



CARDINAL RITTER HIGH SCHOOL

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Message from the President

On July 1st, the much talked about law that will provide state support for some families choosing private education becomes effective. Since early May, the Department of Education has been very busy preparing for the implementation of this law and has regularly released information on the rules, regulations and forms that will be used. We have closely followed this process in order to gain a full understanding of both the administration and overall impact this law will have on the school and our school community. Through this careful evaluation, we have determined that this program will directly benefit many of our current and future families and will have a positive affect on the school overall. Based on this analysis, we have decided that Cardinal Ritter High School will fully participate in the program.

It is very important to note that we will not deviate from the mission of the school with this decision to participate in the school choice program. As always, we will work diligently to find the best options to provide the opportunity to experience and receive a Catholic education. The law has been written to allow schools to maintain their own admissions policies and we will always have a higher entrance priority for Catholic families along with those families with children currently enrolled. We will treat students receiving state support no different than any of our students in regards to academics, discipline and most importantly, faith development.

In the coming weeks, we will be communicating with families who are potentially eligible to receive this tuition support from the state. Eligibility is based on the status of both the student and family household. Determination of eligibility can be complicated and we are very open to work with you to determine if your student qualifies. Please contact the school, the business office or myself as we are most willing to assist in this process. The application process for these choice scholarships, which must be submitted by the school, will not be released by the state until mid-July. Once opened, the window to apply will be active until September 16th or the first 7,500 applicants are received which ever comes first. We are planning to provide ample timing and resources to accomplish this task and will make the necessary arrangements with families so that no one is missed.

The potential impact on school funding that this law provides will be opportunities that we must properly capitalize on. In future messages, I will note how we plan to approach each aspect and attempt to realize benefits that will affect all families. In the meantime, I welcome your questions and concerns which will be useful to us in properly communicating this program.

Gregory Perkins
President