



Auxiliary Bishop Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Dear Catholic School Parents,

Perhaps you have seen yard signs, read news stories or taken part in conversations about the issue of school choice, which has been debated in Harrisburg over the past several months. This debate has implications for our Catholic schools as well as our public schools, including the expansion of the long-standing Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program and a new voucher program called Opportunity Scholarship Grants.

The passage of school choice legislation would allow parents to choose the best school for their child. Not every qualified student will choose a Catholic school, but it is likely that many will. Our Catholic educators can already attest how the EITC has helped Catholic schools and this school choice legislation will allow even more families the opportunity to receive a Catholic education. More students in our classrooms are good news for our schools; more students will help keep Catholic schools vibrant and available to more families. In Pennsylvania, nonpublic schools already save taxpayers \$4 billion annually in education costs, and school choice will allow nonpublic schools to continue to educate even more students at an even larger savings to the state. To read more about this issue, please visit www.pacatholic.org.

I ask you to take part in our online advocacy network, notifying your representatives of your support for school choice.

[Click here to sign up for the Pennsylvania Catholic Advocacy Network.](#)

Advocates receive the latest news and information about school choice, as well as other issues that may be of interest, including health care, respect for human life, and more. This grassroots network of those concerned with Catholic education will help us all to speak with one voice on behalf of Catholic school students before the governor, state legislature and beyond.

Pennsylvania is on the cusp of a significant era for Catholic education. This legislative session brings the bright promise of meaningful education reform. Please sign up for the [Catholic Advocacy Network](#) today, and circulate this request to everyone you can within our community so that they may have the opportunity to subscribe to these important services.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop Michael J. Fitzgerald
Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia