



Diocese of Charlotte

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**Office of Catholic Schools**

**Linda L. Cherry**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

November 6, 2007

Dear Parents, Teachers, and Staff Members,

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.

At a time when many dioceses across the country are experiencing consolidations and/or closing of schools, the Diocese of Charlotte is growing and so is enrollment in our schools. To ensure our continued success and to help us achieve the goal of making Catholic school education available to all we have engaged Catholic Education Consulting Services to conduct a long –range planning study. This study will take place over the next 12 to 16 months and will result in recommendations to help

- determine where new schools are needed to optimize enrollment and provide Catholic school education for families who want it;
- determine which parishes have students who would attend a Catholic school if facilities were available;
- identify alternative school models and governance options;
- identify financing options that will make Catholic Schools affordable to all;
- determine the optimal capacity of each school and determine if each student is guaranteed a seat for the duration of his/her education;
- determine the most efficient and cost-effective transportation options for students in the diocese.

During this study, Catholic Education Services will visit all of our schools and will interview pastors, administrators, support personnel and key members of the Catholic community.

I am pleased to chair the steering committee for this study composed of the following individuals:

- Monsignor Mauricio West – Vicar General and Chancellor, Diocese of Charlotte
- Wayne Wilson – President – Diocesan School Board
- George Cobb – Director of Planning and Research, Diocese of Charlotte
- Mary Ognovich – Long Range Planning Chair, MACS School Board
- Michael Ford – Director of Marketing and Communications, Catholic Schools Office
- Julia Cogburn – Strategic Planning Chair, Diocesan School Board

Please join me in prayer for the successful completion of this effort. The implementation of long-term plans will enable us to meet the goal of making Catholic Education accessible and affordable to all Catholic families within the diocese – now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Linda L. Cherry  
Superintendent of Schools  
Diocese of Charlotte