



Catholic Schools Office

Diocese of Baton Rouge
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Continuous Service Since 1845

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Dear Catholic School Parents,

Assessing student academic strengths and areas of need informs parents and educators so that support can be given as students work toward educational and career goals. Schools in the Diocese of Baton Rouge are committed to college and career readiness for all students. To assess such readiness, principals in the diocese chose to adopt the ACT Aspire beginning this school year.

The ACT Aspire Readiness Assessment System is utilized in Grades 3 – 8 as a tool to help students build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and to provide information needed to address the school's high-priority issues. ACT Aspire is a comprehensive resource that enables students to measure academic development, explore areas of strength and need, and make plans for achieving their goals. The test also correlates with the American College Test (ACT) taken by all students in high schools within our diocese.

The testing system includes the ACT Aspire summative test administered in the fall (November 2 – 13, 2015), and principals will communicate results of the assessment directly to parents. All national percentiles are normed with students in the same grade level, taking the same test, and within the same testing window of dates. There is no crossover statistical bridge between the Terra Nova given in the past and the ACT Aspire adopted this year.

Parents can access information on score interpretation for the ACT Aspire through a link on the Catholic Schools Office website (www.csobr.org). In addition, a booklet titled *Understanding Your ACT Aspire Results* is posted on our website for your convenience.

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education in the Diocese of Baton Rouge. We look forward to working with school communities to realize the vision of *Evangelizing Hearts, Educating Minds, Encouraging Talent, and Embracing the Future!*

Blessings,

Dr. Melanie B. Verges
Superintendent



Nationally Accredited School District

