

Quincy Catholic Elementary Schools Leadership Team Research and Data

The QCES Leadership Team reviewed enrollment trends, school and parish finances, building conditions, and pedagogical (teaching and learning) practices to begin a new, long-range strategic plan process.

The team created the following shared vision statement:

We are one Catholic family, developing together, creating unity across our parish communities in Quincy.

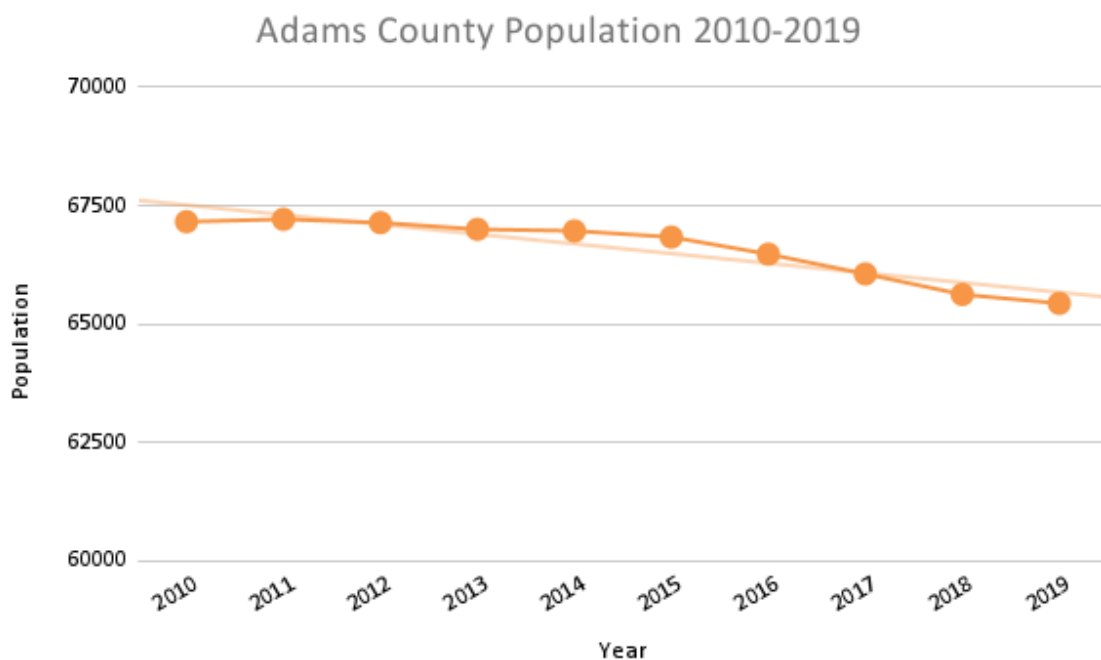
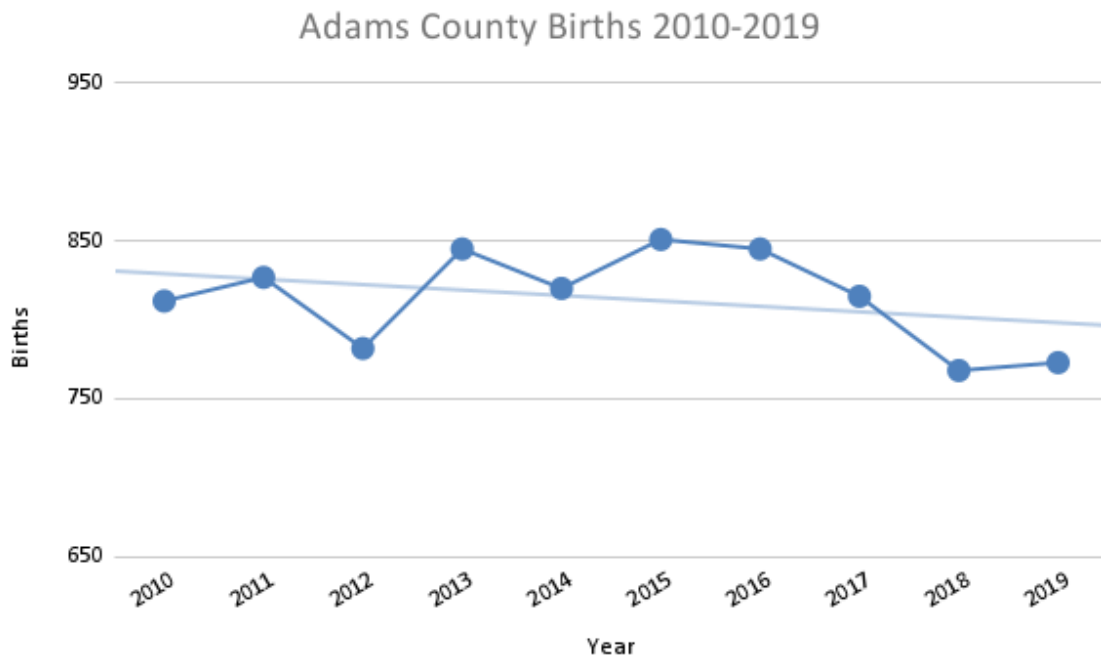


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Community Data

Data Highlights

- The county's population and birth rates both declined between 2010 and 2019.
- Adams County's birth rate has declined by about 5%.
- Adams County's population declined by nearly 3%.



Data courtesy of the Illinois Department of Public Health

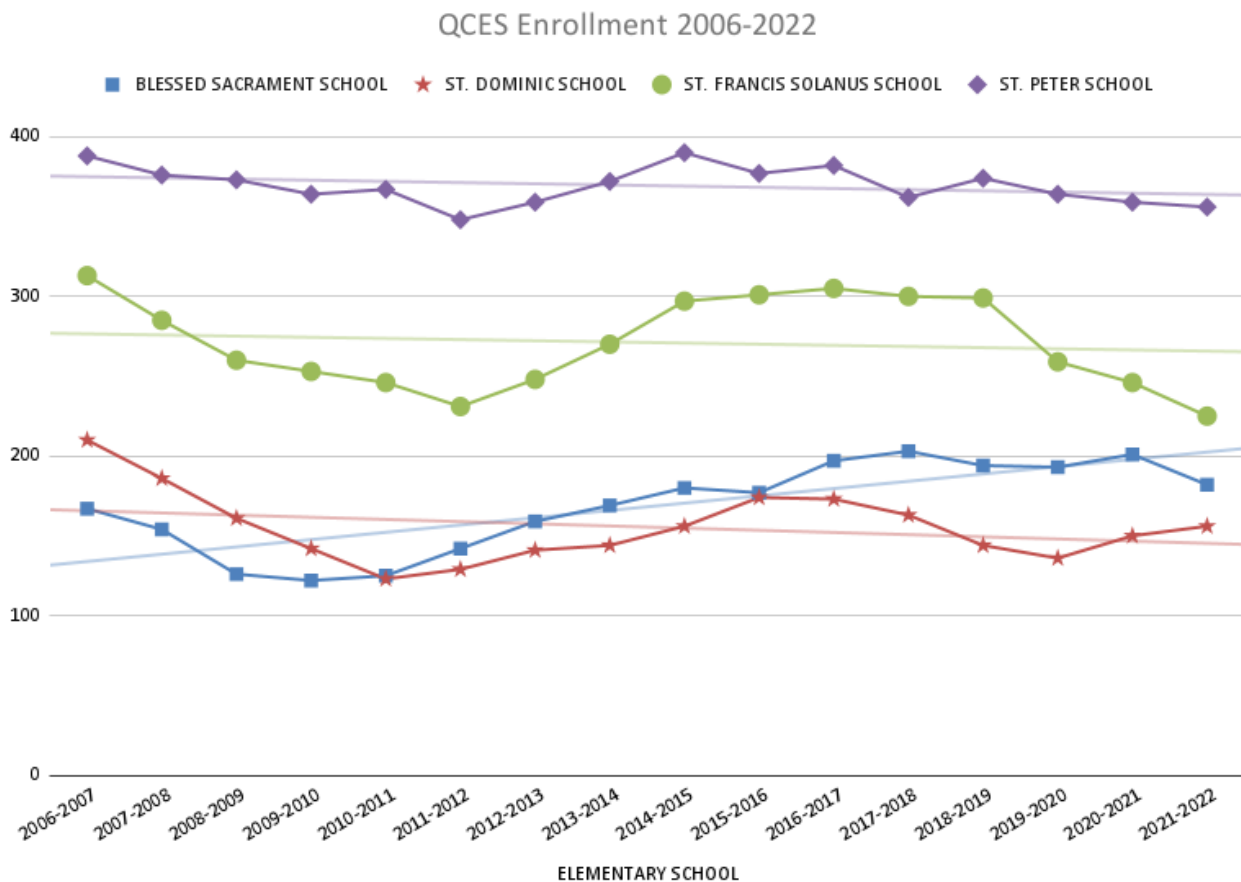
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K-8 Enrollment 2006-2022

Data Highlights

- Enrollment data for 2006-2021 is based on census day enrollment taken the first Tuesday of September.
- Enrollment data for the 2021-2022 school year is based on enrollment as of May 2022.
- One elementary school has seen an overall growth in enrollment since 2006.
- Peak enrollment at each of the elementary schools happened at least 4 years ago or more.

School	Largest Enrollment (Year)	Current Enrollment	Increase/Decrease since 2006
Blessed Sacrament	203 (2017-18)	182	+15 students or +9%
St. Dominic	210 (2006-07)	156	- 54 students or -26%
St. Francis	313 (2006-07)	225	-88 students or -28%
St. Peter	390 (2014-15)	356	-32 students or -8%



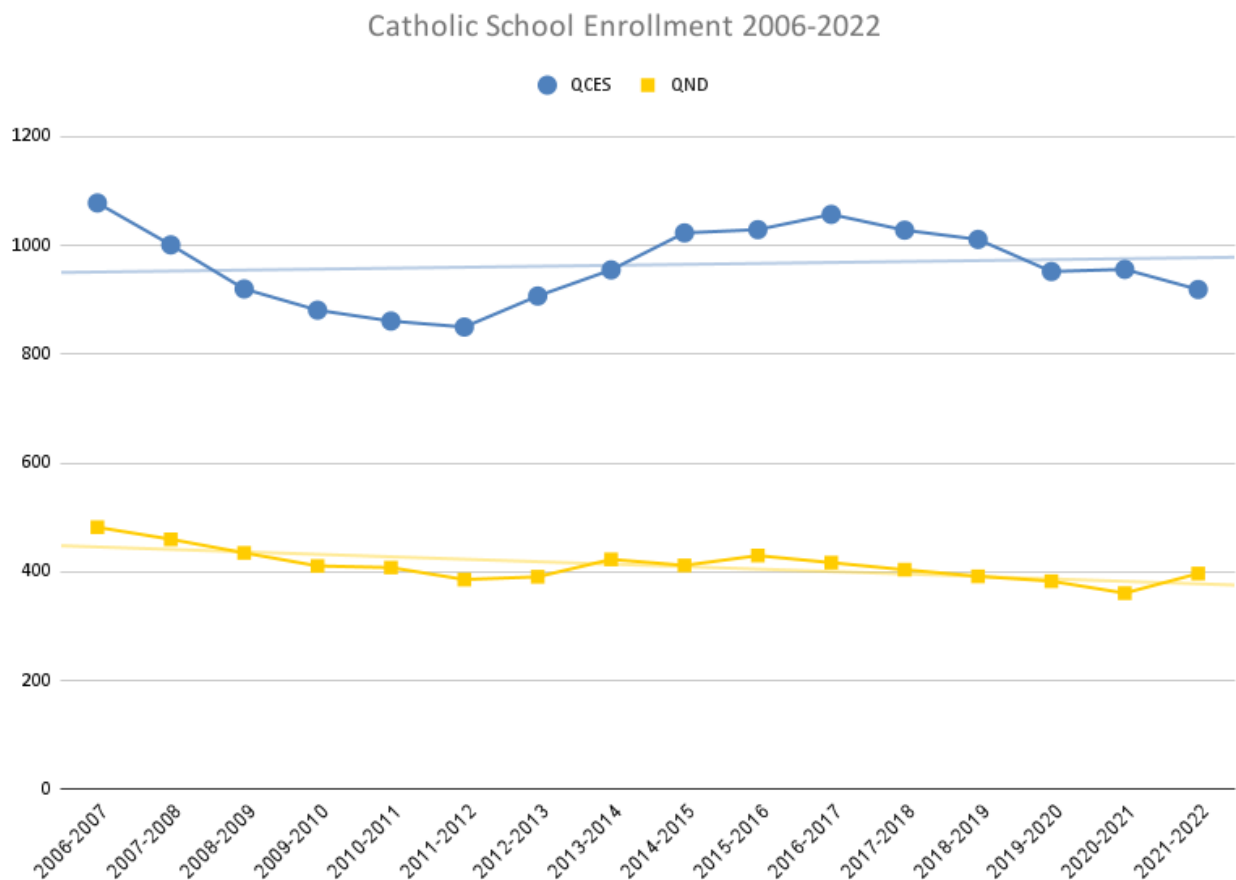
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Overall Enrollment 2006-2022

Data Highlights of Past 5 Years

- The largest drop in QCES enrollment happens between 5th and 6th grade with an average of 8 students per year.
- The second largest drop in QCES enrollment occurs between the 2nd and 3rd grade year with an average loss of 7 students per year.
- The greatest drop in enrollment during high school occurs between the freshman and sophomore year with an average loss of 4 students.

School	Largest Enrollment (Year)	Current Enrollment	Increase/Decrease since 2006
QCES	1,078 (2006-07)	919	-159 students of -15%
QND	482 (2006-07)	397	-85 students or -18%



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Pedagogical Findings

The pedagogical subcommittee reviewed the current practices and opportunities for teaching and learning at each of Quincy's Catholic schools.

The subcommittee's goal is to maintain the pillars of Catholic education built in this community over the past 150 years and to create a mission of education that will enhance or expand upon the strong foundation that's been built.

Pillars of Education
Catholic Values
Academic Excellence
Opportunities for social, emotional, artistic, athletic, and career development (intra- and extra-curricular)

Through the alignment of governance and administration, the pedagogical committee identified opportunities to enhance teaching and learning in the schools.

Opportunities for Enhancement
Aligned and consistent curriculum in Catholic Identity instruction
Enhanced Family Faith Formation opportunities to continue to increase stewardship
Accelerated learning opportunities in reading and math
Consistent elective offerings for grades 6-8
Additional social and extra-curricular opportunities in athletics, fine arts, and career paths
Enhanced teacher collaboration opportunities to implement instructional strategies

The committee also reviewed current research on effective practices from

- the [National Catholic Education Association](#),
- the [National Center for Education and the Economy](#),
- the [National Institute for School Leadership](#), and
- the [National Research Council's *How People Learn: Brain, Mind, Experience, and School: Expanded Edition*](#).

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Governance and Administrative Overview

Corporate Board

Bishop (or his delegate) and the four pastors.
Appoints Board of Specified Jurisdiction and hires administrative leader.
Approves the philosophy and mission statements of the schools, the by-laws, capital improvements, and the annual budget.

Board of Specified Jurisdiction (Quincy Catholic Schools)

Voting members representing each parish and school including the four pastors.
Develops policies as they pertain to academic, student, faith community, business, and advancement affairs.
Oversees financial operations and mission effectiveness.
Creates strategic vision and ensures goals are met.
Provides annual evaluation of the Administrative Leader.

Administrative Leader

Oversees day-to-day operations of the system.
Implements policies established by the Board of Specified Jurisdiction.
Works with school principals to enact the strategic vision, operate within the approved budget, and fulfill the system's mission and philosophy.

Blessed Sacrament Principal

St. Dominic Principal

St. Francis Principal

St. Peter Principal

Oversees the day-to-day operations of the school.
Works closely with the administrative leader to manage the school's finances and carry out the strategic vision of the school system.
Hires and manages building staff.

Community Involvement

Serve on the Board of Specified Jurisdiction.
Serve on board committees.
Will be asked to provide feedback on future proposals for the Quincy Catholic Schools.
Should continue to support our parishes and schools through stewardship which will lead to greater stability for our schools.

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Governance Timeline

To date, the vast majority of feedback has been supportive of the proposed governance and administrative model. Therefore, the Leadership Team proposes the following timeline for implementation.

Additional feedback regarding the proposed model and proposed timeline will be accepted through Friday, June 10 at feedback@quincycatholicschools.org. The committee will discuss the feedback at its June meeting and make a decision on whether or not to proceed with the timeline below.

June 2022

The four pastors will present Bishop Paprocki with the proposal for the new governance and administrative model for Quincy's Catholic Elementary Schools.

Upon receiving approval, the Corporate Board (four pastors and a representative of the Bishop's office) will finalize a job description for the administrative leader.

July 2022

The administrative leader position will be posted and applications will be accepted.

The Corporate Board will work with a legal representative to draft the by-laws for the Board of Specified Jurisdiction. By-laws will establish the leadership structure and responsibilities of the board, will define who is eligible to serve and how members are selected, and will establish board committees.

August 2022

The Corporate Board will interview and hire the administrative leader.

The Board of Specified Jurisdiction and board committees will be created based on the specifications outlined in the newly adopted by-laws.

September 2022-May 2023

The Board of Specified Jurisdiction will create and adopt a strategic plan which will outline the goals and objectives of the new system for the first 3-5 years.

Board committees will begin to meet regularly, as defined by the by-laws, to support the development of the new system and the goals of the strategic plan.

The administrative leader will work to identify improvements/efficiencies in the operations of the system and the four school buildings.

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Frequently Asked Questions

QCES Leadership Team

What is the QCES Leadership team, and why was it established?

Originally formed in 2011, this team was created to “seek and help implement collaborative activities that serve to address the shared challenges faced by our elementary schools and Quincy Notre Dame.”

The Quincy Catholic Elementary Schools Leadership Team consists of more than 20 members of Quincy’s four parishes and five schools, including pastors and principals. This team sets tuition and fees each school year, supports enrollment efforts, identifies opportunities for collaboration among the schools, and more.

Why is the Leadership Team proposing changes to Quincy's Catholic schools?

In 2019, each of the four schools' strategic plans were expiring. The Leadership Team was asked by the four pastors to research the possibility of creating a shared strategic plan to address the long range outlook of Catholic education in Quincy.

The team spent two years (with major disruption due to COVID) reviewing enrollment data, financial data, pedagogical (teaching and learning) needs, and governance structure. The team also looked at other systems throughout the country to borrow from their successes and learn from their struggles. These systems include [Bishop McNamara Catholic School System](#) in Kankakee, IL and the [Catholic Central School System](#) in Springfield, OH.

The team's findings and research resulted in the current proposal to form a school system with a shared governance and administrative model.

What is the role of the Leadership Team moving forward?

The goal of the Leadership Team is to establish a new governance model which will then be responsible for researching, proposing, and enacting any changes to Quincy's Catholic Elementary Schools. Once the Board of Specified Jurisdiction is established, the Leadership Team will disband.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Board of Specified Jurisdiction

Who can serve on the Board of Specified Jurisdiction and how will members be selected?

The Corporate Board (pastors and a representative from the Bishop's office) will work with a legal representative to draft by-laws for the Board of Specified Jurisdiction. The by-laws will establish parameters for board member eligibility and selection.

What role will the Board of Specified Jurisdiction play in the new model?

Through the creation of the new governance model, members of the Board of Specified Jurisdiction will have voting powers and will oversee strategic planning and implementation, the formulation of policies and procedures, the financial operations, and mission effectiveness for all four schools.

The new Board will establish goals and measures for the new strategic plan. Those goals should address the following areas for our entire Catholic community 1. Catholic Identity 2. Academic Excellence 3. Enrollment and Marketing 4. Financial Stability.

QCES Financial Data

When will the financial data used in the creation of this proposal be shared?

The Leadership Team is currently compiling the data that was reviewed during the initial stage of research. The team is also reviewing data from the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years. These two years require additional time and review as there was an influx of funds due to COVID relief efforts. These funds need to be labeled and adjusted in the calculations in order to accurately compare and compile relevant financial data. Finally, the team is also awaiting the closure of the current fiscal year, which occurs June 30, in order to include the most recent financial data.

Once all the data has been collected and compiled, it will be shared. This will likely occur in late summer or early fall.