



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SMCHS Students Perform Well on College Readiness Exams

Fox Cities: Students in the St. Mary Catholic High School (SMCHS) Class of 2018 outperformed their peers in Wisconsin and the nation on the ACT, according to results released on October 17 by ACT, Inc., the organization that administers the college-readiness exam. **SMCHS' average composite score of 23.3** is 0.6 points higher than the school's average last year, and is 2.8 points above the state's average of 20.5. This year's national average is 20.8.

The ACT is a curriculum-based achievement test designed to measure college readiness and preparation. Scores are based on a scale of zero to 36, and the ACT includes four separate exams in English, reading, mathematics and science. There is also an optional writing portion.

The ACT college readiness benchmark scores help determine whether students are likely to be successful in core college courses such as English composition, algebra, social science, and biology. A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of earning a B or higher, or a 75% chance of earning a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college course. The table below compares the SMCHS Class of 2018's scores with the national benchmark scores.

Subject	Benchmark Score	SMCHS Average Score
English	18	23.0
Mathematics	22	22.4
Reading	22	24.0
Science	23	23.3

St. Mary Catholic High School, a regional Catholic high school, is part of St. Mary Catholic Schools (SMCS). The system also includes St. Mary Catholic Middle School in the Village of Fox Crossing and St. Mary Elementary Schools (St. Margaret Mary and St. Gabriel in Neenah, and St. Mary in Menasha). SMCS is dedicated to the individual development of students in grades Pre3-12 by providing the highest quality education focused on faith, academics and service in a rapidly changing world.

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