

# Press Release

## **“St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Schools – Perryville Named to the Catholic Education Honor Roll – Top 5% of Catholic Schools 2018-2023”**

**Manassas, Va.** – Today, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Schools of Perryville were recognized as a Catholic Education Honor Roll School System. The National Honor Roll – Top 5% of Catholic Schools in the Nation Program is directed by the Cardinal Newman Society and has recognized over 300 high-performing Catholic high schools nationwide since the program’s inception in 2004.

St. Vincent Catholic Schools engaged in a thorough internal and external review of its comprehensive program offerings before being awarded this status. It has received specific recognition for its strong integration of Catholic Identity throughout its efforts, including the integrity of its mission, and the strength of its community and rich spiritual life. The Honor Roll recognizes Dr. Patricia Hensley, Head of Schools and St. Vincent Faculty and Staff for their efforts at integral formation of the minds, bodies, and spirits of its students as well as its comprehensive academic program which seeks to instill a Christian vision of the world and human wisdom and culture. St. Vincent, for the last 5 years, has improved their school system, by merging the schools with one mission statement and unifying faculty within the system. Together, they have analyzed standardized data, reviewed and aligned curriculum using Catholic, National and State Standards, have created Curriculum Maps to best meet the needs of students, and provided professional development in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Best Practices in order to create a consistent, continuous, and faith-filled program of studies grades K-12.

“The Honor Roll is a helpful tool for families and benefactors in recognizing the quality of a Catholic high school,” said Patrick J. Reilly, president of The Cardinal Newman Society. “It is clear that St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Schools are both focused and successful in meeting the high calling of Catholic schools to serve the well-being and salvation of students and to serve the common good.”

Dr. Denise Donohue, coordinator of the Honor Roll, stated, “We are very pleased to have St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Schools join in the nationally recognized ranks of excellence; this is a select group. The school has well demonstrated they are successful in meeting the key principles that guide Catholic education. In addition, Dr. Hensley and faculty have developed an effective Learning Consultancy Program to address students with learning difficulties, have successfully written grants to provide safety doors and entrance monitors (to be installed summer, 2018), have improved the Library system within the schools through increased books and resources, have continually improved technology and technology use throughout the classrooms, and celebrate the Catholic faith by taking 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation students to the Chrism Mass at the St. Louis Cathedral on Holy Thursday and involving students in meaningful service opportunities.” They live their motto, “Together we Serve.” They truly educate the whole person.

Dr. Pat Hensley, Head of Schools remarked, "It is great affirmation for St. Vincent Catholic Schools to be recognized by the Catholic Education Honor Roll – Top 5% of catholic Schools twice during my administration. This distinction confirms our commitment to the mission of Catholic education. I

applaud the leadership, administration, students, parents, teachers, and staff for their hard work in assuring a strong Catholic Identity permeates all that we do in preparing our students to be future leaders in both society and the Church.”

More information on St. Vincent Schools is available at <http://www.svdepaul.org> More information on the Catholic Education Honor Roll is available at [honorroll@CatholicEducationHonorRoll.org](mailto:honorroll@CatholicEducationHonorRoll.org).