



2023 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Since our formation on April 12, 2018, the goal of the Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation (CEOOF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has been to raise an endowment fund to support families in need of financial assistance to send their children to Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Lexington. The schools are located in Ashland, Frankfort, Georgetown, Lexington, Paintsville, Paris, Richmond, Versailles, and Winchester.

The need is great. Many families simply cannot afford private school tuition. The mission of CEOOF is to make sure that family financial issues do not prevent parents from sending their children to a Catholic elementary school in the Diocese of Lexington.

Through August 2023 we have assets of over \$1.1 Million. These assets are managed by Blue Grass Community Foundation in socially responsible funds under the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) rules. We continue to grow these funds through our ongoing fundraising efforts such as our Luminaria awards banquet, the CEOOF Golf Scramble, the CEOOF Equine Fund, and meetings with prospective donors.

The first scholarship distributions were made to the 12 elementary schools in the Diocese in the summer of 2020 during the height of the Covid pandemic. Since that time we have made scholarship distributions of just over \$128,000. The CEOOF Distribution Policy allows a conservative distribution each year of between 3 and 6 percent of the average of the past three years' net assets. Families apply for these funds through the individual schools. These distributions have helped 130 children to attend our Catholic schools. We are proud of this accomplishment and expect to increase distributions each year.

CEOOF can accept donations of all kinds including public company stock, land and IRA distributions. You will find a list of other opportunities in the Ways to Give section on page six of this newsletter. Please consider joining us in this amazing journey to make school choice a reality for all families in the Diocese of Lexington.

Dan Bork

CEOOF Treasurer

MISSION

The mission of the Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation is to provide tuition assistance for students attending K-8 Catholic schools in the Central and Eastern Kentucky counties encompassed by the Diocese of Lexington.

VISION

The Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation will grow future servant-leaders strong in values, academics, and the Catholic faith.

Luminaria 2023 Winners



**LUMINARIA 2023
DISTINGUISHED
EDUCATOR
AWARD**

Jennifer Arnold



**LUMINARIA 2023
DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNUS
AWARD**

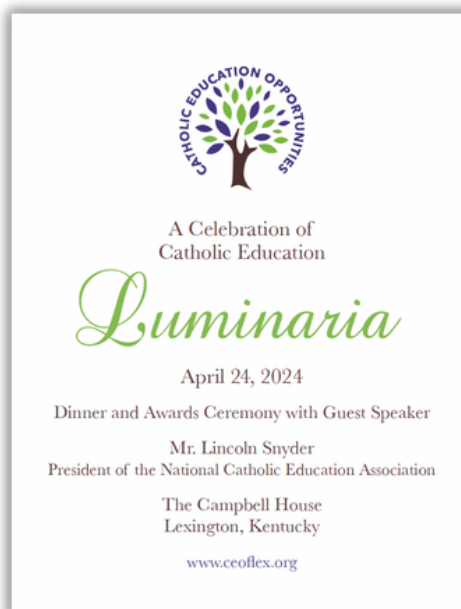
David Tramontin

Congratulations to Jennifer Arnold and David Tramontin who received the Distinguished Educator and Alumnus awards, respectively, at this year's Luminaria.

Generosity, joy, and dedication are three words that describe this year's Luminaria 2023 Educator Award – recipient, Jennifer Arnold. She is celebrating her 24th year of teaching kindergarten at St. Mary School in Paris, Kentucky and as the longest-serving educator on faculty she is both well-known and respected by St. Mary and the wider Paris community.

Dave Tramontin exemplifies the qualities that the Luminaria 2023 Alumnus Award seeks to recognize: service to others, leadership among peers, and dedication to the Catholic faith and education.

He has spent much of his adult life giving back to Catholic schools in a myriad of ways including volunteering as a basketball coach, serving on the Lexington Catholic High School board of directors, participating in and leading facilities-focused committees, and fundraising for immediate needs as well as long-term endowments.



Luminaria 2024

We are pleased to announce the guest speaker for Luminaria 2024 is Mr. Lincoln Snyder, President of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA). Lincoln was selected as President/CEO of NCEA to lead a revitalization of the association coming out of the Covid pandemic and has returned the organization to fiscal stability, while achieving significant growth in member benefits. Prior to his appointment at NCEA, Lincoln served as the superintendent and executive director of schools for the Diocese of Sacramento from 2015-2021. As superintendent, he guided transition of diocesan elementary schools to a unified governance model, and stewarded schools through crises like the Camp Fire and the COVID pandemic.

Before his assignment as superintendent, he was a teacher and board chair at Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento. Lincoln also has served as vice chair of the NCEA National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools Council (NESBECS) and has been a member of several Catholic school boards. His business experience includes international work as a global key account and project manager for Can-Pack SA, in Krakow, Poland, and domestic work in facilities and development as vice president of Snyder Commercial Real Estate.

Lincoln holds a bachelor's degree in international politics from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, and received a master's degree in Lasallian Leadership from St. Mary's University of Minnesota. Originally from California, Lincoln lives in Northern Virginia with his wife and their 3 teenage sons. When he's not working, Lincoln enjoys 20 mile walks and learning new languages.



**NCEA
PRESIDENT/CEO
NATIONAL
CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION**

Lincoln Snyder

CEO OF GOLF SCRAMBLE 2023



1st place – Christman group



2nd place – DeLuca group



3rd place – Massie group

The first CEOF Golf Scramble was held on July 28th at Connemara Golf Course. A good time was had by all while precious funds were raised for tuition assistance. Thank you to our premier sponsor, **Toyota on Nicholasville** and to all of our hole sponsors.

Congratulations to 1st place winners, John David Christman, Ryan Key, John Copeland, and Charles McCarty. Deacon Pat DeLuca, Brian Fister, Stan Watts, and George Owens took 2nd place, while Jean Marie Massie, Larry McGinnis, Frank and John Kornet captured 3rd place.

Mark your calendars for the 2nd annual CEOF Golf Scramble which will be held Friday, June 7, 2024, at Connemara Golf Course.



CEO EQUINE FUND GAINS MOMENTUM IN CENTRAL KENTUCKY

by Katie Petrunyak, Thoroughbred Daily News

English may be his second language, but it certainly would have been difficult to guess when 2nd grader Markus won his school's spelling bee and went on to compete against kids several years his elder in a district-wide spelling tournament.

Markus and his brother were born in the U.S. after their parents moved from Mexico to Paris, Kentucky and started jobs working on a horse farm. His family valued education and after receiving a partial scholarship, Markus was able to attend St. Mary School in his new hometown, where his principal, Miranda Chaplin, said he and his preschool-aged younger brother are model students.

"They are bright, respectful and incredibly hardworking," she shared. "They are thriving at our school." Markus is one of the first young students to benefit from a newly formed fund dedicated to providing tuition assistance for children in Kindergarten through eighth grade whose parents or legal guardian work in the equine industry in Central Kentucky.

The CEOF Equine Fund began as an idea years ago from Father Chris Clay and his family of Runnymede Farm. The fund officially launched this year and in its inaugural academic season, 10 children applied for funding and each one received tuition assistance of some kind.

Godolphin's Gerry Duffy is a member of the CEOF's Leadership Council and is also on the CEOF Equine Fund committee. He said funding from this project could have a lasting impact on the industry and its participants. "If you want to change your environment or change your community, give people an education," he said.





**CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
OPPORTUNITIES
FOUNDATION**

**Help us make a difference in the
lives of the families who keep
our industry moving forward!**

*The CEOF Equine Fund provides tuition assistance for children
whose parents or legal guardians are employed in the equine industry.*

Learn more at www.ceoflex.org or call us at 859.303.9555

Thank you to our supporters








The CEOF Equine Fund provides tuition assistance in grades K-8 for children whose parents/guardians work in the equine industry.

To make a donation please contact Kim Thompson kthompson@ceoflex.org or call 859-303-9555.

HOW CATHOLIC SCHOOLS STACK UP

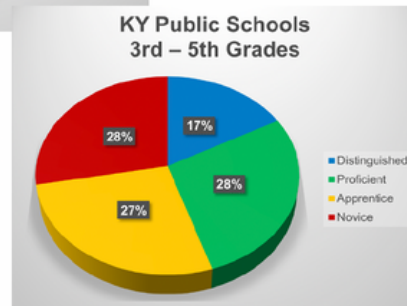
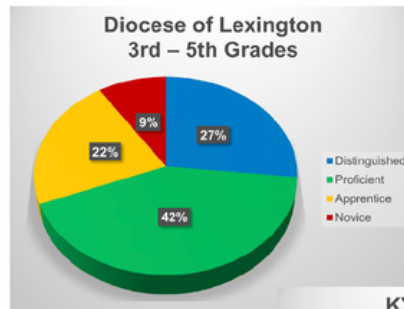


How Catholic Schools Stack Up

*Information provided by
Dr. Kyle Lee
Superintendent of Catholic Schools,
Catholic Diocese of Lexington*

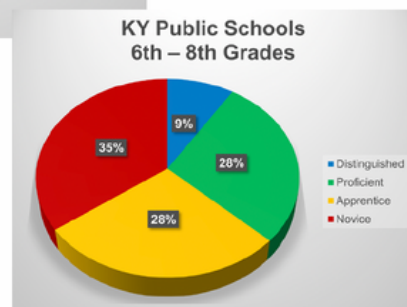
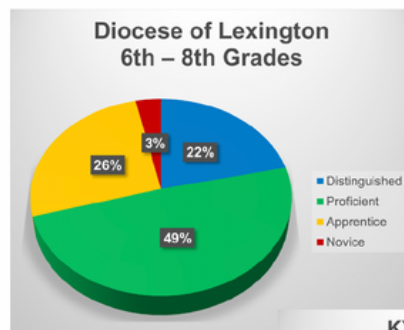
Reading: Elementary Grades

Fall 2022 (Public = Spring 2022)



Math: Middle Grades

Fall 2022 (Public = Spring 2022)



SCHOOLS SERVED BY THE FOUNDATION

Christ the King, Lexington
 Good Shepherd, Frankfort
 Holy Family, Ashland
 Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington
 Our Lady of the Mountains, Paintsville
 St. Agatha, Winchester

St. John, Georgetown
 St. Leo, Versailles
 St. Mark, Richmond
 St. Mary, Paris
 Sts. Peter and Paul, Lexington
 Seton Catholic School, Lexington



OUR BOARD



Pictured: Kim Thompson, Julia Taylor, Carol Steltenkamp, Bill Hoskins, David Bowling, Dan Bork, Kyle Lee, Fr. Dan Noll, Bishop John Stowe.
 Not pictured: John C. Stewart Jr.

GIVE TO CEOF

The demand for tuition assistance has never been greater among our Catholic schools. You can help fund scholarships for low-income students this year in many ways.

Contact us to discuss any of the gifts below or visit (scan QR code):
<https://ceoflex.square.site/product/donate-to-ceof/1?cs=true>

WAYS TO GIVE



You can support the Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation with gifts including:

- Gifts by cash, check or credit card
- Gifts of stocks or bonds
- Gifts from an IRA – such as your Required Minimum Distribution or Qualified Charitable Distributions
- Distribution from your Donor Advised Fund
- Real estate, property, vehicles, etc.
- Gifts from bequests/wills, trusts or estates
- Matching gifts from employers
- In memory of a loved one, or to honor an alumnus, class teacher or priest



November 28th - December 1st

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Bishop of Lexington

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Superintendent of Catholic Schools;
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Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation

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Dan Cummins



Middlesboro, KY

The Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation is committed to raising funds for tuition assistance for Catholics and Non-Catholics in grades K-8 to attend Catholic school in the Diocese of Lexington. The Diocese of Lexington was established in 1988, from parts of the Archdiocese of Louisville and the Diocese of Covington. The Diocese of Lexington serves not only the "Horse Capitol of the World" in Fayette and surrounding counties, but also the 40 Appalachian counties of Eastern Kentucky, where 74% of children live below the poverty line. The Diocese of Lexington is designated as a mission diocese within the United States.



www.ceoflex.org



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