



IHM St. Casimir Catholic School Chooses Inclusion for Upcoming School Year
School partners with CLC Network to ensure children with academic, behavioral, physical, and/or socio-emotional needs are included in mainstream education programs

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. (September 2015) – Immaculate Heart of Mary – St. Casimir Catholic School, located in Lansing, Michigan, has partnered with CLC Network to more fully understand students with a variety of ability levels and to build support systems that enable their inclusion in all aspects of school life. CLC Network is a national non-profit committed to promoting the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities.

“As a school, we are always trying to make sure that we are providing our students with the best education possible and always improving how we teach every single learner in our care,” said principal Angela Johnston. “CLC Network offers support to teachers, parents, and students to assure that we are meeting the needs of every child by taking into account their individual gifts and needs.”

The partnership will allow IHM – St. Casimir Catholic School to more effectively welcome children with special needs into their educational community. A teacher consultant will be assigned to the school to assist with creating individualized student plans, curriculum assistance, transition plans, behavioral intervention plans, and general academic and social inclusion within the school. The school will also have access to best-practice online professional development sessions on Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Behavior Management, Differentiated Instruction, Neurodevelopment, Bullying Prevention, Anxiety and Depression in the Classroom, and Restorative Justice.

“We are eager to foster an atmosphere that nurtures understanding for all students, creating excitement and engagement in the content they’re learning,” said Angela. “I would love to create an environment where students hurry from one class to the next so they can figure out the answers to the new things they are learning. Our partnership with CLC Network will give us the tools to serve a variety of learners while maintaining the integrity of our school’s standards.”

"We believe that inclusion for students at all levels of ability changes the school community for the better," said Elizabeth Lucas Dombrowski, CLC Network executive director. "We are thrilled to work with Angela and the entire IHM – St. Casimir Catholic School staff to implement best practices that help all students reach their potential."

For interview opportunities and media inquiries concerning the above, please contact Gwen Bultema at 616.656.7500 or gwen@bultemalambert.com.

About CLC Network:

CLC Network is a national non-profit committed to promoting the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities. 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.