Catholic Middle Schools: Rethinking and Reshaping Catholic Education

The Diocese of Falls River, Massachusetts – announced on February 28, 2014 the joining of Coyle and Cassidy High School and Taunton Catholic Middle School. The diocesan announcement states that “it was clear that the path to offering quality Catholic education, grounded in strong academics and an environment of faith and values enabling the fullest growth of our grades 6-12 students, was to unite these two schools together as two divisions…”

“The joining of middle and high schools is a growing trend in Catholic education and is a model already in place in some 40 private schools...in Massachusetts.” “The integrated 6-12 curriculum will be offered, allowing college prep education to begin earlier.”

These could range from advanced mathematics and language classes to participation in additional arts and athletic programs.

Later, in their high school years, these students will be qualified to take additional college level courses because of the advanced opportunities they received in middle school.

To see more of Taunton Catholic Middle School check out: www.Catholicmiddle.com

The Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa’s Mazzuchelli Middle School has a comprehensive program that speaks of “focusing on delivering exceptional programs that not only prepare students in grades 6-8 for the next level, but that challenges their curiosity and expectations.

Core Christian values are universal, which is why students of many faiths attend Mazzuchelli Catholic Middle School and benefit from daily lessons of faith, character, responsibility and respect...” Students are taught the importance and value of serving their peers, their families, and their faith and civic communities.

To see more about Mazzuchelli Middle School check out: www.holyfamilydbq.org
Seton Middle School in Menaasha, Wisconsin is another example of the innovation, unity and growth that accompanied the Twin Cities of Neenah and Menasha, Wisconsin. I would recommend looking at the power point presentation that follows the history of Seton Middle School.
To see more about Seton Middle School and to check out the power point on the Early Years, Moving Toward Unification, A Unified System, and Looking Ahead:

www.TCCES.org
Msgr. Lew Gaetano