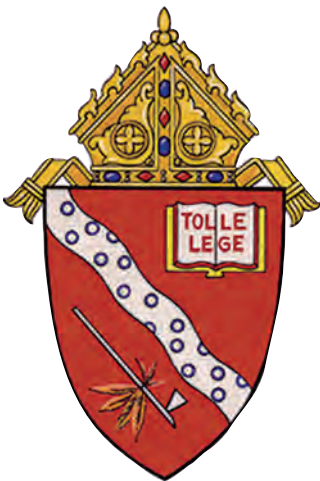


# OFFICE OF SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

- Vision & Leadership
- Catholic Identity
- Governance
- Academic Excellence



**CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
OF KALAMAZOO**



## MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP



Greetings,

I am proud to say that all of the parish and regional schools throughout our Diocese successfully provide a distinct Catholic education with the highest standards of academic excellence. As we begin a new school year, please join me in praying that our schools will continue to be places where our students encounter Jesus, allow themselves to be loved and known by Jesus, and be witnesses to the Good News.



Yours in Christ,

*+ Paul J. Bradley*

Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley

## LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



I am pleased to present this annual report on the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Kalamazoo, highlighting achievements in four essential areas of Vision & Leadership, Catholic Identity, Academic Excellence and Governance. I am privileged to work with dedicated

educators in all 24 Catholic schools — teachers, administrators and staff who demonstrate their commitment to the growth and development of our students every day.

I am so proud of the accomplishments our students have made this year: from the group of eighth graders whose science project was selected to go to outer space; to the high school student who placed fifth in this year's National History Day Contest; to all of our nearly 3,000 students who meet or exceed state academic standards.

One of the highlights this past year, was our work to pilot a new accreditation program with the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools (MANS), which works with multi-denominational educational leaders to advance the equity and excellence for all faith-based, Christ-centered schools in our state. Michigan Non-Public Schools Accrediting Association (MNSAA) standards for Catholic schools include four national standards and 70 benchmarks that demonstrate how mission-driven, effective, well managed, and responsibly governed Catholic schools should operate. These standards are available at the diocesan office or your local school for review.

One of the reasons our schools thrive is because of the support we receive from parents and our parish communities. Thank you for being our partners to create an outstanding Catholic education for our youth.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Erich*

Superintendent of Schools

## 2013-2014 Proud Moments:

### VISION & LEADERSHIP

- Ten educators were awarded Elizabeth Ann Seton Awards for professional development opportunities.
- This year's awards supported training to improve instruction for beginning readers, using data to inform decision making, and increase technology usage.

**Picture Left:**

Outstanding educators honored at annual St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Professional Development Awards.

**(L-R):** Bishop Bradley, Ayesha Williamson-Franklin, St. Joseph Elementary, Battle Creek; David Kubel, principal, St. Mary of the Assumption, Bronson; Liz Miller, Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary School; Carolyn

Simmons, Lake Michigan Catholic High School, St. Joseph; Nicole Mills, Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary School; Megan Martin, St. Basil School, South Haven; Myca Belknap, St. Basil School, South Haven; Anita Trayling, St. Mary of the Assumption, Bronson; Susan Wood, St. Joseph Middle School, Battle Creek and Brenda Mescher, principal, St. Charles Borromeo, Coldwater.



### CATHOLIC IDENTITY

- Our diocesan teachers and administrators created a new preschool through eighth grade theology curriculum that will be introduced during the upcoming school year.
- Students in diocesan schools participated in many various devotional activities throughout the year, including May Crowning celebrations, Living Rosary events and Advent services.
- Students give back to the community thousands of hours of service on their many projects.



**Shown above:** Allison Wolf, an 8th grader at St. Monica Catholic School, places a wreath of fresh roses and baby's breath on the head of an alabaster statue of Mary that stands in the school's Mary Garden, as part of the school's annual "May Crowning" ceremony.

### GOVERNANCE

- We piloted a new accreditation model in conjunction with the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools. This model is based on the Catholic Schools Standards Project

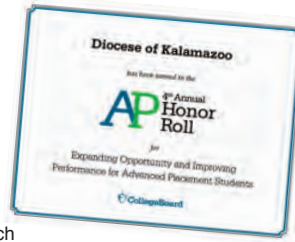


developed by a team at Loyola University, and is designed to give School Improvement Teams greater direction in setting goals.

**Shown above:** Dr. Terry Nugent, Assoc. Superintendent and Tim McNamara, Assoc. Director Parish Life & Lay Leadership, review school data in preparation for an upcoming school accreditation team visit.

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- Four schools (St. Monica, St. Stanislaus, St. Augustine, and St. Joseph Middle School) participated in the National Student Spaceflight Experiments Program. One of the St. Monica's projects will go into space this fall.
- The Diocese of Kalamazoo was named to the Fourth Annual Advanced Placement District Honor Roll in recognition of the academic performance of its three high schools: Hackett Catholic Prep in Kalamazoo, Lake Michigan Catholic High School in St. Joseph and St. Philip High School in Battle Creek. Of the 31 Michigan school districts on the list, Kalamazoo is the only Catholic diocese on this year's prestigious roster of districts that are simultaneously expanding opportunities and improving performance.



**Pictured above:** Hannah Oo, a 6th grade student at St. Joseph, Battle Creek with principal Marcy Arnsen, was one of two young artists honored for her design of a patch for the Student Spaceflight Experiment Program. Her drawing will be flown into space next fall, and embossed with a certificate saying it has traveled through outer space.

# Michigan Merit Exam

Total percentage of students who met or exceeded state standards in the Michigan Merit Exam.

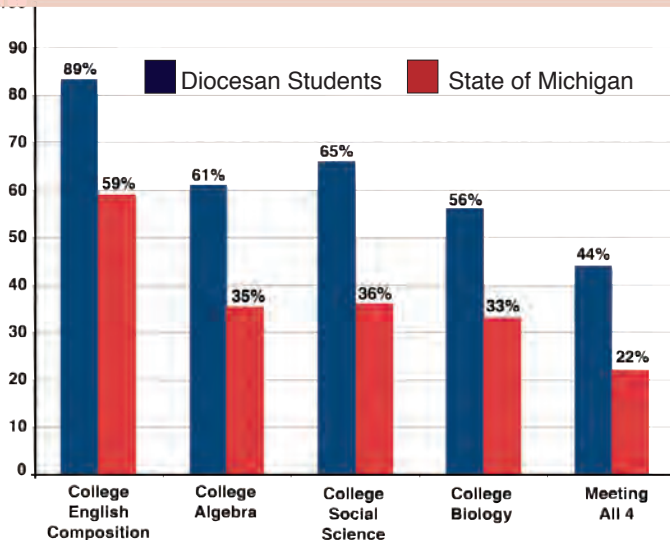
SCHOOLS	Science	Reading	Math	Writing	Social Studies
<b>State MME standards</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>44%</b>
Hackett Catholic Prep, Kalamazoo	53%	92%	47%	84%	60%
Lake Michigan Catholic Central, St. Joseph	65%	86%	65%	84%	70%
St. Philip High School, Battle Creek	36%	82%	41%	80%	66%

# FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Our schools access Federal dollars thru E-rate funding and title funds to help offset communication and professional development costs.
- St. Mary's Visitation in Byron Center and St. Charles Borromeo School in Coldwater received a grant from the Kremer Foundation to assist families in need of financial aid.
- Parishes with schools contribute generously to keep schools viable.



# ACT – College Readiness Assessment

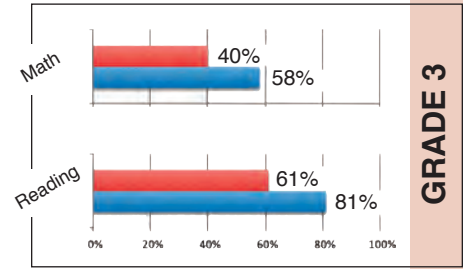


A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses.

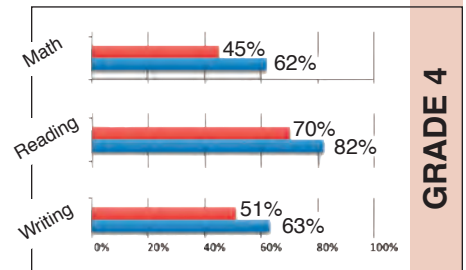
# MEAP Scores

\*MEAP scores listed show percentages of the students who met or exceeded state standards.

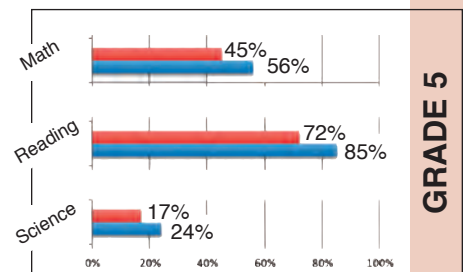
■ State MEAP ■ Diocesan



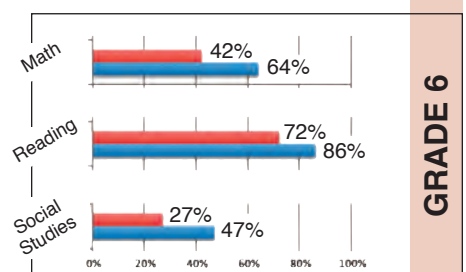
GRADE 3



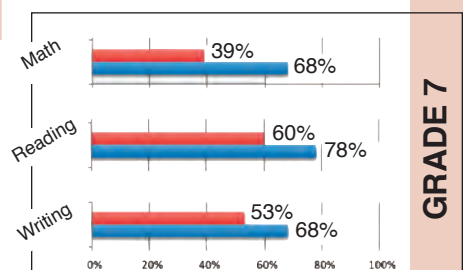
GRADE 4



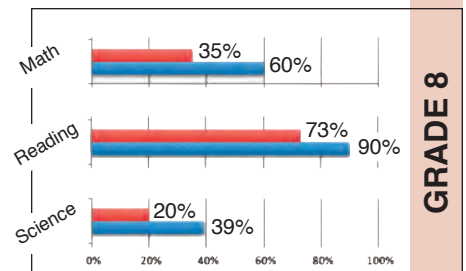
GRADE 5



GRADE 6



GRADE 7



GRADE 8

# Enrollment 2013-2014

School / City	Total Students		
Immaculate Conception, Three Rivers . . . . .	31	St. Mary, Paw Paw . . . . .	88
Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary, St. Joseph . . .	304	St. Mary's Assumption, Bronson . . . . .	86
Lake Michigan Catholic Middle School . . . . .	90	St. Mary's Visitation, Byron Center . . . . .	73
St. Ann Catholic Pre-School, Augusta . . . . .	15	St. Monica Elementary, Kalamazoo . . . . .	366
St. Augustine Cathedral, Kalamazoo . . . . .	332	St. Rose of Lima, Hastings . . . . .	75
St. Basil, South Haven . . . . .	47	St. Stanislaus, Dorr . . . . .	77
St. Catherine Catholic Pre-School, Portage . . . . .	24	St. Therese, Wayland . . . . .	49
St. Charles Borromeo, Coldwater . . . . .	117		
St. Joseph Catholic, Watervliet . . . . .	15	<b>SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b>	
St. Joseph Elementary, Battle Creek . . . . .	249	St. Philip High School, Battle Creek . . . . .	158
St. Joseph Middle School, Battle Creek . . . . .	99	Hackett Catholic Prep, Kalamazoo . . . . .	288
St. Margaret, Otsego . . . . .	86	Lake Michigan Catholic Central, St. Joseph . . . . .	147
St. Mary of the Lake, New Buffalo . . . . .	61	<b>TOTAL ENROLLMENT . . . . .</b>	<b>2,946</b>
St. Mary, Niles . . . . .	69		



## Secretariat for Catholic Education and New Evangelization

**Margaret Erich**, Superintendent  
269-903-0165  
merich@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

**Dr. Theresa Nugent**, Associate Director & Associate Superintendent of Schools  
269-903-0181  
tnugent@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

**Jamin Herold**, Associate Director for Catholic Education & New Evangelization  
269-903-0141  
jherold@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

**Ellen Stanko**, Secretary  
269-903-0207  
estanko@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

**Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley**, Bishop of Kalamazoo  
269-903-0153  
officeofthebishop@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

**Very Rev. John Fleckenstein**, Vicar for Education  
269-968-6645  
fatherjohn@bcacs.org

## Accreditation

All of the 22 Catholic Elementary and High Schools in the Diocese of Kalamazoo are accredited annually under the Michigan Non-Public School Accrediting Association (MNSAA) guidelines.

A full on-site accreditation review and self-study are completed every five years, with mid-term reviews in year three of the accreditation cycle.

Two of the stand-alone parish pre-schools meet all licensing requirements of the State of Michigan.