



## Bishop of Harrisburg

September 7, 2011

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Catholic Church believes and teaches that parents are the primary educators of their children. In accord with that responsibility parents have a right to choose a school for their children that corresponds to their convictions. These teachings and beliefs are the foundational principles behind our support for school choice vouchers legislation currently being proposed by our legislature and Governor.

All parents should be allowed to use their tax dollars to send their child to a school of their choice. The passage of the Opportunity Scholarship Grants program would allow parents to choose the best school for their child and relieve them of the burden of being forced to pay twice for this fundamental right. I ask you to take part in our online advocacy network, notifying your representatives of your support for school choice. You can learn more about this at [www.PaCatholic.org](http://www.PaCatholic.org)

I strongly urge each and every Catholic in our Diocese to take action and support school choice by visiting, writing, calling and faxing your elected representatives. You can also send an email to them via the [Pennsylvania Catholic Advocacy Network at www.PaCatholic.org](http://www.PaCatholic.org).

Advocates receive the latest news and information about school choice, as well as other issues that may be of interest to them, including health care, respect for human life, and more. This grassroots network of those concerned with Catholic education will help us all to speak with one voice on behalf of Catholic school students before the governor, state legislature and beyond.

Everyone is also asked to sign up for INSIGHT the e-Newsletter of our Diocese. This can be done on the homepage of our Diocesan website, [www.HbgDiocese.org](http://www.HbgDiocese.org). This will keep you updated on the happenings and news of our local Church.

Please take action today and circulate this request to everyone you can within our community so that they may have the opportunity to subscribe to these important services.

Sincerely yours in Jesus,

Most Reverend Joseph P. McFadden  
Bishop of Harrisburg

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