

NEWMAN *Connection*

NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' MAGAZINE FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & ALUMNI

Happy Retirement

Thank you for the love and dedication you have given to the students, families and staff of Newman Catholic Schools.



Linda McMullen
27 Years
NCES: St. Mark
Kindergarten



Kari Van Natta
36 Years
NCES: St. Mark
Art



Nancy Losinski
23 Years
NCES: St. Anne
Music



Shirley Heise
33 Years in the
Diocese of La Crosse
NCES: St. Mark
Principal



Diane Treu
40 Years
NCES: St. Mark
4th Grade



Theresa Zieglmeier
19 Years
NCES: St. Mark
Teacher Aide



Kathleen Pozorski
2 Years
NCES: St. Anne
1st Grade

May God's unfailing love and care surround you as you begin your new journey in life.

Elementary Teacher of the Year

We are excited to share that Mrs. Sue Reiche, NCES: St. Mark 2nd Grade Teacher, received the Diocese of La Crosse Elementary Teacher of the Year Award.

Sue Reiche embodies what all committed Catholic educators strive to be. She leads by example in her profession and in her community, and embraces the opportunity to support and challenge those around her. She challenges and teaches her students daily to be better learners, Catholics, and kind humans. Her use of highly effective teaching strategies, blended learning groups, peer learning, and personalized learning approaches make her a unique and valued educator. Mrs. Reiche goes above and beyond every day for her co-workers, students, parents, and faith community.

Support Staff of the Year

We are excited to share that Mrs. Theresa Zieglmeier, NCES: St. Mark Teacher Aide, received the Diocese of La Crosse Support Staff of the Year Award.

Mrs. "Z" does it all! She greets students, staff, and parents as she monitors each and every recess for all grade levels. Students love their one-on-one aide time with Mrs. Z as she reinforces classroom instruction. Through her kind heart and gentle spirit, Mrs. Z encourages us to be better educators, students, and just better human beings. She leads by her Christ-like example, always showing her positive outlook and sharing her Catholic faith. Mrs. Z is a wonderful role model and member of the community of the Diocese of La Crosse. This is the type of person God has meant for all of us to be.



Congratulations, Mrs. Reiche and Mrs. Zieglmeier! Thank you for all you do!

Newman Catholic Schools Accreditation Process

Accreditation is designed to help educational institutions boost their ongoing performance efforts for the benefit of their students, offering some assurance that they are receiving a quality education. Newman Catholic Schools (NCS) is blessed to be accredited through Wisconsin Religious & Independent Schools Accreditation (WRISA) for kindergarten through 12th grade.



This fall, NCS will complete the process to renew its accreditation through WRISA, a nonprofit organization formed in 1991 by the Wisconsin Council of Religious and Independent Schools (WCRIS) to provide non-public schools with an ongoing school improvement process. WRISA's three phase accreditation process provides school communities with the opportunity to explore every aspect of their school program, receive valuable feedback from a team of impartial professional educators, and develop a long range plan using the WRISA framework.

Faculty and staff throughout our K-12 programs are currently working through phase one, the "Self-Study", which allows each school to analyze their practices to determine how they perform within each area of review. Committees at each school have been established with a focus on analyzing how the system performs within four key domains. The domains, as laid out by Wisconsin Catholic Schools Accreditation (WCSA), consist of 13 standards designed to identify areas of strength and opportunity for NCS to build upon. Completion of the self-study prepares the system for phase two, the Accreditation Team Visit.

WCSA Domains:

- **Mission and Catholic Identity:** The Church's teaching mission includes inviting young people to a relationship with Jesus Christ, or deepening an existing relationship with Jesus, and assisting young people to see and understand the role of faith in their daily life.
- **Governance and Leadership:** The success of this mission depends on the key components of effective governance, which provides direction, authority and leadership to ensure effective operations.
- **Academic Excellence:** Ensuring that curriculum and instruction is designed to foster the intellectual development of the student and their growth as a Christian.
- **Operational Vitality:** Focuses on analyzing a school/system's ability to offer sustainable financial planning, human resource management, professional formation, facilities maintenance, advancement of mission and strong communication.

Phase Two will kick-off November 11-14, 2024, with the Accreditation Team visit. The team, made up of faculty and administrators from throughout the Diocese of La Crosse, will visit the schools/classrooms, speak with students and staff, and review the self-study documentation to determine how NCS performs within each standard. After conducting the review, the accreditation team will share with NCS the areas of success and opportunities for growth identified during their visit which will help drive the third phase in the process, planning for the future.

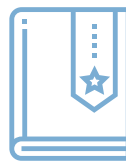
Future planning focuses on development of an updated Strategic Plan which will drive NCS forward. This past spring, a committed group of parents and alumni came together to form the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. A group whose focus was to lay the groundwork for system leadership to build upon. Through review of survey results, speaking with stakeholders and analyzing system data, the Steering Committee identified five key areas of focus while keeping the system's mission at the forefront. Key areas of focus are:



Foster a positive relationship with Parish Leaders and Non-Newman participating parishioners.



Foster and enhance a culture of respect and trust among the students, staff, parents/guardians, and community (parishes).



Align our system of excellence in student development through curriculum, instruction, and non-scholastic activities.



Continue and improve on our system of excellence in stewardship that both maintains our financial stability and enables growth.



Create/Align a robust branding and marketing strategy that blends excellence, values, and Catholic identity.

The system will continue to share updates as accreditation continues. Newman Catholic Schools is truly grateful for the dedication and commitment the faculty and staff have given as the system works through the renewal process.

Building Community Through Connection

As a system focused on helping students from early childhood to graduation, it is imperative that opportunities are created to build connections. The system is blessed to host two such events each spring, the Virtue Walk and Wausau Deanery Track Meet, which allows high school students to work with elementary and early childhood students as they grow in faith and community.

Virtue Walk:

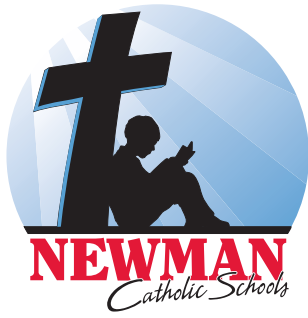
Focused on helping students embrace the virtues of our Catholic faith. NCHS students hosted stations for students from NCES: St. Anne and NCECC: St. Michael to visit and learn about each virtue. What a glorious day to grow together in faith!



Wausau Deanery Track Meet:

4th & 5th Graders from across the Wausau Deanery had fun while celebrating the gifts God gave them.





Newman Catholic Schools
1130 W Bridge Street
Wausau, WI 54401



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