



OUR LADY OF CHARITY SCHOOL

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May 3, 2016

Dear School Families,

As you know, our 3rd – 8th grade students recently completed the ACT Aspire test. I am writing today with an update regarding the return of the test results. The Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Catholic Schools (OCS) recently informed me, as well as all Archdiocesan school principals, that there will be a delay in the return of the test results this year.

OCS has been working diligently with ACT Aspire since learning of this reporting delay in early April to try and speed up the process. However, despite the team's efforts the results are unable to be returned within the current school year. According to ACT Aspire this delay is due to the process of creating scaled scores for each grade-level content test and the significant amount of human scoring that needs to be completed for each written response on the test.

As 8th grade students are most in need of timely results Our Lady of Charity School will mail test results to the parents of 8th grade students by the end of July. Students in 3rd through 7th grades will receive their results in August or September during our Back to School meetings. OCS will be assisting schools in creating presentations for school parents to assist with understanding the data generated by the new Aspire test.

I realize this is not an ideal situation, and on behalf of the OCS I apologize for the delay. Like you, I am very eager to receive the test results. I know our teachers have been preparing students for months and I am looking forward to reviewing and analyzing the test results and sharing that data with you, as well as with our faculty and staff. I am confident that the information we receive from the Aspire results will guide our efforts to improve student achievement in the school year ahead.

Thank you for understanding this disappointing news, and again we apologize. ACT Aspire has promised that the use of pre-equated student answer forms in the future will eliminate a significant scoring delay in results reporting in 2017 and 2018.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Mrs. Lynn LeTourneau
Principal