

Executive Summary:

Describe the school's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school serves?

St. Charles Borromeo Parish School provides a high-quality academic and religious education for boys and girls in grades PreK-3 through 8th grade. Operating within the Diocese of Trenton, St. Charles is centrally located in Cinnaminson, New Jersey and draws students from over 12 area school districts and 13 sending parishes. On average, St. Charles Borromeo School enrolls approximately 300 students in grades PreK-3 to 8. The small school size creates a personalized, nurturing environment where students can flourish. The school's focus is on four educational groups - early childhood, primary, upper elementary, and middle grades – in order to meet the unique academic and social needs of children at these stages of development.

The St. Charles Borromeo student body is representative of the demographics of the communities and parishes it serves based on available information. The school population is 91.5 % White, 1.7% Asian, 0.7 % Pacific Islander, 2.7% Hispanic, and 3.4 % Black. The school population is 95% Catholic and 5% other religious denominations.

Cinnaminson, New Jersey is a stable, well-populated community that is still growing. This past year, 16 new homes have been completed within a quarter mile of the school. Possessing a good public school district, Cinnaminson is a popular destination for young re-locating families and within the township, St. Charles Borromeo School, has remained a strong and viable alternative to public education. Many public schools in the area offer a half-day Kindergarten program and limited Pre-K options. Having a full day Kindergarten, Pre K 3 and 4 program along with after school care, has made St. Charles a cost effective option for working families. Due to these factors and along with a well-respected and certified faculty the enrollment of St. Charles School has increased over the past three years.

Provide the school's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs. Describe how the school embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

The mission of St. Charles Borromeo Parish School in partnership with parents is to educate and inspire all students to reach their highest academic potential. In a Christ-centered atmosphere our students are empowered to live the Gospel message and to become life long learners who contribute to our global society.

The administration and staff of St. Charles Borromeo School dedicate themselves to the spiritual and intellectual education of the children entrusted to our care. In order to provide a well-balanced curriculum, we offer programs that address the physical, emotional, and artistic needs of our students, which we recognize to be important components of a good education.

In keeping with the charism of the Sisters of Mercy who first staffed our school, we

emphasize both the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy throughout our educational program. We believe our students will understand the Gospel message more clearly when they can be of service to others. In accord with the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, we stress service to individual families, community, country, and the world over self-service.

We strive to appreciate and nurture the special and unique talents each child brings, with the hope that our students will come to respect, appreciate, and applaud each person's individuality. We believe the educational process is a genuine Christian journey, drawing its inspiration and strength from the Gospel in which it is rooted. We collaborate with parents to be outstanding educators and form strong partnerships between the school and family. We strive to provide a non-violent atmosphere that is conducive to excellence in teaching, learning, living, and growing in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ.

We believe that each child should learn that God is always a part of their lives.

We believe in the values revealed through the Gospels, centered in God's love and the Catholic faith, which permeate all aspects of the St. Charles Borromeo community.

We believe that every child has the right to be treated with kindness, fairness and respect at all times and in all circumstances.

We believe in mutual respect and an appreciation of diversity as essential to achieving unity and global harmony.

We believe that each student should be challenged to achieve academic excellence.

We believe in a holistic, interactive academic environment that is respectful of the learning style and needs of each individual.

We believe in the development of critical thinking and problem solving skills, creativity, and a commitment to life-long learning.

We believe in the necessity to have a secure, caring and enthusiastic environment, which has a consistent code of conduct.

We believe in the promotion of self-discipline, self-discovery and self-worth, in order to encourage personal responsibility, accountability, growth and fulfillment.

We believe in the need to provide opportunities for community service and co-curricular involvement in order to develop personal growth, which builds pride and ownership in the St. Charles Borromeo family beyond the classroom.

Parents are recognized as the primary educators of their children and they collaborate with teachers and administrators as partners in education. The school is sensitive to the needs of working families and provides before and after school care, full-day kindergarten and pre-school.

St. Charles Borromeo School provides children with academic excellence enhanced with traditional Christian values. The faculty and staff have the unique opportunity to mold every aspect of a child's growth and development spiritually and academically. Through prayer, religious instruction, liturgies, and daily interaction, students become rooted in faith.

Hallmarks of St. Charles Borromeo School include high academic standards, self-discipline, safety, a sense of community and belonging. Teachers and staff model respect for all and an acceptance of each child's talents, abilities, and personal challenges. Educators create a safe, loving environment that encourages students to

believe in their capabilities and to work toward their potential.

A variety of learning strategies are used to connect with the child's framework of understanding. With a strong core curriculum provided by the Diocese of Trenton, along with classes in technology, drama, music, world language and physical education, the child's experience is diverse and prepares them for an ever-changing world in which thinking is not only a habit, but a way of life.

Describe the school's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in the next three years.

In 2014-2015 St. Charles Borromeo School celebrated 50 years of Catholic Education. This milestone was commemorated with a special yearbook to highlight the history and accomplishments of the school from 1964 to 2014.

During the last three years there was an increase in student population due to the addition of a full day Kindergarten, Pre K 3 and Pre K 4 program with available before and after-school care.

Technology was expanded with the upgrade of the computer lab, which included 25 new computers, a new operating system and server. A mobile station of iPads was added to the school media center, while classroom computers were replaced and additional SmartBoards were purchased.

In 2015-2016 a new iPad cart will be purchased for grades PK to 3. The mobile iPad carts will be located on each floor of the building to make usage more convenient and accessible to the classroom teachers.

Textbooks were upgraded with a new reading series implemented in first, second and third grades. The acquisition of this new series transitioned younger students to a more differentiated learning experience. A science series was purchased and infused into second grade, while 8th grade received updated social studies books with an online component. The Diocese of Trenton implemented a new Technology and Media Curriculum that has been utilized throughout the grade levels.

A newly expanded playground for Pre K and Kindergarten was installed to provide a safe and stimulating environment for the school's youngest students. A new classroom phone system was installed for the convenience of in-school communication and the school building was updated with new security doors, cameras and other safety measures.

In 2014-2015 St. Charles Borromeo School formulated an Alumni Association and with the popularity of social media created school and Alumni Facebook and Twitter accounts to keep stakeholders informed of school events, activities, news and accomplishments.

The school website has provided links to the Genesis Parent Portal for online grade and attendance information and visitors and potential students can now download the school registration packet and information directly from the school website.

Our graduates continue to become life long learners- making strides in high school and career plans. In the fall of 2014, four of the graduates of the SCB Class of 2011 were named as officers in the National Honor Society of Holy Cross High School. Others have received college scholarships for both sports and academics. As we

celebrate our fiftieth year, we have received congratulations from our distinguished alumni who have achieved success in various fields such as law, politics, education, medicine, biology, chemistry, media, theatre and the arts. We are proud of our graduates!

In the next few years exciting plans are in the works for St. Charles Borromeo School. A new modular building is being constructed for the expansion of the Pre K program. The newly purchased reading series will be expanded into grades 4 and 5 and teachers are researching and implementing instruction into the area of STEM based learning (**S**cience **T**echnology **E**ngineering **M**ath).