

DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

Catholic Schools Policies/Regulations

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Schools Board Mission Statement

Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools Board/Commission will operate with the following mission statement:

The mission statement of the Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools Board/Commission is to empower local school leadership to provide a successful faith-based Catholic education by connecting and building relationships while providing consistent guidance leading to academic excellence, community service and moral stewardship of God's gifts.

Policy Adopted:	May 19, 2008
Revised:	May 21, 2012
Reviewed:	November 20, 2019
	July 30, 2021
Revised:	September 2026

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Catholic Schools Vision Statement

The Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools Office, under the aegis of the Bishop, endorses the following vision statement for the diocesan Catholic Schools: Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Des Moines, based on the teaching of Jesus Christ and the mission of the Church, are collaborative communities of spiritual formation and academic excellence, where students grow in faith and wisdom and emerge as responsible citizens dedicated to the practice of life-long discipleship.

Policy Adopted:	May 19, 2008
Policy Reviewed:	November 20, 2019
Policy Revised:	July 30, 2021
Policy Reviewed:	August 2026

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Diocesan Schools' Mission and Belief Statement

The Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools Office, under the aegis of the Bishop, endorses the Mission and Belief statements and expects all schools to adhere to the following:

The mission of the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Des Moines is to develop and inspire learning for life by providing a world-class education within a Catholic environment for our students.

We believe...

- Catholic schools exist to enable students to learn the traditions and doctrines of the Catholic Church and to carry out the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in their daily lives.
- Each student in Catholic schools experiences the value of human dignity and the concepts of peace and justice to enable them to be participants in a global society.
- Catholic schools and parishes are partners with parents in the education of their children.
- Catholic school educators apply research-based curriculum and instructional strategies that enhance the learning of all students.

Policy Adopted:	April 25, 2000
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Policy Reviewed:	August 2026

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Essential Learnings (Student Learning Goals)

The Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools Office, under the aegis of the Bishop, expects all schools to strive to attain the following Essential Learnings:

Students in the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Des Moines will be challenged as the result of their Catholic education to integrate Gospel values into their daily lives as they:

Academic Outcomes:

- access and use information effectively
- apply technology competently
- think critically and creatively
- solve problems independently and cooperatively
- reason scientifically, mathematically and historically

Spiritual/Social Outcomes:

- accept church, civic and personal responsibility
- anticipate and constructively react to change
- communicate ideas and feelings effectively in various ways
- demonstrate global awareness, cross cultural understanding, and social justice principles
- demonstrate personal wellness practices
- cultivate an understanding of and appreciation for the arts.

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