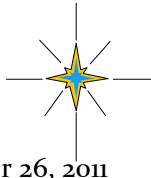


# NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL



2008 National Blue Ribbon School  
The Nativity Star ~ leading the way to Christ



September 26, 2011

Dear Parents:

Parental choice in education is a fundamental right, and one for which the Catholic Church has long fought. Legislative efforts have been underway in Virginia for the last several years to ensure greater educational options and opportunities for more students and to sustain the long term viability of Catholic and other nonpublic schools, which provide significant benefits for their families as well as all taxpayers. In the upcoming Virginia General Assembly session, parental choice in education will again be a hotly debated topic.

The Virginia Catholic Conference collaborating with the Catholic School Offices in Richmond and Arlington, Mid-Atlantic Catholic Schools Consortium and the Diocese of Arlington's Office of Communications has developed a video (link at the end of this letter) to promote tax credits for parental choice in education. ***"The Education Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit: Taking Action for a Brighter Tomorrow"*** (produced by Triune Productions Studios LLC) is designed to increase understanding and involvement in legislative advocacy in order to win passage of the *Education Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit* bill in 2012.

*The Education Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit* bill will be considered during the 2012 Virginia General Assembly session that begins in mid-January. Its benefits for our local community and Catholic schools statewide are three-fold:

- It will provide critical support for low-income students desiring Catholic education.
- It will save all Virginia taxpayers money.
- It will support the long-term viability of Catholic schools throughout Virginia by sustaining enrollments and leveraging greater investments.

For the last two years this legislation has come just two votes short. If it is to pass in 2012, the bill needs strong support.

I encourage you to watch this short, five minute video, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtdhmWgEL10> and then take a few minutes to follow the action suggestion at the end. Please share the video with family members and friends who might be interested in viewing it as all. Your help is vitally important to pass this bill in 2012!

On behalf of our school community and all Catholic schools in Virginia, thank you for allowing me to share this message.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Kelly".

Maria Kelly  
Principal

PHONE: (703) 455-2300 • FAX: (703) 569-8109  
6398 Nativity Lane, Burke, VA 22015  
nativityschool.org



## IMPORTANT LEGISLATION:

During the 2012 Virginia General Assembly session, a bill will be introduced to provide greater parental choice in education. Similar legislation was approved by the Virginia House of Delegates last year before being defeated 9-6 in the Senate Finance Committee.

By providing business tax credits for donations toward Education Improvement Scholarships to enable economically disadvantaged children to attend nonpublic K-12 schools, passage of this bill would:

- provide options and opportunities for low-income families.
- sustain enrollment in Catholic schools.
- save all taxpayers money.

For more information, visit [www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org).

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**ACTION NEEDED: Catholic-school parents, parishioners and others concerned about parental choice in education are urged to join the crucial effort to pass this bill.**

For alerts and updates on this initiative and others of interest to Virginia's Catholic bishops and their two dioceses (serving 27,000 Catholic-school students and nearly 700,000 parishioners), please join the Virginia Catholic Conference Email Advocacy Network by completing the form below. **(Please print clearly and return to: Virginia Catholic Conference, 919 East Main Street, Suite 1140, Richmond, VA 23219.)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(street address, city, state and zip code)

Diocese (Arlington or Richmond): \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

***Sign up today so you can take action on alerts!***