

In challenging economic times, why should parents choose a Catholic education for their children? NCEA President Karen Ristau asked the 60 members of NCEA's department executive committees to give their responses. Here are their top ten reasons.

Catholic elementary and high schools offer:

1. Catholic tradition and academic excellence in a community grounded in a common faith.
2. Balanced curriculum including art, music and fitness.
3. Emphasis on moral development, service to others and leadership skills.
4. A 99 percent graduation rate in Catholic high schools.
5. Strong preparation for further education.
6. Safe and disciplined environment.
7. Exceptional faculty who help students reach their highest potential.
8. Individual attention in a caring community.
9. Commitment to technology use to enhance education.
10. Good stewardship of resources.

*For more information about back to school issues, please see our **National Catholic Education Association** website at www.ncea.org*