



CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Men of Faith, Men of Scholarship, Men of Service





About us

Central Catholic is motivated by a mission much larger than itself – a mission that has its origins in the Gospel. Over three centuries ago, Saint John Baptist de La Salle, inspired with a new vision of what a school could be, founded a religious order dedicated to teaching, that saw education as much more than just the transmission of information and skills. The school years were seen as an important and essential time in the life of boys as they grew into young men. The order he founded would become known as the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

Since 1927, Central Catholic has continued in this time-tested tradition of educating boys through a spirit of accompaniment, the unique Lasallian approach to education.

We meet your young teenager where he is, and journey with him as he discovers his God-given gifts and potential with a personalized and student-centered experience. Your son will be accompanied during the important high school years by highly qualified and caring teachers, Christian Brothers, counselors and coaches who view their work as a ministry and vocation.

Our mission-driven approach to education ensures that over four years, your son will transform into a mature, intellectually motivated and compassionate young man guided by an ethical and moral framework that prepares him to navigate a complex world with confidence and a generous spirit of service.

"Central Catholic will always be a significant part of my life, and I have never been able to feel more at home anywhere else. I will forever treasure the faculty and staff who have ensured I received a world-class education.

Many freshmen may not understand what the Central Brotherhood is about, but I learned how precious being an Alumnus is throughout my four years. I'm happy with all the things I accomplished, realizing that I'd only get that experience once in a lifetime."

John Paul Daniele, '23







Central Catholic High School, a college preparatory school for boys, is guided by the educational principles of Saint John Baptist de La Salle.

The school strives to provide a challenging, relevant, and diverse program of studies and extra-curricular activities in an environment that fosters a life of faith and learning and develops leaders rooted in the Gospel values of integrity, respect, service, justice and peace.



Central Catholic High School by the Numbers

700 Students Currently ENROLLED



1927: The year Central Catholic was founded.





of Faculty
HOLD
ADVANCED
DEGREES

4 Full time

CREDENTIALED

GUIDANCE COUNSELORS

Full time

DEAN of FRESHMEN

Full time
SCHOOL NURSE

Campus Safety

DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH POLICE OFFICER

"BLUEPOINT" ALERT SYSTEM

A tradition of excellence!

At Central Catholic High School, there's something for everyone!

Fast **FACTS**

OVER 30 CLUBS &

ACTIVITIES





Electives

OVER 125

Courses to CHOOSE FROM



\$\\$\\$3.2 Million

\$15,250 is our current tuition.

in TUITION ASSISTANCE awarded in the 2023-2024 school year \$35,000 is the area's average PRIVATE SCHOOL TUITION



Graduates are attending a COLLEGE or UNIVERSITY



97% of CCHS

Graduates return for the sophomore year of college COMPARED TO THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF 75%

Students matriculate to PRESTIGIOUS SCHOOLS

including: Duke, Harvard, MIT, Notre Dame, U.S. Naval Academy, Penn, and Yale.

Our Commitment to Your Son

As a college preparatory high school, we start with your son's future in mind. After four years at Central Catholic, your son is just beginning to realize what he is capable of. Our challenging curriculum and assortment of extra-curricular activities will prepare your son for the next phase of his life.

With our unique class offerings, four academic levels and over 65 electives, your son can explore his interests, and make a comfortable transition to a college environment. Having the freedom to explore topics like computer programming, songwriting, entrepreneurship, accounting, bioengineering, and more, will enable your son to make informed decisions early in his academic career.

In addition to a wide array of classes, students have access to a fully developed support system. Academic Support Services and the Bishop McDowell Program provide specialized resources to meet your son's individual needs. Central Catholic is a leader in academic support programming and other Lasallian high schools throughout the country are using Central Catholic's academic support programming as a model.

After four years at Central Catholic, students graduate well prepared for their futures. 95% of students in the Class of 2024 went on to a 2-year or 4-year college or university. With a full-time Director of College Counseling, your son will receive 1-on-1 guidance and support at every phase of his journey.

Our students matriculate to top colleges and universities, including Yale, Princeton, Harvard, Cornell, Carnegie Mellon, Notre Dame, the U.S. Naval Academy, West Point, Georgetown University, Howard University, University of Pittsburgh, Penn State University and Duquesne University. With Central Catholic graduates spread across the United States, you're never far from fellow alumni.

97% of Central Catholic graduates return for their sophomore year in college, compared to the national average of 75%.









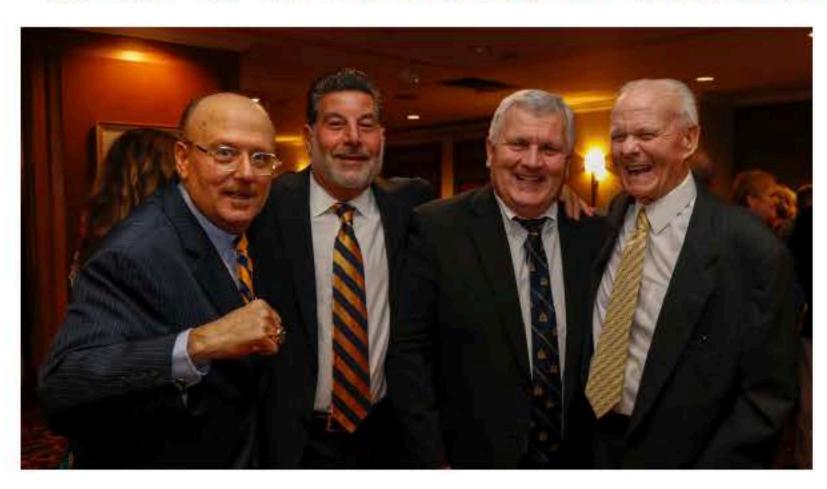






Tradition Never Graduates!

Our Powerful Alumni Network



From the day he enters as a new student, your son becomes a part of the Central Catholic Brotherhood. Friendships are built during the intangible moments throughout a student's day, and after four years, students leave Central Catholic with bonds that last a lifetime.

Our active and involved alumni network, currently 25,000 strong, not only contribute financially to Central but also offer networking and internship connection to current students and young alumni. Alumni return to Central Catholic for Career Day programming, to provide mock interview and career advice, and to promote internship opportunities.



The sense of community that is built during a student's time here does not leave him after he graduates. Alumni help open doors and provide guidance to current students and often continue to mentor and provide connections long after they have graduated.

Our alumni social networking group, Central Catholic Alumni Connect, provides graduates with an easy way to stay in touch and gain insight and advice from our powerful alumni network.





"Central recognizes structure, discipline, academic and athletic rigor as a part of the recipe for the foundation of leadership. The Lasallian values taught me to appreciate and better understand the power of faith and service.

As an executive in the government and private sector, Central provided my leadership foundation that helped me make critical decisions that guided my career in a positive direction to include serving four United States Presidents."

Dr. Ron Layton, '83

Former Deputy Assistant Director, United States Secret Service





Academics

Central Catholic provides a unique college-preparatory education, balancing a breadth of exposure with an in-depth pursuit of a student's strongest interests.

Understanding the demands of college, we combine our college-preparatory, Liberal Arts education with a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) curriculum that is among the best in Western PA.

Students can choose from over 125 classes, including over 65 electives, honors courses, and advanced placement (AP) level courses.

Regardless of a student's skill level and interest, courses and support services are available.

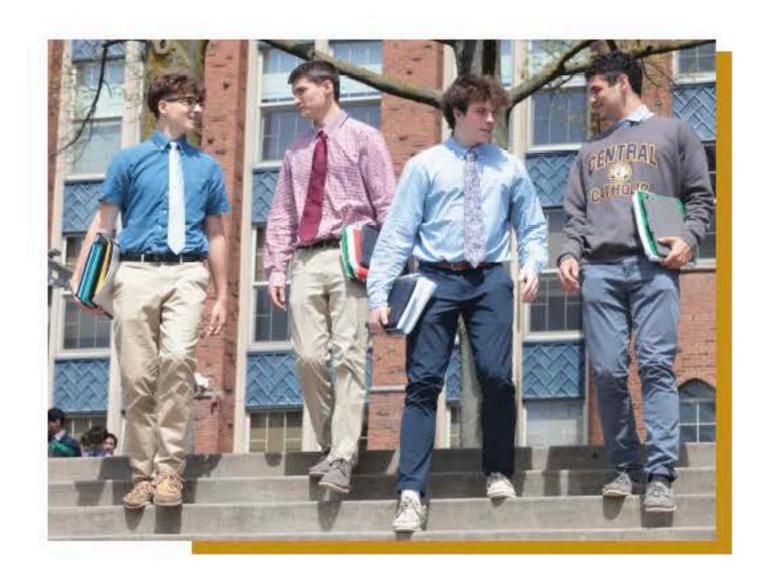


Over 125 CLASSES

Central Catholic offers over 65 electives:

Art
Business
Engineering/Math/Comp Science
History/Social Science
Languages

Music
Physical Education
Religion
Science
Writing/Communications



The Brother David S. Baginski, FSC,

Scholars Program

communitas docta virtutis

Along with Central's outstanding academic curriculum, students are encouraged to explore intellectual challenges and enrich their curriculum through interdisciplinary programs like The Brother David S. Baginski, FSC Scholars Program.

The Scholars Program offers an engaging intellectual forum to highly motivated students. These students become part of a community of peers and faculty advisors, and meet regularly through seminars, mentoring, programmatic trips, symposia and a Senior Thesis project. At its core, the program is designed to encourage students to understand the intrinsic connections between their intellectual development and their responsibilities as global citizens.

To be admitted to the program, students complete an application and interview process in their sophomore year. Eligible sophomores must have taken a minimum of three AP or Honors courses and have demonstrated an ability to work at a minimum GPA level of 3.5. In addition, students should commit to three years of foreign language study and exhibit innovative ability, intellectual curiosity and interest in social causes.

A highlight of the Scholars Program is the cultural travel opportunity. In recent years, we have visited Boston, New York, Washington DC, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Chicago where we meet with distinguished university professors in a classroom setting and enter into dialogue on critical issues in their field.

Since 2017, the program has also offered a two-week study abroad opportunity. In 2024, the Scholars traveled to Hungary, Austria, and the Czech Republic.

"Whether you are looking for a career in science or the humanities, the coursework, and discussions with your fellow scholars — both in and outside of Junior Seminar and Senior Thesis — prepare you for the rigorous academic challenges and moral questions you will inevitably face regardless of your path. My work in Junior Seminar and Senior Thesis opened the door for me to excel in interdisciplinary academic work and combine my passion for STEM and the humanities. Above all, the Scholars Program helped me find my agency: my power and responsibility to question, and find an answer to, the world's most critical issues."

Donovan B. Allen, Class of 2023

Meet the Directors:



John Allen, Ph.D

Co-director

Brother David S. Baginski,

FSC Scholars Program



Patrizia Costa, Ph.D

Co-director

Brother David S. Baginski,
FSC Scholars Program

"Being a Baginski
Scholar means immersing
yourself in an exciting
tradition of scholarship,
cultural explorations and
dialogue.

So many of our alumni have built on what they started here and made outstanding contributions to the organizations they serve and to society in general."

Dr. Patrizia Costa, Ph.D

Co-director,

Brother David S. Baginski, FSC

Scholars Program

The Engineering Institute



The goal of the Engineering Institute at Central Catholic (EICC) is to provide students opportunities, through a combination of coursework, resources and outside of the classroom experiences, to answer questions and allow them to make informed decisions about pursuing an engineering career.

EICC students will be engaged in an intellectually challenging, hands-on and relevant curriculum with coursework and experiences designed to foster creativity, problem-solving, teamwork and communication to give them exposure to engineering careers and prepare them for entry into a college engineering program.

Who should apply?

The EICC will be open to all 9th grade students who are interested in an engineering career. Students who have a diversity of skills, interests, backgrounds and abilities and who are interested in math and science, hands-on learning, creative problem solving and working together in teams are encouraged to apply. EICC students should have completed Honors or Advanced Geometry or will be enrolled in Honors or Advanced Geometry as a sophomore.

"In terms of developing a standout high school engineering program, Central Catholic has the pieces; faculty with relevant engineering experience, state-of-the-art equipment and wide network of resources."

Mr. Mark Salamacha, Co-director, Central Catholic Engineering Institute



Students interested in the EICC will complete the application process during the second semester of their freshman year. Students accepted into the EICC program will register to take EICC-1 during their sophomore year and will begin with a seminar in the summer prior to the start of sophomore year.

Students accepted into the EICC will be part of a cohort that will complete the curricular requirements of the three-year program. EICC students will take a one-semester engineering course each of their sophomore, junior and senior years.

The focus of the senior year engineering class will be the completion of a capstone design project. EICC students are also required to take four years of math and science. Along with the EICC coursework, students will be involved in outside the classroom experiences that include guest speakers, seminars, field trips and collaboration with a professional mentor.

Academic Curriculum and Components:

College-Prep Curriculum

With emphasis on Math and Science and will include critical thinking, public speaking and project-based learning skills.

Math, Science and Engineering Coursework

Required courses in math (4) and science (4) as well as three semesters of engineering-specific coursework (EICC-1, EICC-2 and EICC-3).

Taught by Engineers

With numerous years of real-world work experience in a variety of engineering field.

Seminars and Enrichment Activities

Includes lectures, field trips and presentations outside of the classroom.

Mentorship Opportunities

Students paired with engineering professionals to serve as a mentor.

Capstone Project

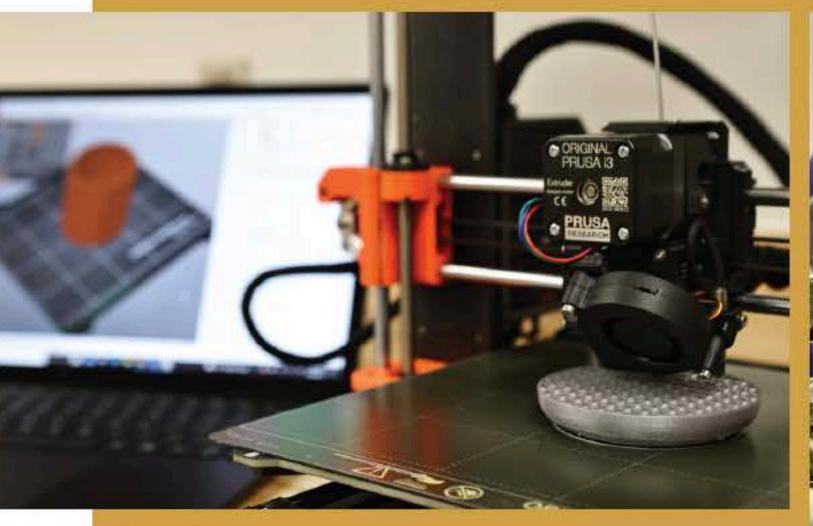
Culminates the student's EICC experience and is the focus of the EICC-3 course taken senior year.



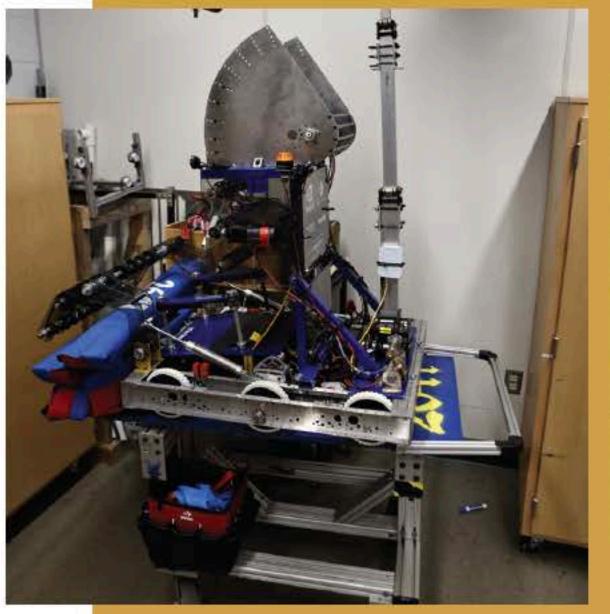
Mrs. Stacie Ball,
Co-director,
Engineering Institute



Mr. Mark Salamacha, Co-director, Engineering Institute









"It is exciting to have the opportunity to integrate these pieces together with outside the classroom experiences and develop a well-rounded program to help students prepare for engineering in college."

Mrs. Stacie Ball, Co-director, Central Catholic Engineering Institute

The Bishop McDowell Program Academic Support

Designed to facilitate student success through the development and reinforcement of necessary skills, the Bishop McDowell Program encourages students, through a variety of individually designed activities, to become thoroughly familiar with their own learning styles. Students in the Bishop McDowell Program attend regular classes and participate fully in the co-curricular life of the school, but have scheduled time for assistance and skill-building to enable them to progress in the college preparatory curriculum.

"It is most rewarding to watch our Bishop McDowell students succeed and flourish as members of our Central Catholic community."

Mrs. Mary Ann Lynch

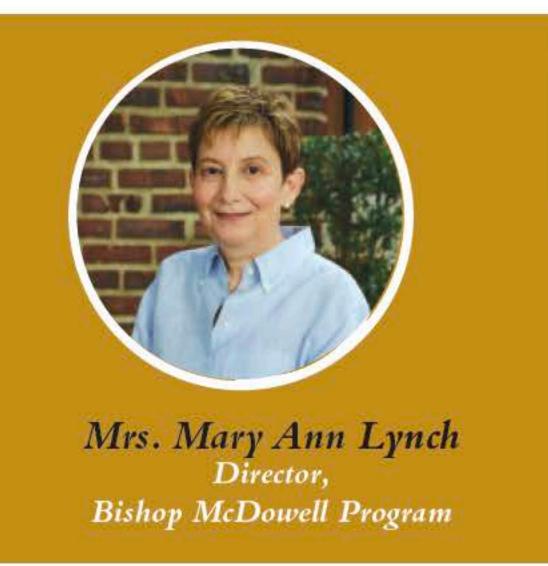
Director, Bishop McDowell Program When students understand how they learn best, they can then begin to apply strategies that work for them in the classroom, while completing homework, and when preparing for exams. Concurrently, the director of the Bishop McDowell Program works with the Central Catholic faculty to help them understand each student's learning style and the related implications for classroom practices.

Students work on:

- Techniques for approaching faculty with questions and concerns
- Note-taking
- Techniques for test-taking



- Time management
- Organization
 - Memorization techniques
- Peer communication
- Appropriate and productive use of technology





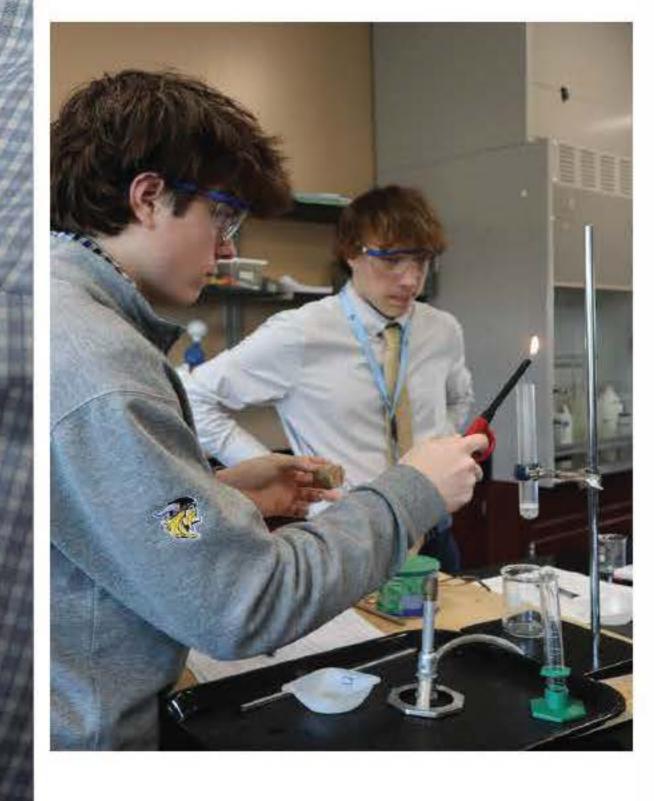
Academic Support

Academic Support Program

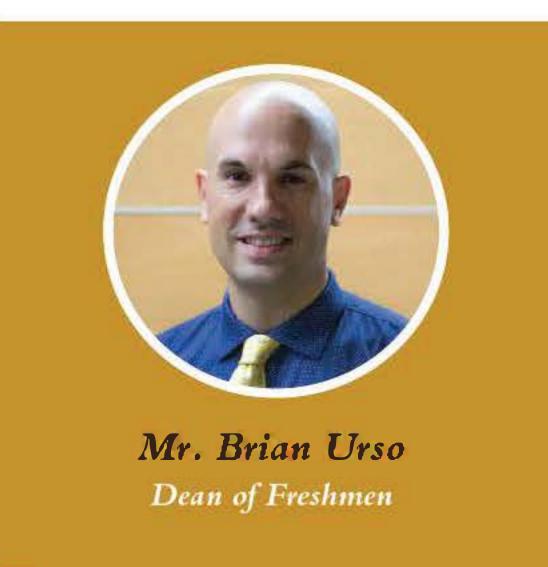
Central Catholic High School has a long tradition of educating and guiding young men of various abilities and backgrounds in a challenging and nurturing environment. The Academic Support Program continues Saint John Baptist de La Salle's legacy of touching the minds and hearts of students by supporting learning for students in all grades and levels, especially freshmen, and assisting Central Catholic parents.

The goal of the Academic Support program is to nurture and encourage students who can complete a college preparatory program but may need assistance in the development of certain skills for those in need of basic academic support.

In this peer-to-peer program, fellow students, including members of the National Honor Society, provide individualized guidance and support to students who need assistance.









Counseling Services

The Counseling Department is an integral and essential part of Central Catholic High School's mission. In association with all stakeholders, members of the department contribute to the human and Christian education and formation of the students entrusted to our care. Programs that address the academic, spiritual, career, and personal development of all students help to ensure that they become responsible leaders in society.



Our school counselors have an open door policy and will meet with students at their request. Students are assigned a school counselor by last name and receive guidance from their same counselor throughout all four years of high school.

The Counseling Department provides a variety of services, including:

- Alumni career day
- Classroom guidance lessons
- Group counseling sessions
- Individual counseling sessions
- Parent informational programs

College Counseling

- Classroom lessons
- Summer workshops
- Individual meetings
- Mock interviews
- Parent evening informational programs
- Parent information sessions

Family Support Services

- Student home assessments
- Emotional support
- Support programming

Psychological Services

- Individual counseling service
- Group counseling



Meet our Counseling Department Leadership



Mr. Phil DiRenzo, '04
Director, Counseling Department



Mrs. Amy Wienand
Director, Family Support Services



Mr. James Eller School Counselor



Dr. William Hahn, '68 Clinical Psychologist



Mrs. Jennifer Toprani
Director, College Counseling



Our Dedicated Faculty

Our faculty teach students, not subjects. They're mentors, coaches and role models.

With 79% of our faculty holding advanced degrees in their fields, our faculty place a high value on education They are experts in their subject matter, but their focus is on your son and his learning and development.

Our faculty are committed to lifelong learning through summer internships, study abroad, research and sabbaticals. They also bring a variety of professional experience and backgrounds to their work. Our faculty have worked at major corporations, held leadership positions in the United States military, worked in administration abroad, and even played in the NBA Development League.



"The faculty here care so much about the students and the school culture. The Brothers set the pace with their lifelong dedication to education and the rest of the faculty works so hard to create a positive experience for the students that extends far beyond the classroom."

Justin Belardi, Ph.D. Chemistry teacher, former engineer at Merck and Knopp





As a school "rooted in the Gospel values of integrity, respect, service, justice and peace," Central Catholic is committed to forming leaders who reflect these values. The Office of Lasallian Mission and Ministry honors the legacy of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and the Catholic tradition through service opportunities, liturgical celebrations, and programs geared toward spiritual development.

Service Opportunities

Brother Andre's Café

All juniors have the opportunity to participate in meal preparation and serving patrons weekly in the Uptown section of Pittsburgh. Brother Andre's Café provides employment opportunities for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Red Door Ministry

All freshmen have the opportunity to prepare and serve meals to the homeless population in Downtown Pittsburgh. Our students learn how to become "Men of Faith and Service" while treating everyone with inherent dignity and respect regardless of socioeconomic status or station in life.

Sacred Heart Elementary School After School Tutoring

Once a week students from Central go to Sacred Heart Elementary School in the Shadyside neighborhood of Pittsburgh and help tutor students with their homework.

Prayer and Worship

- Class Mass on Thursdays (McGonigle Theater)
- After school Mass on Fridays (McGonigle Theater)
- Monthly school-wide Mass (McGonigle Theater)
- Class retreats
- Kairos retreat
- Weekly Eucharistic Adoration
- Morning Prayer
- Advent and Lenten reflection booklet
- Daily praying of the Rosary

Service Immersion Trips

- Blackfeet Reservation in Browning, MT
- Move a Mountain Mission, Jamaica
- Appalachia Mission Trip





Mission Events

Canned Food Drive

Benefits Little Sisters of the Poor, the international congregation of Roman Catholic women.

MarchforLife

Each year, students head down to the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. and the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg. Students from every grade level are invited and encouraged to attend. The students spend the day in the community, praying while learning and listening to several speakers and witnesses on what it means to defend all life from conception to natural death.

Lenten Mission Drive

To benefit Lasallian Twinning: Child Discovery Center, an organization that serves poor children in Nakuru, Kenya. The Child Discovery Center is Central Catholic High School's international partner in mission.

My Brother's Keeper

To instill a sense of community with your son from the start, Central Catholic has implemented the "My Brother's Keeper" program. This organization is a senior-to-freshman mentoring program where select seniors are assigned to small groups of freshmen to cultivate a sense of brotherhood throughout the school community.



Mr. James Donahue, '04

Vice President,

Lasallian Mission and Ministry



Br. Mike A. Andrejko, FSC, '86 Director, of Lasallian Charism

Campus Ministers

Mr. Dan Gallagher Mr. John Rende, '10



"Guided by faith, scholarship, and service, my years at Central have been unlike any other.

The amazing staff and their dedication to guide students toward success and the foundation of morality to help teens grow into adults are only a couple examples of the virtues of our school.

Most importantly, the brotherhood, which sums up the ideology of Central Catholic, represents how God continues to inspire our school and each student individually."

Christian Harhai, '24

Extracurricular Activities



When you step onto Central Catholic's campus, you are greeted with a vibrant community of students who are working together as a community to achieve their goals. At Central Catholic, students with diverse backgrounds and experiences come together to pursue their passions.

Generations of Viking friendships formed and bonded within our campus have outlasted the tests of time and give credence to our commitment of being an authentic community – what we call the Central Catholic Brotherhood.

Activities include:

- Black Student Union
- Blue Knights Jazz Band
- Chess Club
- Color Guard
- Environmental Club
- Finance Club
- FIRST Robotics
- Fly Fishing Club
- Forensics Society (Speech & Debate)
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
- Gaming Club
- Harlequin Literary Magazine
- Intramurals

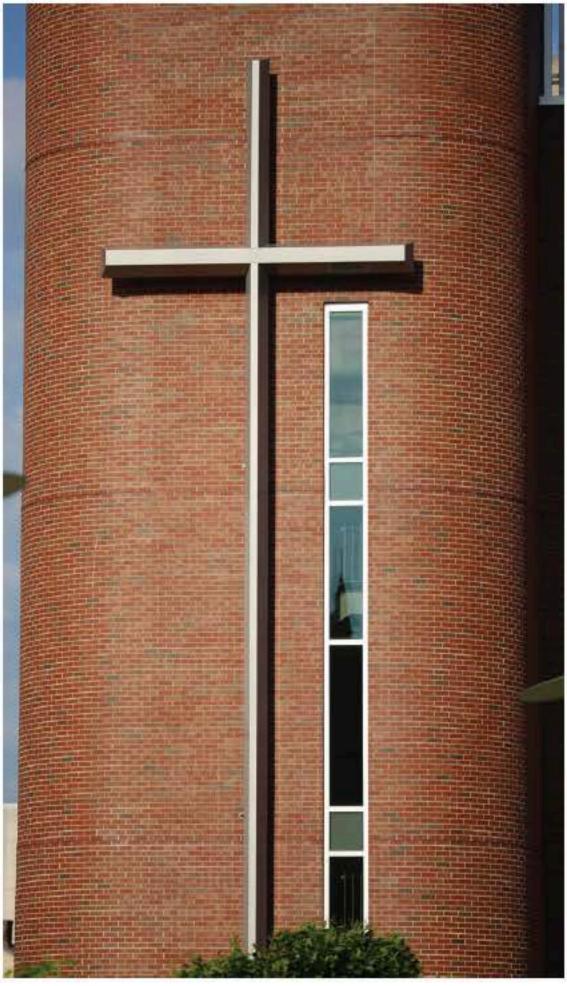
- Lasallian Ministry
- Marching Band
- Masque Drama Club
- My Brother's Keeper
- National Honor Society
- Outdoor Odyssey
- PA Junior Academy of Science
- PA STEM First Competition
- Photography Club
- Quiz Bowl
- Service Academy Club
- Ski Club
- Stage Crew
- String Ensemble

- Student Ambassador Program
- Student Council
- Students Against Destructive Decision-Making
- Towers Yearbook
- Viking News Network
- Viking Newspaper

** Now offering E-Sports







Athletics include:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Cross Country
- Fencing
- Football
- Golf
- Ice Hockey
- Inline Hockey
- Lacrosse

- Rowing
- Rugby
- Soccer
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Wrestling



The Value of a Central Catholic Education

Financial aid

A Central Catholic education and all of the opportunities that come with it is a significant financial investment for many families, but it is also a significant investment in your son's future. We believe that Central Catholic is the premier high school in Western Pennsylvania for boys, but it is also the best dollar for dollar value in the Pittsburgh area's private education market.

Central Catholic High School is committed to keeping our program affordable and accessible to all who desire a faith based, college preparatory education. Therefore, financial aid is available for qualified families. Financial aid packages could include funds from a variety of sources including the Central Catholic Fund, the Bishop's Education Fund, the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) programs.

Central Catholic High School, historically, has been able to meet approximately 70% of a family's calculated need.

For the 2023 - 2024 school year, more than \$3.2 million was awarded to 350 families.

The Financial Aid Process

Families are asked to complete the FACTS Grant & Aid Application, which is available online in January. Your income tax documents will be required for completion of the FACTS Grant & Aid Application. The deadline for completion is March 15. Late applications will be accepted until the funds have been diminished. Financial aid awards will be announced in May.

If, after receiving an initial financial award, a family feels that their situation has changed or that certain extenuating circumstances were not accounted for in the FACTS Application, an appeal may be made in writing to the Central Catholic Financial Aid office.



De La Salle Merit Scholarship

* Awarded to the top scorers on the placement exam.

Jack Twyman, '51 Leadership Scholarship

* Awarded to strong and confident leaders in the community.

James Wheeler Scholarship for Military Heroes

* Awarded to the sons of active duty or retired military.

Paul Sciullo II, '91 Scholarship

* Awarded to the sons of full-time members of law enforcement, fire and EMS services.

Viking Merit Scholarship

* Awarded to students that demonstrate good character and academic achievement.

Transportation Options

District Busing

The following school districts provide school buses to Central Catholic for their students.

- Allegheny Valley
- Avonworth
- Baldwin-Whitehall
- Bethel Park
- Carlynton
- Chartiers Valley
- Cornell
- East Allegheny
- Fox Chapel

- Gateway
- Hampton
- Keystone Oaks
- McKeesport
- Montour
- North Allegheny
- North Hills
- Penn Hills
- Riverview

- Shaler
- South Allegheny
- West Jefferson Hills
- West Mifflin
- Woodland Hills (certain areas)

Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) Bus Passes

Formerly Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAT)

The following school districts provide PRT Bus Passes to their students:

City of Pittsburgh

Woodland Hills (certain areas)

Wilkinsburg

Sto-Rox

Private Buses

The following districts do not provide transportation, however, Central Catholic coordinates private busing for a fee.

Valley Area

Burrell

Kiski

• Plum

New Kensington-Arnold

North Hills Areas

- Mars
- Moon Area
- Seneca Valley
- Pine-Richland
- Quaker Valley
- South Hills Areas
- Canon-McMillan
- Peters Township
- Upper St. Clair
- South Fayette

Mt. Lebanon

- Franklin Regional

Plum-Murrysville Area

Highlands Area

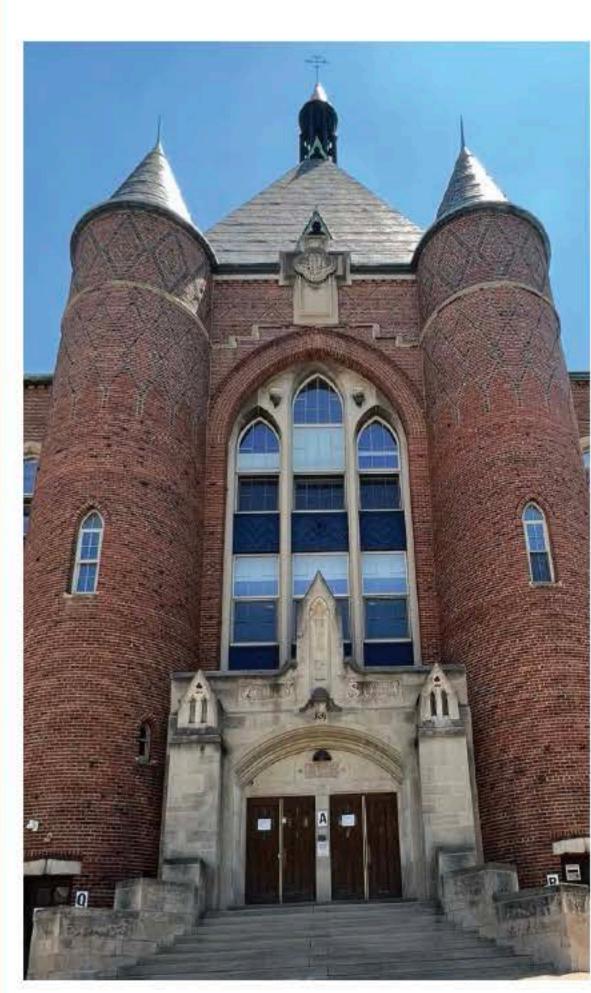
Freeport Area

Plum

For more information on stop locations, timing and fees, please contact Mr. Steven Bezila.

412.208.3425 | SBezila@CentralCatholicHS.com

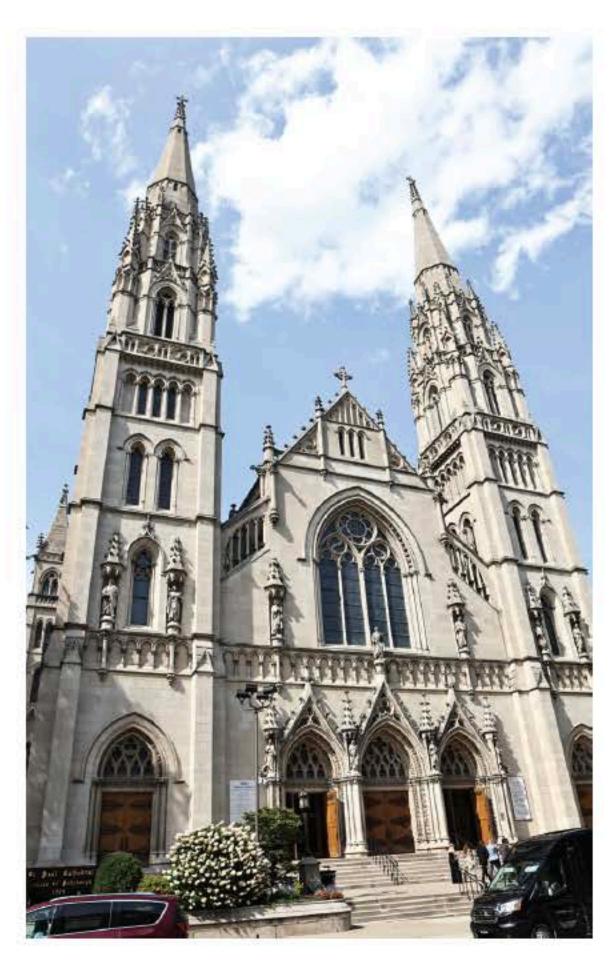




The Oakland Experience

Attractions and partnerships with Central Catholic High School

Nestled in the heart of Pittsburgh's Oakland neighborhood, Central Catholic High School is within walking distance of acedemia and ammenities. Flanked by colleges and universities, a shopping district, and restaurants, our school is surrounded by resources for both students and families.

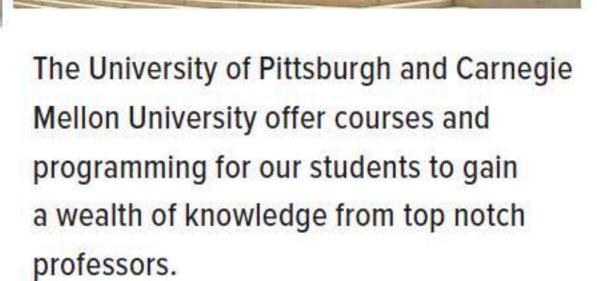


Saint Paul's Cathedral, one of Pittsburgh's most well-known places to worship, is the traditional place for Central Catholic's Baccalaureate Mass, the spiritual celebration prior to graduation of our seniors.



Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall is the venue for our annual Commencement ceremony.







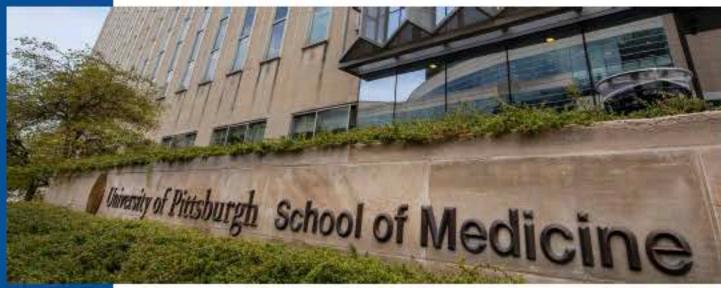
Academic Experiences

- Environmental Science:
 - Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
 - Center for Sustainable Landscapes
 - Pittsburgh Zoo
 - Schenley Park for Outdoor Laboratories
 - Frick Environmental Center
- Carnegie Mellon University:
 - College of Science, Department of Chemistry
 - Organic Chemistry
 - Chemistry I and Chemistry II
- Carnegie Mellon University:
 - College of Science, Department of Biological Sciences
 - Biology I
 - AP Biology
- Carnegie Mellon University:
 - Cancer Biology and Stem Cell Research
 - College of Engineering: Cell and Tissue Engineering
- University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
 - Biotechnology
 - The McGowen Center for Regenerative Medicine
- University of Pittsburgh Swanson School of Engineering











Men of Faith. Men of Scholarship. Men of Service.

Have Questions? Contact Our Admissions Team:



Mr. Andrew A. Macurak
Vice President of Enrollment Management
412.208.3400 x3417
AMacurak@CentralCatholicHS.com



Mr. Brian Miller
Director of Admissions
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