

News Briefs

West Catholic High School 2010 Calendar Year

West Catholic Fall Sports Honors - 1/11/2010

Many of West Catholic's fall athletes have earned individual honors this year at the conference, area, and state levels. Congratulations for their achievement!

Boys Cross Country

All-Conference: Blake Bitner, Caleb Teachout, Zeke Timmer

All-State: Blake Bitner, Zeke Timmer

Girls Cross Country

All-Conference: Kelsey Carpenter, Megan Debri

Football

All-Conference: Nick Ford, Travis Mikita, Dan Pittman, Charlie Roberts, Gabe Sochanek, Loren Suggs, Alex Trudell

G.R. Press All-Area Dream Team: Gabe Sochanek (First Team), Alex Trudell (First Team), Dan Pittman (Second Team), Loren Suggs (Second Team), Nick Ford (Honorable Mention), Charlie Roberts (Honorable Mention)

All-State: Gabe Sochanek (Special Mention), Loren Suggs (Special Mention)

Academic All-State: The team received Honorable Mention honors for ranking 12th in Division 4 based on team grade point average. Individually, Gabe Audu also earned Honorable Mention Academic All-State.

Detroit Lions High School Coach of the Week: Coach Dan Rohn was one of ten Michigan coaches honored at the Detroit Lions football game on December 20.

Girls Golf

All-Conference: Madelyn Drumm, Kayla Feutz

Boys Soccer

All-Conference: David Golembiewski, Matt Karas, Steven Kelly

All-State: Matt Karas (First Team), David Golembiewski (Second Team), Steven Kelly (Honorable Mention), Tim McGough (Honorable Mention)

Girls Swimming

All-Conference: Meghan Arbanas

Volleyball

All-Conference: Rachel Sprenger, Elle Sturgell, Abby Ziegler

Congratulations West Catholic athletes!

West Catholic Students Share the Christmas Spirit - 1/7/2010

Every year, West Catholic students and staff generously give in many different ways to share the Christmas spirit with the surrounding communities. This year, a number of service projects have been undertaken throughout the school to continue this giving tradition.

For the second year, the entire school participated in a fundraising program to help homeless teens in Grand Rapids. Led by the Student Government and its adviser Mrs. Cindy Kneibel, the school held a Red and Green Day to raise over \$1100 to purchase hoodies and pajamas for local teens. These items were distributed in partnership with Grand Rapids Public Schools.

Throughout the year, West Catholic students respond daily by donating to an HTN (Help the Needy) fund. This fund generates thousands of dollars annually. This month, \$500 of HTN money was spent to purchase sleeping bags, blankets, nonperishable food items, coats, and other outwear for the local homeless. In addition, students also generously brought in food, clothing, and personal hygiene items. Two carloads of goods were delivered to local missions.

Sophomore and Junior students in Mr. Patrick Nugent's religion classes have been collecting money this month for the Catholic Church Extension Society. They have chosen worthy causes from Extension's annual Christmas Wish List. Over \$1000 will be sent to support the Church across the United States; helping to sponsor a seminarian for the armed forces, supporting prison ministry in Texas, building a school roof on a New Mexico Indian reservation, and supporting hospital ministry in Puerto Rico.

Art students made over 100 cards for the residents of St. Ann's home. Student used silkscreen and linoleum block printing to create the hand-made cards. They then addressed them with simple holiday greetings and well wishes for Christmas. "I have two students, Andrea Powers and Megan Rogalski who work at St. Ann's Home. They are going to bring the cards in for us and they are sure that the residents will really appreciate receiving our Christmas cards," said art teacher Mrs. Lisa Nawrocki.



WC Blood Donations Highest in the Area - 2/4/2010

Each year, the West Catholic Student Government sponsors three blood drives at the school. The December blood drive was very successful. Ninety Two (92) people came to the blood drive to donate, and 73 pints of blood were collected. These totals include 35 new donors who were registered on that day. According to *Michigan Blood*, West Catholic's per-student donation levels are the highest in our area. Student volunteers, advised by Mrs. Cynthia Kneibel, staff the event in conjunction with *Michigan Blood*. **The next blood drive at West Catholic is scheduled for Friday, March 5, 2010.**

Dan Rohn Named Regional Coach of the Year - 1/13/2010

West Catholic High School Football Coach, **Dan Rohn**, was selected by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association (MHSFCA) as a Regional Coach of the Year. He will be honored January 21st at the MHSFCA banquet in Battle Creek. Congratulations Coach Rohn!

WC Religious Vocations Wall of Fame - 2/5/2010

On Wednesday, February 3, West Catholic High School inducted three new members into its Religious Vocations Wall of Fame. The induction ceremony was held during an all-school Mass in conjunction with Catholic Schools Week. The new members are Rev. Fr. Khanh Hoang (Class of 1986), Rev. Mr. Edward Harwood (Class of 1972), and Rev. Mr. Gerald Roersma (Class of 1976).

The Religious Vocations Wall of Fame was inaugurated in 2004, and the display was blessed by Bishop Kevin Britt at an all-school Mass concelebrated by the Wall's first inductees. Since 2004, more honorees have been added to the Wall, and including this year's three new members, the Wall now displays plaques honoring 18 priests, sisters, brothers and permanent deacons. These honorees are all alumni of West Catholic or its predecessor West Catholic Central. The Religious Vocations Wall of Fame is located outside of the St. Maria Goretti Chapel, adjacent to the school cafeteria.

Fr. Khanh Hoang is a native of Vietnam. He came to the United States at the age of ten as a refugee. He graduated from West Catholic in 1986 and entered Aquinas College. After further study at Seton

Hall University and St. Thomas Seminary, he was ordained to the priesthood on June 4, 1994 for the Diocese of Colorado Springs. Due to allergies, he moved to Hawaii in 2003. He is currently serving as Vicar for Clergy for the Diocese of Honolulu.

Permanent Deacon Ed Harwood attended Sacred Heart School and graduated from West Catholic in 1972. He studied theology and Scripture at Aquinas College, and he was ordained to the permanent diaconate on February 10, 2006. Since ordination, he has been assigned to pastoral work at St. Mary's Parish in Grand Rapids. Ed and his wife Joanne (WC '71) are the parents of six children, including four WC graduates and one current WC student.

Permanent Deacon Jerry Roersma attended Holy Trinity School and graduated from West Catholic in 1976. He graduated from Aquinas College. He was ordained to the permanent diaconate on February 10, 2006. Since ordination, he has been assigned to pastoral work at Holy Trinity Parish. Jerry and his wife Susan (WC '75) are the parents of three children, all of whom are WC graduates.



West Catholic Students Participate in the March for Life - 2/8/2010

On Thursday, January 21, 32 students, 2 teachers, and 3 parents left West Catholic to travel by bus to Washington, DC for the annual March for Life.

While there, the students attended Mass at the *National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception*, toured the monuments, visited the *Holocaust Memorial Museum*, and participated with approximately 300,000 people in the March for Life. They returned to West Catholic very tired but inspired by the trip to continue their pro-life activities.



WC Band Students Have Success at MSBOA - 3/1/2010

On Saturday, February 6, West Catholic Band members competed in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) District Solo and Ensemble Festival. Students received nineteen First Division "Excellent" medals and eight Second Division "Good" medals. All students earning First Division "Excellent" ratings will be going on to further competition at the State Festival next month.

West Catholic Band Director Darren LaPrise summed up the students' achievements with the following statement: "To walk into a room and make a presentation to complete strangers is extremely difficult, particularly if it took you months to prepare it. To walk away and call that presentation successful is one of the best feelings our students can have. That feeling was achieved by many of our Band students at the MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival."

The following students earned First or Second Division ratings at the Festival:

FIRST DIVISION RATED (Excellent)

Brass Quintet Eamon Carmody, Mike Sacha, Ashley Savage, Andrew Bearinger, and Ray Kalinowski

Percussion Sextet (Mallets) Zach Hartman, Patty Pierzchala, Katrina Marks, Jordan Alber, Katie Hartman, and John Paul

Flute Duet: Anna Brechting and Theresa Brechting

Flute Solo: Anna Brechting

Flute Solo: Theresa Brechting

Trumpet Solo: Eamon Carmody

Piano solos: John Paul, Francis Burns, Katie Hartman

SECOND DIVISION RATED (Good)

Trumpet Solo: Jeff Ford

Trombone Solo: Joel Gravelyn

Bass Clarinet Solo: Dominic Frazine

Saxophone Quartet: Josh Laske, Jacob Dean, Stacey Sienkewicz, John Gravelyn

Piano Solo: Mary Francis Eshleman

Congratulations West Catholic Band Students!

West Catholic Celebrates Fine Arts Week - 3/16/2010

During the week of March 1-5, West Catholic High School celebrated the Fine Arts with a whole week of various events and performances. Students' accomplishments in the band, choir, art, and theater programs were recognized.

On Monday, all Fine Arts students wore their Fine Arts Week T-shirts, and the Jazz Band performed at lunch for all students.

Festival of Arts Night was held Tuesday evening and included performances by the WC Jazz Band, Concert Band, Brass Quintet, Concert Choir, and Percussion Ensemble, as well as a video presentation of student art work and an excerpt from the upcoming school musical "Grease" performed by the cast.

On Wednesday, Art students spent the day visiting the Art Institute of Chicago.

The Concert Choir performed and a video of student artwork was shown at an assembly for all students on Thursday.

On Friday, the cast of the upcoming school musical performed "Grease Lightning" at lunch on stage for the student body. That afternoon, the Concert Band concluded the week in competition at the MSBOA State Concert Festival at West Ottawa Harbor Lights Middle School.

The events of the week were coordinated by the teachers in the Fine Arts Department, including Lisa Nawrocki (chair), Darren LaPrise, Josh Doe, Mary Harwood, and Cathy Pearce.

West Catholic Winter Season Highlights - 3/10/2010

GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Girls Basketball Teams completed a sweep of the OK Blue Conference Championships at all three levels of competition, Freshman, JV, and Varsity, for the 2009-2010 season.

The Freshman team, coached by West Catholic Alumnus Kristen McDonald, completed their season 15-5 and won its second straight OK Blue Conference Championship. The Junior Varsity, coached

by Mark Yondo and Nancy Wagner (1979 State Championship Team Member and West Catholic Alumnus), also won its second straight OK Blue Conference Championship and finished with an awesome 18-2 record.

The Varsity team, coached by Mike Glass, John Beadling, Brenda Sack and Carrie Roys Polega (1997 State Runner-up Team Member and West Catholic Alumnus), won the first Varsity Conference Championship since 2000 and first OK Blue Conference Championship. The team finished the regular season with a 13-1 conference record and a 15-5 overall record and will have all team members returning next season.

BOYS BASKETBALL

The Varsity Boys Basketball team ended its regular season with the team performing at a high level. Though not winning every game, the guys have competed hard in practice and in competition. The team finished in 3rd place in the OK Blue with a league record of 8-6 and an overall record of 9-11. West Catholic will be the host for the district tournament, where the Falcon seniors will look to leave their mark on the program with a District championship.

GIRLS BOWLING

The Girls Bowling team completed conference play in second place with a 10-2 record. They finished second in the post-season tournament to a very strong Sparta team. The team had a strong season, with a winning record and several new school record games. The O.K. Blue All-Conference team includes senior **Olivia Steil**, junior **Kayla Feutz**, and junior **Marissa Steffens**.

In the Regional, Marissa Steffens finished 11th, Kayla Feutz finished 12th, and Olivia Steil finished 18th. Unfortunately, only the top 10 move on to the State Tournament.

In the Regional team competition, where the top 3 teams move on to the State Tournament, the team ended its season very close to qualifying in the 4th spot.

BOYS BOWLING

The Boys Bowling team ended conference play with a record of 10 wins and 2 losses. They ended the regular season with a second place finish in the post-season tournament, just 24 pins out of first. The boys had a very strong season. They worked hard for their second place conference finish. The All-Conference team includes seniors **Zack Kasperlik**, **Steve Kuzma**, **Nick Byrne**, and sophomore **Caleb Steil**.

Zack Kasperlik qualified for the State Tournament by finishing 3rd in the Regional competition on Saturday. Zack knocked down 1177 pins in the six games. Other WC bowlers who did not qualify for State competition but had good games included Trent Clark finishing 17th and Nick Byrne finishing 19th.

In the Regional team competition, where the top 3 teams move on to the State Tournament, the team finished in 5th position 79 pins behind the 3rd place team.

SKI

The Boys Ski team finished 3rd among Division II teams in the conference. The Girls Ski team

also finished 3rd among Division II conference teams.

In the Regional, the boys finished 11th out of 16 teams while the girls finished 12th out of 15 teams. **Steven Kelly** earned a 9th place finish in Giant Slalom, and qualified for the MHSAA State Meet.

At State, Steven placed 32nd of 70 in the first run of GS. Deciding to "go for it," he bobbed slightly on the second run, finishing with a "no regrets" 59th place. Steven's participation in the State Meet marks the 10th time in the last 11 years that WC has participated in the MHSAA State Ski Meet.

SWIMMING and DIVING

The West Catholic Boys Varsity Swimming and Diving team took fourth place over all, missing third place by five points to rival TK-Hastings, at the OK Rainbow Swimming and Diving Championships. The Falcons were led by **Nick Burciaga**, who took first place in diving, setting a new conference record in the process. Nick was also part of the 200 yard and 400 yard freestyle relays that took third place in the Championship finals. **Danny Selgo**, took second place in diving. On the swimming side, **Forrest West** took second place in the backstroke and fifth in the 200 yard freestyle; he was also part of the 200 yard and 400 yard freestyle relays. Forrest qualified for the State Meet in the back stroke. **Hunter Nemmers** took third place in the 50 yard freestyle and sixth in the 100 yard freestyle, qualifying for the State Meet in the 50 yard freestyle. Hunter was also part of the 200 and 400 yard relays.

Because of these efforts, Nick, Danny, Forrest and Hunter all earned All-Conference honors.

The Falcons did a tremendous job to take an overall fourth place finish in the OK Rainbow Conference meet. Congratulations to all the swimmers and divers on a great season. The Falcons finished 3-3 in the league duals and 4-5 overall in duals.

WRESTLING

The Wrestling team's season came to an end at the Conference Meet where **Zac Nowicki** took 2nd, **Mitch Norder** placed 4th, **Tom Doyle** placed 3rd, and **Tony Brechting** took 2nd place.

Zac Nowicki was also District champ in his weight class of 103 lbs. Taylor Nowicki finished 3rd in District competition, in the 130 lb. weight class. This qualified both wrestlers to Regional Competition on February 20. Although both wrestlers gave it their all, they did not advance to State competition this season.

West Catholic Skier Competes at State - 3/1/2010

West Catholic senior, **Steven Kelly**, competed at the MHSAA State Skiing Finals on February 22 at Nub's Nob in Harbor Springs. By finishing in 9th place at the Regional Tournament, Kelly became one of only nine Grand Rapids-area skiers to qualify to compete at the Division 2 State Finals.

Kelly competed in the giant slalom and finished 59th overall at State. Kelly said, "I was pumped when I found out I made it to state." Coach Scott Inman added, "He has led his team by example, demonstrating the rewards of hard work and hard training. It has been a very enjoyable four years working with Steven." Congratulations Steven!

West Catholic Diver Wins Back-to-Back State Championships - 3/18/2010

West Catholic junior **Nick Burciaga**, won his second-straight Division III State Diving Championship on March 12 and 13 at Eastern Michigan University. Nick posted a Division III Championship record score of 490.25, surpassing the previous record he set in winning last year's championship. In addition to his championship, Nick was named Division III Diver of the Year.

Junior diver **Danny Selgo** also competed in the State finals, finishing 13th. The team's diving coach, **Steve Burciaga**, was also honored as the Division III Diving Coach of the Year.

Two West Catholic swimmers, senior **Forrest West** and sophomore **Hunter Nemmers**, also qualified for the State Meet. Forrest finished 29th in the 100 yard backstroke, and Hunter finished 26th in the 50 yard freestyle. Congratulations West Catholic Swimmers and Divers!

The West Catholic Swimming and Diving team is coached by Mr. Murray MacGready, assisted by Steve Burciaga (Diving), Steve Kosten, and Dan Lenkiewicz.



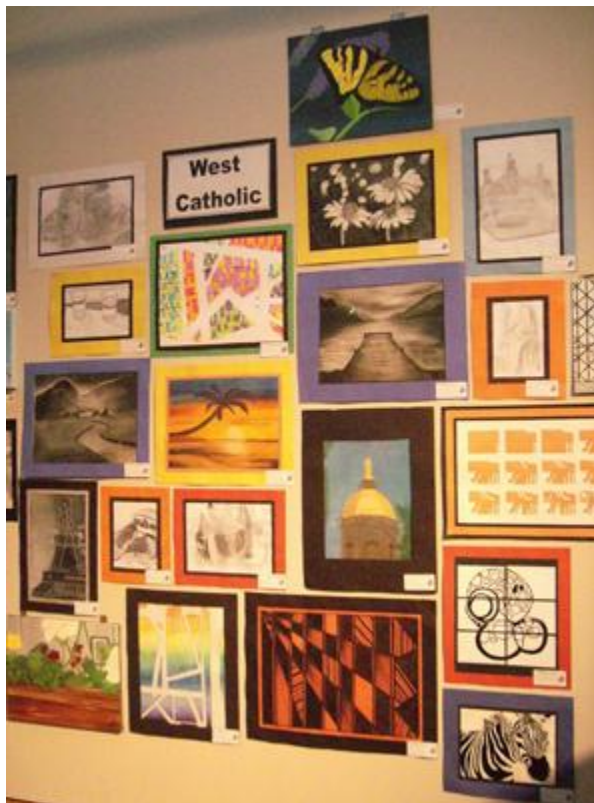
Citywide Student Art Show

Works of art created by 21 West Catholic students have been chosen to be part of the Citywide Student Art Show at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts (UICA) March 16-22, 2010.

Enter additional text for the full news article (do not repeat the text from above):

This is one of the most vibrant and eclectic exhibitions in Grand Rapids. The Citywide Student Art Show celebrates the creativity of over 1,200 students from 73 public and shared-time schools within the Grand Rapids Public Schools. UICA's gallery walls are covered with artwork from Grand Rapids area K-12 students. An opening reception was held for the student artists on March 16.

The following West Catholic students have pieces in the exhibition: **Steven Ayers, Andrew Bearer, Anna Bergquist, Erika Buczkowski, Madelyn Drumm, Kaitlyn Karsten, Katie Klein, Margaret Kline, Andrea Powers, Jenna Rood, Lisa Schumaker, Chelsea Sedlecky, Jacquie Sochacki, Monica Solarewicz, Brandi Stein, Kristi Sterkenburg, Stacy Tapia, Sarah Thimmesch, Jessica Visser, Shaina Wood, and Andrew Wysocki.** Their teacher is Mrs. Lisa Nawrocki.



Student Athlete Honored by Farmers Insurance - 4/23/2010

West Catholic senior **Billy Nowak** has been named the first recipient of the Farmers Student Athlete Citizens Award. This award recognizes outstanding high school student athletes that are making a difference on the athletic field, in the classroom, and in the communities they represent.

Administrators and coaches from 768 high schools statewide have been invited to nominate student-athletes who carry a grade point average of 2.5 or greater (on a 4.0 scale) and are involved in extracurricular activities (including community service). Athletic achievements in

both individual and team sports will be considered. The monthly winner is determined by a selection committee comprised of personnel from Farmers Insurance and FSN Detroit. The honorees receive a plaque presented by a local Farmers Insurance agent and are featured in a 30-second vignette ran throughout the following month during FSN Detroit programming.

Nowak is a member of the National Honor Society and he holds a grade point average of 3.6. The nomination submitted by West Catholic football coach Dan Rohn indicated Nowak has never missed a team function in three years and during this previous season he played multiple roles on the team, including center, quarterback and tight end. A dedicated multiple-sport student-athlete, he was noted for his willingness to do whatever it takes for the team.

In addition to excelling as a student-athlete, Nowak volunteers at St. Alphonsus Church, works as a youth camp director for baseball and football, and participated in a summer retreat at St. Michael's Church painting and repairing church buildings.

Congratulations Billy!

Student Success at Science Olympiad - 4/30/2010

On Saturday, March 27, the Science Olympiad team participated in the Regional Competition at Grand Valley State University.

The team consisted of fourteen students and was coached by science teacher Mrs. Diane Ysasi. They have been practicing and preparing for the 23 different events since the beginning of the school year.

Among very tough competition, the students' preparation and skill were rewarded with medals in three events. **Caitlin Morrow** and **Rachel Szczytko** were 2nd place in Ecology. **Kathryn Bishop** and **Rachel Szczytko** earned 2nd place in Write It Do It. **Katie Kosnik** and **Nick Dyga** were 5th place in Environmental Chem. Overall, the team placed 12th out of 24 teams in competition. Congratulations to the whole team!

WC Senior Wins Scholarship Essay Contest - 4/30/2010

West Catholic senior, Abby Ziegler, is one of eight winners of the 2010 Lloyd F. Hutt Scholarship presented by Lake Michigan Credit Union.

This scholarship program was established by LMCU in 1991 to honor and recognize the contributions of its founder, Lloyd F. Hutt. Entrants were asked to write a 750 to 1,500 word essay on the topic "Describe Your Best Day Ever: Past, Present or Future." An independent panel of judges selected the winners after reading each essay, focusing on content and passion for the topic. Of 312 essays submitted, eight students were chosen to receive \$2,000 each for their continued education.

Ziegler wrote her essay about her experiences on the West Catholic volleyball team. The essay can be read at https://www.lmcu.org/docs/hutt_booklet_web.pdf . She plans to

attend Central Michigan University to study Speech Pathology. She is the daughter of Michael and Lori Ziegler, and she is a graduate of Holy Spirit School. Congratulations Abby!

WC Quiz Bowl Team Competes at State - 4/30/2010

The West Catholic Quiz Bowl Team competed in the Michigan High School Quiz Bowl State Championship at Michigan State University on April 23 and 24. West Catholic finished the tournament among the top 20 teams in the state in Class B.

West Catholic posted a dominant victory over Allegan before being eliminated from the tournament by eventual state champion Detroit Country Day. Team members competing at State were seniors Zach Hartman, Miles Johnson, Alex Herrington, and Devon Hagen; and freshmen Jack Brooks and Brendan Kosnik. The team is coached by Mr. Patrick Nugent. West Catholic has qualified for the State Tournament each year since 1999.

Congratulations!

Letter to All Community Members from GRCSS Board

Thank you for your feedback and input in shaping the Mission and Vision for the Grand Rapids Catholic Secondary Schools ("CSS") – Grand Rapids Catholic Central and West Catholic High Schools. The Strategic Planning Vision Committee (the "Committee") would like to thank the more than 1,000 teachers, parents, and community members that contributed to the process through the town hall meetings and on-line survey.

Enter additional text for the full news article (do not repeat the text from above):

All input was considered, and your feedback was invaluable in finalizing a shared Mission and Vision. You may [click here](#) to view a complete report of the survey responses.

As you can see from the survey results, respondents overwhelmingly supported the Mission and Vision language as communicating the right direction for the schools, with 10 of the 12 sections receiving over 90% approval. Additionally, 6 of 12 sections received over 90% support for the overall language. The remaining 6 sections all received over 80% support for the overall language. In spite of the strong support received from you, the Committee took time over the summer to review the feedback and address the common themes in the comments received. Most notable was the misperception that there was an attempt to move in the direction of limiting admission to our schools to those academically gifted or coming from families with significant financial means. That was never intended by the Committee or the administration of our schools, so certain language was revised in an attempt to allay such concerns. As you can see from the final Mission and Vision documents, your feedback played an integral role in shaping the final document, and for that, the Committee is grateful. You can [click here](#) to view a copy of the documents allowing you to see the original draft marked with subsequent changes stemming from the feedback received.

In August, the CSS Board and Bishop Hurley approved the Mission and Vision documents as presented in the above links. These documents will now provide the basis for setting annual goals necessary to achieve the tenets of the Vision. Our Principal, Mr. Tom Maj, is currently working with the faculty and staff of each high school to develop annual goals to support our Vision thereby ensuring the long-term viability and success of Catholic Central and West Catholic. Although the goals for each school may differ, the Mission and Vision are common and will remain as a shared

vision for the organization. We will continue to update you on the goal setting process.

We wish to thank the following individuals who served with us on the Committee for their dedication and commitment to developing the Mission and Vision of our high schools:

- Tom Maj, Principal
- Steve Passinault, Former Principal-Catholic Central High School
- Greg Deja, Associate Principal-Catholic Central High School
- Jack Young, Assistant Principal of Student Affairs-West Catholic High School
- Allison Camp, Former Assistant Principal-West Catholic High School
- Linda Olejnik, English Department Chair-Catholic Central High School
- Sharon Piers, Science Teacher-West Catholic High School
- Sue Swanson, Director of Information Technology-Diocese of Grand Rapids
- Cindy Sielawa, Former Vice President of Advancement-Catholic Secondary Schools
- Jennifer Lahey, Business Manager-Catholic Secondary Schools
- John Lowery, Community member-Catholic Central High School
- MaryBeth Barkeley, Member-CSS Board
- Mike McCarthy, Community member-West Catholic High School
- Tim Hile, Member-CSS Board
- Steve Abid, Vice Chairman-CSS Board

If you have any questions regarding the Mission or Vision documents or any other issues, you are invited to attend our next regularly scheduled CSS Board meeting on November 18 at 7 p.m. at Cathedral Square. Please feel free to submit your questions in advance by clicking on [this link](#). We will make every effort to respond to your questions at the beginning of our meeting.

Thank you for your input into the strategic planning process, which is critical to the future success of our high schools, and for your continued support of Catholic education.

Sincerely,

Rev. R. Louis Stasker, Pastor/President

Mark R. Scott, CSS Board Chairman

David A. Veneklase, Strategic Planning Vision Committee Chairman

Grand Rapids Catholic Secondary Schools Announces New Administrative Structure/Principal for West Catholic and Catholic Central High Schools

Grand Rapids, Mich, May 20, 2010 - Rev. R. Louis Stasker, Pastor/President of the Grand Rapids Catholic Secondary Schools announced the realignment of the administrative structure for West Catholic and Catholic Central High Schools which will take place at the conclusion of this school year.

Enter additional text for the full news article (do not repeat the text from above):

The new structure calls for one principal for both West Catholic and Catholic Central High Schools. In addition, each school will maintain an assistant principal who will have redefined and enhanced responsibilities. Individual department heads will assume appropriate responsibilities for the faculty in their departments.

“We continually seek ways to strengthen our Catholic high schools so we can provide our young people with a vital and viable education in the context of our Catholic faith,” said Father Stasker. “These changes will streamline our administrative structure providing for more effective implementation of programs and policies across the two schools.”

Father Stasker appointed Mr. Tom Maj to assume the role of principal of the two schools. Mr. Maj is the current principal of West Catholic and served as assistant principal for Catholic Central for 10 years.

“It is an honor to be appointed to this new position as principal of both of our Catholic high schools. I look forward to building upon the faith foundation and academic success which are an inherent part of Catholic Central and West Catholic High Schools,” said Maj.

Maj earned his master’s of education from Grand Valley State University; his teacher’s certification from Central Michigan University; and his bachelor’s degree from the University of Cincinnati. Maj, his wife and daughter reside in Rockford and are members of the parish at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew.

Mr. Steve Passinault, who has served Catholic Central for 17 years, 12 of those years as principal of the school, was offered a position in the organization.

“Steve has a strong commitment to Catholic school education,” said Father Stasker. “We are grateful to Mr. Passinault for his leadership.”

For more than a century, Catholic Central and West Catholic High Schools have provided academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment. Catholic Central, located at 319 Sheldon Blvd. SE, and West Catholic, located at 1801 Bristol Ave. NW, have current enrollments of 782 and 582 students respectively.

[To view the complete Press Release, please click here.](#)

Kendra Meyers Wins State Discus Championship

West Catholic sophomore, **Kendra Meyers**, won the MHSAA Division 2 State Championship in Discus on Saturday, June 5 at Zeeland.

Enter additional text for the full news article (do not repeat the text from above):

Meyers won the meet with a toss of 132-5 feet. She had also won the Discus event in the preceding week’s MITC championships. She said, “This is amazing. I still can’t believe it.” Meyers also placed 8th in the Shot Put to help her team to a 9th place finish overall in the State.



Falcon Pride Day 2010 on August 14th

Bring your Garden Equipment [rakes, shovels, brooms, trimmers, edgers, power washers and work gloves] as the West Catholic athletes, coaches and parents work with the facilities department and administrators to put the final sparkle on West Catholic before the start of the 2009 school year.

Join us on Saturday, August 14th from 8-10 AM for our 3rd Annual Falcon Pride Day. Let's "Raise the Bar!"

Enter additional text for the full news article (do not repeat the text from above):

Invite friends, family and alumni of West Catholic. We have built our school with hard work, dedication, and with many hands for over 48 years. Now we need to continue to improve our facility with hard work, dedication, and we need to do it the true West Catholic way.

Many hands make light work. If you have any questions email, danrohn@grcss.org, or call the facilities/athletics department at 616-233-5903.

Facility Clean-Up List

Painting

Paint will be here and we will have some rollers and supplies, but could use additional rollers, brushes and paint trays.

Coat of paint on the goal posts

Paint the Press box. A lot of graffiti as been covered and it looks bad.

Paint Garbage Cans - all one color

Trailer in stadium – Fresh coat of paint (Current paint ran and looks bad)

Weeds

Gloves-Rakes-Shovels

Weed the sidewalks and curbs around the school

Weed Whip along fences and around sheds on practice fields

Weed and pull dead grass around the edge of the track

Pull weeds and weed whip around visitors bleachers

Weed whip the hill on the visitors side

Weed whip around bleachers and press box at baseball field

Home Bleachers - pull weeds by base of fence under bleachers

Pull weeds in pole vault and handicap areas

Rake and weed the long jump pit

Weed along softball and baseball fences

Edging

Equipment - Edgers

Edging all Sidewalks around the front and back of school

Edging around the stadium sidewalks

Leaf Blowers and Power Washers

Blow the areas under the bleachers and around the back of the school. Especially maintenance area. Power wash around the dumpsters

Power wash the base of the shed on the practice field (holds football equipment)

Power wash the entrances and sidewalks to the stadium

Power wash entrances to the school, especially the gym area

Power wash all dugouts

Bleachers and area in front of bleachers

Blow off all sidewalks curbs and parking areas.

Cleaning

Windex, Paper Towels

Clean the press box, windows, and vacuum

Clean ticket booth windows and floor

Clean out concessions

Clean and power wash all dugouts

Clean the windows and doors - gym area

Clean the backboards

Clean drains on football field

Clean tables and mirrors in team room and vacuum

Vacuum all entrances

Wipe down all baseboards around the gym

Mop all steps and wipe down all baseboards leading up to the weight room and team room

North and South side of the gym

Clean the glass in front of the trophy cases

Clean indoor concession and move pop to outside concessions

Clean out and blow out the visitor's locker room and garage on practice field

Mop the indoor bleachers

Cross State Catholic Football Shootout is August 27th

Save the Date! Please join us on Friday, August 27, 2010 at West Catholic Falcon Stadium for the inaugural Cross State Catholic Football Shootout. Come and cheer our teams on to victory!
Enter additional text for the full news article (do not repeat the text from above):

Catholic Central will take on Traverse City St. Francis at 4:00 pm.

West Catholic battles Orchard Lake St. Mary's at 7:30 pm.

There will be a steak dinner from 5:00 to 8:00.

More information to come in the next few weeks...

Inaugural Cross State Catholic Football Shootout FAQ

What is the game schedule for the weekend?

Thursday, August 26, 2010:

West Catholic vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's at West Catholic High school.

Freshman game at 4:30pm ~ JV game at 7:00pm

Friday, August 27, 2010:

Catholic Central JV vs. Traverse City St. Francis JV at the CAT at 12:00pm

Varsity Games at West Catholic High School.

Catholic Central vs. Traverse City St. Francis at 4:00pm

West Catholic vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's at 7:30pm

Enter additional text for the full news article (do not repeat the text from above):

How much are tickets?

Freshman and JV games: regular season, admission pricing and passes will apply - \$5.00. All tickets for Friday night games are \$7.00. You can buy one ticket and that will be good for both games. No sports passes will be allowed for the Varsity games. Ticket gate will open at 3:00 pm on Friday.

Where can I purchase tickets?

Advance tickets can be purchased at CC and WC athletic offices until 4 pm on Thursday, August 26th.

Where is the best place to park?

Parking will be available in the West Catholic lots and Betz Industries, south parking lot (2121 Bristol Ave NW). There will be busing from the Betz lot starting at 2:30 pm. A \$1.00 donation is suggested for all parking.

Can I tailgate before the game?

Tailgating is allowed on West Catholic property only – please only use Betz Industries for parking. We will have security policing all parking lots and any tailgaters in undesignated areas will be asked to leave. Alcohol is prohibited on school property.

Can I reserve seating or a tailgate area?

There will be no reserve seating or tailgating. Everything is first come, first serve. After the game, please take all of your belongings with you as other fans may need a seat for their game. We will be bringing in additional bleacher seating for these games.

Will I be able to purchase this year's spirit shirt?

There will be no merchandise sold at this game other than the “event” t-shirt.

Can I bring food into the game?

There will be no outside food allowed into the stadium. The concession stand will be open and there will be a steak dinner available from 5:00 – 8:00 pm in the West Catholic Cafeteria. The steak dinner consists of steak/chicken, homemade coleslaw, bread, dessert and drink. Tickets are \$10/adult and \$5/kids meal (cheese pizza, dessert and drink).

Supporting Catholic Central/West Catholic High Schools

The proceeds from this event will be split between both schools evenly. The 50/50 raffle will go to the sports boosters at both high schools as well.

West is best - first ever football State Championship!! - 11/28/2010

The West Catholic Falcons made history on Saturday, November 27th – they won the school's first football State Championship! The Falcons entered Ford Field with a confidence and determination that couldn't be matched. They were a team with one goal – to beat Olivet for the championship.

It was a back and forth game during the first half but after halftime, the Falcons took control of the game. They worked together as a team to dominate their opponent and knock the game out of reach to beat Olivet by a score of 42-26.

After the game, coach Rohn was quoted as saying, "There have been some incredible moments of my life, but this ranks up there as one of the top ones. We've worked hard to get here, and we've worked hard as a football team, as a school and as a community."

Congratulations to our State Champions!!

Catholic Central and West Catholic High Schools Recognized for their State Championships by the City Council - 12/8/2010



On Tuesday, December 7th, both Catholic Central and West Catholic High Schools were recognized for their Football State Championship titles. This is the first time in history that both schools competed for the State Championship *at the same time* and brought home the State Championship trophies in the same weekend. In recognition of this achievement, both schools were honored with a Proclamation of Achievement during the City Commissioner meeting by Mayor Heartwell. During the presentation, Principal of both high schools, Tom Maj briefly spoke about how proud he was of the two schools. He was quoted as saying, "I couldn't have written a better ending to the football season." He also pointed out that the football teams started on the same field in August in the INAUGURAL CATHOLIC BOWL and finished their seasons with victories on Ford Field. Congratulations again to our football teams - Two Schools. One Goal. Catholic Education Wins!