



Enter to Learn
Leave to Serve

NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. ENROLLMENT:** Northside Catholic School enrollment in grades K-8 is 136. We have one class per grade. We also have 3 & 4 year old Preschool programs.
- 2. CURRICULUM:** We have support through Title 1 Services for Reading, Math and Speech. The grading system is consistent with Diocesan guidelines.
- 3. COMMUNICATION:** Option C is utilized for sharing school notes, lunch menus, calendars, ongoing assessment and messaging with students and parents. There is a weekly Parish bulletin column by the faculty. Finally, there are take home Anti-Bullying folders and Homework Assignment books in place. Communication is encouraged between the home and school. Teachers utilize email and some teachers have web pages for their subjects/homerooms.
- 4. SCHOOL HOURS:** The school office is open from 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. School Doors open at 7:45 for students to go to their homerooms. Students must be in Homeroom by 8:10 otherwise they will be marked “tardy”. Dismissal is at 2:40.
- 5. DRESS CODE:** Students in grades K-5 wear navy pants or skirts/jumpers with a white or navy short or long sleeved shirt with a collar. No logo. They may elect to purchase a light gray sweatshirt with the school emblem, or they can wear white or navy sweaters. No “hoodies” are to be worn in the classroom. Students in grades 6-8 have the same uniform with the additional choice of tan khaki pants/skirt with white or navy shirts. Walking shorts of navy (K-5) or khaki or navy (6-8) may be worn April 1 through the end of October.
- 6. SAFETY-SECURITY:** Our school has audio and visual monitors at the entrances. Students enter through the main doors in the morning and leave the building the same way. All doors are locked throughout the school day. Bus students have a designated Entrance/Exit closer to the bus stop. The principal and teachers attend to the doors at arrival and dismissal. Visitors sign in and wear name tags and are escorted when in the building. Our school has a safety program in place for all hazards, emergencies or needs that may arise in which the students need to “shelter in place”, lockdown, or go to an off-site location. Also, we are compliant with Diocesan Guidelines for Safe Environment: all personnel have all necessary clearances.
- 7. SERVICE PROJECTS:** Northside Catholic supports several service projects including mission projects for Chimbote, Missionary Childhood Association, the Parish Food bank, Little Sisters of the Poor; recycling projects, and support to our Veterans and Active Duty Armed Forces.
- 8. STUDENT ACTIVITIES:** include Student Council, Altar Servers, All School Music Program, Band, and various Athletics.
- 9. TRANSITION:** “Buddies” are assigned to all new students to help with the transition. “Mass Buddies” help students at Mass and through other school activities.

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- 10. BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL programs.** These two programs are available Monday – Friday when school is in session on full days only for additional nominal fees. Morning Care 7:00 a.m. -7:45 a.m.; Afternoon Care 2:50 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
- 11. BUS TRANSPORTATION:** The City of Pittsburgh provides bus transportation to our school if you live beyond 1 ½ miles from the school. We also have students from North Hills, Shaler and Sto-Rox coming via school bus. We currently have a total of 53 students served by the 7 buses.
- 12. BREAKFAST and LUNCH PROGRAM:** We offer a free Breakfast and Hot Lunch Program that is provided to all the students as part of the National School Lunch Program. Students may also pack their lunches. The lunch is served in the Church Hall. Students are escorted by their teacher to the lunchroom. The lunchroom is monitored by the principal and teachers. Parents are encouraged to volunteer to help in the lunch room as long as they have their Diocesan clearances. A nominal fee (\$40) is paid and returned as the volunteer days are filled. Students have recess in grades K-8.
- 13. VOLUNTEERS:** We welcome and encourage our parents to volunteer through the PTG and Athletic Association as well as for classroom events, Musicals, field trips, the Scholastic Book Fair, parish/school dinners etc. and fundraising events. For the safety of all the children, all volunteers **must meet the requirements of the Diocesan Safe Environment Policy.**
- 14. PTG:** Our PTG is “run” by a board. It is a volunteer based organization. The PTG sponsors a fundraiser to provide resources for assemblies, speakers, offset field trip transportation, The Santa Store, Fun Day, special luncheons throughout the year for the students and teachers, Scholastic Book Fair etc. All parents are welcome and invited to participate.
- 15. ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION:** The Athletic Association is an organization of parent volunteers interested in the various sports teams and activities offered to the students. They have a board of directors and elect officers. Monthly meetings are conducted. It is open to all parents. They are active and help maintain our school gym as well as provide coaches for the Basketball, Football and Cheerleading teams and squads in addition to the instructional program for K-2! COSTS: \$55/child/sport or \$80/family.
- 16. TUITION:** Tuition for the 2017-2018 school year is \$3,600 per child, however discounts are available for additional children. Parents are strongly urged to apply for BEF and SOS funds through the Diocese. The Poise Foundation, Junior Achievement, Bridge Foundation and Kremer Foundation have also been sources for school aid.
- 17. FUNDRAISING:** All school families are required to participate in at least 2 fundraisers in some capacity, such as donating gift, food and beverage items, or monetary donations. Families may also purchase Christmas and Easter Candy, or attend one of the Fundraisers such as Night at the Races, or Gala. These fundraisers are necessary to fulfill the fundraising component of the school budget.