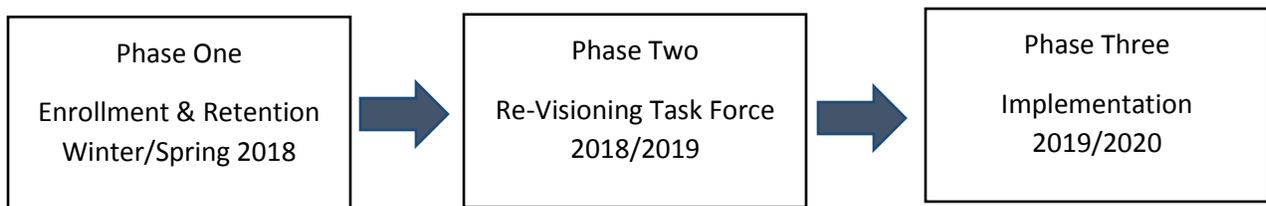


Frequently Asked Questions

How is the transition process going?

The St. Norbert community feels blessed to have been able to get to know Holy Cross families over the past few months. Whether at a sporting event, a school event, or parent event, it is clear that we have found partners in ensuring the future of Catholic education in our area. Since the news of Holy Cross's closing became official, we have reached out in the hopes of welcoming these families into our school community. We are truly humbled that so many of you are choosing to send your child/children to our school. Clearly, our focus these past months has been on helping Holy Cross families make this decision, as well as enrolling our current families at a faster pace than usual. It's been a hectic period for all involved, but our integration efforts are continuing to progress and are following a three step process...



How many Holy Cross students have registered to attend St. Norbert?

The numbers below represent K-8 enrollment to date, with percentages of potential students at the bottom. These numbers do not represent preschool enrollment which has historically been a large group at St. Norbert. For example, in 2017/18 we have 45 preschool students at St. Norbert.

	Holy Cross*	St. Norbert	Total
K	1	8	9
1st	2	6	8
2nd	0	10	10
3rd	4	8	12
4th	2	7	9
5th	2	14	16
6th	7	15	22
7th	4	10	14
8th	13	1	14
TOTAL	35	79	114
% of Goal	38%	63%	

As of 3/13/2018

*Representing 25 families.

After the immediate integration efforts are complete, can you talk about the longevity of our school?

While not an easy question to answer, we would point parents to the following...

1. **Financial strength.** St. Norbert has historically been financially solvent, funded by tuition, giving, and an endowment fund. We have not been a financial burden on the parish or the Archdiocese. Combining our two schools will make this financial position considerably stronger.
2. **Excellence.** Both Holy Cross and St. Norbert have traditions of academic excellence, with our students at the tops of their high school classes and admitted to elite programs. Additionally, our students excel in other areas, as captains of sports teams, leads in dramatic productions, and participants in student government.
3. **Larger Market.** We recognize that Catholic school attendance has been in decline in our area. We believe that with a much larger target market, from Highland Park/Glencoe on the East, to Wheeling/Riverwoods on the West, and Deerfield North, to Northfield/Glenview on the South, we can attract enough students to an outstanding 'smaller' Catholic school.
4. **Re-Visioning.** Given our larger market, we will approach marketing and branding in new ways to get our message out. With the help of administration, the school advisory board, parent volunteers, and, perhaps, some outside consultants, we will work through this process in the 2018-19 school year.
5. **Archdiocesan Support.** As it became apparent that Holy Cross would not open next year, our school advisory board leaderships met with the Archdiocesan representatives. The Office of Catholic Schools has been supportive of our efforts and acknowledged the need for a regional Catholic school on the Northshore between OLPH and St. Mary's.

What teachers are coming from Holy Cross to St. Norbert?

We realize this is an important question for many Holy Cross parents and a source of frustration in the integration process. We have been bound by the Archdiocesan rules around retaining and hiring new staff. The process will proceed as follows... Letters of Intent have been distributed to our current faculty and staff. Once we receive those letters (no later than March 26) we will have a better idea of our staffing needs for the 2018/19 school year, particularly in light of the strong registrations from Holy Cross. Holy Cross teachers, given their official status as staff of a closed school, will need to apply for open positions at St. Norbert.

What support staff will be available at St. Norbert?

School administration will evaluate the number of students who need learning interventions and what types of interventions to hire the appropriate staff to help ensure the students will be successful. We will also look at the medical needs of the students to determine if additional staff is needed to provide medical interventions. We understand these are extremely important issues for many parents in this transition.

What parts of Holy Cross' culture can we expect to find at St. Norbert next year?

First, we hope that, in this process, you have seen firsthand the many ways that St. Norbert and Holy Cross are similar. We know that saying goodbye to the physical structure and things that make your school special will be difficult. We hope to intertwine as much of that culture as possible with the things that make our schools special so that all families feel at home here. A transition team of parent and administration representatives will consider items such as bringing Holy Cross cherished art over to St. Norbert, the 8th grade play, talent show and other traditions that are important to Holy Cross. Most importantly, we hope that parents will be integral in bringing these traditions with them and in many cases lead the way in making them part of our future.

How much does aftercare cost at St. Norbert?

We know that all families make a sacrifice to send their children to a Catholic school. We do not want the cost of aftercare to be a hurdle to families from Holy Cross joining St. Norbert. We will be adopting a new cost structure for the 2018-19 school year.:

	Pre-K	K-8
1 st Child	\$10/hr	\$7/hr
Each Sibling	\$5/hr	\$5/hr

The higher rate for preschool reflects the need to maintain a lower staff/student ratio for those grades. We will continue to use our own faculty and staff for our aftercare program.

What will tuition be next year?

Tuition and fees for the 2018-19 school year are available on the St. Norbert website. Parishioners at both Holy Cross and St. Norbert are eligible for in-parish tuition. **Please do not let finances be the deciding factor in whether to attend St. Norbert. Scholarships are available for families based on financial need. Please contact Moira Cary at 847.272.7090.**

What uniforms will our kids wear next year?

The transition team representatives will consider what uniform to adopt for the 2018-19 school year. That process involves a determination of how many students will be affected and financial impact of a change on those families. Both St. Norbert and Holy Cross have a trove of gently used uniforms that will be for sale. Incidentally, any change would only affect girls as the boys' uniforms are the same.

Do I need to re-take Virtus training?

Virtus credentials move with the individual. When filling out the CATS form for the 2018/19 school year simply add St. Norbert as a place where you volunteer.