



SUPERINTENDENT of SCHOOLS
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NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Archdiocese of New York Announces 2009-2010 Census

October 8, 2009, New York, NY – The number of students enrolled in Catholic elementary and high schools in the Archdiocese of New York for the 2009-2010 school year is 83,789. This number represents a loss of 4,573 students from the 2008-2009 enrollment of 88,362. Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New York include 216 elementary schools, 55 high schools, and 8 special education programs.

Today, despite their strong history of academic excellence, Catholic schools continue to face significant financial challenges resulting from their difficulties in keeping up with rising costs. Yet, despite enrollment declines, Archdiocesan schools posted impressive gains in the 2009 New York State English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematic Assessment results compared to the previous year.

“The negative economy has hit New Yorkers very hard, and many of our families struggle to pay tuition while dealing with the loss of a job or other financial hardships. However, it is clear that we have to work harder to communicate the lifelong value of a Catholic education to families in the greater metropolitan area,” reported Dr. Timothy J. McNiff, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of New York. “Our academic success rate is impressive with ninety-six percent of our inner-city school students continuing on to college. That statistic is even higher in the suburbs. Our students have made a positive impact in their families, their parishes and communities, and in the larger world over the years. It is no surprise that the core precepts of Catholic education, especially the structured and respectful values-based environment found at our schools, have been adopted as best practices by charter and private schools all across the country.”

Pathways to Excellence, the comprehensive strategic planning process initiated in January 2009, is guided by the leadership of Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, and is one of the many proactive steps being taken by the Superintendent of Schools to identify both short and long term strategies for Catholic schools to remain viable, academically excellent and affordable to families throughout the Archdiocese.

The Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of New York has oversight of 279 Catholic elementary and high schools and special education programs in ten counties including Manhattan, Staten Island, Bronx, Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan and Ulster. For more information about Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New York, please see: www.adnyeducation.org.