



# Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

**To:** Indiana State Board of Education  
**From:** Office of School Accountability  
**Date:** April 24, 2024  
**Subject:** Accreditation Petition for Chesterton Academy of Saint Scholastica

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This memorandum provides a summary of the information provided by the school in its petition for performance-based accreditation and the final recommendation from the Indiana Department of Education (Department) regarding the accreditation of Chesterton Academy of Saint Scholastica (CASS).

## **Background & Demographic Information**

Chesterton Academy of Saint Scholastica plans to operate in Fort Wayne, Indiana and serve students in grades 9 through 12. The school operates strictly in-person. CASS plans to open in August 2024.

CASS' motto is "Cultura Vitae," the culture of life. According to CASS' mission statement, "we make it our mission to prepare our students to triumph over the materialism and despair that pervade our culture and to accept our Lord's offer to have life and have it abundantly. Our classical curriculum combines a broad, liberal arts education with a strong emphasis on the development of Christian virtues and an appreciation of beauty."

CASS plans to enroll 14 students in their first year of accreditation. They anticipate enrolling another 13-15 students every year for the next five years.

## **Operations**

**Facilities:** CASS plans to operate at 426 W. Ludwig Rd, Fort Wayne, Indiana. This property has been inspected and passed all local and state requirements with no compliance violations noted.

**Tuition:** Annual tuition and application fees for CASS total \$7995 per student for students. There is a book and supply fee of \$495 per student annually. CASS indicated that it intends to participate in the Indiana Choice Scholarship program.

**Staffing:** CASS is still hiring their administration, consisting of a headmaster and Executive Director. A board member is currently serving as CASS' temporary Executive Director. CASS plans to hire one to three teachers in their first year of operation and continue to hire one to two teachers each year for the next five years. They plan to hire one full time teacher that has their Indiana teaching license and three part-time teachers with their Indiana teaching license.

## **Academic Programming**

CASS follows the Chesterton School Network curriculum. Students at CASS will be instructed in the areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, dance/physical



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education, Catholic Mass, art, Spanish, Latin and music. CASS will follow the Indiana academic standards.

Students are assessed using formative and benchmark assessments. They plan to administer the required Indiana state assessments, as well as the National Latin Exam.

## **Department Recommendation**

Chesterton Academy of Saint Scholastica has plans for steady reasonable growth for the future. Based on the submitted petition and accompanying materials, Chesterton Academy of Saint Scholastica has a fair understanding of the requirements of being an Indiana performance-based accredited school. Therefore, the Department recommends granting Chesterton Academy of Saint Scholastica provisional state performance-based accreditation as a nonpublic school in Indiana.