June 12, 2026

INSIDE CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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

Dear parents and students:

Before I was an administrator at Charleston Catholic, I was a teacher. When I first started teaching, I taught in Virginia, and I taught elementary school, kindergarten and first grade. Then, when I moved back to West Virginia and started teaching at Charleston Catholic, I taught high school English, ninth grade specifically. I loved teaching literature, writing, and grammar. The literature that I taught in ninth grade English was a selection of classics- some of my favorites. *To Kill a Mockingbird* was perhaps my favorite to teach. When we gathered last month for our final liturgy of the school, I shared my favorite quote from *To Kill a Mockingbird* with the students. In a conversation with Scout, his five year old daughter, attorney Atticus Finch said, "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view . . . until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

That's a really powerful and relevant piece of advice. It's something I challenged the students to think about as they interact with others this summer. I asked them to consider about what it means-- "you never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view." Each of us has a unique perspective on life shaped by our families and our experiences and our environment. I may witness an interaction between a group of students at lunch and have a completely different reaction than those students who are sitting at the table. My perspective is based on my age, on prior similar experiences, and on my knowledge of each of the young people.

I reminded the students that we don't know what others are carrying and cannot quickly identify their perspective. The best approach is to treat others with kindness, respect, and compassion. When interacting in that manner, we don't have to worry about hurting someone else. If we all embrace that approach, we can more effectively love one another.

I wish you a happy and healthy summer.

Warmly,
Colleen Hoyer

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: Lisette Bailey's grandfather and Francesca Fairless' maternal grandmother. Please keep those families in your thoughts and prayers.

BEST WISHES – The end of the school year always brings some fond farewells as faculty and staff embark on new adventures. This year we say goodbye to high school science teacher Mark Ellis. Mr. Ellis is retiring after several years at CCHS.

We wish Mr. Ellis peace and relaxation in the future!

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ACADEMIC UPDATES

FINAL REPORT CARDS – will be mailed today, Friday, June 12. Though the school year is over, it can still be beneficial to have a "year in review" conversation with your children. Talk with them about the academic year and help them to identify their biggest successes and challenges. What do they identify as 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-crw.org.

SCHEDULING CLASSES – Scheduling for 2026-27 will kick into high gear in the coming weeks! This is when we narrow class offerings based on student interest and teacher availability, determine course placements, and create a master schedule for next year. Over the summer, student schedules will be worked on, but the job will not be complete until the August registration days. This complex process involves analyzing students' and parents' requests in addition to considering additional 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.

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 children to read these descriptions before starting the books 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 selections are required for all)** *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Isiguro and *Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri (read the SHORT STORY "Interpreter of Maladies" within the collection)
Grade 11: **(both books are required)** *Into the Wild* by John Krakauer and *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson
Grade 10: **(both books are required)** *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie and *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger
Grade 9: **(both books are required)** *The Odyssey* by Homer (Gareth Hinds edition- graphic novel) and *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
Grade 8: **(both books are required)** *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* by J.K. Rowling

Grade 7: **(both books are required)** *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson and *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling
Grade 6: **(both books are required)** *A Series of Unfortunate Events, Book 1: The Beginning* by Lemony Snicket and *Holes* by Louis Sachar

SUMMER READING SESSIONS WITH MRS. SMITH--This summer, Mrs. Smith will offer small-group reading sessions designed to help students make meaningful progress on their required summer reading before the school year begins. In addition to reading and discussing the text, students will strengthen critical thinking, literary analysis, vocabulary, and writing skills that will help prepare them for success in the upcoming academic year.
Class sizes will be limited to ensure meaningful discussion and individualized support for each student.
To register or request additional information, please contact Mrs. Smith at morgan.smith@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

Registration deadline: June 19
Session Dates: June 22–July 9
Meeting Days: 2 days per week
Location: Charleston Catholic High School
Cost: $215 per student (6 sessions)
Payment can be made to Mrs. Smith via Venmo, cash, or check. More information will be sent to parents after registration.

Summer 7 Reading Group
Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson
https://www.amazon.com/treasure-island/s?k=treasure+island
ISBN: **1101990325**
Mondays, Wednesdays: 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Summer 9 Reading Group
The Odyssey (Gareth Hinds Graphic Novel Edition)
https://www.amazon.com/Odyssey-Gareth-Hinds/dp/0763642681
ISBN: 0763642681
Time: 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
This text serves as an engaging introduction to the characters, plot, and themes of *The Odyssey*, which students will study in its full epic-poem form during the first semester of 9th grade. The course will help students build confidence and familiarity with one of the foundational works of Western literature.

Summer 10 Reading Group
Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger
https://www.amazon.com/Ordinary-Grace-William-Kent-Krueger/dp/1451645856
ISBN: 451645856
Time: 9:30–11:00 a.m.
During the first semester of 10th grade, students will explore themes such as morality, justice, and the loss of innocence. *Ordinary Grace* introduces many of these central ideas and will provide students with a strong foundation for class discussions and one of the first major writing assignments of the year.

Summer 11 Reading Group
Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer
https://www.amazon.com/Into-Wild-Jon-Krakauer/dp/0385486804
ISBN: **0385486804**
Mondays, Wednesdays: 9:30–11:00 a.m.

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**.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS—have been 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.

2026-27 CALENDAR, REGISTRATION, TEXTBOOK, AND TUITION INFORMATION

TUITION INFORMATION FOR 2026-27— including invoices, payment options, and loan information from Peoples Bank was mailed in mid-April. 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. Phase 1, which was only open to Catholic families, is now complete. **Phases 2 and 3 are open to all families.** Awards are based upon a family's degree of need relative to all other applicants. Apply on-line at www.factsmgt.com. Click on "Grant and Aid Assessment" and log in. Have your 2025 tax information available. **The Phase 2 deadline is July 13, 2026, and the Phase 3 deadline is August 23, 2026.** 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!

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP- The deadline to apply for full funding from the Hope Scholarship is June 15. One of the initial steps to qualify is to request a West Virginia Education Information System (WVEIS) ID number from the county board of education for your child if they do not already have one. Without a WVEIS number, a child is unable to apply for the Hope Scholarship. To request a WVEIS number, please complete the form linked **here** and email it to the county board of education of your county of residence using the email address list found **here**. Visit the Hope Scholarship website to create an account and begin your application. **The application window for full funding closes on June 15, 2026. There are no exceptions to that date.**

2026-27 REGISTRATION DAYS -- The following times have been set aside for students to pick up their schedules, have their yearbook photos taken, 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 13, 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 12	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 13	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.

FINALIZED CALENDAR FOR 2026-27 – 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. 12	High school registration
Thurs., Aug. 13	Middle school registration
Wed., Aug. 19	First day of school for students
Mon., Sept. 7	Labor Day- no school
Saturday, Oct. 10	Homecoming
Mon., Oct. 26	11:30 dismissal, teacher professional development
Thurs., Nov. 5	Parent-Teacher conferences
Wed., Nov. 11	Veterans Day- no school
Wed., Nov. 25	E-day for students
Thurs., Nov. 26- Fri. Nov. 27	Thanksgiving holiday
Wed- Fri., Dec. 16-18	exams
Mon., Dec. 21- Friday, Jan. 1	Christmas break
Mon., Jan. 4	classes resume
Mon., Jan. 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day- no school
Tues., Jan. 19	e-day for students, teacher professional development
Mon., Feb. 15	Presidents' Day- no school
Fri., March 26- Fri., April 2	Easter Break
Mon., Apr. 5	classes resume
Thurs., May 27	baccalaureate
Fri., May 28	graduation
Mon., May 31	Memorial Day- no school

Wed., June 2- Fri., June 4	exams for 6th -11th graders
Friday, June 4	Moving Up Ceremony for 8th graders

TEXTBOOK PROCEDURES 2026-2027

There are no new textbook adoptions for 2026-2027 school year. Book order forms are also available on the school website.

Middle School

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 and English consumable textbooks used in middle school are 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 for eighth graders, and all middle school foreign language materials will be provided by the teacher. Seventh graders will have an exploratory fee that is assessed at registration.

High School

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, Statistics, 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 3rd.

3. Students who earned failing semester grades will be receiving an email about course recovery by Tuesday, June 16th. Students taking summer school courses for credit recovery classes must have their courses completed by Monday, August 3rd. Students cannot register for classes for 2026-27 without completion of the credit recovery.
4. All students who are making up fine arts critiques must submit their critiques online prior to August 3rd. Students must complete and submit their fine arts requirements in order to register for classes.
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 2026. **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 were sent to colleges and submitted to the NCAA on Monday, June 8th. These have been 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.
7. Final records for seniors who applied for the PROMISE scholarship were submitted on Wednesday, June 10th.

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 Malena Scalise (304-546-0897) for green polos, Cynthia Hemphill-Reehling (803-242-5087) for green fleeces, and Katie Feola (304-552-1896) 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 Malena Scalise.
2. **Cafeteria volunteers** are needed for the upcoming school year. Please contact Cindy Fernald (304-552-3968 or cindyfernald@aol.com) if you would like to be on the cafeteria schedule for August and September 2026. Some volunteers will need to renew their food handlers' cards. Cindy 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 Cindy Fernald for an access code. **Upon completion please submit a copy to the office which will be kept on file at the school. ****

CAMPUS MINISTRY

1. Students who attended CCHS during the 2025-2026 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 2026-2027 may not begin to work on these requirements until after the requirements are discussed in Theology and English classes in August.
2. All students who are making up community service hours must submit their forms order to register for classes and receive their schedules in August.
3. There is an ILM Orientation Retreat on August 11, 2026 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., location TBD. 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.
4. Class of 2027: Mark your calendars! Our 'Senior Retreat on the River' will be September 3rd and 4th. Seniors will 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 vacation 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–

1. Rock Lake Community Garden- (Middle School and High School)--Rock Lake Community 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 the garden 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.

2. 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. You **MAY NOT** drop meals off for service. All food, including bagged sandwiches, must be prepared at the RMDH! To complete service at the RMDH, please use the link -- Get Involved | Volunteer - RMHC of Southern West Virginia (charlestonrmhc.org) or contact Betsy Plants at 304-346-0279.

3. West Side Gathering (High School Only)-- welcomes volunteers every Sunday from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. This ministry provides meals for women in recovery but is open to all who are in need of a warm meal. To participate in this service, please contact Mrs. Williams at Michaila.williams@charlestoncatholic-crw.org

4. The Kanawha Charleston Humane Society is looking for volunteers this summer. --- Students under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This is a great way to give back to the community, gain valuable experience, and make a difference in the lives of animals in need. Students who volunteer will be expected to:

· Walk the dogs
· Help in the puppy room and kitten room
· Restock
· Refill dog bowls with food and water

Students who wish to volunteer must schedule in advance and ask for Stephen at 304-342-1576.

5. **VBS!!! It's Vacation Bible School Season. (open to middle and high school students)**

Students are encouraged to volunteer at a church camp or Vacation Bible School. This is a great way to get involved at your church or parish while earning service hours.

Students must have their service form signed by a coordinating official.

HOPE 2026 UPDATE – Our week of HOPE is **June 14-19, 2026**. We will partner again with Bill & Addie Likens, who coordinate the Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission (CAM) in Wayne and Mingo Counties. Our group of CCHS rising seniors, a recent grad, and adult work team leaders will form 4 work teams. One team will install a new metal roof at the home of a senior married couple and three teams will assist with the construction of two new houses for families in need. **Due to the generosity of folks who supported our annual HOPE Appeal,** we are now able to donate **$33,000 toward the purchase of building materials for the construction of the new homes.** CAM will supplement our fundraising efforts with the balance of funding needed to purchase all the materials to complete the construction of the two new homes and to install the new metal roofing at the other house, providing three families homes that are warmer, safer, and drier. **Thanks to everyone who enabled us to make this significant financial donation to one of our Charleston Catholic community's works of mercy. (A slideshow of our 2025 HOPE experience** is posted on our school website.)

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

PE UNIFORMS –P.E. uniform order forms are attached to this email for **eighth and tenth grade students.** 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 22. 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 later in the school year, so they will place orders in the fall after school starts.

MEDICATIONS AND EPIPENS- A number of prescription medications and epipens were left in the office at the end of the school year. Please stop by the office in June to pick these up. They will be discarded before the new school year in August.

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 26. Voicemail will be checked and calls returned throughout the month of July. The office will reopen on Monday, August 3, at 9 a.m.

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. In addition to the training, employees and volunteers are required to complete a background check and sign off on the Policy Form Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children MUST 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. 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.

HIGH SCHOOL LIT CLUB— The high school Lit Club is reading *Renegades* by Marissa Meyer for summer. Join us at lunch when we are back to school in August to discuss and choose books for the upcoming year. Listen to announcements for the date. If you have any questions, please email Ms. Chinn at kaitlin.chinn@charlestoncatholic-crw.org. You can also join the Google Classroom using code: dhiqnng.

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 2026-2027 school year will be online at the beginning of August. The complete uniform code is listed below.
Please pay particular attention to guidelines regarding hair color and piercings (found under jewelry). Both are included below.
Dress and grooming must be neat and clean. It is expected that hair should be neat and clean at all times. Hair color must be a natural color. Hair may not be dyed a distracting color. Hairstyles must not impede eye contact with teachers.

Uniform Code:
Uniform pants/shorts may be purchased online 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 legging-like by administration will not be allowed.) Legging or jegging-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 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. No gym/team sweatshirts or jackets may be worn. The gray fleece has been retired and will no longer be part of the uniform.
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), hey dude style canvas shoes, 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.

ATHLETIC UPDATES

SPRING SPORTS UPDATE—

High School Tennis- The boys' tennis team went back to back and are once again State Champions! Abdul Bali is the individual State Champion for the first time in his career. Winston Hunter and Alistair Gould were State Runner Up in doubles. Abdul Bali and Winston Hunter earned All Tournament and All State honors. The girls finished an amazing season as State Runner Up. Kara Fox was named All Tournament and All State.

High School Softball- The softball team did not have enough numbers to field a team this year. Congratulations to Hannah Vriendt who finished her softball career with St. Albans High School.

High School Baseball- The Irish baseball team had an outstanding season, finishing with a record of 21-10. The season ended in a hard fought regional series against Buffalo.

High School Track-It was a fantastic year for the track team! The girls won the regional championship and placed third at the State Meet. The boys placed second in the region and placed third in the State Meet, as well. Bella Boggs and Peter Basdekis won the High Point award at the State Meet. Individually, Bella Boggs won the State Championships in the 1600m and 3200m runs. She was state runner up in the 800m. Peter Basdekis was the State Champion in the 800 and the mile. Mateo Lao was State Runner Up in the 400 and the 800 meter runs. Cole Boggs was State Runner Up in the 3200. The boys 4x800 team of Teddy Passmore, Mateo Lao, Will Barton, and Peter Basdekis finished as State Champions! The girls 4x400 team consisting of Ella Green, Bailee King, Mary Rushworth, and Bella Boggs, finished 3rd. The girls' shuttle hurdle relay team with team members Layla Carter, Ella Green, Breiel Duncan, and Nora Aliff finished 3rd. The girls 4x8 team of Ava Goff, Claire Hunter, Bailee King, and Ella Green was 3rd.

Middle School
Tennis- Both the girls and boys teams had excellent seasons with both finishing as Kanawha County Runner Up this season!

Golf- The golf team finished Kanawha County Runner Up on both the girls' side and the boys' side! It was an outstanding year for the Irish.

Track- Both the boys and the girls finished in third place in Kanawha County this year! It was a great year, and they showed us that the future is bright in our track program.

Baseball: The baseball team finished the season strong, winning the consolation bracket in the Kanawha County Tournament. They battled through a tough year and showed a lot of promise!

FALL SPORTS -- Students must have a completed doctor's physical (administered after May 1, 2026) 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 2025-26 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 2026-27 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, 2026) 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 2026 co-valedictorians Colin Bown, Luca DiCocco, and Elli Hoblitzell and to salutatorian Jacob Brown for their outstanding academic achievements throughout their high school careers!
- to Luca DiCocco, recipient of the Matthew Pack Memorial Scholarship Award, a cash award toward college tuition, in memory of Matthew Pack, Class of 2005.
- to Hannah Vriendt, recipient of the Mary Ferretti Memorial Scholarship, a cash award toward college tuition, in memory of Mary Ferretti, Class of 2001.
- to Mateo Lao, recipient of the CCHS Alumni Award.
- to Bryce Wilkes, recipient of the Les Cotto-Thorner Memorial Award for Outstanding Community Service.
- to rising senior Abbie Nester, 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 Addy Gray, recipient of the Sullivan Scholarship, a cash award toward senior year tuition at CCHS, honoring retired CCHS principal Debra Sullivan.
- to rising junior Elijah Cinco who was awarded the James Irving Award, sponsored by the CCHS Class of 1965 in memory of their classmate James Irving.
- to rising sophomore Ava Goff, recipient of the Irish Spirit Scholarship, a cash award toward sophomore year tuition awarded to a student who demonstrates kind ways, a giving spirit, and is a positive participant in the life of Charleston catholic.
- to Nadia Cicenas, recipient of the Charleston Catholic High School Scholarship of Merit, a cash award toward tuition during the high school years.
- to Olivia Testman, 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 Elise Bailey, Hallie Caponiti, Nadia Cicenas, Luke Hevener, Gabriel Rashid, and Olivia Testman who earned all A's during the six semesters of middle school, demonstrating tremendous diligence and hard work.
- to Michael Lohri (*The Mountain State Kinship Collection*), Liam Harris (*Farm Kid in Training*), and Harry Adams (*Heck's Department Store*) for their selection as the winners of the Charleston Catholic Goldenseal Young Writers Competition. The program is a partnership between CCHS and the state's history magazine, *Goldenseal*. The *Goldenseal* editor was so impressed with the work of our eighth graders that she chose three winners whose essays will be published in an upcoming issue of the magazine!
- to rising juniors Henry Adams, Elle Cicenas, Elaina Delgra, Bailee King, and Sabian Rashid, who represented CCHS at the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar this month at Glenville State University.
- to our rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors who have been accepted to participate in the prestigious Governor's Schools all over the state this summer.

- to the high school quiz bowl team for participating for the first time in the West Virginia Academic Showdown on May 1st. Though they did not win, they represented Charleston Catholic very well. Participating members were Abigail Dotson, Hannah Vriendt, Owen Newell and Lia Duffield. Congratulation to the whole team for an outstanding year!
- to teacher Sarah Griffith who has been selected to serve as AP exam reader this summer for Calculus, committing a week of her summer to score this year's AP tests and participate in meaningful professional development.

MANY THANKS

- to our office, kitchen, maintenance, and custodial staff who devote their days to the success of CCHS by keeping the building clean, running, and on track every day while also sharing friendly smiles and kind words with those they encounter.
- to Father Don Higgs, president of Charleston Catholic, and Father Prakash Kerketta, school chaplain, for their spiritual guidance, ongoing prayers for our school community, and for celebrating our weekly liturgies with us.
- to Rosemary Severn, music director, for preparing and leading our music during school liturgies. Mrs. Severn has helped get our school choir active again and provided music for our end of the year ceremonies, as well. Her involvement has been a wonderful addition!
- to the teachers for the countless ways they show up for their students. They spend hours before, during, and after school preparing lessons, teaching, grading, sponsoring/ coaching extracurricular clubs and activities, and mentoring our young people. Their dedication adds to the special community we have here!
- to the parents for your ongoing partnership Thank you for supporting CCHS and for collaborating with us in so many ways.
- to the members of the PVA board, committees, and all who volunteered in our varied school activities. Your support of all things Charleston Catholic created a fantastic and memorable year! Thank you for sharing your time, talent, and treasure.
- to our middle school and high school coaches for their hard work to teach and guide our young people, both as student athletes and as people, developing them in sports specific skills and also in life lessons about perseverance, sportsmanship, and teamwork.
- to all who donated to One Mission One Day in May to support our efforts to upgrade the flooring and lighting in the Commons. We met our goal!! Thank you for your support.
- to Mike Raymo, Director of Engineering with West Virginia American Water, for his science seminar presentation on May 26th on engineering in water and the Army.
-to the junior class and parent volunteers who created a beautiful space and festive night in Las Vegas for prom this year! Special thanks to Ricky Nelson and Katie Paulson for their creative vision and leadership in the planning, fundraising, and decorating.
-to the Class of 2026 for their generous class gift of funds to support our flooring upgrade in the Commons, to replace the refrigerator in the teacher workroom, and to buy a new desk chair for Mr. Villers! Thank you for your kindness to our school!
- to all who donated the amazing baskets that were gifted to teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. Each basket was filled with thoughtful and desired items. It was such an exciting week for the teachers!
- to the 8th grade Moving Up Celebration committee who provided a lovely gathering for the eighth graders and their families after the Moving Up Ceremony. Many thanks to Michelle Paterno and Christine Wallace who coordinated the event and to the seventh grade parent volunteers who helped with set up and clean 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 chair Emilie Love put in countless hours to put the night together. Thank you to those who gave their time and braved the late night event with the graduates and rising seniors! 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. Ricky Nelson, Mr. Walker, Mrs. Sporck, and Ms. Freeman. Additionally, a BIG thank you to everyone who gave their treasure. The following sponsors gave a financial and/or gift donation to the event: CAMC, Kanawha County Commission, Amy Mullen, Angela Gould, Ashley Stapleton, Becky Francke, Brandy Messer, Chris Hayslip, Cynthia Hemphill-Reehling, Ericka Brown, Jennifer King, Jennifer Wright, Jessica Anton, Julia Noland, Julie Carew, Julie Pence, Kamilla Rashid, Kerri Linton, Kim Lough, Laura Hayes, Laura Kimble, Leesa Schwirian, Lisa Hunter, Liz Young, Mary Pozega, Melissa Moody, Meridith Johnstone,

Monica Chapman, Nicole Rashid, Nikki Rohrig, Pam Delgra, Rob Passmore, Somer Goff, Susan Cicenas, and Tracy Wilkerson. The hard work and generous donations helped to create a night to remember for the Class of 2026!
-to the Baccalaureate reception chair people Malena Scalise and Crystal Smarr who led the planning, fundraising, coordination, decorating, volunteer management, and event execution for the reception and the many volunteers who helped bring the vision to life and spent hours in preparation for, during, and clean up-after the event: Casey Martin, David Smarr, Rob Scalise, Jessica Sop, Cindy Keith, Jenny Sizemore, Megan Cutlip, Hunt Tidd, Kendra Taylor, Nikki Rohrig, and P.G. and Julie Greco who led the food preparation, food service coordination, setup and cleanup. Thank you to the student volunteers who worked during the event: Brendan Keith, Charles Taylor, Clay Smarr, Gianna Scalise, Gavin Rohrig, Harper Cutlip, Jack Sizemore, Roman Sop, and Whitney Martin. We thank the corporate sponsors for their donations: Chick-fil-A and Gritt's Farm. We are appreciative to the following individuals for their help and support: Annette Cable and Katherine Scalise for designing the beautiful floral arrangements and decor and providing support throughout the event; Alex Anton, Anthony Scalzo, Marsha Hoyer, and Samantha Hoyer – CCHS alumni (and parent of alums!) who returned to assist with setup and preparation; Inge Collier who created the famous CCHS cookies for the students; Mr. Jason Villers who provided assistance and support throughout the planning and execution of the event; Sue France who offered guidance, support, and encouragement throughout the planning process, Jake Nelson who gathered and coordinated the trophy display, and Rodney LeGrand for providing audio and lighting support. Thank you to the following families for their donations and sponsorships: the Martin Family (sponsored Perry Bennett Photography); Erin Beal (sponsored the pepperoni rolls); **t**he Wade Family (sponsored the class gifts and provided a monetary donation); **t**he Gould Family / Buzz Foods **(**sponsored food items); **t**he Sop Family (sponsored the candy table); **t**he Kurten Family (sponsored the grazing table); **t**he Rohrig Family (sponsored the dessert station); Carrie Frame (sponsored the balloon arch); and Elizabeth Smith (sponsored event décor). We also are very appreciative of the following families for their monetary donations to support the reception: Bohman Family, Boggs Family, Burns Family, Duncan Family, Dunigan Family, Hopta/ Hoblitzell Family, Fernald Family, Keith Family, Kessell Family, Griffith Family, and Sparks Family. The evening would not have been possible without the participation of all of these individuals/ groups, and it is deeply appreciated.

HAPPY SUMMER VACATION!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CLASS OF 2026

54 members of the class

Offered approximately $6.9 million of merit-based scholarships for academics, athletics, leadership, and service

100% college acceptance rate

100% were involved in community service, contributing over 2,900 hours of service during their senior year.

The class of 2026 has been accepted at 72 institutions and will be attending 31 across the country.

Auburn University
Belmont Abbey College
Belmont University
Bethany College
Bridgewater College
Butler University
Capital University
Case Western Reserve University
Catholic University
Centre College
Champlain College
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
Colgate University
College of Charleston
Deerfield Academy
Denison University
Elon University
Fordham University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Guilford College
High Point University
Hollins University
James Madison University
La Roche University
Marshall University
Miami University
Mount Saint Mary's University
North Carolina State University
Oberlin College
Ohio State University
Ohio University
Otterbein University
Pennsylvania State University
Pepperdine University
Purdue University
Purdue University of Fort Wayne
Roanoke College
Seton Hall University
Shepherd University
Siena University
Southern Methodist University
United States Air Force Academy
University of Alabama
University of Charleston
University of Cincinnati
University of Florida
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
University of Miami
University of North Carolina Wilmington
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma
University of Pittsburgh
University of Richmond
University of South Carolina
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Washington and Lee University
West Virginia State University West Virginia University
West Virginia University Institute of Technology
Western Carolina University
Whittier College
Wingate University
Wittenberg University
Wright State University
Xavier University