

Gesu At A Glance

Background

- Founded in 1926
- Accredited by OCSAA
- Directed by the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland and the Society of Jesus
- Received the National School of Excellence award in 1987 and 1996

Student Body *(Fall 2008 enrollment)*

- 72 Preschool students
- 711 students in Kindergarten through Grade 8
- 470 families in the school
- 98% of students are Catholic

Class Size

- Three classrooms per grade level
- Maximum class size is 28 students
- Kindergarten & Grades 1-2 have aides /support teachers

Faculty

- 47 licensed teachers, 2 licensed administrators, 13 professional staff, 1 technology coordinator
- More than 50% of faculty have Masters degrees
- Average teaching experience: 15 years

Religious programs

- All students have regular Religion class
- Students attend weekly liturgy with class
- Six liturgies are celebrated together yearly as a school
- Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated once a year
- Sacramental program is offered for second graders and their families

Facilities and Resources

- 29 classrooms, music room, science room, communications center, band room, art studio, gifted-enrichment classroom, two gyms, chapel
- 1 Full time & 1 Part time Spanish teacher for students K-8; 1 Part time Latin teacher for students Grades 7-8
- 14,000 volume library that is fully automated
- Cafeteria with hot meals served daily
- State Auxiliary Service Program includes: Intensive Learning teachers, Speech and Language teacher, psychologists, and a full time school nurse
- School is networked and accesses Internet via T-1 lines; Classrooms are equipped with at least two PCs; Laptop carts are also used in upper grades; Gerald J. Breen Family Media Center within the school has two complete technology labs for daily student instruction and use.



Admissions

Gesu School is a Catholic elementary school which provides quality Catholic education to children of families who are registered members of Gesu Parish. Non-parishioners and non-Catholics will be considered for admission as space permits. Registration begins in January for Kindergarten and Preschool. Information Nights are scheduled prior to the beginning of registration.

Families moving into Gesu Parish are asked to register in the Parish Office and also fill out a waiting list form and a school entrance form. Interested families should call the school office at (216) 932-0620. Tuition costs are available at registration.

Tuition support for children of parishioners in grades K–8 is available through the Father Robert McAuley S.J. Scholarship Fund and the Francis T. Dietz, S.J. Scholarship Fund.



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Please visit our Gesu School website for the most recent information about programs and school news.

www.gesu.com



Gesu Catholic School is a faith community in the Jesuit tradition, where education is the shared responsibility of the student, home, school, and community. Students develop into lifelong learners in a nurturing Christian environment focused on academic excellence, service, and personal growth.

-Mission Statement

Becoming Persons for Others

Living the message of the Gospel takes many forms for students at Gesu. Under the leadership of the junior high students, everyone at Gesu finds ways to contribute to monthly service learning opportunities. These include drives to support the work of the Gesu Mission in Honduras, Halloween candy sharing, the Thanksgiving Food Drive, the Christmas Sharing project with Archbishop Lyke School, Mission raffles, Lenten projects and the Hike for Hunger which has been an annual event for over 25 years.

Students are all part of inter-grade "Faith Families" which meet about six times a year to conduct activities that will extend their understanding of the school theme for the year. Many of these meetings involve a service project such as letters to Gesu parishioners who are homebound. Eighth graders serve as leaders for these groups.



Instructional Programs

Gesu Catholic School, located in the heart of University Heights, recognizes the importance of excellence and has a reputation for helping students maximize their potential. Both teachers and students set lofty goals and embrace high ideals with the expectation that learning will be engaging and exciting. Twice a winner of the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award from the United States Department of Education, Gesu School offers a comprehensive curriculum in an environment that is permeated with traditional Catholic values.



Enrichment for All

In addition to the core curriculum, teachers constantly extend and enrich their lessons with stimulating field trips, guest speakers, technology experiences, and other activities that will challenge students at every grade level. These include programs with the Cleveland Clinic, the Great Lakes Theater Festival, the Cleveland Art Museum, outdoor education at local nature centers, and many museum and theater experiences. Spanish is taught to every student in the school beginning in Kindergarten. Spanish becomes part of the regular curriculum in junior high and students are also introduced to Latin in their final two years at Gesu. Gesu students participate in academic competitions and programs such as Science Olympiad, Destination Imagination, Midwest Talent Search, Junior Great Books, Power of the Pen, the GCCTM math competition, the National Geography Bee and Future Problem Solving.

Gesu Catholic School has a full time Gifted Enrichment teacher who coordinates many of the enrichment opportunities within the school. Under her direction, students broadcast morning prayer and the news to the school community each day over closed circuit television. The Gifted Enrichment teacher meets with all Gesu students weekly to help them develop their critical thinking and creativity. These classes extend the language arts curriculum in ways that offer a variety of learning experiences.



Extracurricular Programs

There are a wide range of extracurricular programs available to all students. These include Student Council, Choral Club, Stock Market Club, Chess Club, Altar Servers, Science Club, Destination Imagination, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and others.

Additionally, the Gesu athletic program has opportunities for all ages for the fall, winter, and spring seasons. These teams are sponsored by the Boosters Club and coached by parent volunteers. Every child who wishes to play can find a team at Gesu.

The school also conducts an after school care program called the "2:45 Club." This is led by teachers and other professionals who direct recreational activities, arts, crafts, field trips, time for homework, dance, sports and much more. Each summer Gesu Catholic School offers a one week science day camp for students in K-5 called Spotlight Discovery.

Parents As Partners

Gesu Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) provides an opportunity for parents to work with teachers and administration to enhance the school's high quality of education. The PTO is responsible for parent education programs which are conducted throughout the year. It also coordinates many of the volunteer efforts within the school as well as the fundraising done for ongoing school programs.

Parent-teacher conferences are held twice a year and parents are invited to the school for special events at various times during the school year.



Early Childhood Center

Gesu Preschool for young children ages three through five, provides a nurturing, enriching environment where learning occurs through "hands on" exploration and interaction. Certified teachers and aides guide children at a variety of learning centers which provide multisensory activities designed to develop every aspect of a young child's growth.

Gesu's full day Kindergarten program consists of instruction in religion, math, language arts, science, social studies and technology. Emphasis is placed on the child's development of learning and social skills. Students also participate in classes in music, art, physical education, library and Spanish which are conducted by teachers who specialize in these fields. Kindergarten is the door to a love of life-long learning.

