



# CEF SCHOLARSHIPS HELP SCHOOLS PREPARE FOR FALL

## ▶ 200+ STUDENTS ARE WAITING.

Fall enrollment is surging, and as social distancing guidelines lift, schools are working hard to make space for the families eagerly waiting to fill it.

With news of Catholic schools' success during the pandemic spreading like wildfire, more and more low-income families are determined to bring the incredible outcomes CEF schools are producing to their children. CEF scholarships are helping to make it possible.

In some CEF-supported schools, as many as 87% of families are living in poverty. The difference in academic success is often remarkable, with students scoring as much as 30% higher on state assessments than those at neighboring schools. Multiple CEF schools expect a 10% increase in enrollment this fall. Many families who joined these school communities when public schools remained closed last fall have elected to stay, sold on the Christ-centered mission and unexpected blessings of their decision.

Like many CEF schools, Principal Tim Conrad of St. Patrick Catholic School in KCK is seeing the uptick firsthand. "In our effort to maintain optimal class sizes while accommodating the enrollment surge, we are close to facing a 'space shortage' issue," he said, "a good and unique problem to have."



## SEE THE IMPACT. ▼

As schools prepare to welcome low-income students, CEF is helping them say yes - and **your support is making it possible.**

Learn more about the impact of a CEF scholarship.  
Visit **[CEFKS.org/Impact](https://www.cefks.org/Impact)**.





# CEF STUDENTS DEFY THE ODDS WITH A PERFECT GRADUATION RATE IN A PANDEMIC YEAR

**CEF** scholarship students have fought their way to academic success during a harrowing year. With in-person learning in place at all 25 CEF-supported Catholic schools, students didn't skip a beat. **Seniors supported by CEF scholarships achieved a perfect 100% graduation rate in 2021.**

But graduation is merely a stepping stone on the path a CEF scholarship can pave. Students are continuing on to change their families and neighborhoods. On average, each CEF scholar who graduates from high school will make a **positive net fiscal contribution of \$292,000** to his

or her community. In comparison, a high school dropout will cost the state of Kansas approximately \$250,000 in their lifetime.\*

**“WHEN I BECOME SOMETHING BIG IN LIFE, IF GOD IS WILLING, I PLAN TO BECOME A CEF DONOR.”**

*Carolina Ortega, CEF scholar and '21 Bishop Ward High School graduate*

Catholic schools have a long history of serving and transforming struggling communities and opening doors for students whose only other option is an underperforming neighborhood school. With the support of CEF schol-

arships, nearly 1,500 students are on the path to graduation, to success, and to the opportunities God has called them to.

**“We’re called to excel in virtue, and Catholic schools are a training ground for that,”** said Fr. Carter Zielinski, chaplain at Hayden Catholic High School in Topeka. **“We’re working to prepare disciples that are about to go out and change the world** - in more ways than just making it a better place, but in calling more disciples to the Lord himself.”

\*Center for Labor Market Study, 2019, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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**Saturday, October 23rd, 2021**  
*Live & in-person at the Overland Park Convention Center*  
**Visit [CEFKS.org/Gaudeamus](https://www.cefks.org/Gaudeamus) for the latest details, and watch for your invitation arriving later this summer.**

