



Father Gabriel Richard High School Chooses Inclusion for 2017

School partners with CLC Network to ensure students with varying abilities are included in general education programs

Grand Rapids, MI (October 2017)– Father Gabriel Richard High School, a regional, comprehensive, co-educational Catholic high school located in Ann Arbor, Michigan has partnered with CLC Network to more fully understand individuals with disabilities and to build support systems that enable their inclusion in all aspects of school life. CLC Network is a national non-profit committed to equipping congregations and schools to glorify God through purposeful, innovative inclusion of persons with varied abilities.

“We look forward to creating an inclusive school environment that embraces all students regardless of their abilities,” said Christopher Dotson, principal, Fr. Gabriel Richard High School. “We look forward to growing as a school staff so that we are prepared to welcome diverse learners and help them realize their full potential.”

“This partnership is a win-win situation for all teachers and students of various abilities as we learn to work alongside one another with mutual respect,” stated Jaclyn Manor, Fr. Gabriel Richard High School Learning Resource Center director.

The partnership will allow Father Gabriel Richard High School to more effectively welcome students with varying abilities into the educational community. CLC Network will assist the school with implementing core practices in inclusive education to strengthen teaching and learning for all students, while also fostering social inclusion among peers.

“The Father Gabriel Richard High School community will benefit as a whole from the partnership with CLC Network,” continued Dotson. “We are continually striving to achieve our school's mission of providing a Catholic education for all students. Working with CLC Network will help us reach this goal. As Pope Benedict XVI stated in a 2008 Address to Catholic educators, ‘No child should be denied his or her right to an education in Faith, which in turn nurtures the soul of a nation.’”

“Our team is eager to work with Christopher, Jaclyn, and the rest of Father Gabriel Richard High Schools’ teachers and staff to help them understand and support the gifts and needs of each student, regardless of their ability,” said Elizabeth Lucas Dombrowski, executive director at CLC Network. “Over the past 28 years, we have seen inclusive education transform general education classrooms, social groups, and

extracurricular activities--we are thrilled about Father Gabriel Richard High School's desire to move forward on this journey."

For interview opportunities and media inquiries concerning the above, please contact Gwen Bultema at gwen@bultemagroup.com or 616-536-1400.

About CLC Network:

CLC Network is a national non-profit committed to equipping congregations and schools to glorify God through purposeful, innovative inclusion of persons with varied abilities. The organization partners with families and organizations to more fully understand individuals with disabilities and to build support systems that enable their inclusion in all aspects of life. For more information on CLC Network or a list of available resources, visit www.clcnetwork.org.

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