

**St. Bruno and St. Richard School Update: November 11, 2021****Discernment Process**

As a result of the Renew My Church (RMC) review and discernment process, St. Bruno Parish and St. Richard Parish united as a new parish effective July 1, 2021. St. Bruno School and St. Richard School continued under the current structures and programs for the 2021-22 school year, with an understanding the school structure would be reviewed now when the parishes united.

Leadership of the parish and both schools discerned options for a future structure through Fall 2021 in collaboration with the Office of Catholic Schools. Cardinal Cupich, Bishop Wypych, and the archdiocesan School Board are grateful to Fr. Bartos, the principals, and leaders who gathered for this continuing school discernment.

Outcome

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, archbishop of Chicago, and the archdiocese's School Board reviewed the results of the school discernment process. Based on the information reviewed and prayerful consideration, Cardinal Cupich made the following decision on the school structure for St. Bruno and St. Richard:

- St. Bruno and St. Richard schools will unify for the 2022-2023 school year.
- The unified school will use both school buildings, with preschool through 3rd grade students attending the St. Bruno campus and 4th through 8th grade students attending the St. Richard campus.
- The unified school will be called St. Bruno - St. Richard School.
- The principal of the unified school will be announced in December. Details on teacher placement, bell times, uniforms, and tuition will be released in January.

Rationale

- St. Bruno School and St. Richard School have faced declining enrollment and substantial operating deficits over the last several years. Unification allows the school to reduce costs through efficiencies and stabilize financials, and to align the school communities under the newly formed parish.
- A dual campus model provides the opportunity for the school to specialize curricula at each building based on the respective age bands, improving academic quality for all students. With two buildings, the school has room to expand and grow enrollment, further strengthening the unified school.
- The Archdiocese of Chicago and Office of Catholic Schools believe that unifying under a dual-campus model provides the best opportunity to serve as many children in Catholic schools as possible in this area.