



# President

SEARCH PROSPECTUS



## NORTHWEST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

[www.northwestcatholic.org](http://www.northwestcatholic.org)

START DATE - JULY 2024



*In lumine tuo  
videbimus lumen*

*In Your light, we  
shall see light*



## ABOUT NORTHWEST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Northwest Catholic High School is the school where you know you belong. It is located in the beautiful town of West Hartford, CT, ranked #15 in Best Places to Live in the U.S. Since its dedication on September 24, 1961, it has been maintained in the Catholic educational tradition and has been home to a vibrant, diverse, academically-driven, service-oriented community forming young men and women into leaders who view their gifts and talents as meaningful expressions of faith. Students are challenged to embrace diversity and pursue excellence, and graduates measure success by how deeply they have rooted their lives in service that promotes justice in an increasingly complex global society. For three years in a row, NWC has been ranked #1 Catholic School in Hartford County.

The school is accredited by the New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (NEASC) and the Connecticut State Department of Education and is an active member of the Connecticut Association of Independent Schools, NCEA, NAIS, NASSP, and CAS.

NWC offers a comprehensive and challenging academic program, including 16 Advanced Placement courses as well as three Early College Experience (ECE) courses in collaboration with the University of St. Joseph. With the help of experienced counselors, students build an ambitious course of study. 98% of NWC graduates continue on to colleges and universities across the country, many with merit-based scholarships, highlighting the degree of preparation and quality of instruction offered at the School. Faith and service at NWC grow out of its rigorous academic program and focus on leadership formation.

The President reports to the Archdiocesan Center for Catholic Education and Formation and leads an advisory board comprised of 11 dedicated individuals who provide guidance and recommendations relative to Catholic mission, recruitment, advancement, finance, strategic planning, and governance.



## FAST FACTS

NICHE®

#1

Ranked Catholic  
School in Greater  
Harford by Niche.com  
Three Years in  
Succession



403

Student Enrollment



51

Diverse Towns and  
Communities Where  
Students Live



74%

Faculty With  
Advanced Degrees

## Mission

We are a diverse, Catholic, co-ed, college preparatory community. We educate the whole person, mind, body, spirit, and imagination. We develop leaders who faithfully serve God and others.

## Core Values

- Faith
- Respect
- Diverse Community
- Leadership and Service
- Education of the Whole Person

These values are the cornerstones on which all decisions are made.



## Graduate Profile

**INTELLECTUALLY CURIOUS** and academically excellent.

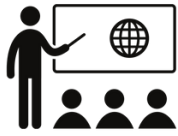
**SPIRITUALLY AWARE** and exploring a relationship with God.

**A COMPASSIONATE LEADER** who seeks to serve others and promote justice.

**COMMUNITY FOCUSED** and growing as a member of the NWC family.

**A WHOLE PERSON** who is developing mind, body, spirit, and imagination.

## FAST FACTS



**20:1**

Student-Teacher  
Ratio



**\$1.1M+**

Financial Aid Awarded  
Annually



**\$3M+**

Amount Raised 2023-  
2024 Northwest  
Catholic Fund



**10K+**

NWC Alumni Around  
the Globe



### ***"Vision 2021" Strategic Plan***

The school has enjoyed additions and renovations over the past 60 years, and since its founding, it has maintained its functional, simple beauty. Today, it is positioned for growth.

The Northwest Catholic Vision 2021 strategic plan outlined a \$3.5 million multi-phased plan whose primary goal is the long-term sustainability of Northwest Catholic in every critical strategic area. They recently completed the installation of new turf fields and are currently working on renovating science labs.

### ***The Student Experience***

A Northwest Catholic education is preparation for life. Students from 51 towns in Connecticut and Massachusetts, as well as foreign nations, represent a diverse population unmatched by Connecticut's public schools. Alumni remark that Northwest Catholic's multiracial, multicultural, and economically diverse community prepared them for life. Many say the opportunity to learn, play, pray, and grow beside peers from different walks of life taught them about acceptance, cooperation, and the importance of celebrating diversity. They continue onto college and the workplace, prepared to collaborate with colleagues from across the globe.

---

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Northwest Catholic offers an outstanding college-preparatory curriculum rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition of faith in dialogue with reason. Offering a large array of advanced courses in both the humanities and STEM, the school prepares students to be well-rounded individuals ready for the challenges of college study.

The faculty and staff at Northwest Catholic are lifelong learners committed to excellence, guiding students to knowledge while developing the skills required to succeed at the next level. Through the use of differentiated teaching methods, technology, and personal experience, teachers engage and challenge students to think critically, creatively, and collaboratively. NWC students consistently outperform national and state averages in college readiness and Advanced Placement exams, attending prestigious colleges and universities around the country.

The core of the course of study at Northwest Catholic includes English, Fine Arts, Mathematics, Religion, Physical Education, Religion, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. 16 AP, 37 Honors, and 3 ECE courses are available to students.

The school also incorporates leadership development and Christian service into the curriculum through the LEADS program (Leadership, Engagement, Accountability, Determination, and Service) and classes like ACTS, A Chance to Serve, and the Honors Institute for Leadership in Life (HILL). The goal is to prepare NWC students to be leaders of high moral character, guided by their faith, prepared to serve God and others.

## SPIRITUALITY, CAMPUS MINISTRY, AND CHRISTIAN SERVICE

NWC provides a unique educational experience steeped in tradition and based on values. Students are encouraged to know, love, and serve God, to follow Jesus, to love others as Jesus loves them, and to empower others to do the same. NWC cultivates servant leaders and welcomes students of all faiths and at all stages of their journey. Through experiences both in and out of the classroom, all students are encouraged to be intentional in their faith journey.

Campus Ministry creates space for students to grow in fellowship and community, invites students to deepen their faith through prayer and retreat, and challenges students to put their faith into action by serving the community and bringing Christ's light into the world.





---

---

## FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS



Northwest Catholic's Fine & Performing Arts Program rivals the largest public and private schools in the State. Whether it is in the classroom, with 28 courses to choose from, or after school, with clubs ranging from Dramateurs to Muse, Northwest Catholic invites students to pursue their interests in the fine and performing arts.

Eight experienced faculty members, all professionals in their fields, champion the arts at NWC and guide students, beginner to expert.

## ATHLETICS, CLUBS, AND ACTIVITIES



Northwest Catholic has a long and proud history as an athletic powerhouse. With 48 State Championships on the books, Northwest Catholic carries on the tradition of sportsmanship and success.

NWC athletics emphasizes sacrifice, self-discipline, and dedication. Student-athletes demonstrate good sportsmanship, emotional control, dependability, and respect. Through sports, they learn about cooperation, decision-making, and healthy living. Most importantly, student-athletes learn to work with peers from all walks of life. Students may choose from 20 interscholastic athletic sports. Since 2010, almost 200 student-athletes have graduated from NWC and gone on to compete at the collegiate level.

Northwest Catholic offers 26 after-school clubs and activities that enhance the student experience and offers eleven summer sports camps that keep the campus abuzz year-round.

---

## OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

This is an exciting time for Northwest Catholic High School. The school recently celebrated its 60th anniversary with enthusiastic alumni and community support. The current leadership team has conducted a full mission and strategic planning review of all levels of the institution. This two-year process has resulted in a clear statement of mission, values, graduate profile, and strategic and master plan of facilities.

The Catholic mission and community ethos of Northwest Catholic is strong. Its reputation for faith, service, leadership, diverse community, a superior college preparatory, and a rich co-curricular program is well known.



The community ethos of Northwest Catholic is quite exceptional, with a high-performing student body with a distinctly welcoming and authentic spirit. One cannot attend a Monday morning Convocation at NWC or walk down the halls without feeling the warmth and pride of this wonderfully diverse Catholic high school community.

The next President of Northwest Catholic will be expected to celebrate and maintain this extraordinary culture and continue enriching the experience for all constituents. With the start of the 2024-25 school year, the school's administrative leadership structure reverted to the traditional President-Principal-Associate Principal model.

The school is in the fourth year of a promising five-year plan, and key indicators are trending upward. The next President will have an opportunity to review the strategic plan in the current market context and validate its core priorities while adapting to new challenges and opportunities. An immediate strategic opportunity is the ten-year NEASC accreditation, which will allow the community to validate its mission in self-study.

It is also important to point out that Northwest Catholic High School is a relatively young school in the philanthropic realm. Just completing its 60th anniversary, there is a felt sense of turning toward a new era of opportunity and development. The next President will be building on a solid foundation and Catholic brand.



---

---

## OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES, CONTINUED

The next President of Northwest Catholic will inherit a community that has a strong sense of its mission and vision, and who are ready to take the school to the next level of excellence. The next President of Northwest will require discipline, focus, and a commitment to securing all necessary resources to make the extraordinary outcomes of the strategic and master plans possible. Fundraising and advancement of the school in the marketplace will, therefore, be a top priority in the coming years. The NWC board and the Archdiocese of Hartford are fully prepared to support this effort.

NWC has developed a preliminary case for an extremely compelling capital campaign for the school's 60th anniversary. The school received \$3.5 million in gifts in support of its *Vision 2021 Strategic Plan* for facilities enhancements, like new turf fields. The school has a mature base of alumni benefactors and advisors who stand at the ready to support a vibrant new President and Head of the School.

The next President of NWC will have an opportunity to preside over an era of visionary development and growth in ensuring the future, forming the whole person, and enhancing the campus. This is a rare and exceptional opportunity to raise the profile and value proposition of Northwest Catholic High School and to reinforce the school's Catholic mission as a high-performing, welcoming, and diverse college preparatory environment.





---

## DESIRED QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

As NWC enters the next phase in its extraordinary history, the school seeks a fundamentally collaborative servant leader with the heart of an educator and the head of a business and organizational leader. The next President will need to be an entrepreneurial and generative leader with outstanding communication skills who can partner with the board and other key constituents and alumni in executing the current strategic and master plans. The next President will inherit an outstanding faculty and leadership team that is eager to welcome and support a dedicated, mission-focused leader. The ideal candidate will possess the following qualities and qualifications:

- A faith-filled practicing Catholic with vision and energy who will embrace and promote the school's powerful Catholic mission, values, and traditions while modeling those values in his/her daily leadership practice is required.
- A mission-driven leader with a demonstrated understanding, respect, and support for the critical role Catholic schools play in the evangelizing mission of the Church and the significant impact Catholic education has on students, their families, and their communities.
- A high-profile, relational manager who will serve as the outward-facing leader and chief advancement officer of the school, elevating its profile, advancing its mission, managing its business and financial matters, increasing its endowment, improving its infrastructure, and executing its comprehensive strategic and master plans.
- A commitment to academic excellence.
- A commitment to student diversity, equity, and inclusion.

This is a time of great promise for NWC. The board welcomes candidates from other Catholic or independent schools, as well as accomplished professionals from other mission-critical career venues such as higher education, non-profit foundations, associations, charities, and the like, as well as other corporate, civic, and professional services arenas. While knowledge of education and school operations is preferred, other qualities and experiences are also valued, especially visionary, entrepreneurial leadership, and the ability to inspire all constituencies, lead a high-performing team, and create demand for the unique gifts of Northwest Catholic High School.





## ABOUT THE AREA

Even as one of the oldest metro areas in America, Hartford, Connecticut, has a lot to offer, both old and new.

Located in the Connecticut River Valley, the Greater Hartford area has many cultural gems hidden amid rolling hills and wooded neighborhoods. In the centuries since its founding, the region has been home to several notable historical figures, including renowned authors Mark Twain and Harriet Beecher Stowe. Today, Hartford's central business district is home to a number of historic attractions and entertainment venues, and nearby vineyards, state parks, and ski slopes provide plenty of recreational opportunities throughout the year.

With a metro population of 1.2 million people, the Hartford area attracts people from all walks of life, and its population is fairly diverse. The surrounding suburbs are great alternatives to urban living for families.

Nicknamed the "Insurance Capital of the World", it hosts many insurance company headquarters and is the region's major industry. Other prominent industries include the services, education, and healthcare industries.





---

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply, please submit the following four documents, confidentially and as separate PDF attachments.

- Cover letter that aligns your experiences and skill sets with the current needs of the school as you understand them.
- Statement of Catholic educational leadership philosophy.
- Current resume with all appropriate dates included.
- List of five references to include names, relationships, phone numbers, and email addresses. References will not be contacted without your knowledge and approval.
- Please include Northwest Catholic High School in the subject field.



***Assemble all of the application materials in one email to:***

Michael Furey, Partner  
mikefurey@partnersinmission.com  
(570) 730-2655 (Cell)

Partners in Mission School Leadership Search Solutions, LLC  
[www.partnersinmissionslss.com](http://www.partnersinmissionslss.com)



Partners in Mission School Leadership Search Solutions is the retained search division of Partners in Mission, the nation's leading full-service consulting firm focused exclusively on developing excellence in Catholic school advancement and leadership. As partners among ourselves and with our client's missions, we value, understand, and embrace the importance of Catholic education in our personal and professional lives — and remain committed to ensuring its strength and vitality for years to come. Engaged by religious and school communities, boards, and dioceses, our team of dedicated search consultants have identified and secured mission-driven professionals to serve in a myriad of diverse Catholic school and diocesan leadership positions from Massachusetts to Hawaii.

**[WWW.PARTNERSINMISSIONSLSS.COM](http://WWW.PARTNERSINMISSIONSLSS.COM)**