

St. John Bosco Schools – Chesterton Academy of Rochester

Catholic Education Honor Roll Application 2018-2023

- 1. Enter the school's website.** www.chestertonacademyofrochester.org
- 2. What is the school's mission statement?** The mission of Chesterton Academy is to raise up a generation of joyful leaders and saints, educated in the classical tradition and the truths of the Catholic faith, abounding in the skills and character requisite for success in college and professional life, and to excel in service of family, of country, and of Christ our Lord.
- 3. What is the school's educational philosophy?** At Chesterton Academy, we partner with parents to assist students in learning and experiencing the plan God has established for His children. We do this through our Three Pillars Model, which encompasses: the development of strong intellectual habits of the mind; a focus on character growth and leadership; and an emphasis on learning spiritual truth and practicing it. Everything we do at Chesterton is directed towards these three pillars and helping our students lay a firm foundation as they step into adulthood. Our goal is that after four years of living the three pillars model, our students have the character, knowledge, spiritual depth they need to lead lives as joyful apostles of Christ.
- 4. Select the response that describes the "type" of school.** Independent
- 5. In which diocese is the school located?** Rochester, NY.
- 6. What is the governing model?** Board of Trustees or Directors

Additional details

7a. How many Board members do you have?	9
7b. How many Board members are Catholic?	9

Professional Staff

8a. What is the total number of full- time (>30 hours) teaching faculty? (Note: The count should include administrators who currently teach.)	16
8b. Percentage of full-time faculty who are practicing Catholics?	100
8c. What is the total number of part- time faculty (< 30 hours)?	5
8d. Percentage of the part-time faculty who are practicing Catholics?	100

Number of faculty and staff who are:

	Not Available	Full-time (> = 30 hours)	Part-time(<30 hours)
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9a. Religious sisters	X	0	0
9b. Religious brothers	X	0	0
9c. Members of the clergy	X	1	2

10. Which of the following are explicitly stated in the school's mission statement, policies, or publications?

The school is a place of encountering God and his love and truth.

The school has Christ as its foundation.

The school is a community united with the Church.

The school is faithful to the Magisterium.

The school provides frequent opportunities for prayer, sacred scripture, and the Church's liturgical and sacramental traditions.

The school engages in the integral formation of the human person - spiritual, intellectual, and physical.

The school presents a Christian worldview of humanity emphasizing the dignity of the human person.

The school transmits culture in the light of faith.

The school prepares students to be instruments of evangelization.

11. Personnel and other policies are consistent with Catholic teachings and the Church's mission for Catholic education. Yes

12. Evaluation of personnel takes into account their commitment to the mission and Catholic identity of the school.

Administrators	Yes
Faculty	Yes
Staff	Yes

13. Additional Information

13a. The Church's mission for Catholic education guides strategic planning and school improvement.	Strongly agree
13b. The school is effective in advancing the Church's mission of evangelization of students.	Strongly agree
13c. The school protects the mission of Catholic education in light of new educational paradigms, consumerist demands, government interference, and threats to religious freedom.	Strongly agree

13d. The school's Catholic identity is prominently featured in marketing materials and publications.

Strongly agree

14. Describe how the school evaluates its institutional commitment to the Church's teaching on the divine mission of Catholic education. Every institutional decision is made in the light of Catholic teaching. The common sense mode of operation is "don't reinvent the wheel," but we have found that often the wheel isn't functioning as a wheel ought. So we consciously evaluate our actions in terms of their purpose within the Catholic understanding of our lives and this work of education.

15. The school ensures that operations are faithful to the Code of Canon Law, Catechism of the Catholic Church, and other magisterial teachings of the Church. Yes

16. The school community serves, supports, and participates in the activities of the local church. Strongly agree

17. Describe how the school is united in service to the broader community. Our middle school students each do a year-long Cor Unum project; they research an area of local need, connect to local service organizations, and actively serve in that area. High school students engage in group service projects during the year and also do individual service throughout their high school years.

18. School documents reflect Catholic teaching that parents are the primary educators of their children. Yes

19. How are parents invited to participate in a meaningful partnership with the school?

Parents are invited to meaningful conversation with the teachers of their children through conferences and email/phone communication. Parents actively volunteer in classrooms and the dining room and recess area. Parents assist with field trips. The Community Guild organizes parent volunteers and meets monthly to discuss ways of actively building up parents into a community of friends.

20. The school has policies and procedures to make education accessible to families who share the mission, including large and economically disadvantaged families. Yes

21. The school's program assists students to develop respect, kindness, mercy, and forgiveness when interacting with each other, parents, school employees, and volunteers. Strongly agree.

22. Does the school have a morality clause or statement that defines expectations for employee behavior to ensure a commitment to Catholic ideals, teachings and principles? Yes

23. The school ensures that employees and volunteers understand and respect the teachings of the Catholic Church and moral demands of the Gospel by demonstrating consistency between personal faith and public behavior. Yes

24. The school ensures all employees are committed to, and participate in, the religious formation of students. Strongly agree

25. How many hours per school year are directed to faculty development which specifically targets the Church's mission? 5

26. Specify the qualifications for faculty involved in the formal catechesis of students.
Additional Policies

27a. The school protects Catholic moral norms in the selection of outside service providers and organizations.

Yes

27b. The school protects Catholic moral norms in the approval of student and faculty organizations, associations, and activities.

Yes

28. The school ensures opportunities for students to encounter the Living God through:

Select all that apply.

Recitation of the Rosary
Devotion to the Sacred Heart
Devotion to the Immaculate Heart
Devotion to the Holy Spirit
First Fridays
Saint of the Day
The Feast day of St. Joseph
The Feast day of Patron Saints
All Saints/All Souls
Lenten Activities
Stations of the Cross
Advent Prayers
May Crowning
Marian Processions
Eucharistic Processions
Adoration/Benediction
Veneration of Sacred Relics
Litanies
Novenas
Liturgy of the Hours
Daily Prayers for Others
Personal Prayer
Lectio Divina
The Angelus
St. Michael/Angel Prayers
Spiritual Bouquets
Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Sacred Chant
Enrollment in the Scapular
Holy Medals and Cards
Special Consecrations to Jesus through Mary

29. Frequency of Mass for students: Daily – required; Weekly - required

30. Availability of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for students: Weekly; Monthly

31. Based on the response above, estimate the percentage of the student body who participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. 75

32. The school ensures that liturgies and the Sacrament of Reconciliation follow Church norms. Yes

33. Frequency of Eucharistic Adoration: Quarterly

34. Based on the response above, estimate the percentage of the student body who participates in Eucharistic Adoration. 100

35. The school has the Blessed Sacrament reserved and readily available for student visitation. No. The local parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday and is very close

to the school. Teachers bring their classes for visits. We also have an annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at school, with the assistance of the local pastor.

36. Frequency of prayer:

Start of class	Always
Start of day	Always
Special events	Always
End of day	Always
Performances	Always
Meetings	Always
Meals	Always
Athletic events	Always
School assemblies	Always

37. Describe how the school assists students to ensure experiences in prayer, scripture and sacrament are personal, meaningful, and respectful. We instruct students about the different types of prayer, encouraging spontaneous prayer and prayer of quiet contemplation, as well as vocal prayer. Students are taught the value of silence, and they exercise times of silence in prayer within their classes and at times for Holy Mass or waiting for Confession. We also schedule annual retreats which incorporate times of quiet reflection and prayer.

38. The school community celebrates when students are initiated into a Sacrament (Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation). Agree

39. The school ensures that opportunities for prayer, liturgy, and sacraments are prioritized on the school calendar and daily schedule. Yes

40. The school ensures that Sacred Scripture is part of the student experience and life of the school. Agree

41. Frequency of student retreats during the school year: (Not applicable for K-8).
Annually – required

42. The school offers formational spiritual retreats for students that include the opportunity for: Adoration, Reconciliation, Mass, Extended Silence; Other: talks from priests and others engaged in mission of the Church.

43. Spiritual direction is available at school from:

Priest	< 30hr/wk
Religious	Not available
Trained Laity	Not available

44. Describe how the school supports students in a vocation to the religious life? There is ongoing instruction about the importance of listening for God's call in their lives. We welcome speakers from religious life to come and address our students. They visit local convents and monasteries. We also have a chalice and St. Teresa's Interior Castle on display in the school, intended for the next graduate who is ordained a priest or makes profession in religious life.

45. Theology coursework and participation in liturgies and devotions is expected of students, including non-Catholic. Yes

46. How does the school ensure that students (including non-Catholics) attend required liturgies and participate in the catechetical and spiritual life of the school? Students arrive with their homeroom teacher and attendance is taken. Participation is carefully encouraged so as to allow students to take ownership and choose to participate.

47. The school provides opportunities for parents to participate in:

Liturgies, Eucharistic and Marian processions, Adoration/Benediction, School-wide devotions.

48. Faculty are required to attend religious services when student attendance is mandatory. Yes

49. The school provides opportunities to faculty for spiritual retreats, prayer, and reflection. Strongly agree

50. The school provides opportunities to its governing board for spiritual retreats, prayer, and reflection. Neither disagree nor agree

51. What sacred images, icons, artwork, furnishings, or spaces are present in the school? Select all that apply.

Crucifix in each class

Crucifix in hallways

Images, icons or statues of Christ

Images, icons or statues of Our Lady

Images, icons or statues of Saints

Images, icons or statues of Guardian Angels

Images, icons or statues of Angels

Images of the Divine Mercy

Images of the Sacred Heart

Images of the Immaculate Heart

Picture of the Pope

Picture of the Bishop

Scripture quotes

Relics

Holy water fonts

Chapel

Prayer corners

Prayer garden

Marian Grotto

52. The school assists students to understand the relationship between mind, body, and soul and the importance of spiritual, physical, and mental well-being. Strongly agree

53. How does the school incorporate the Catechism of the Catholic Church and other materials to ensure students understand and appreciate the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church? Every teacher has a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Excerpts from the CCC are used directly with students starting from the 5th grade. The CCC is one of the required texts used in the Junior year Theology class.

54. The school teaches students respect for the dignity and sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. Yes

55. How does the school ensure that athletic programs contribute to student growth in Christian virtue? Athletic programs incorporate prayer in practices and before games. Athletic events and practices are never scheduled on Sundays. Coaches are chosen, in part, for their embodiment of the faith and their explicit teaching about virtue through the pursuit of athletic excellence.

56. The school ensures that the visual and performing arts foster integral formation and Christian virtue. Strongly agree

57. The school ensures that expectations for dress, language, music, and dances aid in the development of modesty and Christian virtue. Strongly agree

58. How do student disciplinary policies reflect a commitment to teach virtue? Response to disciplinary violations includes reference to virtue and Christian living in conversation and in prayer. Guidance of the student to reconciliation after an offense includes recommendation of sacramental Confession.

59. The school provides for the needs of students with educational, developmental, and physical exceptionalities. Neither disagree nor agree

60. The school provides for interdisciplinary instruction that exposes underlying relationships among academic disciplines. Strongly Agree

61. How does the school teach students to confront materialism and relativism? We teach that truth exists, that we are able to know it, and we can communicate truth to others. When we lose our focus on the truth, we take time to reevaluate, step back to discover the purpose of the matter at hand, and recommit to that purpose and renounce the errors of the world.

62. The school provides clear and unambiguous instruction in Catholic moral and social teaching. Yes

63. The school teaches responsibility and the right use of freedom. Strongly agree

64. The school informs students of the impact of technology on the development of human virtue, how to use it in healthy, productive ways, and the risks associated with overuse/misuse of social media, cyber-bullying, and pornography. Strongly agree

65. What are the three most important ideals a Catholic school student should learn before graduation from the school?

Homosexuality is having a strong influence on the culture and within the Church. We are providing clear instruction on the morality involved. We are also providing clear information about the right response to persons who experience same sex attraction, how they are expected to live, and what support the Church provides to assist them. We also work to help students develop their language on this topic, so they can articulate the truth in love.

66. Sex education, which is a basic right and duty of parents, must always be carried out under their attentive care. Yes

67. The school ensures that students are able to explain and defend the Catholic faith. Agree

68. How does the school ensure transmission of Catholic culture that allows for a Christian understanding of the world?

Our best means to ensure this is through parents and teachers. Parents sign a pledge of support, in which they promise to bring their children to Mass every Sunday (or their own religious service). Teachers are selected who are committed to loving fully their Catholic faith. These two things are the main drivers of the culture of the school.

69. The school ensures that curriculum standards, guides, texts, and pedagogy integrate the truths of the Catholic faith. Agree

Additional Information

70a. The school emphasizes Catholic contributions to theology, philosophy, ethics, literature, science, mathematics, and the visual and performing arts.	Strongly agree
70b. The faculty challenge students to evaluate history in the context of Catholic moral and social teachings.	Strongly agree
70c. The faculty challenge students to evaluate civic (and for high schools economic) concepts and events within the context of Catholic moral and social teachings.	Agree
70d. The school ensures that students gain cultural literacy and fluency in language, idioms, stories, civics, and knowledge that form the American experience.	Agree
70e. The school ensures that students understand the impact of a Catholic worldview on language, idioms, intellectual tradition, and stories of western culture.	Strongly agree

71. Attach a PDF of major works and authors studied in grade 6-12 literature classes. (See below).

72. The science program presents significant contributions of Catholic scientists such as Mendel, Lavoisier, Pasteur, Galileo, Gregor, Volta, and Copernicus. Yes

73. The school presents the topics of creation, evolution, the environment, and genetics in the context of Church teachings and in opposition to secular materialism and scientism. Yes

74. The school emphasizes and integrates the unity of faith and reason throughout the curriculum. Strongly agree

75. How does the school ensure that students are prepared to evangelize culture and their fellowman?

Discussions on this topic regularly occur within the Theology class, during advisement periods, and in the context of spontaneous interactions between students and teachers. Love of neighbor, including love of the neighbor's eternal soul, is always linked to the only greater commandment, love of God.

Comments and Additional Explanation. (Please cite individual question with comment):

Reading List from #71 Above:

K-8 See <https://www.johnboscoschools.org/classical-curriculum/>

High School Literature List

Homer, Sophocles, Virgil

GKC: Orthodoxy

Augustine, Chaucer,

Shakespeare

GKC: Ballad of White

Horse, St. Francis

Dante, Shakespeare,

Cervantes

GKC: St. Thomas Aquinas

Austen, Dickens,

Dostoyevsky, Poetry,

Short Stories

GKC: Everlasting Man