

## Cooperative Admissions General Information and Purpose

The Cooperative Admissions Program (COOP) is designed to assist 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their families as the student seeks admission to Catholic high schools. The COOP program unites the participating high schools in a cohesive process which includes the centralized registration for, and administration of a high school admissions exam. The student's results on the admission exam are shared with up to three participating Catholic high schools of the student's choosing. The examination provides objective information about 8<sup>th</sup> grade students applying to the high school.

Beginning in Fall 2017, the Cooperative Admissions Program will use the High School Placement Test (**HSPT**<sup>®</sup>) as the COOP program's admission exam. The **HSPT**<sup>®</sup> is published by Scholastic Testing Services(STS) and has been used extensively throughout the nation for over fifty years for high school admissions purposes. The **HSPT**<sup>®</sup> provides national normative measures in the following cognitive and basic skills areas: verbal and quantitative skills, reading, mathematics, and language. Additional information about the **HSPT**<sup>®</sup> can be found at [www.ststesting.com](http://www.ststesting.com). Click on the **HSPT**<sup>®</sup> link.

In addition to the student's admission exam results, high schools use the student's grades from 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade and previous standardized testing results in making admissions decisions. Schools also consider a student's record of satisfactory attendance and conduct, as well as recommendations from teachers and/or principals. Many secondary schools have additional criteria for admission such as visits, essays, etc. Please consult the individual high school schools for this information. Regardless of other requirements, students may not begin high school unless they have successfully completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade.