

Dear 8th Grade Parents,

The Archdiocese's Catholic High Schools have begun the enrollment process for the 2021-2022 academic year. The Cooperative Admissions Program (COOP) is designed to assist 8th-grade students and their families as the student seeks admission to Catholic high school. Information about each Catholic high school in the Archdiocese of Newark can be found at <https://catholicschoolsnj.org/high-school-guide/>

The Archdiocesan High schools use the student's grades from 6th, 7th and 8th grade and standardized testing results in making admissions decisions. Schools also consider a student's record of satisfactory attendance and conduct, as well as recommendations from teachers and/or principals. Many secondary schools have additional criteria for admission such as visits, essays, etc. Regardless of other requirements, students may not begin high school unless they have successfully completed 8th grade. Please consult the individual high school for additional information about their application process.

Learning about High Schools

1. The student and parents should make a list of the important considerations in choosing a high school and use the list in determining which high schools seem to be a "good match".
2. Gather more information about the schools that interest you. Contact the admissions office or visit the school's website.
3. Visit the school. Take advantage of opportunities for in-person or virtual tours and events for prospective applicants.
4. Find out about admissions requirements for the schools to which you want to apply. Since many students are interested in Catholic education, it is necessary to meet all deadlines set by the individual high schools.

Ninth Grade Applicant Record

The Ninth Grade Applicant Record form is a very important part of the Cooperative Admissions Program, especially in the absence of HSPT scores. The Ninth Grade Applicant Record gives the student's current school permission to provide the student's selected high schools with a copy of the student's school record. The Ninth Grade Applicant Record gives the student the opportunity to indicate their first, second, and third choice high schools. Please note that the COOP Exam Program/HSPT is **canceled this year** due to the COVID19 health crisis and safety concerns for all students.

The Ninth Grade Applicant Record form is attached and can be downloaded from www.njcoopexam.org. The student's parent or guardian completes the *Permission for Release of Records* section, the *Student Information* section, and the *High School Choice* section of this form. The student gives the signed form to the 8th grade teacher, counselor, or principal at the student's current school no later than **November 6th**. The appropriate staff member at the student's current school fills in the *School Record Information* section, and *Student Performance* section, signs the form on the bottom of page 2, and makes a copy for each of the student's high school choices. The student's current school should mail a copy of the completed Ninth Grade Applicant Record form, along with a copy of the student's cumulative record and standardized testing scores, **to each of the student's high school choices**. The elementary school is

responsible for making sure the designated high schools receive the completed Ninth Grade Applicant Record no later than **December 7, 2020**. It is important that the high schools receive all information requested in the School Record Information section of the Ninth Grade Applicant Record, along with a copy of the student's standardized test results.

The high schools will notify applicants of admissions decisions on **Friday, January 15, 2021**.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or the Schools office.

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