



June 7, 2024

INSIDE CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Teaching character, compassion, and confidence to the youth of West Virginia for over 90 years

Dear parents and students:

And so, another school year comes to a close. It has been a special year, the 100th year of Charleston Catholic High School, full of traditions old and new, successes and challenges, heartbreaks and triumphs. As we faced each of those moments, we did it together. During the Eighth Grade Moving Up Ceremony last week, we heard from Ecclesiastes Chapter 3, Verse 1,

*There is an appointed time for everything,
And a time for every affair under the heavens.*

As we support young people on their journey, it's important for all of us to remember that in those tough moments God is there and that they have the strength to get through. They also have the CCHS community to love and support them through it all.

It was a joy and pleasure to share this year with you. Thank you for your commitment to CCHS and to our community. Thank you for your support of our faculty, staff, and administration.

I wish all of you a happy, healthy, and peaceful summer.

Warmly,
Colleen Hoyer

BEST WISHES – Each year we must say goodbye to our faculty and staff members who are leaving us for new adventures. Ninth grade English teacher Marilyn Urecki is retiring after almost twenty years at CCHS. Mrs. Urecki will devote time to her family and remain active in the Charleston community. High school social studies teacher Dan Irwin is leaving CCHS to pursue other career opportunities. Assistant Academic Advisor Nancy McLaughlin will also start a new adventure in a different field this summer.

We wish Mrs. Urecki, Mr. Irwin, and Mrs. McLaughlin much success and happiness in the future!

CONDOLENCES— We express our sympathy to a few of our students and their families who have lost a loved one recently. May the souls of the departed rest in peace: Joe Pope's maternal grandmother. Please keep the Pope family in your thoughts and prayers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Academic Updates.....	1-3	Community Service and Giving.....	7-8
Calendar, Registration, Textbooks.....	3-6	From the School Office	8-10
Notes from the Academic Advisor.....	6	Athletic Updates.....	10-11
Notes from the PVA.....	6-7	Congratulations.....	11-12
Campus Ministry.....	7	Many Thanks.....	12-13
		Class of 2023 Information.....	14

ACADEMIC UPDATES

FINAL REPORT CARDS – were mailed today, Friday, June 7. Spend some time discussing the academic year with your children and identifying their successes and challenges. What were the highlights and struggles? Over the summer continue the conversation about setting short- and long-term goals for next school year. Please note that middle school report cards include a year-end GPA, which averages the two semesters this year. This is not a cumulative GPA! Keep

in mind that **second semester grades determine a student's extracurricular eligibility (not the cumulative GPA) for fall and winter activities (an unweighted 2.0 is required).**

MAP GROWTH TEST RESULTS -- Enclosed with report cards, you will find scores from the Spring MAP tests for sixth through tenth grades. The Family Report provides details on each student's national percentile and RIT score. This report may also include growth details to show how your child's learning changed from the fall, to winter, to spring. If you have questions about your child's MAP scores, please contact Meredith Aubel at meredith.aubel@charlestoncatholic@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

SCHEDULING CLASSES – Scheduling for 2024-25 is progressing! We have started identifying class offerings and developing a master schedule for next year. The task will not be complete until the August registration days. The multi-stage process involves analyzing students' and parents' requests in addition to other pieces of the puzzle: standardized test scores; grades; teacher recommendations including information about each student's work ethic; class offerings; and so on. Please keep in mind that **if a student needs a tutor in any class or does not enjoy a particular subject, aspiring to Advanced Placement or advanced honors courses is a misplaced concentration of effort. Success in advanced honors/Advanced Placement courses in any subject is predicated on the understanding that the students enjoy the subject matter, enjoy putting forth the extra effort, and have a natural affinity for these courses. Remember that all CCHS courses are taught at the college preparatory level at the very least.** It is far better for a student to be successful, productive, and happy in honors and college preparatory courses than to struggle with limited success in advanced honors or Advanced Placement courses.



SEVENTH GRADE MATH PLACEMENT – Students' first differentiated academic experience occurs in seventh grade. Seventh graders study either Pre-Algebra or Algebra ½. The courses differ in pace, level of abstract versus concrete thinking required, and depth of material covered. Seventh graders enrolled in Algebra ½ are essentially skipping a math course. Students in this class must have exceptional math skills, expect and be capable of a big intellectual leap and extra work, and be committed to put forth extra effort. Faculty and staff work hard to ensure that all students are appropriately placed during their years at Charleston Catholic. Students are placed in 7th grade math courses based on **their 6th grade math class achievement, 6th grade MAP Growth scores, placement test results, teacher recommendations, and work ethic.** Students demonstrating appropriate ability and achievement in 6th grade math and in the measures listed above, as well as an advanced level of abstract thinking, are the only students who will be placed in Algebra ½ in the 7th grade.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT INSTAGRAM -- Please follow the science department this summer on the department's Instagram, cchs.science. There will be department updates and local science activities posted throughout the summer. Have a great summer!

DUAL CREDIT BIOLOGY AND ANATOMY INFO- Students who have requested Anatomy or Advanced Honors Biology and wish to sign up for Dual Credit are reminded to upload their transcript and submit their application to Marshall as soon as possible. Contact Mrs. Arnold if you have any questions.

CALCULATORS FOR ALGEBRA II- All incoming Algebra II students will need to have a graphing calculator for class next year. Please see the form [linked](#) here. More information will be provided at registration.

E- READERS --The English department will continue its e-reader program for students in grades 9-12. Students will be permitted to use e-readers in **English classes only** for required novels during the year. Students who wish to use e-readers must supply their own devices, but they may NOT use phones. *The device must be charged for use in class and the book must be accessible on the e-reader without a Wi-Fi connection.* In order to participate, students and parents must sign a contract outlining all usage expectations at the beginning of the school year. Students who break the terms of the contract and/or

the school's internet usage agreement will not be permitted to continue to use the devices in class for the remainder of the school year.

SUMMER READING -- Each CCHS student is required to read selections for upcoming English classes as part of the school's summer reading program. Information about each book is on the CCHS website. Encourage your students to read these descriptions before starting to read so that they will get a preview of what is ahead. It would be a good idea to take notes or write summaries for each chapter so they will remember what they read! Tests on the books will be given at the beginning of the school year in August – students should be prepared the first full day of school. Additional reading and writing activities involving the book(s) will occur during the first few weeks of school. Check the public library for copies and Amazon to find less than list prices. No written responses are required during the summer but will be assigned after school begins. Reminder to students: start the year right- finish reading before school begins. It is summer reading not back to school reading!!

SUMMER READING LIST:

Grade 12: **(both books are required for all)** *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Isiguro and *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse

Grade 11: **(both books are required)** *Into the Wild* by John Krakauer and *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson

Grade 10: **(both books are required)** *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card and *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger

Grade 9: **(both books are required)** *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* by Mark Haddon and *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling

Grade 8: **(both books are required)** *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London and *Sea of Monsters* by Rick Riordan

Grade 7: **(both books are required)** *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams and *The Shadow Club* by Neal Shusterman

Grade 6: **(both books are required)** *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen and *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle



MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS—will be posted on the school website this summer. Check them out and begin stocking up! High school teachers will inform students of necessary supplies on the first few days of school in August.

2024-25 CALENDAR, REGISTRATION, TEXTBOOK, AND TUITION INFORMATION

TUITION INFORMATION FOR 2024-25— including invoices, payment options, and loan information from Peoples Bank was mailed on April 15. This year's tuition invoice includes the general and class fees as well. **Tuition payment in full is due June 15** (late charge assessed at \$1.00 per day after June 15) and **fee payment is due by the August registration date** (students will not be allowed to pick up their schedules until registration fees are paid). Please call Sherry Shindle at 304-342-8415 if you have not received your invoice or if you have questions.

DIOCESAN TUITION ASSISTANCE-- Thanks to Most Reverend Mark Brennan's commitment to Catholic education, funds have once again been allocated for distribution to families in need of assistance. **This year, Phase 1 was open to Catholic families only, but Phases 2 and 3 will be open to Catholic and non-Catholic families.** Awards are based upon a family's degree of need relative to all other applicants. Apply on-line at www.factsmgmt.com. Click on "Grant and Aid Assessment" and log in. Have your 2023 tax information available. Catholic families with children currently enrolled or who are applying to enroll for the 2024-2025 school year should apply ASAP. **The**

deadline for Phase 1 has passed; the Phase 2 deadline is July 14, 2024, and; the Phase 3 deadline is August 23, 2024. No assistance will be available from the Diocese or from any school unless an application and all required documentation is submitted, and the fee has been paid by the deadline. The application fee to families is \$25. Families should only submit one application per year, not one per phase!

2024-25 REGISTRATION DAYS -- The following times have been set aside for students to pick up their schedules, pay class fees, pick up/ place orders for textbooks, and pick up/buy uniform polos and jackets. Student schedules are completed during the summer months and will not be available until August registration days. **Schedules for each particular grade level will only be available during the times listed below**, so it is critical that parents and students adhere to the schedule listed. If families with more than one child would like to pick up schedules and so on for all their children at one time, they must come on Thursday, August 15, from 2:30 - 4 p.m. At all other times, schedules and other items for each grade level listed will be the only ones handled at particular time slots. There will be no exceptions.

Wednesday, August 14	9 - 10:30 a.m.: Seniors only 10:30 – noon: Juniors only CLOSED NOON - 1 P.M. 1 - 2:30 p.m.: Sophomores only 2:30 - 4 p.m.: Freshmen only
Thursday, August 15	9 - 10:30 a.m.: 8th graders only 10:30 – noon: 7th graders only CLOSED NOON - 1 P.M. 1 - 2:30 p.m.: 6th graders only 2:30 - 4 p.m.: Families with more than one student wishing to register all their children at one time; also, anyone unable to come at scheduled times

SCHOOL PICTURES -- PhotoGrafix is the official CCHS yearbook photographer. **Mike Hall will come to school ON REGISTRATION DAYS for official pictures for the yearbook for grades six through eleven. Students should come to registration prepared to have their yearbook picture taken.** Senior official yearbook photos (i.e., suit jacket, formal drape) will be taken during a school day in the fall. Seniors who want clothing changes and/or indoor/outdoor shots can call and make appointments (304-768-2000) any time during the summer. For pricing info, go to the website www.wvphoto.com.

SUMMER SECURITY UPGRADES—We will be making some exciting upgrades to our security system this summer. The OptView system is a facial recognition system that will enhance our security as we admit people to the building. This will involve installation of some new doors, upgraded wiring, and a new morning entrance pattern. More details and information about the program will be shared in August. We will use technology similar to what was used to monitor temperatures during COVID times and all information will be stored on all school servers. OptView is a West Virginia based company that has been working with St. Francis of Assisi in Morgantown for several years with much success. It is exciting to be able to bring this tool to CCHS!

FINALIZED CALENDAR FOR 2024-25 – The calendar for next year has been finalized. Please keep this calendar in mind as you plan for next year. Please remember that **exams must be taken on scheduled exam days** and students who are absent more than 5 days in a semester will have to make up those days at the end of the semester.

Wed., Aug. 21	First day of school for students
Mon., Sept. 2	Labor Day- no school
Mon., Oct. 28	11:30 dismissal, teacher professional development
Wed., Nov. 6	Parent-Teacher conferences
Mon., Nov. 11	Veterans Day- no school
Wed., Nov. 27	E-day for students
Thurs., Nov. 28- Fri., Nov. 29	Thanksgiving holiday
Wed- Fri., Dec. 18-20	exams
Mon., Dec. 23- Friday, Jan. 3	Christmas break

Mon., Jan. 6	classes resume
Mon., Jan. 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day- no school
Tues., Jan. 21	e-day for students, teacher professional development
Mon., Feb. 17	Presidents' Day- no school
Mon., March 24	11:30 dismissal, teacher professional development
Mon., Apr. 14- Mon., Apr. 21	Easter Break
Tues., Apr. 22	classes resume
Thurs., May 22	baccalaureate
Fri., May 23	graduation
Mon., May 26	Memorial Day- no school
Mon., June 2- Wed., June 4	exams for 6th -11th graders
Wed., June 4	Moving Up Ceremony for 8 th graders

TEXTBOOK PROCEDURES 2024-2025

Our scheduled textbook adoption this year is mathematics. For all middle school math classes, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II, the textbooks will not change. You are encouraged to take advantage of CCHS book order forms in June in order to have textbooks available for the start of school. All students will receive a book order form at school. Forms will also be available on the school website.

Middle School

Middle school students will receive order forms for required textbooks in English class in May. These forms must be completed by parents and returned to school by noon on June 14. Textbooks ordered in June should be available for pick up during registration in August. **Parents may order these books on their own if they so choose; please refer to the correct ISBN number on the textbook order form.**

Please note that the Theology consumable textbook used in middle school is included in your fees. Math textbooks for 7th grade will be ordered at registration once placement is known. A textbook fee for middle school foreign language will be assessed during August registration and all middle school foreign language materials will be provided by the teacher.

High School

An order form for textbooks for core classes will be given to students in English class and is due back in the office by noon on June 14. Textbooks ordered in June should be available for pickup at registration in August. **Parents may order these books on their own if they so choose; please refer to the correct ISBN number on the textbook order form.**

Electives and some placed courses must wait until August registration for schedules to be finalized.

Core Classes: English 9 Honors, Theology 9, Health, Physical Science Honors & Advanced Honors, English 10 Honors & Advanced Honors, Theology 10, Physical Education, English 11 Honors, English 11 AP, Theology 11, US History 20/21st Honors, English 12 Honors & AP, Theology 12

****Geometry and Algebra 2 use the same book across all classes and these can be ordered in June.****

Electives and Placement classes

High school students will order books for electives and placement classes once their schedule is known at August registration. **Parents may order these books on their own if they so choose; please refer to the correct ISBN number on the textbook order form which will be provided in August.**

AP Courses & Higher Level Math (Calculus AB, Calculus BC, PreCalc II/Calc A, Trig/Precalc, Math Functions, Economics, Human Geography, US Government, World History, US History, European History, Biology, Physics, Psychology, and Art History)

There is a **mandatory rental policy** for high school students in AP classes and higher level math. Students will rent their textbooks from the school, with a rental fee included in AP or class fees. All AP/Higher Level Math textbooks **must** come from the school.

English Novels

Parents may refer to a list that will be provided by the teacher next year for information about novels to be used in English classes during the school year and should order the novels required on their own. **CCHS will not order novels.** Please pay special attention to the details of the novels to be used when ordering (ISBN, printing number, edition, etc.). In some cases, these lists may not be complete and may be added to throughout the school year. Ample notification will be given in these cases.

NOTES FROM THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR

1. Fall SAT and ACT registration is open to all students. SAT and ACT testing and registration information is available online at --www.collegeboard.org and www.act.org (CCHS code: 490-205). CCHS encourages juniors and seniors to take both the ACT and the SAT. Rising seniors should register for the first available test date.
2. New students (except those attending area Catholic elementary schools) must submit final report cards and standardized test results to the office by August 1.
3. Students taking summer school courses for credit recovery classes must have their courses completed by Monday, August 5th.
4. All students who are making up fine arts critiques must submit their critiques online prior to August 1.
5. The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources requires that all schools keep students' immunization records up to date. All 7th and 12th grade students enrolled in WV public and private schools must have proof of immunizations or they will not be allowed to begin school in August. Students entering 7th and 12th grades must have 1 dose of the Tdap vaccine and 1 dose of the meningitis vaccine. If the 12th grade student received a meningitis vaccine before his/her 16th birthday, he/she is required to have a second dose of the vaccine at this time. CCHS must have an updated copy of the immunization records, which include these vaccines, on file in the school office in order to allow your child to begin school in August 2024. **If your student has had vaccinations in the past year, please send a copy of the new health record to CCHS Attn: Mrs. France.**
6. Senior final transcripts will be sent to colleges and the NCAA by Wednesday, June 12. These will be submitted electronically using Naviance to the school the student indicated he/she will be attending. If there are any changes to the student's college plans, please notify Mrs. Aubel immediately so that we can send the paperwork to the appropriate school. Please note that CCHS is not permitted to send any immunization records to colleges or universities.

NOTES FROM THE PARENT VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION (PVA)

1. **PVA Polos and Fleece** - CCHS logo jackets (including the heavier weight grey jacket, the lighter weight black jacket, both in full zip and quarter zip, and the green fleece jackets), white uniform polo shirts, and green athletic/academic competition polo shirts will be available for order at registration. For questions, please contact Kristina Whiteaker (304-610-5544) for green polos, Cynthia Hemphill-Reehling (803-242-5087) for green fleeces, and Sara Frame (304-389-1241) for white polos. OFFICIAL UNIFORM POLOS MUST BE PURCHASED THROUGH PVA. Please note that students who are members of athletic teams and academic competition teams are permitted to wear an official CCHS kelly green polo shirt with khaki pants to school on designated dates – normally home games and post season games. STUDENTS PLAYING FALL SPORTS should check with their teams when practices start in August for order information or contact Kristina Whitaker.
2. **Cafeteria volunteers** are needed for the upcoming school year. Please contact Megan Cutlip at (304) 807-8253 or Megan.a.cutlip@gmail.com if you would like to be on the cafeteria schedule for August and September 2024. Some volunteers will need to renew their food handlers' cards. Megan will give you information to do so once you have emailed her. Please indicate in your email if it has been more than 2 years since you took your food handlers course.
 - **The Kanawha-Charleston Health Department requires all cafeteria volunteers to have a food handler card. Cards must be renewed every two years. In order to be in compliance with this requirement, all CCHS cafeteria volunteers must complete a 75 minute online training course and 30 question assessment

with a score of 70%. The PVA will pay the registration cost and will provide volunteers with an access code to participate in the course. Please contact Megan Cutlip for an access code. **Upon completion please submit a copy to the office which will be kept on file at the school. ****



1. Students who attended CCHS during the 2023-2024 school year may begin to fulfill next year's community service and fine arts/humanities requirements during the summer months. Any service completed over the summer must be submitted during the first quarter in order to receive credit. Sixth graders and other students new to CCHS in 2024- 2025 may not begin to work on these requirements until after the requirements are discussed in Theology and English classes in August.
2. There is an ILM Orientation Retreat on August 13, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the West Virginia Institute of Spirituality (1601 Virginia St). Rising seniors who have applied to be ILMs should plan to attend this day of fun and reflection on the legacy you can leave on younger students at CCHS.
3. Class of 2025: Mark your calendars! Our 'Senior Retreat on the River' will be August 29-30. Seniors meet at 7 a.m. on Thursday in the CCHS Commons. We travel by Adventures of the Gorge buses to the river and then spend most of the day rafting the lower New River. Once we leave the river, we travel by bus to Camp Virgil Tate where the class bonds over conversation, prayer and a bonfire. This retreat is memorable and sets the tone for senior year. You don't want to miss it!

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND GIVING

SUPPORT CCHS AS YOU SHOP— As you are stocking up on supplies this summer, please consider supporting CCHS. The **Kroger Community Rewards can be used every time you grocery shop at Kroger**. To register your Kroger Plus card, go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and use the Charleston Catholic organization number **LH615**. Be sure you have your Kroger Plus card available when you register. Kroger Plus Cards are available at the Customer Service desk at any Kroger. To participate, register your **Kroger Plus Shopper's Card (as outlined above)** and use the card when you checkout, and Charleston Catholic will receive a check from Kroger on a quarterly basis.

SUMMER SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES— (High School Only)

1. **Martin Luther King Center** - The MLK center is seeking volunteers for the 2024 summer! Students who are interested will be asked to assist with the youth summer camp. Responsibilities include:
 - Assisting students with activities
 - Creating group games and projects
 - Preparing snacks for students
 - Helping to maintain a clean environment
 - Providing mentorship to the youth

The Martin Luther King Center will be hosting their very first robotics camp. Volunteers are desperately needed for this two week camp. Volunteers for Robotics camp will be asked to assist students with creating their own robots! (Robotics camp dates June 17th- June 28th. **You must call or email Mrs. Williams if you would like to be a Robotics Camp Volunteer!**)

2. **Manna Meal Garden- (Middle School and High School)**--Manna Meal Garden is now open and accepting volunteers! Students who wish to volunteer are welcome every **Tuesday** and **Saturday** from **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Volunteers help Manna Meal to transform hundreds of pounds of donated food (and produce from the garden) into healthy meals for our most vulnerable neighbors. Students who participate are expected to help with the following:
 - Weeding
 - Planting

- Placing compost
- Packing donated food

Please contact Ms. Jean (304-610-2518) for more information.

- Ronald McDonald House Charities (Middle School and High School)**--The Ronald McDonald House is seeking volunteers to assist with light housekeeping and cooking meals for families in need! Students who wish to make a meal must do so at the RMDH; you **MAY NOT** drop meals off for service. To complete service at the RMDH please use the link [Get Involved | Volunteer - RMHC of Southern West Virginia](#) (charlestonrmhc.org)
- Habitat for Humanity Restore (High School Only)**-- Habitat for Humanity Restore is in need of volunteers to help with sorting antiques, making an artistic display from books and other items, or helping to keep the store tidy and organized. Although the website states that you must be 18 or older, the Habitat for Humanities is willing to accept high school juniors and seniors only. Students who wish to volunteer must fill out the link below: [Volunteer at the ReStore](#) (charlestonwvrestore.org)

HOPE 2024 - Thank you to all who have donated to HOPE 2024. During the week of June 16-21, our group of 27 rising seniors, recent graduates, and adult work team leaders will partner with Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission in Dunlow, WV, for our week of home repair with very low income families and seniors. Two of our work teams will continue work on a blitz-built house constructed the week before we arrive, building decks, steps, a ramp, installing underpinning and other work. The house is being built for a senior citizen couple who have been living in an old trailer for years. The total cost of this modest house, including furnishings and appliances, is approximately \$50K. **Through the generosity of our HOPE supporters, we will contribute \$25,000 toward the cost of building materials.** Two other work teams will replace a leaky roof on a double wide, installing new sheeting and a metal roof for a grandfather and his 5 young grandchildren who live with him. Our fifth work team will make repairs at the home of another family, to help make their house warmer, safer, and drier. A **slideshow of our 2023 HOPE experience** is posted on our school website under the "Community Outreach" tab. If you are still interested in making a tax deductible contribution to the cost of building materials for HOPE, you can donate online at www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org and search "Donate to HOPE."

ST. BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION-- Mark Ellis, high school chemistry teacher at CCHS, is raising money and awareness for childhood cancer research through the Saint Baldrick's Foundation. St. Baldrick's is the largest non-government funder of childhood cancer research grants. With tremendous help from the CCHS community he was able to raise \$1,001 in 2023. His 2024 goal is \$1,100. You may donate (even anonymously) on his website <https://www.stbaldricks.org/participants/mypage/1146423/2024> . The shaving event is scheduled for June 20th, 6:00 p.m., at Tops Off Barber Shop in Charleston, WV.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

PE UNIFORMS – Uniform order forms were given to rising **eighth and tenth graders with their class selection forms in April**. Eighth and tenth graders are the only students who will have PE in August when school starts. Please submit order forms to the school office by June 21. PE uniforms will be distributed at registration for those students who order in June. Orders will be accepted in August for those who don't submit earlier. 6th grade and 7th grade PE does not start until the second semester, so they will place orders in the fall after school starts.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS -- The school office will be open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. until Friday, June 28. Voicemail will be checked and calls returned throughout the month of July. The office will reopen on Thursday, August 1, at 9 a.m.

SPRING BREAK 2025 - Have you ever wanted to visit South America? See Machu Picchu? Visit the Amazon? Mrs. Arnold and Ms. Chinn are organizing a Spring Break trip to Peru for 2025! The trip is open to rising seniors, rising juniors, and rising sophomores. We are looking for at least 30 travelers. Students must have B average in their science classes. Spots will go to seniors and juniors first. If there are any left spots left over, they will be available to

sophomores. There is an informational session on May 16th at 6:30 p.m. in the CCHS Library for parents to learn more about the trip. Please RSVP by following the link: <https://bit.ly/3UcYA7N>

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY- Father Don Higgs, rector of Sacred Heart and president of Charleston Catholic, will be leading a pilgrimage to Italy from October 14-25, 2024. He is seeking additional participants. Details about the trip are attached to this email. Please contact Father Higgs if you would like additional information.

UNIFORM UPDATE -- The uniform is part of the CCHS package. The uniform policy and guidelines are spelled out completely in our handbook which is found on the website. The updated handbook for the 2024-2025 school year will be online at the beginning of August. The complete uniform code is listed below.

Uniform Code:

Uniform pants/ shorts may be purchased online from Schoolbelles at schoolbelles.com (our school number is #1246) or from Lands' End School at landsend.com/school (our school number is 900133356).

Shirts: Shirts must be either 1) a blue or white, long or short sleeved, **oxford-cloth**, button-down, with no visible labeling or 2) an official CCHS Polo. Oxford dress shirts must be worn **tucked and buttoned**. Polos must be purchased from PVA. Polo shirts may be worn untucked if the hem is straight and does not fall below the hip line. **Fitted blouses or blouses with darts are not permitted.**

Undershirts: While optional, if worn, undershirts **must** be solid white with no printing. Undershirts must not have collars or turtlenecks and sleeve length must match that of the uniform shirt. Undershirt may not hang below polo shirt.

Pants: Pants must be navy blue corduroy or twill pants and have no visible labeling or rivets. Pants must be worn at the waist and be of modest fit. (Pants deemed too leggings-like by administration will not be allowed.) **Legging or joggng-like pants are prohibited.** Corduroys and twill pants must not be faded. Students wearing worn, faded pants will be considered out of uniform. **Shorts:** Navy blue twill shorts must be no higher than 2 inches above the knee. Shorts must not have any visible labeling or rivets. Uniform shorts are not cargo style. Shorts must be worn at the waist and be of modest fit. Shorts must not be faded. Students wearing worn, faded shorts will be considered out of uniform. Shorts are worn from the beginning of the school year until October 15 and beginning April 15 until the end of the school year.

Sweaters: Plain navy blue crew neck or cardigan sweaters may be worn. Sweaters with embellishments, patterns, designs, etc. may not be worn.

Uniform Jackets/Fleece: Gray or black uniform jackets and green uniform fleeces may be purchased from the PVA. These may be worn as an additional layer to the uniform. **Gray fleeces have been retired. They are no longer a part of the uniform.** No gym/team sweatshirts or jackets may be worn.

Socks: Socks must be worn and must be clearly visible. Leggings are not permitted.

Shoes: **Shoes must be leather dress shoes that are primarily black, brown, gray, or navy in color.** Shoelaces must be the same color as the shoe and must be tied. Shoes that have a place for shoelaces are required to have shoelaces. Soles may not exceed 1 inch, and heels may not exceed 1½ inches. All shoes must be closed at the toe and heel and have a hard sole. Shoe tops must be below the ankle bone. The following type of footwear is not permitted: sandals, moccasins (soft or hard soled), athletic shoes (even if leather), platform shoes, fleece-lined shoes/ slippers, wedges, clogs, or boots.

Belts: Belts are optional. If worn they should be simple dress belts.

Jewelry: Ear piercings, if worn, may not be distracting. No other type of visible body piercing is allowed. Other jewelry, if worn, should not be distracting. Faculty or staff may require a student to remove offending jewelry.

Ties: If worn, ties must be tied at the neck and worn with an oxford cloth, button-down uniform shirt. Ties cannot be distracting or contrary to school expectations regarding clothing. Faculty or staff may require a student to remove offending ties.

VIRTUS – Be sure you're able to help! All parents or other adults who volunteer, coach, drive students, chaperone, etc., are required by the Diocese to complete the diocesan sexual abuse awareness training before being allowed to work with our students. Training is available online or at sessions periodically scheduled. To begin, visit the VirtusOnline.org and choose the online option. Allow 1- 1½ hours to complete the program.

There will be a new process for the remaining two components of compliance. They will be completed using digital forms through the Virtus system (virtus.org). A background check and sign off on the Form Policy Relating to Sexual

Abuse of Children MUST be completed online before you are able to volunteer. You must add Charleston Catholic as a location where you will be volunteering. If you have forgotten your password, or your user name, you can also call the Virtus help desk at 1-888-847-8870.

Additionally, adults who volunteer, coach, or chaperone, may be asked to update background and policy forms. Background checks must be updated every three years. Policy questionnaires should be updated if they were signed before 2014. Current Diocese guidelines do not require volunteers to update the training portion of VIRTUS. Please contact Mr. Villers with any questions about how to update your forms.

The Diocese encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, you may also report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel or volunteers of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, by contacting one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext.353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. You may also visit www.dwc.org, under "Accountability" for additional reporting mechanisms.

ATHLETIC UPDATES

SPRING SPORTS UPDATE—

High School Tennis- The boys and girls tennis teams both advanced to the State Semifinals in team play but their seasons ended there. Nick Giatras won his second individual State Championship! Ethan Bastin, Nick Giatras, and Alyssa Hanna made the All-Tournament team. It was a successful year for the tennis program! We lose a great group of seniors in Andrew Hanna, Johnny Preston, Emilie McNeil, and Anna Carter, but are looking forward to a bunch of young talent for next season.

High School Softball- The softball team once again ended with a winning season and continues to build. It was a great year for the very young Irish. They lost in the sectional semifinals. All State honors went to Hannah Vriendt- second team; Maddie Morris- honorable mention; and Aubrey McCoy- honorable mention. The Irish will lose two wonderful seniors in Aubrey McCoy and Hannah Sullivan. Watch out for this team next year!

High School Baseball- Once again the Irish are State Champions! This year's championship is the fourth in school history. The team also broke the school record for wins. The team was 31-5 (previous win record from 2013 was 30-9). This state championship will also be the last in Single A for Charleston Catholic Baseball as the team transitions to Double A next year. Connor Jarvis, Jeff Reynolds, Zaden Ranson, and Jonah DiCocco were named to the All Tournament Team. Gage Tawney and Jeff Reynolds participated in the North/South game. Gage followed his amazing State Tournament play with the South team's MVP award. The baseball team will have a lot of talent next year but lost a great group of seniors who ended their careers with two State Championships: Gage Tawney, Jeff Reynolds, Vincent Scalzo, Josef Brammer, Joseph Muchow, and Tyler Brown.

High School Track-The track team had an incredible year. The boys won the Regional Championship for the first time since 2008! We had many Irish runners place at the State Meet. Bella Boggs placed 3rd in the 3200, 6th in the 1600, 7th in the 4x4 relay, and 5th in the 4x8 relay. Hannah Fisher placed 4th in the 300 hurdles, 6th in the 800m, 7th in the 4x4, and 5th in the 4x8. Layla Carter placed 5th in the 4x8 and 7th in the 4x4. Mary Rushworth placed 5th in the 4x8 and 7th in the 4x4. Will Barton placed 6th in the 1600. Mateo Lao placed 8th in 800. The 4x8 team of Will Barton, Hunter Perry, Peter Basdekis, and Mateo Lao placed 5th. We lose two great senior in Hannah Sullivan and Hunter Perry. It was a tremendous year for the Irish and coaches!

Middle School

Tennis- Both teams had amazing seasons! The girls were the County Champions for the 8th year in a row. The boys' team finished as runner-up!

Golf- The golf team finished 4th in the County! Lauren Pleska finished 3rd in the County for the girls, and Lauren Pleska made the All Tournament team.

Track- The boys finished 6th in the County!

2024-25 SPORTS CONTACT INFO– If you are interested in a sport for the 2024-25 school year, please reach out to Athletic Director Jacob Nelson at jacob.nelson@charlestoncatholic-crw.org . The three week period no longer exists, but teams will have some activities over the summer. You may contact the coach or Athletic Director with questions about the summer session.

FALL SPORTS -- Students must have a completed doctor's physical (administered after May 1, 2024) to give to coaches on the first day of practice. This physical is good for the entire school year. Once teams have been selected, students participating on teams must turn in their athletic fees (\$75 per sport) before the first day of competition. They will not be able to compete without paying the athletic fee. A student who has not turned in athletic uniforms from another sport will not be permitted to participate in the next sport. CCHS students in grades 6-12 are eligible for athletics if they meet SSAC requirements (including having 2.0 unweighted GPA at end of 2023-24 second semester) and CCHS expectations, i.e., good behavior. If you have questions about fall sports – how to get involved, when practices start, and so on -- please email Jacob Nelson at jacob.nelson@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

NEW CCHS STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SPORTS–New students for the 2024-25 school year who are interested in playing fall sports should email Jacob Nelson at jacob.nelson@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

PHYSICALS-- Physical forms are available in the office or at the WVSSAC website. For a physical to be valid, it must have the correct year form (May 1, 2024) and the necessary signatures on the form. The physical must be turned in before participating in any summer practices.



GO IRISH!

CONGRATULATIONS

- to Class of 2024 valedictorian Joey Muchow and to salutatorian Nicole Gao for their outstanding academic achievements throughout their high school careers!
- to Nicole Gao, recipient of the Matthew Pack Memorial Scholarship Award, a cash award toward college tuition, in memory of Matthew Pack, Class of 2005.
- to Gracie Frame, recipient of the Mary Ferretti Memorial Scholarship, a cash award toward college tuition, in memory of Mary Ferretti, Class of 2001.
- to Jeff Reynolds, recipient of the CCHS Alumni Award.
- to Calyn Taylor, recipient of the Les Cotto-Thorner Memorial Award for Outstanding Community Service.
- to rising senior Jonah Ball, recipient of the Adele Bobinger Memorial Scholarship, a cash award toward senior year tuition at CCHS, in memory of Adele Bobinger, Class of 2002.
- to rising senior Madeline Snyder, recipient of the Sullivan Scholarship, a cash award toward senior year tuition at CCHS, honoring retired CCHS principal Debra Sullivan.
- to rising junior Hannah Divers who was awarded the James Irving Award, sponsored by the CCHS Class of 1965 in memory of their classmate James Irving.
- to rising sophomore Sam Thompson, recipient of the Irish Spirit Scholarship, a cash award toward sophomore year tuition for a student who demonstrates kind ways, a giving spirit, and is a positive participant in the life of Charleston Catholic.

- to Bailee King, recipient of the Charleston Catholic High School Scholarship of Merit, a cash award toward tuition during the high school years.
- to Kara Fox, recipient of the Bobby Hypes Memorial Scholarship, a cash award toward freshman year tuition, in memory of Bobby Hypes, deceased member of the Class of 2008.
- to Nora Aliff, Miles Bown, Lauren Chapman, Cooper Hayslip, Bailee King, Rachel Lough, Luke Passmore, Teddy Passmore, Lauren Pleska, Sabian Rashid, and Owen Stapleton who earned all A's during the six semesters of middle school, demonstrating tremendous diligence and hard work.
- to rising juniors Mateo Lao and Reagan Stapleton who represented CCHS at the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar earlier this month at Fairmont State University.
- to eighth graders Lia Duffield, Sam Ellison, Bailee King, Danny Linton, Audrey Lowe, Teddy Passmore and Luke Passmore who will be knighted later this month and Knights of the Golden Horseshoe! They are reaping the rewards of their diligent preparation in their West Virginia Studies course! Well done!
- to rising seniors John Christian Settle and Madeline Snyder who will attend the Governor's Honors Academy at Fairmont State for three weeks this summer.
- to rising senior Madeline Snyder who was selected to attend the Governor's School for Entrepreneurship at Marshall University later this summer.
- to rising sophomore Katelyn Hentschel who was selected to attend the Governor's Computer Science Institute this summer.
- to teacher Sarah Griffith who has been selected to serve as AP exam reader this summer for Calculus, investing a week of her time to score this year's AP tests and participate in meaningful professional development. Her hard work and dedication is much appreciated.

MANY THANKS

- to our office, kitchen, maintenance, and custodial staff whose warm smiles and kind presence kept the school running efficiently every day. We would be lost without them!
- to Father Don Higgs, president of Charleston Catholic, and Father Roy Kurakula, school chaplain, for their spiritual guidance and ongoing prayers for our school community. CCHS will welcome a new chaplain next year but Father Roy will remain at Sacred Heart and will continue to be a positive presence for our students.
- to Mark Haas, music director, for leading our music during school liturgies this year. Mr. Haas has been a tremendous asset to our school and we wish him well as he and his family move to Florida this summer.
- to the teachers for their hard work and commitment to their students and the CCHS community. They pour their hearts into their job, and they have a tremendous impact on our young people.
- to parents for your collaboration and partnership. Thank you for sharing your children with us!
- to the PVA board, committee members, and all who volunteered in school activities. Your energy and enthusiasm for all things Charleston Catholic helped make this year special in so many ways! Thank you for your generosity of time, talent, and treasure.
- to our coaches for their dedication to our student athletes. Thank you for your efforts to increase their athletic skills, but also for teaching them about teamwork, sportsmanship, and so many other life lessons.
- to a number of people who enriched our junior Justice and Peace Classes by being guest speakers. Paul Sheridan shared his experiences as a West Virginia Civil Rights Attorney. Bill Mehle presented on "A Call to Vigilance" in which he told of his trip to Poland and Holocaust Awareness with Classrooms Without Borders. Hannah Grubb, Stacy Kay, Mary Tierney and Corey Zinn introduced harm reduction and inclusive communities through the work of SOAR. Jenny Totten presented on her passion for West Virginia through community development in McDowell County. Thank you to each of these speakers for sharing time, talent and inspiration with our juniors.
- to the junior class and parent volunteers who helped plan, organize, and create the magical underwater prom theme this year, which was a memorable and fun experience for the students. Special thanks to Ricky Nelson and Kerri Linton for their creative vision and leadership.
- to the Class of 2024 for their generous class gift of funds to create an annual scholarship for a freshman who shares their traits of kindness and school spirit!
- to the 8th grade Moving Up Celebration committee who provided a beautiful gathering for the eighth graders and their families after the Moving Up Ceremony. We appreciate the efforts of Danielle Wade and Malena Scalise for planning the

lovely event and to seventh grade parents and volunteers who decorated, staffed the reception, cleaned up, and provided the delicious baked goods for the reception. It was a wonderful evening!

- to everyone who donated time, talent or treasure to Project Graduation! Committee chairs Ashley Stapleton, Mary Pozega and Courtney Lohri put in countless hours to put the night together. Thank you to those who gave their time and talent: Ericka Brown, Jessica Anton, Jeremy Stapleton, Jacqui & Mark Ranson, Jennifer Hadley & Anthony Eates, Cassidi Wriston, Stephanie Haynes, Rodney Nichols, Shane Kimble, Cassie & RK Allara, Kathy Rushworth, Nichole Custer, Pam Delgra and Trina Smith. Thank you for the support of the staff members who gave their time to spend some or all of the night with the graduates- Mrs. Hoyer, Mr. Villers, Mrs. Aubel, Mr. Jacob Nelson, Mr. Ricky Nelson, Mr. Walker, and Mrs. Williams. Additionally, a BIG thank you to everyone who gave their treasure. The following sponsors gave a financial and/or gift donation to the event: Charleston Surgical Hospital, Charleston Gastroenterology Associates, CAMC, Ball Toyota, Kanawha County Commission, Children's Dentistry, K&N Contracting, John Saville & Mary Pozega, Mark & Jacqui Ranson, Jonathan & Cassidi Wriston, India Welder, Shawnda Yeager, Grubb Law Group, Bray & Oakley, Kyle & Kirsten Mork, Greg White & Donna Slayton, Josh & Courtney Lohri, John & Jessica Anton, Bryan & Ericka Brown, Amy Mullen, Sally Barton, Ashley Patnoe, Mark & Christie Staun, Tim & Carrie Yianne, Encova and Walmart. The hard work and generous donations helped to create a night to remember for the Class of 2024!

-to the Baccalaureate reception chair people Sabrena Gillis and Katie Paulson and the many volunteers who supported their efforts in creating a beautiful evening full of memories for the seniors and their families following the Baccalaureate liturgy. We thank the following for their help and support: Dickinson and Angela Gould for their significant donation of food; Tristen & Davey Judy for donating and the senior gifts; Jerry Canterbury from Food Among the Flowers for donating his time and talents; Amy Weber and Whitney Sadler for donating the water; Brad Gritt of Gritt's Farm for the trees and plants; Ellen's Ice-cream for the delicious ice cream and Chick Fil-a at the Town Center Mall for the drinks. Thank you to Tristen Judy, Lori Moore, and Sarah Bailey for their help with decorations; Marleigh Adkins, Cindy Adkins, Cadee Taylor, Jessica Meador, Ella Green, Marie Green, Stella Bailey, Andy Moore, Lori Moore, Amy Weber, Joanne Vella, Izzy Paulson, and Ella Grace Gillis for volunteering during the event. Special thanks to Jesse Linehan Belcher for creating the delicious food for the evening. We greatly appreciate the financial support of many families: the Gray family; the Meador family; the Green family; the Harwood family; the Bailey family; the Hill & Blevins family; the Adkins family; the Moore family; the Vir family; the Hentschel family; the Master & Ramsey family; the Fairless family; the Harris family; the Goetz family; the Tawney family; the Griffith family, the Newell family; the Nester family, the Griffith family, the Vella family, the Gillis family, and the Paulson family.



Happy summer vacation!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CLASS OF 2024

49 members of the class

Offered approximately \$8.6 million of merit-based scholarships for academics, athletics, leadership, and service

100% college acceptance rate

100% were involved in community service, contributing over 2,499 hours of service during their senior year.

91% of the class of 2024 qualified for the **PROMISE** scholarship.

The class of 2024 has been accepted at 71 institutions and will be attending 24 across the country.

American University

Appalachian State University

Asbury University

Bellarmino University

Belmont Abbey College

Belmont University

Boston College

Boston University

Catawba College

Centre College

Clemson University

Coastal Carolina University

College of Charleston

College of William & Mary

Concord University

Denison University

DePaul University

DePauw University

Duquesne University

Elon University

Florida Gulf Coast University

Florida Institute of Technology

Florida International University

Gannon University

George Washington University

Georgetown University

Guilford University

Hawaii Pacific University

High Point University

Hofstra University

James Madison University

Johnson & Wales University

Kent State University

La Roche University

Lehigh University

Lenoir-Rhyne University

Louisiana State University

Loyola University of Chicago

Marietta College

Marshall University

Miami University of Ohio

Michigan State University

North Carolina State University

Ohio Northern University

Ohio University

Old Dominion University

Oregon Institute of Technology

Pennsylvania State University

Purdue University

Queens University at Charlotte

Radford University

Rhodes College

Rider University

Roanoke College

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Saint Olaf College

Savannah College of Art & Design

Seton Hall University

Shepherd University

Smith College

Syracuse University

Transylvania University

University of Alabama

University of Arizona

University of Central Florida

University of Charleston

University of Cincinnati

University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Dayton

University of Florida

University of Georgia

University of Kentucky

University of Louisville

University of Mount Union

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

University of North Carolina at

Greensboro

University of North Carolina at

Wilmington

University of Notre Dame

University of Pittsburgh

University of Richmond

University of South Carolina

University of South Florida

University of Southern California

University of Tampa

University of Tennessee

University of Vermont

University of Virginia

University of Washington

University of Wisconsin at Madison

Villanova University