



WELCOME: Welcome to the parents of our newest students who will be entering Catholic High School as eighth graders, freshmen, and upper classmen. We look forward to a productive partnership with you during your son's time at CHS.

CATHOLIC HIGH NEWSLETTER: This monthly newsletter is our primary means of communication with parents. I encourage parents to share the newsletter with their sons.

Principal newsletters are also available through the Catholic High website (www.catholichigh.org). Important information is contained in the monthly newsletter, and I urge you to read it carefully.

PARTNERS IN MISSION: In 2019, the United States Province of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart published *Partners in Mission*. This document articulates the educational philosophy of schools operating in the Brothers' charism (the spirit of the order) and was written to share their rich tradition with the lay men and women who are partners in their educational endeavor. As such, *Partners in Mission* guides the operation of Catholic High. According to this document, the Brothers' tradition focuses on "holistic education rooted in religious values, structured through friendly discipline, nurtured by personal attention and committed to academic excellence."

As parents, you are the primary educators of your children. We thank you for giving us the opportunity to work along with you in educating your son. Together we can achieve the mission of Catholic High "to teach Gospel values in an environment of academic excellence according to Catholic tradition and the spirit of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart."

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING: If your son will not be returning to Catholic High for the 2025-2026 school year, and you have not done so already, please contact Tammy Feduccia, Administrative Assistant to the Principal tfeduccia@catholichigh.org

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Office hours during the summer are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. in June. In July office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to noon on Fridays. We will resume regular office hours (7 a.m. until 4 p.m.) on Monday, July 28. Our offices will be closed on Thursday, July 3, and Friday July 4.

NEW STUDENT RETREAT AND COMPUTER ROLLOUT: Students new to CHS for the 2025-2026 school year must attend the New Student Retreat on Thursday, July 31 and Computer Rollout, and Friday, August 1. The retreat will focus on school culture issues like the Charism of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, personal religious faith, respect for the dignity of each individual, and

brotherhood. Our hope is starting with this focus will help our new Bears transition smoothly into our school community. The remainder of our time will be spent on our 1:1 laptop program. Each student is issued a laptop computer for daily use both in the classroom and at home. We are in our eleventh year of integrating technology into daily instruction, and this integration is now a standard part of academic excellence at CHS. Workshop sessions will take place from 8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. each day. Student attendance at these sessions is mandatory. Lunch will be provided.

A \$40 fee will be charged to your July FACTS account to cover the costs, including lunch, associated with the workshop. If previous plans prevent your son from attending, students will make up the workshop sessions on August 6 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. If your son must attend the make-up session on August 6, please email Tammy Feduccia at tfeduccia@catholichigh.org

Please note: returning CHS students that were in the 8th grade for the 2024-2025 school year are required to attend the New Student Retreat on July 31, but do not have to attend Computer Rollout on Aug. 1.

BEAR CLAWS FOR BREAKFAST:

Immediately prior to the New Student Retreat on July 31, new students and their parents are invited to attend our Bear Claws for Breakfast social from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. in the Bro. Donnan Berry, S.C. Student Center. After the social, students will be dismissed to begin their retreat, and parents are invited to remain in the Student Center for a presentation about all aspects of technology at CHS, as well as issues concerning student health and well-being, including social media, substance use, and pornography.

Although not mandatory for parents, I highly encourage all parents to attend this meeting. Parents who attend this meeting will not be required to attend one of the mandatory “Guilty at an Age” programs held later in the fall.

CELL PHONE POLICY CHANGE:

In order to discourage distractions and encourage face to face interaction among our students Catholic High School is making a couple of changes to our cell phone policy. You will see the new policy in the 2025-2026 handbook, but I want parents and students to be aware of the changes well ahead of the beginning of school. Students will no longer be allowed to be on their phones outside of buildings before the beginning of the school day. Students’ phones should be off and stored in a booksack upon arrival at school. If students have a locker, they may store the phone in their locker. At no time should a phone be in a student’s pocket.

Students may turn on their phones and use them outside of buildings once the school day has ended. Consequences for not following our phone policy include CHS holding the phone for 48 hours, 5 days of detention, and the phone being searched at the discretion of the Assistant Principal for Discipline.

STUDENT SCHEDULES: In January, students completed on-line course selections for the 2025-2026 school year. Students received course verification sheets in early March to ensure that the courses listed were correct and to provide an opportunity for students to request changes. Requests for changes were considered if they met departmental requirements and if there was available space in the courses requested. Schedules showing the courses listed will be available through PlusPortals. You will receive an email over the summer directing you to the schedules. Please be sure you have activated your PlusPortals

account by the time schedules are ready in late July.

TUITION PAYMENT PROCESS: For 2025-2026, all CHS tuition payments will again be processed through FACTS Management Company. Parents have the option of selecting a monthly, semi-annual, or annual payment plan, and as has always been the case, CHS tuition payments are interest free. Each family must establish an individual FACTS account with an active payment plan to process tuition payments.

CHS tuition for 2025-2026 is \$13,800. In addition, there is a \$500 graduation and retreat fee due for seniors in the class of 2026, and a \$500 re-registration fee (for 2026--2027) for all underclassmen. Therefore, the total of \$14,300 will be charged through FACTS. Additional course fees will be charged for Advanced Placement, Online PE, Dual Enrollment and Band courses, as well as other incremental fees incurred throughout the year by students.

Monthly Payment Plan—Families who choose the monthly payment plan will pay tuition in 12 equal installment payments beginning in June 2025 and continuing through May 2026. Families may select either the 3rd or 15th of each month as their scheduled payment date. In cases where the 3rd or the 15th falls on weekends or holidays, the scheduled draft will be processed on the next banking day. FACTS charges a one-time per year \$50 fee for this installment plan.

Semi-Annual Payment Plan—Families who choose the semi-annual payment plan will pay tuition in two equal installment payments—July 3 and December 4, 2025. FACTS charges a one-time per year \$20 fee for this installment plan.

Annual Payment Plan—Families who choose the annual tuition payment plan will pay tuition in one installment on July 3, 2025. FACTS charges a one-time per year \$20 fee for this installment plan.

All parents of returning students should have already set up FACTS tuition accounts and payment plans. **If you have not done so, please do so immediately.**

Also, if a student's tuition account at any time becomes two months or more past due, he is subject to suspension from classes and exams until the outstanding balance has been paid. Any exceptions must be approved by the CHS President.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE: Orientation for all students will take place on Wednesday, August 6, and Thursday, August 7. Your son must be present for orientation at his assigned time. Corrective measures will result from unexcused orientation absences. Contact Tracy Ducote at tducote@catholichigh.org with questions.

Students must be checked in and seated in the wrestling room by the arrival time listed below:

2025 - 2026 Orientation Schedule

Wednesday, August 6		
Grade	Arrival Time	Alpha Listing
8th	8:00 a.m.	A-H
	8:30 a.m.	I-Z
9th	9:00 a.m.	A-B
	9:30 a.m.	C-F
	10:00 a.m.	G-K
	10:30 a.m.	L-P
	11:00 a.m.	Q-S
	11:30 a.m.	T-Z

11th	12:30 p.m.	A-C
	1:00 p.m.	D-H
	1:30 p.m.	I-Mi
	2:00 p.m.	Mo-R
	2:30 p.m.	S-Z
Thursday, August 7		
Grade	Arrival Time	Alpha Listing
12th	8:00 a.m.	A-Ce
	8:30 a.m.	Ch-F
	9:00 a.m.	G-La
	9:30 a.m.	Le-O
	10:00 a.m.	P-Sp
	10:30 a.m.	St-Z
10 th	11:30 a.m.	A-B
	12:00 p.m.	C-E
	12:30 p.m.	F-Hi
	1:00 p.m.	Ho-L
	1:30 p.m.	M-P
	2:00 p.m.	Q-So
	2:30 p.m.	St-Z

If you are bringing your son to Catholic High for his orientation, we welcome you to come into the Student Center and relax while orientation is in process, but please allow your son to complete orientation himself, unaccompanied by you. The process typically lasts about an hour. Thanks for your understanding in this matter.

Payment for Orientation Fees: Later this summer each parent will receive an email with estimated orientation fees based on their son's schedule. Some fees will be charged to your son's account automatically. Parents will need to deposit sufficient funds for orientation, including an initial deposit for lunch, through myCHS by July 25th. Note: Many students attend CHS programs over the summer and use their school debit account to purchase food items in the

Brother Donnan Berry, S.C. Student Center. Therefore, parents may see a negative balance on their son's myCHS account. This balance must be paid before orientation to bring the student's account up to date.

DEBIT CARD BALANCES FOR CURRENT STUDENTS: Positive balances on returning students' debit card accounts from the 2024-2025 school year will be carried into the 2025-2026 school year. This balance will be applied toward your son's minimum deposit at orientation.

DRESS AND GROOMING FOR ORIENTATION: School pictures will be taken at orientation, so all students are required to wear a coat and tie on the day of their orientation and to be properly groomed. If your son does not have a coat, he may come with a dress shirt and tie and we will provide a coat for the picture.

It is particularly important that your son's hairstyle meet CHS grooming requirements. If your son's hairstyle does not meet CHS grooming requirements, he will not be allowed to complete the orientation procedure; in effect, he will be suspended from school until he has an acceptable haircut. We plan to provide a barber on campus to cut hair when needed for a fee of \$20. If your son uses the on-campus barber, the fee will be added to his check-out sheet at registration. If you have any questions about a hairstyle or whether or not it will be acceptable at CHS, please contact Mr. Doug Logsdon, assistant principal for discipline, for an appointment. Please call him in advance of your visit so he can be available.

SENIORS: Seniors will take school pictures at orientation for their ID and other school use in addition to the formal portraits (tuxedo/cap and gown) taken by Brad Messina Photography. Details about these portraits were included in the email sent from Events Coordinator Tracy

Ducote to junior parents on April 14th. Appointments are available now and may be scheduled by visiting <http://www.bradmessinaphoto.com/seniors.html>. Please begin coordinating summer workouts and family vacations. The deadline for formal portraits is October 31st.

Senior Parent Meeting

Parents of the CHS Class of 2026, please mark your calendars for the Senior Parent Meeting “What to Expect When You Have a Senior at Catholic High” which will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 6 p.m. in the CHS Gym. This is an important meeting and will help make your son’s senior year easier to navigate. Contact Tracy Ducote, tducote@catholichigh.org, with any questions.

PARKING FOR 2025-2026 [From Doug

Logsdon]: Only those students who pay parking fees will be allowed to park in either the school’s Main Parking Lot or the Westmoreland Parking Lot. Security is provided in both lots to help ensure the safety of our students and their vehicles. The CHS Board of Directors has set the parking fee for the 2025-2026 school year at \$325. Seniors, juniors and sophomores will be able to purchase parking passes during student orientation. Parking registration will be emailed in July to seniors first, then juniors, and then lastly sophomores. Registration must be completed by the deadline to receive a parking tag during orientation. Freshmen are not allowed to park in either lot and should plan accordingly. If your student plans on parking in the neighborhood, he must receive permission from the homeowner to do so and he and the homeowner must complete the CHS neighborhood parking agreement. Please email Mrs. Melanie Smith at Mesmith@catholichigh.org to get a copy of the neighborhood parking agreement. If you have questions about student parking, please contact me.

FIRST DAY FOR 8TH AND 9TH

GRADERS: Friday, August 8, will be a special day of school designed exclusively for our 8th and 9th graders. 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students are not to report to school. This special day for new students is designed to acquaint them with Catholic High in an atmosphere that is less hectic than a day with the full student body in attendance. We will begin with a liturgy for all 8th and 9th graders at 7:30 a.m. We will run a full schedule of shortened classes. Lunch will be served. Students must have their ID/debit cards (that they will have received at orientation) for this first day of school. Students will be dismissed from classes at 2:47 p.m. but are encouraged to stay after school for the Freshmen Social that will include the freshmen at SJA. The Freshman Social will end at approximately 4:15 p.m. Whether your son is going home after class, or after the Freshmen Social, he should be picked up in either of our normal carpool locations: the Claycut Circle, or the Hearthstone Circle.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL AFTERNOON: Our “Back-To-School Afternoon” will be held on Sunday, August 17, from 3:45-6:30 p.m. Additional details will be included in the August *Catholic High Newsletter*. Please mark your calendar for this important event.

COUNSELING CENTER INFORMATION:

At the beginning of each school year, the Counseling Center will provide teachers with a confidential “Support Services List” containing the names of students who have special health concerns or diagnosed learning differences. For a student with learning differences to be on this list and receive any classroom accommodations (such as extended time for testing or special seating), a copy of the student’s psycho-educational evaluation must be kept on file in the Counseling Center. The evaluation must have been conducted within 3 years of the student’s CHS

enrollment. For a student with special health issues, a note from his physician is required.

Please note that elementary schools do not transfer documentation of learning needs to the student's high school. Therefore, parents of incoming eighth graders, freshmen and new upperclassmen need to supply that documentation to CHS. Please send all documentation to the Counseling Center by Friday, July 25, 2025. Please email documentation to Robin Talamo at rtalamo@catholichigh.org

If you suspect that your son has a learning difference, but he does not have a psychoeducational evaluation, please contact the Counseling Center for affordable testing options.

If a student's name appears on the Support Services List, it is his responsibility to talk to each of his teachers about his health concern or learning difference. If you have any questions regarding this practice or any other concern regarding your son, please contact the Counseling Center.

CHS MENS CLUB: CHS MEN'S CLUB

The 90th Annual Men's Club Stag Barbecue will be held on Saturday, August 23, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. in the Brother Donnan Berry SC Student Center. Take out is available from the Student Center Kenmore parking lot from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Purchase tickets [Here](#) for \$30.00 each (tickets purchased the day of the event are \$35.00). See the Men's Club page of the CHS website for more information, or contact Barbecue Chairman Jack Dirks at chsmensclub@gmail.com for information on volunteering to help.

HAVE AWONDERFUL, RELAXING AND PRODUCTIVE SUMMER: I hope that you and your family are enjoying a wonderful summer. Please know of my continued

prayers for your families, especially for your sons. The August issue of the *Catholic High Principal's Newsletter* will be available in late July.