

# PROVIDENCE

## Our Lady of Providence Junior-Senior High School

STRENGTHENING THE BODY ENRICHING THE SOUL CHALLENGING THE MIND



## Student/Parent Handbook 2015-2016

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**[www.providencehigh.net](http://www.providencehigh.net)**

Revised 2015

# **Our Lady of Providence Junior-Senior High School**

Under the Auspices of  
**The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis**  
and  
**The New Albany Deanery**

Directed by  
**The Our Lady of Providence Board of Trustees**

Accredited by  
**The Indiana Department of Education**  
and  
**North Central Association of Colleges and Schools**

Member of  
**The National Catholic Education Association**  
**Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development**  
**The Indiana High School Athletic Association**



*Recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as  
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence*

## Foreword

### Welcome to Our Lady of Providence Junior-Senior High School!

Academic achievement and spiritual development in a caring, disciplined environment are the foundations of a Providence education. This student/parent handbook presents an overview of Our Lady of Providence Junior-Senior High School, its mission and philosophy, and the rules and expectations aimed at providing a quality educational experience for Providence students. The policies and guidelines contained in this handbook help students, parents, and faculty foster an environment in which we are able to grow toward our potential as Christian people.

In choosing Providence, you have indicated a willingness to accept and promote the above values and to abide by the regulations and provisions outlined in this handbook. Therefore, this is a shared vision between Providence and the individual student. Each student's interests are best served by a cooperative relationship among the student, his or her parents, teachers and staff, and the school administration. When disagreements arise concerning the school's application of school regulations, reasonable efforts will be made to listen to student and parent concerns and in some cases to offer a fair process of review. Should cooperative efforts fail, the administration reserves the right to require students to withdraw from the school. However, it is our hope that all parties will appreciate and respect what has become the Providence tradition: providing a quality Catholic education for the young people of the New Albany Deanery.

**We reserve the right to amend this handbook as needed with proper notification.**

*Note: The term parent implies legal guardianship.*

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Our Lady of Providence Inspires Faith, Empowers Hope,  
Strengthens Love and formation of the whole person  
Through Exemplary Catholic Education

### **POSITIONING STATEMENT**

Our Lady of Providence  
A Preparatory School  
For College  
For Life

### **Philosophy**

Our Lady of Providence is an expression of our shared belief in the uniqueness and the dignity of every person as a child of God. As a center of Christian education, Providence places great importance upon the unique spirit that is alive in each person which needs to be expressed, to be shared, and to be incarnated in our world. In accordance with this philosophy, the community of Providence continually strives to develop the talents of students through quality in experience, learning, discipline and relationships.

As an educational and Christian institution, we honor and revere the sacredness of every person and value compassion and respect for all people. We are committed to justice and fairness and strive for a diversity of gifts and talents and opportunities. We value academic integrity and expect our students to work to their unique potential. We believe in self-discipline, healthy lifestyle choices, and the preservation of a school culture that promotes high academic and personal standards.

### **Catholic Identity**

*“Let all who enter here know that Jesus Christ is the reason for this school”*

The American Bishops’ Pastoral, “To Teach as Jesus Did,” expanded the dimensions of Catholic schools when they stated the following: “The educational mission of the Church is an integrating ministry embracing three interlocking dimensions: the message revealed by God which the Church proclaims; fellowship in the life of the Holy Spirit; service to the Christian community and the entire human community.” In keeping with this mission, we at Our Lady of Providence Junior-Senior High School strive to give students the tools to live a life of faith, service and of love. It is our firm belief that the Catholic School is the best way to educate and prepare our students to be future citizens of Church and State and to pass on our faith to succeeding generations.

# Value Statements

**Our Lady of Providence values the following for our students:**

## **Spirituality**

A dynamic, growing, living, practicing faith journey  
Becoming people of prayer  
The celebrating of the sacraments and the understanding of sacramental moments  
Living gospel values in our daily lives  
Decisions based on the faith dimension  
Actions that promote global awareness and peace  
Finding God's call for each person  
Moving beyond self to valuing community  
Embracing diversity and social justice  
The on-going search for God in one's life  
Valuing the whole person

## **Academics**

- The growth of knowledge to help shape the world and to make a positive contribution
- The commitment to life-long learning
- A well-rounded academic curriculum
- The stimulation of intellectual curiosity
- The ability to think and reason intelligently
- The engagement of learning, experimenting, and exploring
- Endeavors that self-challenge and a willingness to stretch
- The ability to communicate effectively

## **Social**

Enhancing connectedness  
The acceptance of others  
Developing leadership skills  
The ability to listen and appreciate others' points of view  
Developing different levels of relationships – adults, peers, etc.  
Creating a healthy community and home life

## **Personal**

Building confidence and pride  
Healthy risk-taking  
Exercising leadership  
The acceptance and affirmation of one's gifts and talents  
Serving through one's gifts and talents  
A spirit of generosity  
Realizing full potential; Self-Realization  
Becoming a whole person

## History

Our Lady of Providence is an inter-parochial, co-educational school located in Clark County, serving the metropolitan area. The school is under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis and is one of 9 high schools in the Archdiocese. In addition, Providence is part of the New Albany Deanery which includes 16 parishes and 8 elementary schools in Clark, Floyd, and Harrison Counties.

The Sisters originally in charge of the school were members of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence, which has had its headquarters at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, since 1840. On March 21, 1951, a ground-breaking ceremony officially marked the beginning of what is now Our Lady of Providence Junior-Senior High School. The Most Reverend Paul C. Schulte, Archbishop of Indianapolis, laid the cornerstone of our school on June 12, 1951, and Providence opened its doors for its first freshman class on September 12, 1951. These 137 students came from 11 different parishes around Clark, Floyd and Harrison Counties.

During 1953-1954, a convent was built on the 15 acres that housed the school. In 1959 the student population had grown to over 700 students, therefore, an addition to the school was constructed. In the mid sixties enrollment was nearly 900 students.

On November 29, 1972, the school was purchased from the Sisters by the New Albany Deanery by a 29-25 vote. The governing body of the school was the Deanery Board of Education that also governed the youth and adult ministries of the Deanery. In 1988-89 the Larkin Center was built and included a gym and additional classroom/office spaces. In 1995, the school and the old convent were connected with a new classroom addition. The lobby and front facade of the building were renovated in 2000. In 1989 Our Lady of Providence began accepting Junior High Students (Grade 7 & 8) on a limited basis. The Deanery Board created the Junior High Program in order to accommodate those parishes without elementary schools and/or without grades 7 and 8.

In 1996 the Our Lady of Providence Junior-Senior High Board assumed the governance responsibilities previously held by the Deanery Board. We continue to work cooperatively in a Deanery system of schools and receive financial support from the Deanery parishes. We continue to operate under the auspices of the Indianapolis Archdiocese and the Archbishop. In the summer of 2003 a new art wing was built and a feasibility study commissioned to determine the next phase of building which will be to renovate all 1951 spaces that have not been up-dated. In the spring of 2006 the Sam and Paula Robinson Performing Arts Center was built which included a new, state-of-the-art auditorium as well as a new weight room and football locker room. By the fall of 2011, the west wing was completed and includes the Ray Day Little Theatre, theatre dressing rooms, along with new music and dance classrooms.

Since its opening, the school has awarded diplomas to over 8000 students, many of whom have assumed positions of leadership locally, statewide and nationally. Approximately, ninety-nine percent of our graduates pursue post secondary education.

## **Our Lady of Providence School Song**

*Providence, Providence, your name is glorious.  
Pioneers, Pioneers, fight on victorious. Standing  
strong for what is right.  
Blue and White onward fight. We've the  
spirit, we'll do or die For Our Lady of  
Providence High.*

*We pledge to you our loyalty Our Lady of  
Providence High. We'll keep your colors  
flying, Flaunted against the sky. We will  
always stand together With you hand in  
hand. For you're our alma mater The best  
school in the land.*

*Providence, Providence, your name is glorious.  
Pioneers, Pioneers, fight on victorious.  
Standing strong for what is right. Blue and  
White onward fight.  
We've the spirit, we'll do or die  
For Our Lady of Providence High.*