

For Immediate Release

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Roman Catholic High School revitalizes its school library into a new Learning Commons on the back of a grant from Ambassador Fund for Catholic Education.

PHILADELPHIA - The Ambassador's Fund for Catholic Education awarded Roman Catholic High School a grant in the amount of \$125,000 for the 2023-24 academic/fiscal year. The funded program will help Roman revitalize its library into a fully functional Learning Commons. Matthew H. McCloskey, Jr. (1893-1973) building contractor and U.S. Ambassador to Ireland (1962-64), created and funded The Archdiocesan Educational Fund in 1967 to advance Catholic education and evangelization throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This charitable organization changed its name to the Ambassador's Fund for Catholic Education in February 2020.

When opened as part of the Renaissance in 1997, the space has served as both a library and media center for the past 26 years, helping to navigate through the ever-changing technological landscape in the classroom. Now, with the opening of the Learning Commons, the students of Roman Catholic can stay acquainted with today's innovative practices and techniques. This grant helps to continue the evolution of Roman Catholic's commitment to the advancement of technology in the classroom while strengthening its rigorous, faith-based education.

"The Learning Commons is a multi-purpose space designed to facilitate collaborative learning, research, and information sharing," Roman's Asst. Principal of Academic Affairs Chris Buck said. "It provides students, teachers, administration, and staff with the flexibility to accommodate a variety of activities from hosting guest speakers or special events to providing a place for students to study or for teachers to present lessons that require a space larger than a classroom."

The Learning Commons at Roman Catholic will promote success in student learning as its main goal by providing a range of services in a convenient location where students gather to work. The Commons is envisioned to be a full-service learning, research, and student centric collaborative project space. This level of investment is sending a message of Roman's stability, growth and expansion.