



November 15, 2022

Dear Catholic School Leaders,

“ ‘Thank you’ is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding.” -Alice Walker

I love this quote because it reminds us how powerful a simple “thank you” can be. I love that Mrs. Walker, one of my favorite American literature writers, equates saying “thank you” not only with extreme gratitude, but also with humility and understanding. In this season of thanksgiving, let us reflect on the true power behind each “thank you”. To say thank you is to acknowledge all those blessings in our lives that we may sometimes take for granted. To say thank you is to understand that we need each other on a daily basis, that we cannot do everything alone. It is a humbling experience to say thank you and recognize those around us who help us in small and in big ways. So, please allow me to say, “thank you”. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, for everything you do day in and day out in support of our students. Your hard work, dedication and personal sacrifices don’t go unnoticed. You make a difference and we at the Office for Schools are grateful for you.

As most of you are aware, the nation’s report card was recently released. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) showed Catholic Schools Excelling Post-Pandemic. Nationally, Catholic school students performed at or near the top in reading and math compared to public schools. Locally, our Catholic schools also showed similar results on the Renaissance STAR Assessment. Our students are not only performing above the national average in both reading and math but also growing at a faster pace compared to the national average. Please see the attached summary for more details as well as some graphs. Feel free to share that document with parents and your school community in general. I am also attaching an infographic that you may want to use as you see fit.

This performance and growth is a direct result of your dedication and leadership. We still have work ahead of us, but for now, let’s celebrate this win. Thank you again for everything you do. I am grateful to have the opportunity to serve and support you.

Blessings,

Leticia Oseguera
Superintendent of Schools
Diocese of San Diego