



## Catholic Schools

Deeply rooted in Catholic social justice teaching, we believe that all children have a right to an integral and quality education. This belief was also a conviction of our founder Gerry Rauenhorst and to this end we endeavor to support K-12 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis reach their fullest potential.

## Our Vision

Our vision is for Catholic elementary schools with the highest proportion of low-income students in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis that are sustainable, academically excellent, and meet the unique needs of scholars.

Our desired outcomes in support of this vision are that:

- Schools meet high quality academic standards
- Schools demonstrate effective school leadership
- Schools have a sustainable funding model in place

GHR's innovation in this space:

- Started the first three Catholic STEM schools
- Launched two new governance models
- Launched two new organizations in partnership with other funders (CSCOE and Aim Higher Foundation)
- Started the first eight blended-learning schools

## What we see as current challenges:

Many Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis are severely under resourced setting forth a cascading impact on leadership, capacity building, fundraising, student experience and academic performance.



## How we are addressing these challenges

GHR has a multi-pronged approach to addressing the many challenges these Catholic elementary schools face. Through key partnerships, we are targeting the leadership support and governance guidance of principals and teachers.



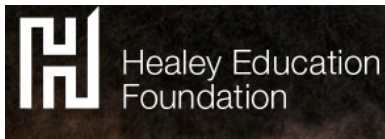
Through an integrated system of tools and training, ANet helps schools and districts boost student learning with great teaching that's grounded in learning standards, informed by data, and built on the successful practices of educators around the country.



City Connects meets the out of school needs of children to close achievement and opportunity gaps. Their evidence-based approach and interventions help ensure that all children are prepared for lifelong success and have the opportunity to thrive.



The Alliance for Catholic Education's (ACE's) Higher-Powered Learning Program is a three-year program guiding teachers and school leaders through the implementation of personalized and student-centered blended-learning.



The Healey Education Foundation partners with dioceses and fellow philanthropists to provide strategies and training to dioceses and individual schools undergoing governance shifts. The Foundation serves 79 elementary and high schools across six dioceses in Delaware, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

## Ascension Catholic Academy

GHR Foundation, alongside Academy partners Ascension Catholic School, Saint Peter Claver Catholic School and Saint John Paul II Catholic Preparatory School, have designed and built a promising consortium of Catholic schools serving highly diverse neighborhoods in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area known as the Ascension Catholic Academy.

The Academy is a new, centralized model of education. The goals of the model are to provide centralized leadership and governance to ensure excellence, accessibility and sustainability.

The Academy has redefined and professionalized both the role of educational leaders and support functions, developed an innovative Leadership Team, defined and expanded academic rigor for all three schools, improved academic programming and built a lay-led board to drive excellence. These indicators point to a positive trajectory for growth and development of the Academy and its' scholars.