



BISHOP WALSH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE SPARTANS

The PreK through 12th grade Catholic School in Mountain Maryland





Dear Prospective Students and Parents,

Thank you for your interest in Bishop Walsh School. Situated on beautiful Haystack Mountain in Cumberland, Maryland, Bishop Walsh has a long-standing tradition of providing an excellent Catholic education and a passion for service to others for our students.

Exciting things are happening at Bishop Walsh! We recently refurbished our elementary and high school computer labs with state of the art computers. Our gym was also renovated with new seating, lighting and backboards. Last summer, we were blessed with a large donation from the Archdiocese of Baltimore. This money was used to renovate our locker rooms, science labs and lecture halls. Not only has Bishop Walsh undergone physical changes, but our academic offerings and accomplishments grow year after year. We have added more courses, including Advanced Placement classes, and the elementary and middle school students consistently score over the 70th percentile in all of their standardized testing.

Our Catholic identity is strong, and it is truly what sets us apart from all other schools. When students, faculty, staff, administration and parents come together in prayer and work in a Christ-centered environment, it creates an atmosphere of respect, love and tolerance. When asked what they like best about Bishop Walsh, the consistent answer our students give is the feeling of community and love that is nurtured every day.

If you are interested in enrolling your child, please schedule a tour or arrange a meeting to find out more about our beautiful school. We would love to welcome you and your family into our Bishop Walsh family.

In service to Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Workmeister". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Ann Workmeister

Principal

Bishop Walsh School

Honoring Our Past



Bishop Walsh is a pre-K through 12th grade school that provides a strong positive and nurturing atmosphere for its students in Western Maryland and the surrounding areas. The Catholic, co-educational, college preparatory environment offers challenging academic programs, exciting extracurricular activities at all grade levels and opportunities for service in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

Building Our Future



Formed from the consolidation of several schools, Bishop Walsh is part of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the oldest Archdiocese in the United States.

Bishop Walsh has fulfilled the requirements set by the AdvancED Accreditation Commission and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.

*Education is not
the filling of a
pail, but the
lighting of a fire.*

– W. B. Yeats



Our History

Bishop Walsh has a long and valued tradition of Catholic education in Western Maryland since 1966. The school is proudly named after Bishop James Edward Walsh, M.M., a Cumberland native whose lifetime of service in South China resulted in 12 years of imprisonment by the Communist Chinese government. Bishop Walsh was freed in 1970 and, even though the school was dedicated years before his release, he shared a joyous dedication in his honor in Cumberland later that year.

Bishop Walsh High School was created from the merger of five high schools: Catholic Girls Central, Ursuline Academy, St. Mary's, St. Peter's High School, and LaSalle High School. Over the years, the school's offerings expanded, including the addition of a middle school in 1985 and an elementary program in 2002. The name was changed to Bishop Walsh School to reflect its new mission.

Bishop Walsh benefits from the continued efforts of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, dedicated and involved alumni, an expert lay faculty and staff, and the legacy left behind by countless Ursuline Sisters and Christian Brothers who taught within our school.

Our Mission

Bishop Walsh School integrates Catholic beliefs in a pre-K through 12th grade college preparatory curriculum which incorporates technology with strong foundational academic skills. We challenge diverse learners through an atmosphere of high expectations and involvement. Our students are empowered with a lifelong love of learning and a passion for service to others.



Admissions

Bishop Walsh School is an open, safe and welcoming community. We are a Catholic School and teach the fundamentals of the Catholic Church and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, while honoring a long-standing tradition of admitting diverse students of all faiths and backgrounds.

Bishop Walsh is the perfect school for students who want to be challenged to the best of their academic and personal abilities. Our expert faculty and staff strive to meet students' needs as they present our rigorous college preparatory curriculum, supplemented by our commitment to integrate technology and latest teaching trends. Each year, nearly 100 percent of our graduating seniors receive prestigious scholarships and go on to colleges of their choice.

The Pratt Program is a learning support center that meets the specialized needs of bright students, grades K-12, who have language based learning differences such as dyslexia and organizational struggles. Encouraging high academic achievement and using research-driven teaching techniques, the program's individualized effectiveness is well established using tools such as the Orton-Gillingham one-on-one tutoring program.

Bus routes are currently available from Keyser, West Virginia, Westernport, Maryland and Romney, West Virginia. More busing may be available pending upon interest. Also, Bishop Walsh offers an international program for students from China with *Sinamericademy*. This organization welcomes students who are looking for a high school education in America and provides housing on campus. Bishop Walsh also partners with Forte International Exchange Association, an independent organization that encourages and assists international high school students from other countries to study in the United States as part of an academic and cultural exchange. Host families who have a genuine desire and interest to host an international student are interviewed by Forte for a match with potential students.

Contact us to schedule a shadow day or a tour of the school. We look forward to meeting you!

Open Communication

At Bishop Walsh, we believe parent and school communication is essential for student success. While parent and teacher conferences are scheduled twice a year, you may make an appointment at any time to speak with the teacher or administrator. Yourhomework.com is a free website where teachers post homework assignments and tests. Parents can view their child's grades on Powerschool, an on-line gradebook.



CONTACT US

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Academics

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Elementary School experience at Bishop Walsh (pre-K through 5th grade) focuses on giving students the strong fundamentals of learning to prepare them for their future academic growth. Our creative and engaging teachers work with students, one-on-one and in groups, to incorporate our challenging curriculum and technology with hands-on learning experiences and fun during these important years.

INSTRUCTION / CURRICULUM

On the elementary level, students are grouped heterogeneously with some specialized grouping in math and reading, and some departmentalization within grades. Classes in art, music, computer, library and physical education are integrated into the weekly schedule. The Archdiocesan Course of Study and Curriculum meets all requirements of the Maryland State Department of Education.

RELIGION REQUIREMENTS

Religion is required for each year a student attends the elementary level. All students enrolled in the elementary level must attend religion classes and services. Students are encouraged to attend weekly religious services of their own faith.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued three times a year. Distribution dates are noted on the school calendar. Report cards are an indication of student's educational growth and development in each subject area over a given length of time. Progress reports are also distributed to students at the mid-point of each trimester.

TESTING PROGRAM

The following tests are administered to elementary students:

- Standardized Testing --The Stanford 10 and OLSAT are administered in April to students in grades 3 through 5.
- Local reading, language arts, and math screenings on all grade levels.
- ACRE tests to determine student understanding of the Catholic Faith. This test is administered to 5th grade students in September or October.
- Assessments provided by the publisher for various educational programs which are used.
- Teacher-made assessments determine student retention of subject matter.

ELEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

Accelerated Reader (grades 2-5)
Literature in Motion
Summer Science Enrichment
After School Science
Summer Math Camp
(grade 3 into 4)
After School Peer Tutoring
After School Art
Summer Art
Band (grades 4 & 5)
Choir (grades 3-5)
Private Band Lessons
Class Trips
Project Fit
D.A.R.E.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

At Bishop Walsh, we strive to provide a climate in which the developing middle school student will have the support of caring faculty and staff, the limits of a traditional schedule, clear homework expectations and guidelines for proper behavior. These opportunities are provided in both the academic and social realms. We believe one of the greatest challenges to a student at this age is social development. Middle school students are challenged to cooperate on tasks, seek new adventures of learning and capitalize on the skills of all by working together academically and socially. All students are given the opportunity to do enrichment work if they have met the basic requirements. We view middle school as an adventure and we encourage all students to embrace the opportunity to grow as individuals.

GRADING SYSTEM

The year is divided into three marking periods at the end of which reports are issued. The standards, letter grades and their numerical equivalents are:

Standards

Proficient	97 – 100
Very Good	93 – 96
Good	85 – 92
Satisfactory	75 – 84
Improvement needed	70 – 74
Not Yet Demonstrating	69 and below

Letter Grades

97 – 100	A+	80 – 84	C+
93 – 96	A	75 – 79	C
89 – 92	B+	70 – 74	D
85 – 88	B	69 & below	F

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll is determined by general average. The grade is meant to indicate whether or not the student is working to his or her ability level.

- A student whose quarter grades are all 93% or higher earns **PRINCIPAL'S HONORS**.
- A student whose quarter has no grade lower than 85% earns **FIRST HONORS**.
- A student whose quarter has no grade lower than 80% earns **SECOND HONORS**.
- To be eligible for Honors, a student must have a grade of "Good" in Conduct and Effort.



MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After School Science Enrichment
Summer Science Enrichment
Environmental Adventure Camp
Week
Frostburg State University
Fitness Day
MathCounts
Literature in Motion
SHOP (Students Helping Other
People)
Student Council
After School Art
Summer Art
Band
Private Band Lessons
Bowling
Skating
Holiday Parties
Class Trips
YMCA Project AIM
D.A.R.E.





HIGH SCHOOL

High school is a time when students start thinking seriously about their futures. At Bishop Walsh, we give our high school students support by offering an array of Advanced Placement and honors classes and individualized college planning. Our teachers and professional staff also guide our students while they prepare for that “next step” in their educational journeys. Even though the high school years are a time of self-reflection and planning, we remind our students to look beyond themselves and encourage them to develop a heart of service for their God and His people.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND CREDITS

- One credit in religion for each year in attendance at Bishop Walsh- residency courses
- Four credits in English – residency courses
- Three credits in social studies (Civilizations of the World, American Government, and U.S. History)
- Three credits in lab-based sciences
- Two credits in same foreign language
- Four or five credits in mathematics
- One-half credit in computer education
- One-half credit in art and one-half credit in music
- One-half credit in physical education and one-half credit in health

Electives to complete a total of 24 credits, the minimum number required for graduation. We recommend four credits in social studies, science, math, and foreign language.

The course catalog is available on the Bishop Walsh website. Copies are available in the school’s main office. Registration takes place in February for the following academic year.

THE PHASE SYSTEM

Phase 1 - Courses are designed for students who need emphasis on the skills of the course.

Phase 2 - Courses are designed for students who need moderate emphasis on the basic skills of the courses. These courses are college preparatory.

Phase 3 - Courses are designed for students whose command of the basic skills enables them to pursue a more detailed study of the course material. These courses are honors level.

Phase 4 - These courses are Advanced Placement and taking of the national exam is mandatory.

AP COURSES OFFERED IN:

Art History
Biology
Calculus AB
Chemistry
English Language and Composition
English Literature and Composition
Environmental Science
Music Composition and Theory
Psychology
Statistics
U.S. Government and Politics
U.S. History



GRADING SYSTEM

The year is divided into four marking periods at the end of which reports are issued. The minimum passing grade is D. To receive credit the yearly average must be D or better. The letter grades and their numerical equivalents are:

98 – 100	A+	75 – 79	C
93 – 97	A	73 – 74	D+
90 – 92	B+	70 – 72	D
85 – 89	B	Below 70	F
80 – 84	C+		

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll is determined by general average. The grade is meant to indicate whether or not the student is working to his or her ability level.

- A student whose quarter grades are all 93% or higher earns PRINCIPAL'S HONORS.
- A student whose quarter GPA is 3.5 and has no grade lower than 85% earns FIRST HONORS.
- A student whose quarter GPA is 3.0 and has no grade lower than 80% earns SECOND HONORS.



HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Art Honor Society
Burgundy Brigade
Campus Ministry
Chess Club
COP – Community Outreach Program
Ecology Club
Cultural Exchange Club
Ski Club
Spanish Honor Society
Student Council
Mock Trial
Tri-M Music Honor Society
National Honor Society
Newspaper
Public Address Club
Spring Musical
Yearbook
Kappa Delta Alpha
Concert, Marching and Pep Bands
Bella Cantata and Caprivo! Choirs
Private Band Lessons





Athletics

Bishop Walsh School is committed to promoting the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play in all sports activities.

Students may participate in the following team sports:

Middle School Sports:

Soccer
Cheerleading
Basketball
Katie DeRosa Track Meet
Volleyball
Softball
**Football contingent upon interest*

High School Sports:

Soccer
Volleyball
Cross Country
Golf
Basketball
Cheerleading
Tennis
Bowling

Track & Field
Baseball
Softball
**Football contingent upon interest*

*Sports do not
build character.*

They reveal it.

— Heywood Hale Broun

Bishop Walsh School is the host of the famed Alhambra Catholic Invitational Tournament, welcoming Catholic high school basketball teams from around the U.S.A. and Canada to Western Maryland each year. In addition, Bishop Walsh hosts the Girls Invitational Basketball Tournament. This tournament is well known throughout the region.





*Bishop Walsh
is giving me
the skills to
have a successful
future. I'm
proud to be
a student here.*

– Sam DeMartino,

*Bishop Walsh
high school student*

