

Dear Families,

Thank you for your patience as we have been finalizing a process for selecting school names to submit to the Archbishop. During this time, we reached out to the Archbishop for even further clarification on what names and mascots would be accepted as well as asked for an additional extension to the deadline to ensure we have time to gather community input after his clarification.

In an email from Archbishop Lucas he confirmed the following:

“I understand that the Transition Team is making good progress. I have asked for three name submissions. If one of these three is some combination of current names and mascot, I will receive that. The other two should be unique in name and with a new mascot. I look forward to at least a brief paragraph with the reasoning for each of the submissions.”

The archdiocese has granted an extension of the deadline to submit name options to January 22, with the final combination of names and mascots to be submitted no later than January 29.

Because the name selection deadline is approaching very soon, we will be focusing first on gathering input for name options, with mascot options to be reviewed next. Overall, the team received 65 unique name submissions in addition to 29 variations of current school names both individually presented as well as combined. As you can imagine, it was quite the undertaking to narrow down this list in order to create a more manageable and less overwhelming process when asking for input from the communities. In narrowing down the selection, the team went through each name submitted and considered the following:

- Uniqueness of name (names not already being used in area schools, parishes or entities)
- Connection and meaning (aligns with the communities' core values)
- Speech and connotation (taking into consideration cheers, chants, urban dictionary definitions, repercussions of acronyms and pairings etc.)

After many hours of discussion and prayer, the team was able to narrow down the list which can be found on the next page. We are now asking for your help in determining three names to be submitted to the Archbishop for his consideration.

We encourage everyone, including students and adults, to share their input via the online form provided on the proposed names. We ask that you please include your first and last name in your submission to ensure individual responses are represented only once.

The form can be found here: <https://forms.gle/aL6L1sFjjFNTzJfP8>

This form will be closed at 1pm on Sunday, January 21, 2024.

We greatly appreciate your input and want to thank you for taking the time to send us your responses. We know that this is not an easy process for many, and our faith too has been tested at every step. But we are hopeful in Christ's promise that if we trust in Him he will make straight our path.

Please be looking for an **additional communication regarding the mascot review process that will be posted on the parish websites early next week.**

Thank you for your continued prayers,

The Transition Team

The Transition Team would like your input on the names listed alphabetically below. Three of these names will be submitted to the Archbishop on January 22, 2024.

Please visit <https://forms.gle/aL6L1sFjjFNTzJfP8> by 1pm on Sunday, January 21 to submit your response.

All Saints Central Catholic (ASCC)

- Unique (not aware of any other entity named this nearby, however there is a grade school in Omaha with this name)
- All Saints as a central high school allows students of any parish in our area to be represented
- We are all called to strive for sainthood

Archangels Central Catholic (ACC)

- Unique (not aware of any other entity named this nearby)
- When our parish family was established, the St. Michael the Archangel prayer became a unifying prayer amongst our parishes
- The Archangels are the liaison between God and man: Gabriel is the messenger of God, Michael is the defender, and Raphael is the healer

Divine Mercy Central Catholic (DMCC)

- Unique (there is a parish in Schuyler named this but not a school we are aware of in the state)
- Divine Mercy is the universal root of all of God's acts, and is the cause of all actions God accomplishes outside of himself
- Divine Mercy is God's love reaching down to meet our needs

Elizabeth Ann Seton Central Catholic (ESCC)

- Unique (not aware of any other schools in the area named this - there is a St. James/Seton K-8 school in Omaha)
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first American-born saint and the founder of the Sisters of Charity
- She is the founder and patron saint of Catholic schools
- Spent her life working to improve education and provide for the poor as well as the needs of her family – serving others over self

Holy Family St. Francis Central Catholic (HFSF)

- This name allows representation from both schools, recognizing their history and traditions
- The Holy Family is the ultimate example of trusting in God and following his plan
- St. Francis founded the Franciscan order which founded both parishes
- In terms of Catholic Tradition the Holy Family consisting of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is primary (Holy Family first in name)
- We already compete as Holy Family St. Francis in One Act and Speech

Queen of Peace Central Catholic (QPCC) (QOP)

- Unique (not aware of any other entity named this nearby)
- Mary Queen of Peace is our intercessor with God to obtain the spirit of love, unity and reconciliation
- Unlike other statues of the Blessed Virgin, this statue is depicted holding an olive branch which symbolizes peace and reminds us of God's amazing plan of salvation and the expectation that all branches should bear fruit in abundance