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**FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**

**DOR Catholic Schools Lead in NYS Assessment ELA and Math Proficiency**

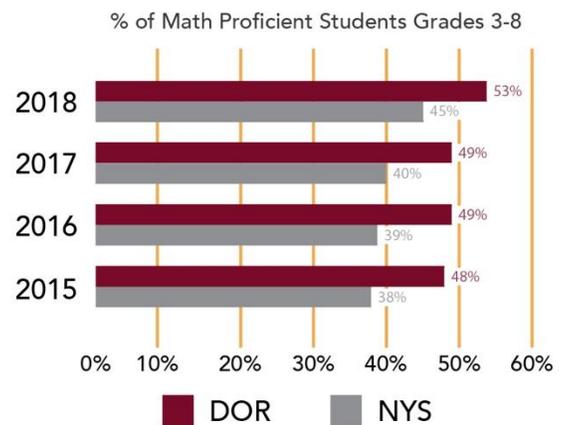
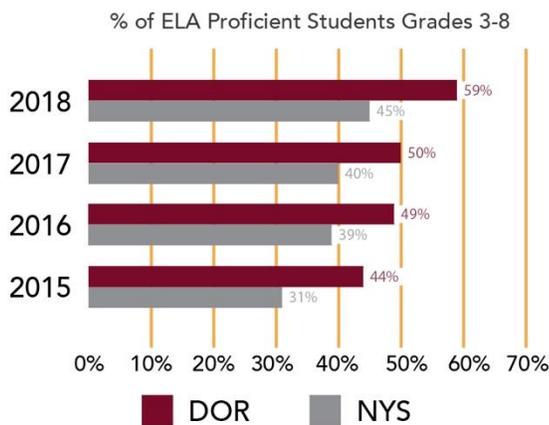
**ROCHESTER, NY, November 20, 2018** — Results of New York State assessments for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics from 2018 reveal Diocese of Rochester Catholic Schools are outperforming schools throughout a twelve-county region including the Finger Lakes, Rochester, and Southern Tier. The Diocese of Rochester (DOR) Department of Catholic Schools operates 18 schools serving students in pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade.

Since 2015, the number of DOR Catholic School students achieving proficiency in ELA and Math has increased year over year, yielding annual performances approximately 10% higher than New York State benchmarks. In 2018, 16 DOR Catholic Schools outperformed public school districts of location in ELA. In Math, 15 DOR Catholic Schools outperformed public school districts of location.

**Percentage of Proficient Students in ELA and Math, Grades 3–8**



**Percentage of Proficient Students in ELA and Math | Grades 3-8**



[dorschools.org](http://dorschools.org)

*DOR proficiencies are aggregate percentages reflecting the overall performance of students across the Diocese’s twelve-county region.*

The most notable DOR Catholic School performances in ELA include: St. Agnes School, Avon (85%), St. Michael School, Penn Yan (79%), St. Joseph School in Penfield (76%).

The most notable DOR Catholic School performances in Math include: St. Louis School, Pittsford (81%), St. Agnes School, Avon (79%), St. Pius Tenth School, Chili (77%).

While NYS assessments assist in benchmarking school and student performance against state standards, the assessments are only one of several measures of success at DOR Catholic Schools. Faith, service, and community are central to a holistic educational experience. DOR Catholic Schools are where students and families experience faith, belonging, friendship, engagement, and community.

Students who attend Rochester Catholic Schools regularly participate in Mass and prayer opportunities as well as community service projects that benefit both local and global audiences, such as preparing boxes of gifts for Operation Christmas Child or serving food at weekly lunch programs. Learner-centered tenets emphasize the importance of working together, asking questions, and using critical thinking skills in the classroom and beyond. Nearly 86% of Catholic school students go on to pursue higher education (Source: The Annual Statistical Report on Schools, Enrollment and Staffing, 2013-2014), with many engaged alumni returning for career explorations with current students.

“Diocese of Rochester Catholic Schools seek to lead, inspire, and motivate students towards a Christ-centered environment, academic excellence, and love for God, oneself, and one’s community,” says Superintendent Dr. Anthony Cook. “The continuous growth of our schools’ performance on the New York State assessments, year over year, are a reflection of our hardworking students and families, caring and dedicated school staff, welcoming school communities, and integrated faith and service-based learning.”

For more information on Diocese of Rochester Catholic Schools, please visit [www.dorschools.org](http://www.dorschools.org). To arrange for an interview with a school principal or the Superintendent, please email Dr. Anthony Cook at [anthony.cook@dor.org](mailto:anthony.cook@dor.org).

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### **About the Diocese of Rochester Catholic Schools**

The Diocese of Rochester Department of Catholic Schools supports 18 schools in a twelve-county region ranging from the south shores of Lake Ontario through the Finger Lakes to the Southern Tier and the New York-Pennsylvania border. The region is home to approximately 310,000 Catholics and over 88 parishes. In addition to our schools serving pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade, there are six private Catholic high schools in the area as well as St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry. The twelve counties within the Diocese are Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Ontario, Seneca, Cayuga, Yates, Tompkins, Schuyler, Tioga, Chemung, and Steuben. The Department of Catholic Schools' offices are located within the Diocese of Rochester Pastoral Center at 1150 Buffalo Road, in the Rochester suburb of Gates.