

Key Dimensions of a Catholic School

The Catholic Education Collaborative, in collaboration with our Partners, has developed a blueprint of success for Catholic schools in the greater Dayton area of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

The blueprint consists of 10 Key Dimensions of a Catholic School and benchmarks to achieve that vision.



Mission, Vision, and Culture

Clear Mission and Vision statements provide direction to function as a Catholic School. A statement of Core Beliefs reinforces the Mission and Vision and serves as the basis for building a strong Catholic school culture.



Governance

The Catholic School has a strong, well-functioning Board/Education Commission comprised of competent, well-trained members committed to the School Mission and Vision. A strategic plan that realizes the Mission and Vision is developed, monitored and communicated.



Leadership

The spiritual, instructional, and managerial leadership nurtures the school culture based on Mission and Vision. The School leadership recruits and retains qualified teachers while promoting professional growth opportunities to build the capacity for shared leadership among educators.



Religious Formation and Education

Students receive age appropriate Christian instruction in the Roman Catholic tradition. The learning environment supports a faith-filled dynamic and diverse Catholic culture. Children, faculty, and staff of many faiths are present in our schools; therefore, evangelization efforts are woven into the fabric of family and community life.



Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Curriculum and instructional methods are modeled on research and accepted best practice to meet the needs of all students. Multiple and varied assessment strategies are employed and communicated to demonstrate individual student growth. School curriculum meets and/or exceeds the Archdiocesan Graded Courses of Study.



Professional Learning

Faculty and staff receive relevant, ongoing Professional Development to support the Mission, Vision, and Culture of the School. Student success is realized through a resilient, passionate, faith-filled faculty.



Student and Family Support

Students and their families are knowledgeable concerning critical resources and student services available to help them overcome challenges for a comprehensive and well-integrated school experience.



Finance

The School is viable financially and provides transparent stewardship in all accounting and financial matters. The School strategic plan is supported through financial planning and addresses affordability.



Facilities

The School is clean, safe and updated with well-maintained learning facilities to provide sufficient, appropriate spaces to support learning within a culture of faith.



Stewardship and Advancement

The Advancement Plan communicates with all stakeholders to invite, welcome and engage potential students, families, friends and supporters of the School. Advancement efforts secure the enrollment and financial support necessary to ensure the ongoing viability in support of the Mission and Vision. The School models good stewardship in its actions and explicitly teaches principles of Christian stewardship.

The Key Dimensions integrate and support the accreditation process of the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association (OCSAA).