



# Catholic Central

High School



# WELCOME

## The Students of Catholic Central High School

An education at Catholic Central High School endures for a lifetime. It is a journey where you will develop lasting friendships, a strong work ethic, and a spiritual depth enabling you to be a person of faith, courage and integrity. During these formative high school years you will be greatly influenced by the daily environment you experience as you interact with your peers, with dedicated teachers, staff, administration and coaches. Your success in a rigorous academic program, your involvement in extracurricular activities, and the friendships you form will occur in a welcoming, Christ-centered atmosphere. We are committed to getting you into the very best colleges and universities in the country, and more importantly, our focus is on preparing you to be disciples of your faith and successful men and women in a changing world.

Catholic Central began its rich tradition founded on Christ-centered quality education in 1906. Catholic Central has the distinction of being the first coeducational diocesan high school in the country. In the first 100 years of existence, Catholic Central High School continues to have a tremendous impact on not only our graduates, but the community at large.

Catholic Central empowers you to define your vision and pursue your goals with confidence, competence and Christian generosity. In dynamic partnerships with families, alumni, and the community, Catholic Central has established a firm foundation for life-long learning.

This viewbook provides personalized perspectives of Catholic Central High School. We welcome you to explore the possibility of becoming a part of this remarkable school community. After you have read this viewbook and watched the enclosed CD, please call our admissions office to schedule a visit and shadow a student so you can discover the Catholic Central difference and experience it for a lifetime.



# Our Mission

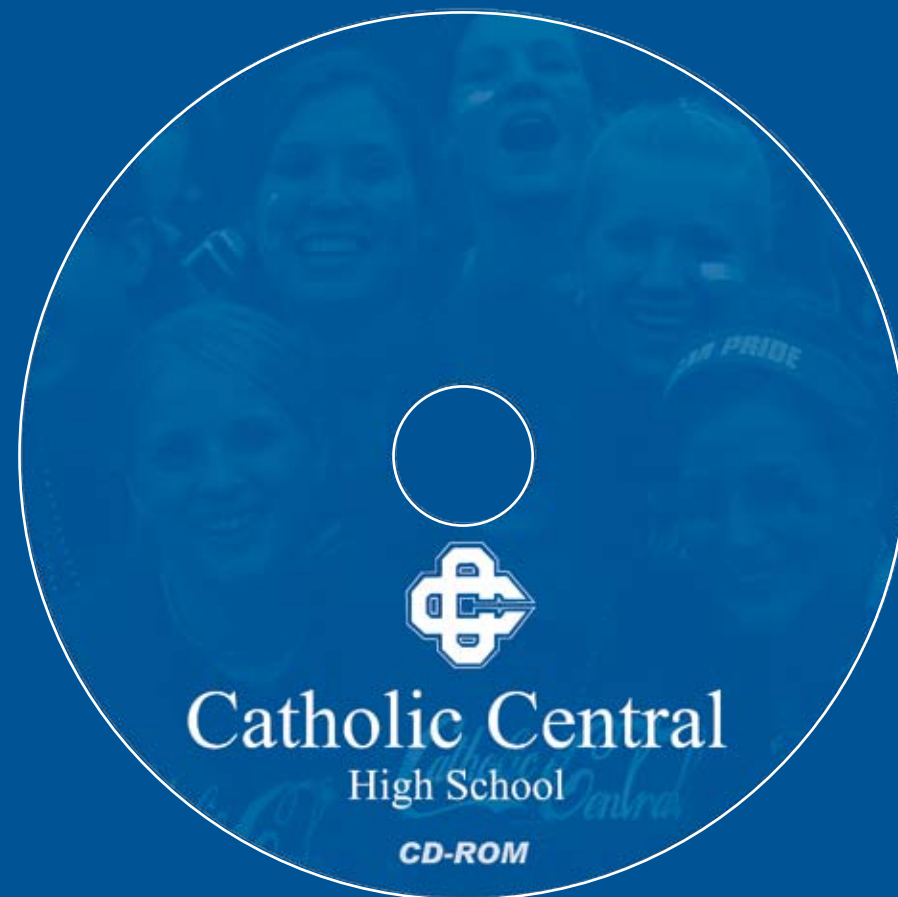
Grounded in Christ's teachings, the Catholic Secondary Schools (CSS) of Greater Grand Rapids will advance the formation and education of each student in spirit, mind and body.

## Catholic Central High School

Catholic Central High School is a Catholic, college-preparatory, secondary school for young men and women. The administrators, faculty and staff are dedicated to preparing men and women of faith to meet the future with moral values and standards of excellence. Our students learn to exercise Christian leadership and service through family, Church, and society. Catholic Central seeks cultural and socioeconomic diversity by drawing students from the Greater Grand Rapids area to its campus centrally located in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids.

## Fast Facts

- First coeducational diocesan high school in the country founded in 1906
- Total enrollment is 791 students with a student-teacher ratio of 18:1
- On average, 98% of CSS students enroll in colleges and universities after graduation
- Catholic Central students consistently score well above both the State and National averages for SAT and ACT scores
- CSS students have consistently earned millions of dollars in scholarship awards over the years
- Named one of the top 50 Catholic high schools in the country for three consecutive years by the Acton Institute
- Our students log more than 20,000 community service hours per year
- Many seniors are honored by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation
- More than 80% of students participate in extracurricular activities including varsity sports.



For an inside look at Catholic Central High School, simply place this CD in the CD-ROM drive of your computer.

# Atmosphere

When students first enter Catholic Central High School, they may not know in what area they will be most successful, in which class they will shine like no other, or on which athletic field they will prove their talents. They can be sure, however, that like those who have come before them, great achievements are the rewards of meeting the challenges presented here. The young men and women of Catholic Central have demonstrated that they have the dedication and gifts necessary to succeed everywhere. They are not afraid of challenges, and indeed, seek them out to improve themselves spiritually, academically, artistically, and athletically.

The community at Catholic Central reflects the diverse population of Grand Rapids. The school teaches students to view others of different ethnicity and backgrounds with respect. Students discover that differences can strengthen, not divide.





Students choosing Catholic Central are welcomed into a warm and caring educational community. It is a place where students are engaged in the learning process, encouraged by teachers to succeed and fueled by the energy of the students who surround them. It is an atmosphere that enables all students to excel.

The spirit of our rich tradition and close-knit community permeates the school. Classes begin with prayer and the Catholic faith is integrated into every subject area. Regular liturgical celebrations and yearly retreats affirm the spirit within our school community. This spirit manifests itself in tutoring and mentoring programs for young people, in collecting food and supplies for the needy, in visiting and assisting the elderly, and in building and repairing communities stricken by devastation here in Grand Rapids and beyond. As Catholic educators, we believe that Christian service is an inherent part of being a student at Catholic Central.

Catholic school identity is visible throughout the hallways and classrooms by an equal and modest dress standard that embodies the Catholic values system. The school uniform symbolizes the rich tradition and school spirit that creates an environment for focused learning.



# Academics

Educational excellence founded in our faith is the heart of Catholic Central. A stimulating environment for learning enables students to think independently and analytically, to problem-solve, and to communicate effectively. A full program is offered in religion, English, math, social studies, science, foreign languages, technology, art, drama as well as vocal and instrumental music. Courses are primarily college-preparatory, and some subjects offer honors and advanced placement level classes. The Catholic faith is integrated into every class, promoting the school's mission to educate students in spirit, mind, and body.

## Catholic Central offers Advanced Placement Courses in the following 10 subject areas:

- Biology
- Calculus
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- English Language & Composition
- English Literature & Composition
- Government
- Statistics
- US History

## Catholic Central offers Honors Courses in the following 14 subject areas:

- Algebra I
- Algebra II/Trigonometry
- American Literature & Composition
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Geometry
- French IV
- Integrated Science
- Latin IV
- Literature & Composition II
- Physics
- Pre-Calculus
- Spanish IV & V
- World History

Catholic Central offers 90 courses in 10 departments including vocational classes available through the Kent Career/Technical Center in 32 subject areas. Our honors and advanced placement courses receive a 1.25 quality point factor in computing the GPA and class rank. All professional staff are certified in their respective areas with sixty percent of our staff holding master's degrees and more than fifty percent having taught at least ten years. Our school day is made up of seven class periods, each 47 minutes long, spanning over two 18-week semesters. We also offer "zero hour" classes, which run before the actual school day begins. Twenty-four units of credit are required to earn a diploma from Catholic Central High School.

*Infinite Campus* connects parents, students and teachers to Catholic Central in a new way. Parents and students now have access to grades, assignments, progress comments from teachers and activities on-line. Both parents and students are given a separate code to enter *Infinite Campus* from the Catholic Central website.



# The Arts

The Fine Arts thrive at Catholic Central where students are offered complete programs in Art, Design, Drama, Vocal and Instrumental Music.

All students will experience the understanding, appreciation, and creation of the Arts in a Catholic Christian setting for life-long appreciation. Students will develop skills through

- Expressing oneself creatively in various media in the visual arts
- Critically evaluating the artistic works of self and others
- Comprehending the arts in an historical and cultural context
- Learning to be a discerning artist while manifesting an open mind to the arts in everyday life

Catholic Central's Choral Department consists of four choirs (Concert, Capella, Women's and Freshmen). These choirs serve the Diocese of Grand Rapids through many collaborative, liturgical events. The choirs consistently receive superior ratings at district and state choral competitions. Catholic Central's choirs toured Italy during the Summer of 2006, adding to their long list of international pilgrimages. Students have visited places such as Germany, Ireland and Poland for an unparalleled cultural experience abroad.

Each year, the Drama and Musical Theatre Departments perform well-known productions in both the fall and spring that are open to the entire student body. Previous plays and musicals have included *Les Miserables*, *West Side Story*, *The Diary of Anne Frank* and most recently *Jesus Christ Superstar*. In collaboration with students from West Catholic High School, a major Shakespearean production is performed each year. Past plays have included *Twelfth Night*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

The Cougar Marching Band performs throughout the fall season at home football games as well as marching competitions in West Michigan. In mid-October members of the Marching Band make the transition to the concert season. The Catholic Central Concert Band participates in the Carol Christmas Concert, Fine Arts Day, District Festival Competition, and a Spring Concert.

The Catholic Central String Orchestra performs at five formal concerts throughout the year. They also perform at school liturgies and have the option of participating in Solo and Ensemble Festival/Competition.









## Extracurricular Activities

Each student contributes to the life of the school through active participation in extracurricular activities. Students develop poise, confidence and leadership skills, by pursuing interests while seeking support from mentors.

- Color Guard (Flag Line)
- Anime Club
- Art Club
- Blue & White
- Book Club
- Class Advisors
- Debate Club
- Diversity Club
- Drama/Plays
- Earth Club
- French Club
- H.O.P.E. (Helping Out People Everywhere)
- Knitters and Crocheters
- Latin Club
- Lawn Sports
- National Honor Society
- Peace Jam
- Peer Ministry
- Principal Advisory Board
- Quiz Bowl
- Science Olympiad
- Spanish Club
- S.T.A.N.D. (Student Taking a New Direction)
- Student Ambassadors
- Student Congress
- Teens for Life
- Writers Group
- Yearbook

## 2005-2006 Successes

Baseball: City League Champions  
Football: State Runner-Up and City League Champions  
Girls Golf: Placed 6th overall in Division 3 State Finals and Regional Champions  
Boys Golf: City Champions  
Hockey: State Runner-Up and City League Champions  
Softball: Regional Champions and Tied for City League Champions  
Girls Tennis: Placed 9th in State Finals, Regional Champions and City League Champions

# Athletics

Athletics play an integral role in the formation of well-rounded students at Catholic Central. Competition is an essential ingredient of our athletic program and helps students learn how to deal with both winning and losing. Our athletes understand that hard work teaches rules, skills, self-discipline, cooperation, sportsmanship, respect and commitment to shared goals. This program is enhanced by state-of-the-art athletic facilities, dedicated coaching staff, and a faith integrated approach to athletic competition. The Cougars have captured a number of impressive titles affirming that self-discipline, team spirit and intense practice pays off!

Through the years the Cougars have won State Championships in Football, Boys Cross-Country, Girls Cross-Country, Baseball and Competitive Cheer. Additionally, numerous City League, District and Regional Championships are reflected in the school trophy cases.

Sports teams offered at Catholic Central High School:

### GIRLS

#### FALL

- Cheer
- Golf
- Swim & Dive
- Volleyball

#### WINTER

- Basketball
- Bowling
- Competitive Cheer
- Gymnastics
- Skiing

#### SPRING

- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track & Field

### BOYS

#### FALL

- Cross Country
- Football
- Tennis
- Soccer

#### WINTER

- Basketball
- Bowling
- Hockey
- Skiing
- Swim & Dive
- Wrestling

#### SPRING

- Baseball
- Lacrosse
- Golf
- Track & Field

Club sports offered at Catholic Central include Crew, Disc Golf, Equestrian, Rugby and Snow Boarding.







CATHOLIC CENTRAL  
HIGH SCHOOL

# Admissions

SPEND A DAY AT CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL! Catholic Central's Shadow Program gives prospective students the opportunity to shadow a Student Ambassador so he or she can catch a glimpse of academic life on our campus and experience the Cougar spirit! Students may visit on most school days from September through April. Please contact Nancy Beadling, Admissions Coordinator by phone: 616-233-5814 or by email: [nancybeadling@grcss.org](mailto:nancybeadling@grcss.org), to reserve a day for your visit.

| <b>What to do!</b>                             | <b>When to do it!</b>                 | <b>How to do it!</b>  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| Spend a day at Catholic Central!               | September - April                     | Call 616-233-5814 to schedule the visit   |
| Join us for Parent Information Nights          | October, January, February*           | Come and join us at 7:00 p.m. for a presentation & tour                             |
| Join us for Tuition/Financial Mgt. Class       | November and February*                | Call 616-233-5814 to reserve your spot  |
| Register for High School Placement Test (HSPT) | December *- January*                  | Please contact the Catholic Central Guidance Department at 616-233-5810 to register |
| Take the HSPT                                  | January*                              | Check in begins at 8:00 a.m.<br>Arrive no later than 8:15 a.m.                      |
| Register for Admission                         | Freshman Registration Night<br>March* | Come & sign up for a personal registration appointment with a Guidance Counselor    |

WELCOME TO THE COUGAR FAMILY!

**\*Please see insert for dates and times**

## Tuition

Tuition rates are determined in February of each school year. Please contact the Admissions Office at 616-233-5814 or [nancybeadling@grcss.org](mailto:nancybeadling@grcss.org) for the current tuition rate. A family may receive parish support from their participating parish reducing the total tuition due. Tuition is set up through direct debit on a 10-month billing cycle from July through April. Payments are deducted on the fifth of each month or the following business day if the fifth falls on a weekend or holiday. Tuition may also be paid in full to receive a \$100 per family discount if the payment is received by June 30th.

## Tuition Assistance

Catholic Central High School welcomes an economically diverse student population and offers a variety of tuition assistance options. One out of four students receives financial aid and grants are awarded on the basis of need as determined by the PSAS Tuition Aid program. All families interested in being considered for financial aid must complete a PSAS Tuition Application Form (available at the school office after the second week of February). The form must be mailed to the PSAS Tuition Assistance agency. Notification of each applicant's financial aid decision will be mailed in mid-May.

Additional tuition aid is available through the Catholic Central Willie Butler Education Fund. Families who apply for PSAS will receive a notification from Catholic Central in September regarding the application details and deadline. Awards from this fund range from \$200 to \$1,000 in additional assistance.

The Minority Scholars Program has been established to recognize achievement in scholastics, leadership and service among minority students from the West Michigan area. The Catholic Secondary Schools offer ten (10) scholarships per year to students entering Catholic Central High School. For program requirements and deadlines, please contact the Admissions Office by phone 616-233-5814, by email [nancybeadling@grcss.org](mailto:nancybeadling@grcss.org), or visit the Catholic Secondary Schools' website at [www.grcss.org](http://www.grcss.org).

SCRIP credits from partner schools and parishes may be applied to Catholic Central tuition. Families must notify their Parish SCRIP coordinator and request credits to be applied to their Catholic Central tuition account.

Catholic Central participates with the Meijer Community Rewards Program. Our school's participating Meijer account number is 801593. Meijer Community Rewards applications are available through the Business Office or the school's main office. Please call 616-233-5981 if you have questions relating to the Meijer Community Rewards Program.

Mercantile Bank offers Catholic Central families fee-free loan processing for those interested in mortgage refinance and school loan options. Families may contact Mercantile Bank at 616-785-5456 for further details.

Please contact the Grand Rapids Catholic Secondary Schools Business Office for additional tuition information at 616-233-5981.



## Catholic Central High School Administration

Steve Passinault  
Tom Maj  
Mike Neuman  
Heidi Smitley  
Tom Passinault  
Joel Passinault  
Kathie Walsh

Principal  
Assistant Principal  
Athletic Director  
Director of Guidance  
Guidance Counselor  
Guidance Counselor  
Campus Ministry

## Catholic Secondary Schools Administration

Reverend R. Louis Stasker  
John Young  
Nancy Beadling  
Chad Wieber  
Dauvan Mulally  
Arnette Kraus

Pastor/President  
Business Manager  
Admissions Coordinator  
Director of Development  
Director of Communications  
Director of Special Events



## COLLEGE Acceptance

Adrian College  
 Albion College  
 Alma College  
 Aquinas College  
 Art Institute of Chicago  
 Baker College  
 Ball State University  
 Berklee College of Music  
 Boston College  
 Calvin College  
 Central Michigan University  
 Chaminade University  
 Chic University of Cosmetology  
 Colgate University  
 College of Charleston  
 College of St. Rose-New York  
 College of Wooster  
 Colorado College  
 Columbia College  
 Concordia University  
 Cornerstone University  
 Davenport University  
 DePaul University  
 DePauw University  
 Dominican University  
 Douglas J. Aveda Institute of Cosmetology  
 Drake University  
 Drexel University

Eastern Michigan University  
 Excel College of Cosmetology  
 Fairfield University  
 Ferris State University  
 Florida State University  
 Grand Rapids Community College  
 Grand Valley State University  
 Great Lakes Maritime Academy  
 Hillsdale College  
 Hope College  
 Illinois Institute of Art  
 Illinois Wesleyan University  
 Indiana University  
 International Academy of Design & Technology  
 Jacksonville State University  
 John Carroll University  
 John & Wales University  
 Kalamazoo College  
 Kansas State University  
 Kettering University  
 Lake Superior State University  
 Lawrence Technological University  
 Loyola College-Maryland  
 Loyola University of Chicago  
 Marquette University  
 Miami of Ohio University  
 Michigan State University  
 Michigan Technological University

Niagara University  
 Northern Michigan University  
 Northwestern Michigan Community College  
 Northwestern University  
 Northwood University  
 Oakland University  
 Olivet College  
 Olympia Training Institute  
 Penn State University  
 Philadelphia University  
 Pikeville College  
 Portland State University  
 Purdue University  
 Reformed Bible College  
 Regis University  
 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology  
 Saginaw Valley State University  
 St. Louis University  
 St. Joseph College-Indiana  
 St. Mary's College-Indiana  
 St. Norbert College  
 Savannah College of Art & Design  
 Siena Heights College  
 Seton Hall University  
 Spelman University  
 St. Benedict/St. John's University  
 St. Edward's University

St. John's University—New York  
 St. Norbert College  
 St. Xavier University  
 University of Akron  
 University of British Columbia  
 University of Dayton  
 University of Detroit Mercy  
 University of Illinois Chicago  
 University of the Incarnate Word  
 University of Maine  
 University of Michigan  
 University of Missouri  
 University of Notre Dame  
 University of Portland  
 University of San Diego  
 University of St. Thomas  
 University of Texas  
 University of Toledo  
 US Naval Academy (Prep School)  
 US Air Force Academy  
 Valparaiso University  
 Villanova University  
 Washington University—St. Louis  
 Wayne State University  
 West Virginia University  
 Western Michigan University  
 Xavier University



# Higher Expectations

### Philosophy:

Catholic Central recognizes the students and their concern for growth as a primary concern. It seeks to provide for all students a supportive, safe environment conducive to academic endeavor, social interaction and individual self-discipline.

### Code of Conduct:

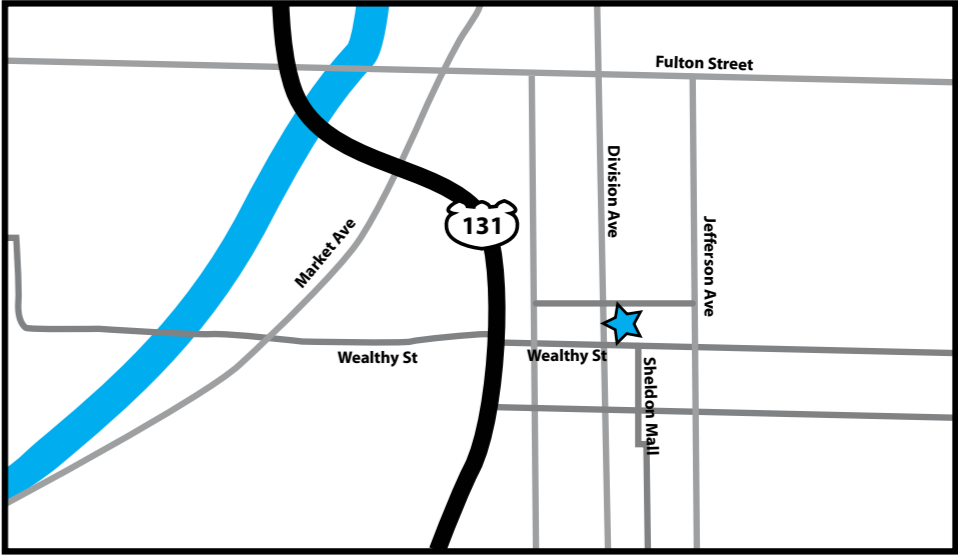
Catholic Central fosters every student's desire for excellence in all areas of life. The underlying rationale is one of respect for all persons, property, authority, faith, academics and the culture and environment within which every member of the Catholic Central community must function. Whether on or off campus, students are required to maintain the level of conduct and courtesy expected of a Catholic Central student.

### Student Dignity:

The Catholic Secondary Schools expect all students to conduct themselves with dignity and with respect for fellow students, faculty, staff and others. Harassment of any nature includes any conduct that may reasonably be offensive to others in an educational organization. Harassing anyone will not be tolerated.

### Uniform:

In an effort to reinforce our Catholic school identity and promote a modest, yet casual dress standard that is in keeping with our values, Catholic Central High School requires a school uniform. The uniform is outlined in the student handbook.



Our campus is located at 319 Sheldon, S.E. in Grand Rapids, Michigan just minutes from US 131 and I-96. Please visit our website [www.grcatholiccentral.com](http://www.grcatholiccentral.com) for a map and driving directions.



Place Stamp Here

[www.grcatholiccentral.com](http://www.grcatholiccentral.com)

**Grand Rapids Catholic Secondary Schools  
Attn: Admissions Dept.  
P.O. Box 327  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0327**



## Come visit Catholic Central High School Campus!

See for yourself how Catholic Central High School is the right choice for you. You may tour the campus, athletic facilities, and talk to faculty and current students. Experience “Cougar Pride” first hand by calling our Admissions Department today. We will arrange an appointment for your personal tour.

### For more information:

Please visit our website at [www.grcatholiccentral.com](http://www.grcatholiccentral.com) or contact:

Nancy Beadling, Admissions Coordinator  
Catholic Secondary Schools  
P.O. Box 327  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0327  
616-233-5814  
[nancybeadling@grcss.org](mailto:nancybeadling@grcss.org)

## Please send more information on Catholic Central High School

- Please contact me regarding Catholic Central High School.
- I would like information on tuition rates.
- I would like information on financial aid, and scholarship opportunities.
- I would like a tour of Catholic Central High School.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Athletic/Arts/Activities: \_\_\_\_\_



# Catholic Central High School



Catholic Central High School  
319 Sheldon Mall SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

[www.grcatholiccentral.com](http://www.grcatholiccentral.com)