



Diocese of Charlotte

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**Office of Catholic Schools**

**Linda L. Cherry**  
Superintendent of Schools

March 17, 2010

Dear Parents, Teachers, Staff Members, Clergy and Pastoral Center Staff,

Over the last four days a team of distinguished Catholic school leaders from six Dioceses were in Charlotte to assess and review our Catholic Schools Office for District Accreditation.

This afternoon they held their exit meeting with a report and we are proud to announce they are recommending the Diocese of Charlotte Catholic School System as an exemplary program for District Accreditation through Advanc-Ed/SACS-CASI.

The team will send their written report with commendations and recommendations within thirty days. They will submit the final report to AdvancEd, which will review the team recommendation at their June meeting. Once the final accreditation is awarded by AdvancEd, we will receive the full report to publish on our web-site.

I want to thank the Accreditation Steering Committee, which was chaired by Dr. Janice Ritter, Assistant Superintendent of Schools. The Committee began their work over eighteen months ago and with the assistance of principals, assistant principals, teachers, parents and students presented the information in written and interview format to the visiting team. The committee members are:

Janice Ritter, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Bob Belcher, Director of Admissions-Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School  
Carole Breerwood, Principal-Immaculata Catholic School  
Tony DiDonato, Social Studies Chair and Teacher-Charlotte Catholic High School  
Mike Ford, Director of Marketing-Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools  
Christine Hurley, Library Media Coordinator-St. Leo Catholic School  
Anne Knapke, Principal-Saint Pius X Catholic School  
Peggy Mazzola, Principal-Saint Ann Catholic School  
Kathy McKinney, Assistant Principal-Saint Matthew Catholic School  
Sandy McMonagle, Retired Principal-Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School  
Joe Puceta, Principal-Saint Michael Catholic School  
Allana-Rae Ramkissoon, Principal-Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School  
Georgette Schraeder, Principal-Saint Leo Catholic School

Thank you to the many teachers, principals, parents, board members, priests and students who met with the team. The highest commendation we received was the strength of our Catholic identity, which was reported by all constituent groups. The highlight of the report for me was hearing our students shared that our “Catholic identity is who we are-it is how we treat each other and care for others no matter where they live”. How proud we all should be that the message of our mission and vision is shared by those whom we are entrusted to teach.

It has been a busy week- Saint Patrick’s Day, Saint Joseph’s Day, Lenten services, Accreditation- and for some reason they all meld together as we celebrate being Catholic within the Diocese of Charlotte.

May God continue to bless your Lenten journey and your support of Catholic schools.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Linda L. Cherry  
Superintendent of Schools  
Diocese of Charlotte

***VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE  
DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA***

*Catholic Schools, founded on the person and message of Jesus Christ, provide quality teaching and learning through traditional and innovative educational programs infused with Catholic teachings. Students learn to serve and support parish life, in addition to local and global communities. They grow as persons who are spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially prepared to live and serve in a changing society, as self-respecting and responsible citizens. Catholic Schools recognize and appreciate parents as the primary educators of their children.*

*The mission of the Catholic Schools Office is to advance Catholic education in the Diocese of Charlotte by providing service, support, guidance, and direction to principals, pastors, teachers, board members, parents, students, and other stakeholders.*