



ST. DOMINIC  
SCHOOL

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*Tomorrow's Leaders Start Here*

# Curriculum Guide

**2020 - 2021**

## **Introduction**

All curricula developed for the elementary schools in the Diocese of Cleveland are, first and foremost, based on the teachings of the Catholic Church. In addition, our curricula reflect the Common Core State Standards, the Ohio Learning Standards, and the standards of professional education associations. The Diocesan curriculum provides our students with an education that challenges them to live faith-filled lives and succeed in high school and beyond.

## **Religion**

At all grade levels, religion instruction is aligned to the standards set by the Diocese of Cleveland, as well as to literacy standards from the state of Ohio. The Religion Curriculum of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland is organized according to the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

- The Profession of Faith
- The Celebration of the Christian Mystery
- Life in Christ, and
- Christian Prayer

These pillars are the organizing framework for each grade of the curriculum, providing unity, continuity, and coherence. In each pillar or unit, essential questions, content, and skills are developed to identify what the learners will know, understand, and value in living out their Catholic faith.

## **English/Language Arts**

Instruction in Reading and English Language Arts is guided by the Ohio standards. At each grade level, students grow in their ability to :

- Read and understand literature and informational text
- Recognize the conventions of standard English
- Acquire and use vocabulary correctly
- Write for a variety of purposes and audiences
- Research information and present it
- Speak and listen effectively

In grades K - 5, students use *Collaborative Classroom*, a program that uses research-supported teaching practices to help students grow as readers, writers, and thinkers as they develop the social and emotional skills necessary to thrive.

In grades 6 - 8, students are exposed to a variety of texts and writing activities, while deepening their understanding of grammar and vocabulary.

## **Math**

The Diocesan Mathematics Curriculum is based on Ohio's 2017 New Learning Standards for Mathematics. The content of our curriculum is grounded in the belief that all students need to learn important mathematical processes, concepts, and content with understanding in order to be college and career ready.

The standards are divided into two groups: content standards and mathematical practice standards. The Diocesan Mathematics Curriculum places special emphasis on the standards and identifies the specific understanding, knowledge and skills that should be acquired by all students. The content standards for each grade level are the following:

- Kindergarten: Operations & Algebraic Thinking, Number and Operations in Base Ten, Measurement and Data, Geometry, Counting and Cardinality
- Grade One: Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Number and Operations in Base Ten, Measurement and Data, and Geometry
- Grade Two: Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Number and Operations in Base Ten, Measurement and Data, and Geometry
- Grade Three: Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Number and Operations in Base Ten, Number and Operations—Fractions, Measurement and Data, and Geometry
- Grade Four: Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Number and Operations in Base Ten, Number and Operations—Fractions, Measurement and Data, and Geometry
- Grade Five: Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Number and Operations in Base Ten, Measurement and Data, Geometry, and Number and Operations—Fractions

- Grade Six: Ratios and Proportional Relationships, The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability
- Grade Seven: The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, Statistics and Probability, Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- Grade Eight: The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability
- Grade Eight: Algebra 1 Curriculum (optional)

At each grade level, the following standards for mathematical practice are developed:

1. Making sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reasoning abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Constructing viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Modeling with mathematics.
5. Using appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attending to precision.
7. Looking for and making use of structure.
8. Looking for and expressing regularity in repeated reasoning.

## **Science**

At each grade level, students develop the skills of scientific process and inquiry, including interpretation, tools and safety, and ethical practices. The science curriculum reflects the Ohio Learning Standards for Science and include lessons in Earth and Space Science, Physical Science, and Life Science that are developmentally appropriate for each grade level and build on prior knowledge.

## **Social Studies**

Following the guidelines of the Ohio Learning Standards, our social studies curriculum is organized by Strands, Themes, Topics, and Content Statements. The themes by grade level are below:

- K - A Child's Place in Time and Space
- 1 - Families Now and Long Ago, Near and Far
- 2 - People Working Together
- 3 - Communities: Past and Present, Near and Far
- 4 - Ohio in the United States
- 5 - Regions and People of the Western Hemisphere
- 6 - Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere
- 7 - World Studies: Ancient Greece to the First Global Age
- 8 - United States States: Exploration through Reconstruction

Incorporated throughout the curriculum are speaking/listening and literacy skills.

### **Specials Classes**

In addition to the five core subjects, St. Dominic School students receive weekly instruction in:

- ★ Spanish
- ★ Technology
- ★ Physical Education
- ★ Art
- ★ Music
- ★ Band (4 -8 Elective)
- ★ Library (K - 6)

**If you would like a copy of the Diocesan Parent Guide for any subject area or grade level, please contact the St. Dominic School office.**