



THE CHESTERTON SCHOOLS NETWORK

JOYFULLY CATHOLIC, CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOLS

The Chesterton Schools Network (CSN) is an educational initiative of The Society of G.K. Chesterton, a Catholic lay apostolate dedicated to evangelizing through education. The Network inspires and supports the launch and sustained operations of joyfully Catholic, classical, and affordable high schools with comprehensive curricula, operational toolkits, and services. Each member school is sponsored by the Society, but separately incorporated and locally governed. Students are enrolled at over 50 member schools across the United States and Canada with additional affiliate schools worldwide.

OUR MISSION. The mission of Chesterton Academy is to raise up a generation of joyful leaders and saints, educated in the classical tradition and the truths of the Catholic faith. Through our Three Pillars model, we place a special emphasis on:

- the development of **strong intellectual habits** of the mind;
- **character growth and leadership**;
- **spiritual formation** and the opportunity to grow in faith, hope, and charity

OUR CURRICULUM. Students at Chesterton Academy enjoy a cohesive, content-rich education. Our scholars benefit from a broad exposure to many different disciplines, which helps expand their interest and their ability to think critically. The four-year, integrated core curriculum takes students from the ancient world to the modern world. All students are required to take four years of math and science. Four years of the fine arts are also required. Each year builds on the previous, so that by the end of senior year, our graduates are well-rounded, articulate, and clear-thinking.

Our humanities curriculum is based upon reading primary sources and discussing them in a Socratic environment. The reading list is drawn from the classics of the Western world. It includes literature such as the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, the *Divine Comedy* and Shakespeare, as well as the philosophy of Plato, Aristotle and Aquinas. Speech and writing are incorporated into every class, including the sciences.

The science curriculum uses college preparatory texts that take students through the foundations of scientific inquiry, Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Mathematics instruction takes students through Euclidean and Analytical Geometry, Algebra II, Trigonometry, and Calculus or Statistics. In the fine arts, students study music history and sing all four years in our choir. In addition, all students put on full-length drama productions during their sophomore, junior and senior year. Art studio and art history are also required all four years.

2023-2024 NETWORK PROFILE

LEADERSHIP

The Society of G.K. Chesterton

- Dale Ahlquist, President
- Emily de Rotstein, Executive Director
- Joe Grabowski, VP, Evangelization

The Chesterton Schools Network

- Brenie Bowles, Vice President
- Dr. Robert Jackson, Senior Fellow
- Dr. Eric DeMeuse, Academic Dean and Headmaster, Chesterton Academy of Milwaukee
- Dr. Joshua Russell, Academic Dean and Headmaster, Chesterton Academy of the Sacred Heart, Peoria, IL

LOCATION

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OUR PATRON, G.K. CHESTERTON

Chesterton Academy is named for the Englishman Gilbert Keith Chesterton (1874 - 1936), who was considered one of the world's most outstanding men of letters in the early 20th century. As patron of the Chesterton Schools Network, he represents the fullness of faith and reason, but also Catholic joy, charity, and common sense.

COURSES BY DISCIPLINE

Chesterton Academy students complete the following four-year curriculum in order to graduate:

HUMANITIES

Literature	4 years
History	4 years
Philosophy	4 years
Theology	4 years
Latin	2 years
Modern Lang.	2 years

MATH/SCIENCE

Mathematics	4 years
Science	4 years

FINE ARTS

Art	4 years
Drama	3 years
Music	4 years

ADDITIONAL COURSES

PhysEd	4 years
Health	1 year
Capstone	1 year

CHESTERTON ATHLETIC TEAMS



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE

The majority of Chesterton Schools Network graduates go on to attend four-year colleges and universities. Students from Chesterton Academy of the Twin Cities, for example, have been accepted to a wide range of institutions, including:

Catholic Colleges and Universities

Ave Maria University
Belmont Abbey College
Benedictine College
Boston College
Catholic University of America
Christendom College
University of Dallas
Franciscan University of Steubenville
St. John Paul the Great University
St. Catherine University
Thomas Aquinas College
University of Mary
University of Notre Dame
University of St. Thomas
– St. John Vianney College Seminary

Private Colleges and Universities

Augsburg College
Baylor University
Berklee College of Music
Florida Institute of Technology
Hillsdale College
Milwaukee School of Engineering
St. Olaf College
University of Tulsa

Public Colleges and Universities

University of Illinois, College of Engineering
Dunwoody College of Technology
Metropolitan State University
North Hennepin Community College
Normandale Community College
Minneapolis Community and Tech College
Minnesota State University - Mankato
Montana State University
University of Kentucky
University of Minnesota Twin Cities
– College of Science and Engineering
– Carlson School of Management
– College of Liberal Arts
University of Minnesota - Duluth
– Swenson College of Science and Engineering
University of Nebraska Lincoln
North Dakota State University
United States Naval Academy
University of North Dakota
University of South Dakota
University of Wisconsin River Falls
University of Wisconsin Stout

OTHER ENDEAVORS

Our alumni have pursued other post-graduate endeavors, including: United States Marine Corps NET Ministries; The Atelier Studio Program of Fine Art; gap year teaching English at the Chesterton Academy of Italy.

VOCATIONS

Several of our alumni are discerning the priesthood or religious life. Several of our alumni are studying for the priesthood at St. John Vianney College Seminary at the University of St. Thomas.

OUR TRANSCRIPT. Chesterton Academy is on a two semester system and uses number grades on our transcripts. Our grade point average (GPA) calculations are based on a 4.0, unweighted scale.

Grade	Percentage	GPA
A	93 and above	4.0
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	0.67
F	0-59	0.00

HONORS CLASSES. Honors classes are designated as such when their rigor exceeds the expectations of a regular high school course. Courses labeled as Honors incorporate the reading of multiple primary sources, honors or college-level materials; participation in Socratic discussions and seminars; and challenging assignments which include both written and oral presentations. Honors classes are denoted with an asterisk on the transcript.

HONOR CRITERIA AND DISTINCTION.

The following distinctions are awarded each year based on GPA for that year:

First Honors: Cumulative GPA for that year of 3.90 and above

Second Honors: Cumulative GPA for that year of 3.80 - 3.89

Latin Honors are awarded at graduation based on cumulative GPA (all four years)

Summa Cum Laude: 3.90 or higher

Magna Cum Laude: 3.80 - 3.89

Cum Laude: 3.67 - 3.79

AWARDS. Chesterton Academy awards the following unique distinctions:

Socrates Award. Awarded to the senior who manifests the best spirit of discourse in classroom discussion.

G.K. Chesterton Award. Awarded to the senior who has exemplified the great virtues of charity and joy so evident in our patron, G.K. Chesterton.

Best Essay Award. Awarded to the senior who wrote the best essay during the academic year.

STANDARDIZED TEST RESULTS. Our rigorous and integrated curriculum prepares students for success on the SAT, ACT, and CLT (Classic Learning Test) exams, and positions students to do well on AP, CLEP and SAT subject exams. Our students are required to take the CLT standardized test and routinely score several points above the national average.

HOUSE SYSTEM AND STUDENT LIFE. Schools across the Chesterton Schools Network offer a wide range of extracurricular activities, including:

ATHLETICS

Basketball (boys & girls)
Baseball (boys)
Bowling (co-ed)
Cross Country (co-ed)
Fencing (boys & girls)
Rugby (boys)
Soccer (boys & girls)
Softball (girls)
Volleyball (girls)

EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES

Chamber Singers
Schola (Men's and Women's)
Mock Trial Competition
Yearbook Club
Robotics Club
Prayer Team
Pro-Life Club
March for Life DC Pilgrimage
Rome and Assisi Pilgrimage

THE HOUSE SYSTEM

Our House system draws on the 1,000 year-old tradition of Christian education exemplified in the colleges at Oxford and Cambridge. Each student is assigned to one of four houses with many opportunities to lead as a House Prefect or Assistant Prefect. Houses organize activities and competitions centered on social, spiritual, service, and scholarship.

THE HOUSES OF CHESTERTON ACADEMY

