

## School Choice Highlights

**This document is a brief summary of the attached two pages. Please also read the attached two pages**

-School choice will be available to all current St. Lucy families contingent of course on family income and residency requirements. (This was not going to be the case several months ago). If you believe you qualify financially (based on the attached income guidelines at the top of page 2), we encourage you to read on.

-The income guidelines are found on the top section of the second page of the attached document. If the child's parents/legal guardians are married, you can take \$7000 off of your adjusted gross income to see if you qualify. Example: Combined adjusted gross income (AGI) of a married couple in a family of 4 is \$79,000. You can deduct \$7000 resulting in (AGI) of \$72,000, accordingly your family would qualify for the program.

-Once your child(ren) is approved in the choice program, you are qualified indefinitely, however you must re-register each February and also meet residency requirements.

-You are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to register in February to help insure acceptance into the program (if you meet income standards of course).

-Please complete the 'returning student' application form regardless of whether or not you may qualify for choice.

**-A meeting will be held at St. Lucy in late January or early February for any family interested in learning more about school choice or financial aid.**

**-Choice enrollment will be offered in early February. Details will be sent soon.**

## Understanding the Racine Parental Choice Program

Dear Parent:

While you may have heard the words “school choice” or “voucher” at one time or another in regards to the state-funded program allowing eligible students to attend Racine-area private schools, you might still have questions about how the program works. This information sheet should help you understand some of the facts regarding the Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP), particularly as it relates to Siena Catholic Schools, Inc.

### **Eligibility**

For 2018-19 only, current students of St. Rita School and St. Lucy School are able to apply for the Racine Parental Choice Program at their school. The RPCP allows students who reside in the RUSD to attend any participating private school if certain eligibility criteria are met. The private school, on behalf of the pupil’s parent or guardian, receives a state aid payment for each eligible student. Students new to the program must meet the income and residency requirements.

To qualify for the program in the 2018-19 school year, a new student must reside in the RUSD and have a family income equal to or less than 300% of the federal poverty level income limits shown on the back of this form. If the child’s parents/legal guardians are married their adjusted gross income is reduced by \$7,000 when determining income for tuition purposes. Family size includes parents/guardians and their children by birth, marriage or adoption that reside in the same household as the student applicant.

### **Open Enrollment**

If you are interested in the RPCP, it is imperative you register during the open enrollment period in February, 2018 (Feb. 1-20). While each school will hold additional open enrollments, individuals waiting for later open enrollments will have a strong likelihood of ending up on a waiting list. The majority of RPCP seats will be filled by students who complete the program’s online application process in February.

### **Annual Renewal**

Once a student is in the Racine Parental Choice Program, the family will need to renew on an annual basis. All that is required of parents is the completion of the online application with submission of residency documentation in the February open enrollment period. If the renewal process is completed in subsequent months, there is the possibility of losing funding. February is the only month that will guarantee funding for the next school year.

**300% of the Federal Poverty Level for 2018-19**

Family Size Maximum Yearly Income

1	\$36,180
2	\$48,720
3	\$61,260
4	\$73,800
5	\$86,340
6	\$98,880

For each additional member add \$12,540

A private school may, in addition to the state aid payment it receives, charge a choice student tuition in an amount determined by the school if both of the following apply: (a) the student is in grades 9 through 12; and (b) the family income of the student exceeds 220% of the federal poverty level as listed below.

**220% of the Federal Poverty Level for 2018-19**

Family Size Maximum Yearly Income

1	\$26,532
2	\$35,728
3	\$44,924
4	\$54,120
5	\$63,316
6	\$72,512

For each additional member add \$9,196

Questions? Please do not hesitate to contact the Kory Wandrey, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid (262)833-5517 or [kwandrey@saintcats.org](mailto:kwandrey@saintcats.org).