

ST. FRANCIS SPOTLIGHT.. ON ACADEMICS

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St. Francis de Sales School is part of a long history of academic excellence in Catholic education. Catholic schools traditionally impart values, discipline, and structure within a strong academic framework.

Sr. Kathryn Ann Connelly cites 6 secrets to the success of Catholic schools:

- ◆ **Catholic schools develop positive Catholic identity** – In Catholic schools there is a culture and an identity that is distinctively religious. It provides experiences and opportunities for youngsters to know that God is a very real presence in life.
- ◆ **Catholic families want to pass on their traditions** – Catholic schools ensure that the Catholic tradition is passed on to children, who are the future Church.
- ◆ **Catholic schools develop the whole person** – In 1997 the Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education wrote, “The Catholic School should be able to offer young people the means to acquire knowledge they need in order to find a place in society which is strongly characterized by technical and scientific skill. But at the same time,

it should be able, above all, to impart a solid Christian formation.”

- ◆ **Children learn best in a disciplined environment** – Discipline has become synonymous with respect and responsibility. Children are taught to be responsible for their actions. In a spirit of justice and charity, youngsters are encouraged to respect themselves and their neighbor.
- ◆ **Local finance and governance make schools work** – Today the stakeholders in Catholic schools are the families who send their children and the parish that supports them.
- ◆ **Catholic schools are good for everyone’s future** – Catholic schools provide anchors to neighborhoods in cities, towns, and suburbs. They encourage service to others. They help students assume a sense of civic responsibility; they encourage a thirst for justice and for peace.



National Stats

99% of Catholic high school students graduate.

97% of those students go on to post-secondary education.

Catholic school students perform better than other students on the three basic objectives of civic education – the capacity for civic engagement (e.g. voluntary community service), political knowledge (e.g. learning and using civic skills), and political tolerance (e.g. respect for opinions different from their own) (results taken from a 2000 Harvard University Study).

Local Stats

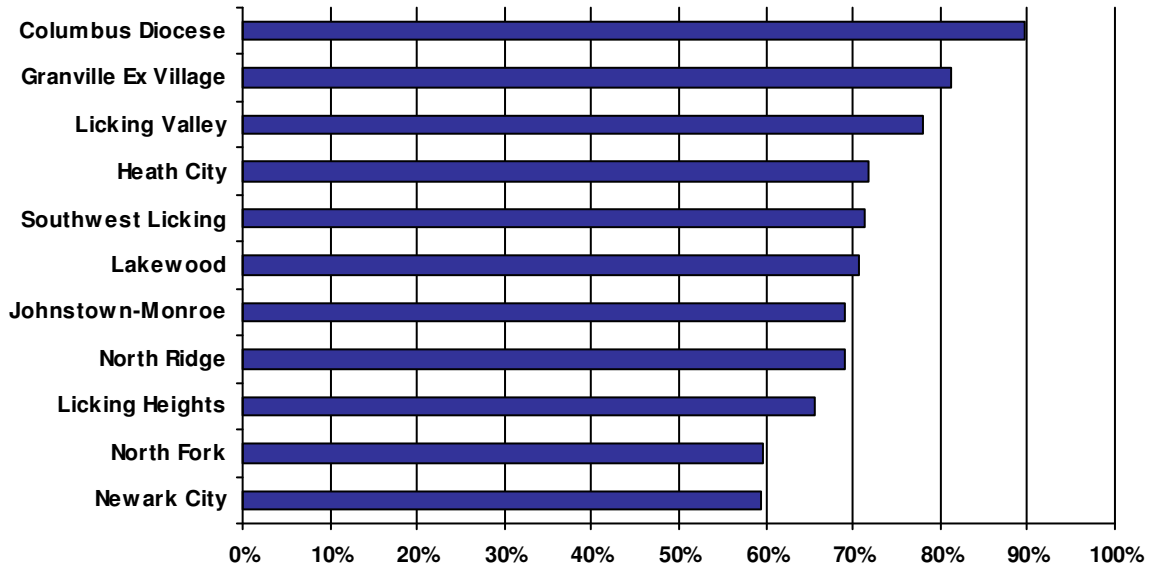
Ohio Graduation Test

The Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) replaced the Ninth Grade Proficiency Exam and includes assessment of the same 5 subjects: Citizenship, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing.

Local results are listed on the bar graph on the following page.

Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT) Results 2007

Data from Ohio Department of Education www.ode.state.oh.us



Terra Nova Testing

Locally, we participate in the Terra Nova standardized test every October. This year grades 4-8 will participate.

The Terra Nova includes multiple choice, short answer, extended response, matching, and interpretation of graphs, diagrams, and drawings. St. Francis de Sales School uses the data collected from these tests to evaluate, plan, and establish educational priorities.

We are proud at St. Francis de Sales School to be a part of the success story of our students and graduates!

We hope you are too.

National Standardized Test Results 2008

