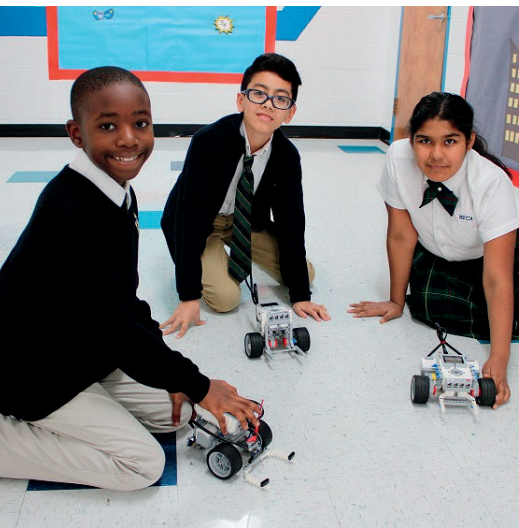
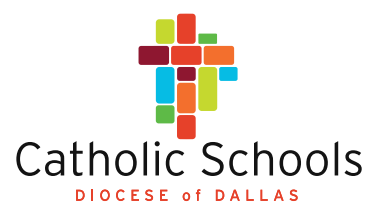
## Academic Competition Highlights



St. Mark's Catholic School's Robotics Team won 2nd Place at the State level in the Texas Computer Education Association Competition.







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