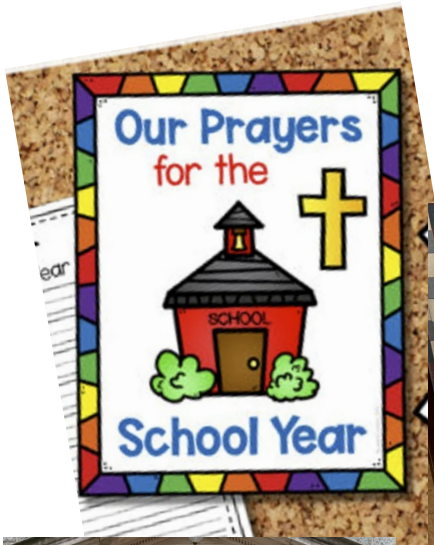
Catch-Up with the Council

A publication of the Chester County Advisory Council for Elementary Education

October 2026 edition

A New School Year! 2026-2027

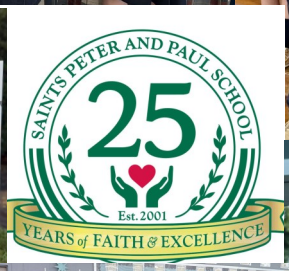
























This year marks the 175th anniversary of Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Every year, the Office of Catholic Education of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia recognizes

Archdiocesan Schools of Distinguished Instruction

This honor is based on two recognitions for **Growth** and for **Exceeding Potential**.

Recognition for Growth was determined by comparing the Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) scores from the 2025-2026 school year's testing with the results from the previous year. Schools that had a majority of classes, at least 80%, show academic growth in all content areas were named a School of Distinguished Instruction for Growth.

Recognition for Exceeding Potential was determined by analyzing data from two sections of the Terra Nova testing: the InView, which provides data on cognitive ability/potential, and the achievement results of the Terra Nova. Schools with students who met or exceeded their anticipated academic potential in all content areas across 80% of grade levels tested were named a School of Distinguished Instruction for Exceeding Potential.

Congratulations to the Catholic elementary schools in Chester County who have been consistently named *Schools of Distinguished Instruction*!

A special note of congratulations goes to
St. Joseph School and **St. Norbert School**
who received this distinction in both categories for 2026!





We are so proud of our Catholic schools in Chester County!

Bishop Keith J. Chylinski, *A Philly Treasure*



Although **Bishop Chylinski** was born in Schenectady, New York and also lived for a bit in Connecticut, he spent his formative years in Pennsylvania. His home parish of Our Lady of Assumption is located in Chester County, and he attended a Chester County High School, Conestoga.

The Bishop took piano lessons at the age of 5 and eventually became a "piano man" and graduated from Temple University's Boyer School of Music with a Bachelor of Music degree. He put that degree to great use as the Music Director at Corpus Christi Parish in Lansdale, PA before making his way to St Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, PA. His ordination to the priesthood occurred in 2007.

Bishop Chylinski was consecrated on March 7, 2024 at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul by Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez, with Auxiliary Bishop John J. McIntyre and Bishop Michael Burbidge as co-consecrators. He currently serves as Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Education within the Archdiocese.

Bishop Chylinski has administrative responsibilities for the Ministry of Catholic Education. He exercises leadership and authority over the secretaries and directors responsible for supporting the Office for Catholic Education, including elementary schools, secondary schools, and schools of special education. In that role, he also maintains relationships with Catholic colleges and universities in our local Church.

We are blessed and honored to have the Bishop's experiences, expertise, and talents in service to the families and students in Chester County.





Supporting 175 Years of Catholic Education

This year marks the 175th anniversary of Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

There are 102 Elementary Schools and 33,000 students making up the community that is the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Elementary Schools.

The Executive Board of Elementary Education (EBEE) of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia operates under the authority of the Archbishop of Philadelphia, Most Reverand Nelson J. Perez. The EBEE meets four times a year and meetings are chaired by Bishop Chylinski.

What is the EBEE?

The purpose of EBEE is to address the demographic changes, enrollment trends, and the long-term financial stability for the parish elementary schools. It also advances missionary discipleship and promotes the elementary schools as centers of excellence, innovation, and community.

The Board works closely with the Office of Catholic Education (OCE) and county level Advisory Councils supported by the Foundation for Catholic Education. Together they strengthen the financial stability of the schools by engaging in targeted marketing and strategic enrollment efforts.



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Dr. Angela Rufo

Council Members

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Ex officio

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Have ideas for our next newsletter?

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The Council works in conjunction with The Foundation for Catholic Education to offer the best education possible in our Chester County Catholic schools.