Diocese of Buffalo
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

September 2025

Dear Parents, Staff, and Members of the Catholic School Community,

To help keep our Catholic schools viable and tuition affordable, we need our supporters to contact their legislators. To help with this task of enabling our legislative agenda to be heard while not consuming much of our time, the New York State Catholic Conference of Bishops has devised a method of advocacy known as the ***Catholic Action Network (CAN***). To join this network you only need to have access to the internet and about three minutes of time that you can devote to filling out the registration form online.

What does this free membership allow you to do? The website will send you occasional "action alerts" that ask you to contact your legislators about important legislative issues. You are provided with relevant letters that will be signed with your name; when you **click** on ***"submit***" these letters will be sent automatically to your elected officials.

As I have stated, it is very easy to join. You first go to the web page of the New York State Catholic Conference: **www.nyscatholic.org.** Then hover over ***"Take Action!"*** **and then click** ***"Join the Catholic Action Network".*** You will be prompted to enter your name, address etc. and the issues you are concerned with - for school issues choose "Education". This information is extremely confidential and will not be shared with your school principal or our Diocesan staff. After you click on ***"submit"*** you are set to access an easy way to notify your elected officials about your concerns.

Also, if you have not registered to vote in New York State please be sure to submit a voter registration form to your county Board of Elections or go to https://www.ny.gov/services/register-vote and fill out an online form before the October registration deadline. Once you are registered to vote, be sure to vote on Primary Day, if it has not already passed, and Election Day in November.

Thank you for taking the time to join the Catholic Action Network, register to vote, and vote this November. These are great ways to make a difference.

With Gratitude,

Christian V. Riso
Assistant Superintendent of Government Services
and Special Projects
Diocese of Buffalo Department of Catholic Schools

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Catholic School Advocacy To-Do List Fall 2025

1. Join the **Catholic Action Network**

   a. Go to **www.nyscatholic.org**. Hover over ***"Take Action!"*** and then click ***"Join the Catholic Action Network".***

      i. **Be sure to check "Education" as one of your "Areas of Interest".**

2. Register to vote by October if you have not already done so (https://www.ny.gov/services/register-vote). Address changes may also be made using the voter registration form.

3. Vote on Election Day in November.

4. Vote on Primary Day in 2026.