

## Academic Philosophy

At Seton Catholic High School, the academic program, while centered around intellectual growth, acknowledges and incorporates other essential aspects of the person – the spiritual, social, creative and physical. Challenging coursework designed to prepare students to confidently pursue further academic life is drawn from each of the following academic disciplines: English/Language Arts, Fine Arts, Foreign Language, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Theology.

Theology and religious education are central components of our curriculum and are incorporated into all disciplines to reflect their connection to a life of faith. Contributing further to the comprehensive development of each student are the arts and their accompanying productions and performances which encourage creativity and expression. Athletic participation promotes action and leadership. Co-curricular activities develop the intellectual, leadership and social skills which students translate into service, while the multi-media and technological resources enhance self-expression and communication skills. Seen as an interlocking network of courses, activities, events and resources, the academic program at Seton Catholic High School fosters the development of the whole person.

More important than the sum of its courses or activities, the program at SCHS centers around the relationship between the teacher and the learner. The climate established by this relationship is designed to foster learner involvement, engagement, curiosity and passion. Catholic educator, Jacques Maritain, suggests that every individual possesses an “inner vitality”. Like Maritain, we believe that the teacher supports and strengthens that vitality through the quality of interactions with the student. In our goal of developing lifelong learners, we recognize that the caring guidance of teachers who are as devoted to the student as to the subjects they teach is essential if education is true to the pursuit of truth and wisdom.

Moreover, we remember that ‘the learner’ is an individual who possesses a particular collection of talents, abilities and concerns. Guided by our belief that “Created in the image of the one God and equally endowed with rational souls, all have the same nature and the same origin...all enjoy an equal dignity”, we translate this value into our program. The program, while common to all students in its goal to offer elements essential to college preparation, individualizes the challenge according to distinct talents and interests of the student.