



CARDINAL  
GIBBONS  
HIGH SCHOOL

**Outstanding Staff Educator Award for 2018-2019 - Tim Yelenic**

“This educator came to Gibbons on his very first day with a big smile and a contagious positive attitude, and even with much more responsibility today, he remains the same with that big smile and great attitude.”

“This educator encourages students to lead and never turns down a student who volunteers. Rather than being judgmental about students, he’s willing to give them a chance to lead.”

“There’s a reason why every other teacher asks him to jump in on their projects and activities: he’s generous with his time, flexible and calm under pressure, he has a great sense of humor and has so many talents that make every event successful. “

“It’s evident that he is passionate about the school and his role, but more importantly, he is passionate about the students and I admire him very much for that.”

“He is a great role model for students: thoughtful about his faith, committed to the school, passionate about leadership, and most importantly, always willing to drop anything for a student or colleague.”

“He serves the school in so many different areas: retreats for Gibbons, middle school retreats, athletics (coaching, team retreats and ACA’s). Freshman Focus, and of course Short Journey. He is engaged with literally almost everything going on at Gibbons.”

“If it wasn’t for this educator, Short Journey Retreat Center wouldn’t be ready to host retreats this spring. His service-driven attitude has been a huge contributor to the completion of the retreat center, and he is passionate about leading a life-changing, formational retreat program.”

**Susan Scott Daly Excellence in Teacher Classroom Educator Award - Kevin Ferguson**

“I had the random opportunity to see him teach in class once ... he’s so good it’s actually intimidating. “

“He’s a wicked funny smart creative guy who wants to bring you with him to learn and play. When we as educators break into groups during meetings, everyone wants to be on his team because he’s our “refresh” button at Gibbons. Spending time with him discussing literally anything somehow enables both a perspective shift and increased joy.”

“He spends countless hours providing opportunities for all students at all levels of talent. He not only provides students with the opportunity to display their talents, but he demands that they work seamlessly with one another, that they not only proclaim, but actively display, their faith in one another through the actions they perform in service of their activity.”

“His philosophy is contagious: inspiration in the brightest ways to dream big, make a plan, and work together to make it happen.”

“He has built a program, and a remarkable student culture surrounding it. More and more students feel welcomed and open to being a part of his program, and the freedom to be whoever they want to be has attracted an enormous amount of students, of all different kinds.”

“He is not in the business of just teaching students, he truly is in the business of helping them build their souls. He builds souls so that they are strong enough to withstand anything.”

“Through his teaching and his craft, he not only teaches his students about empathy, love, sorrow, despair, hurt and joy, but he teaches them how to reach every single audience member, and to understand what it means to be human.”

### **Cardinal Gibbons High School Excellence in Principal Leadership Award - Jason Curtis**

“Jason embodies our mission to form men and women in faith, service and leadership in church and community. With this mission as his guide, he created a vision where we (all of the Cardinal Gibbons’ community) has been inspired to embrace it and create opportunities to fulfill it.”

“Jason is the mission. He helped establish the retreat program - and, did I mention, bought a retreat center. Every program at this school has been supported and promoted by him at some point. He is the embodiment of the mission. Every action reflects what our school can be and is.”

“Jason is a person of faith devoted to making sure in all situations we strive to focus on the greater glory of god, is not just doing good things, but doing them for the right reasons. He is a person of service on so many levels – maybe notably to us - by preparing a traditional Irish meal for St. Patrick’s Day. Finally, he is a person of leadership by the way he instills vision, passion and innovation in all of us. He has shown us how to treat others, work through challenges and find the aspiration to lead.”

“Jason was instrumental in the expansion of the facilities - both “Building the Vision” and the outdoor athletic fields and tennis courts. And, most recently, the purchase and renovation of the Short Journey retreat center.”

“Jason fosters a culture founded in love and gratitude. We are loved by Jason. He loves our school unconditionally - with no personal agenda.”

“What a joy it is to see the leader of our school accurately speak to what students are doing inside and outside the classroom, what they’re doing to further the mission but most importantly when he speaks of our students, he’s speaking from a place of love, he has inspired us to make sure we first love every person in our community and to treat them with respect AND love.”