

www.catholiccommunityschools.org (320) 258-7653

April 8, 2025

Dear Families, Teachers, and Staff of Catholic Community Schools,

I write to share the heartbreaking news that St. Mary Help of Christians Parish has made the very difficult decision to conclude school operations at the end of the current academic year. This decision comes after months of analysis, reflection, and prayerful discernment by Parish leadership.

Multiple factors contributed to this conclusion, including enrollment declines, rising operational costs, and a financial outlook that has become increasingly unsustainable. Despite the deep commitment of families, educators, and parishioners, the financial realities made it clear that short and long-term resources needed to continue operating the school are unattainable.

Catholic Community Schools has been proud to partner with St. Mary Help of Christians Parish, its school families, dedicated teachers and staff, and Principal Kelly Kirks over the past decade. For generations, the school has been a vibrant center of faith, academic excellence, and community. While St. Mary Help of Christians will close its doors, its legacy will continue in the lives and hearts of all who have been a part of its educational ministry.

We know this news may be difficult to hear and process. Please be assured that the CCS board, administration, principals, teachers and staff are fully committed to supporting the school community through this transition. We will work closely with families and school employees to help navigate the path forward with compassion and care.

We ask for your understanding and your prayers during this time, especially for the students, families and employees who are most affected. May God grant peace and understanding in the days ahead.

In Christ,

David Fremo President