



NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION
OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES
Commission on Independent Schools
Self-Study Catholic Schools Indicators

Indicators related to Catholic identity have been added to several Standards to prompt a special focus within the general reflection, assessment, and planning of the Self-Study.

Foundation Standards

1. Enrolled students align appropriately with the mission

- 1.g. The mission of the school and the nature of its Catholic identity is reviewed with prospective families.

2. The governing body/board assures the school remains sustainable and true to its mission

- 2.i. The governing body and school leaders consistently articulate the Catholic identity of the school as a foundational element of the school's mission and ensure that Catholic identity permeates the culture and decision-making processes.

3. The school's resources sufficiently support present and prospective operation

4. The school assures that the adult community is qualified and organized to implement the mission

- 4.g. Programs are regularly provided for faculty and staff to continue their faith development, their understanding of the teachings of the Church, and their call as Catholic school educators to contribute to the faith development of their students.
- 4.h. Faculty and staff serve as role models and witnesses of the Gospel by word and example.

5. A proactive culture of health and safety permeates the school

6. Proprietary schools ensure effective leadership, clear organizational structure, and the necessary resources to successfully execute the mission of the school for the foreseeable future. *Note: This Standard applies to for-profit schools only. Not-for-profit schools need not respond.*

Program Standards

7. Commitment to mission and core beliefs informs decisions, guides initiatives and aligns with the students' needs and aspirations

- 7.f. A commitment to the school's Catholic identity is expressed through the wording of the school's mission statement.

- 7.g. The administration provides leadership to assure that expression of Catholic identity is pervasive in all aspects of the school.

8. Commitment to inspiration and support characterizes the approach to each student

- 8.j. Students are provided regular opportunities to experience and appreciate expressions of Catholic faith in culture and arts.

9. Commitment to excellence distinguishes the program

- 9.m. Religion classes are incorporated into the academic program of the school in accord with the religion curriculum and/or guidelines of the (arch) diocese.
- 9.n. Catholic teachings and values are incorporated into all academic disciplines and are integrated into all aspects of school life and activity.
- 9.o. The religious programs of the school call students to grow in knowledge of their faith, in the experience of Christian community, in service to God and others, and in appreciation of the central role of prayer and sacramental celebration in their spiritual lives.
- 9.p. Students are provided regular opportunities to participate in the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation, daily prayer, and other age-appropriate spiritual experiences to assist their growth in faith.
- 9.q. The school establishes measurable goals related to its Catholic identity that it uses in an annual assessment and review of its programs and operations.

10. Commitment to continuous professional development permeates the adult culture

- 10.i. Teachers of religion receive adequate training and preparation to guide the growth of their students in knowledge and practice of the Catholic faith.

11. Commitment to engaging with the greater community enhances student experience

- 11.f. Students are taught to view the world through the eyes of faith and to apply their faith in critical thinking and action to address social and ethical issues in accord with Catholic Social Teachings of the Church.
- 11.g. Parents are invited to participate in periodic liturgies and/or programs that assist them in their roles as the primary educators of their children.

12. Commitment to meeting the needs of each student drives the residential program

13. Commitment to the health and well-being of each student guides the school's homestay program

Strategic Planning Standard

14. Commitment to long-term viability and innovation guides planning