



WELCOME!



WE ARE NORTHWEST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

We are a diverse, Catholic,
co-ed, college preparatory community.

We educate the whole person —
mind, body, spirit, and imagination.

We develop leaders who faithfully
serve God and others.



“

Since 1961 Northwest Catholic has educated the whole person — in mind, body, spirit, and imagination. We are strong today because of the missionary spirit of our founders and the decades of loyal service provided by the Northwest Catholic community. We know we stand on the shoulders of giants.”

Christian J. Cashman
President & Head of School

WORK.

Northwest Catholic offers a comprehensive and challenging academic program that prepares its graduates for college and beyond.

More than 50%

of upperclassman take at least one of the 17 Advanced Placement courses NWC offers. Last year 81% of AP students scored 3 or better on their exams. In 2017 every student who took the AP Calculus Exam scored a 5. In 2016 NWC had 2 National AP Scholars.

Last year students scored 90 points above the SAT State average in Math and 71 points above the State average in Verbal.

Students' ACT average composite score was 25.7 as compared to the national average of 20.8.

17

Advanced
Placement
Courses

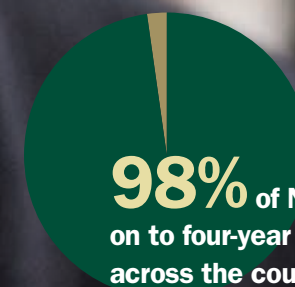
2017 Mean SAT

602
601

MATH
VERBAL

25.7

2016
Mean ACT
Score



of NWC graduates continue on to four-year colleges and universities across the country, many with merit-based scholarships.

The core of the course of study

at Northwest Catholic includes Religion, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Modern and Classical Languages, and Fine Arts. We also incorporate leadership development and Christian service into the curriculum through our LEADS program and classes like Christ in Society, A Chance to Serve, and the Honors Institute for Leadership in Life.

Faculty have devoted
18 years
of service on average.

All together, nearly
750 years
to the School.



Offering a large array of advanced courses in both the humanities and STEM, Northwest Catholic prepares its students to be well-rounded individuals ready for the challenges of college study.”

Christopher Stuck
Academic Dean



12:1 / **18**
students : teacher avg. class size

**Average class size of 18 students with
some seminars as small as six students.**



The change students experience from freshman to senior year is amazing. I feel privileged to be invited to be part of that growth. And for me to be effective in fostering it, I have to let the students know I care about them, no matter what. That's what makes it possible for them to take risks, the ones where they step outside their comfort zones and discover who they are and what they can be."

Kristina Gillespie
Director of Campus Ministry & Spanish Teacher



SERVE.

Leadership and service go hand-in-hand at Northwest Catholic. We believe servant leaders are the best kinds of leaders. Students at NWC are required to take four years of LEADS classes and complete service hours in order to graduate.

Examples of outreach programs where NWC students volunteer:

- Manna Meals on Church Street in Hartford
- Unified Theater, Unified Volleyball, Unified Jazz
- ConnectiKids Tutoring
- “Thursdays in the City” at Catholic Worker House
- St. Joseph Day Collection
- Helping Hands Fundraiser & Food Packing Event
- Peer Tutoring
- Thanksgiving Turkey Drive
- Christmas Toy Drive
- Relay for Life
- Empty Bowls for House of Bread
- vie for the Kids™ Business Competition
- St. Jude’s Fundraiser
- Dress Down for Charity



Every sophomore must complete a **25-hour** service project.

Eight students, Math Department Chair Claudia Hart '78, NWC Parent Bill Heiden, and President & Head of School Christian Cashman traveled to Haiti in July 2018 for a service immersion trip.



“

I saw in the eyes and in the effort of LEVO's volunteers from Northwest Catholic focus and openness that would be the envy of any corporate leader. It was high impact. It was powerful change unfolding.”

Bill Heiden
Haiti Mission Organizer

CREATE.

The Fine and Performing Arts Program at NWC rivals the largest public and private schools in the State. Whether it is in the classroom, with 27 courses to choose from, or after school, with clubs ranging from *Dramateurs* to *The Writer*, Northwest Catholic invites students to pursue their interests in the fine and performing arts. Eight experienced faculty members, all professionals in their fields, champion the arts at NWC and guide students, beginner to expert.

“

Over the years we have grown an amazing network of teaching artists, designers, and Broadway professionals who generously bring their expertise to our students. Many of these designers, master teachers, and guest directors are people we shared the stage with. Some are even former students. All of them are part of our theater family.”

Kate Morran
*Dance Teacher & Dramateurs Director/
Choreographer*





Fine and Performing Arts Courses

Acting
Musical Theater
Stage Craft

Instrumental Lessons
Concert Band
Honors Wind Ensemble
Jazz Ensemble
Advanced Jazz Band
String Ensemble
Advanced String Ensemble
Music Theory
AP Music Theory
Pep Band
Voice Lessons
Chamber Choir
Women's Chorus
Concert Choir
Jazz Choir

Introduction to Visual Arts
Drawing and Painting
Design and Sculpture
Advanced Visual Arts
AP Studio Art
Crafts and Culture
Digital Photography

Introduction to Dance
Dance Repertory



Every year the
Dramateurs wow
audiences with
their Fall Play and
Spring Musical.

WIN.

Athletics at NWC emphasizes sacrifice, self-discipline, and dedication. Through sports, our athletes learn about teamwork, problem-solving, decision-making, and healthy living. They learn how to work with people from all walks of life, and they are united through their deep sense of team loyalty, their promise to support one another, and their shared spirit.

Varsity Sports

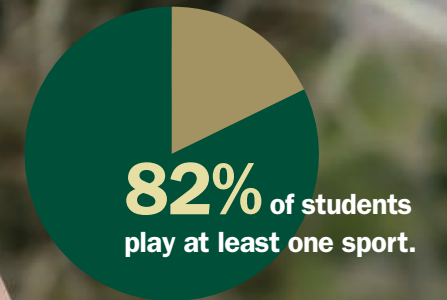
Fall	Winter	Spring
Cross Country	Basketball	Baseball
Field Hockey	Cheerleading	Golf
Football	Ice Hockey	Lacrosse
Soccer	Indoor Track	Outdoor Track
Volleyball	Swimming	Softball
		Tennis



“

With a remarkably high number of students participating in Athletics, and our large number of All-American Athletes, our student-athletes prove again and again they conquer the challenges they face in both the classroom and in their sports.”

Matthew Martorelli '03
Athletic Director





|||||
47 State
Championships



“

Playing at Northwest was nothing short of a privilege and honor, to represent such a prestigious institution with the rich tradition and history that is NWC Athletics.”

Tony Seldon '11
Assistant Men's Basketball
Coach at Western CT State
University



“

What an amazing privilege we have at NWC to use our God-given talents in a way that keeps our minds, bodies, and spirits healthy. Through sports, we have an opportunity to make a difference — leading by example and with ethics.”

Ashley Mara '08
Varsity Women's Lacrosse Coach
Assistant Field Hockey Coach

Every year NWC
sends approximately
20 student-athletes
to play college sports at the
**Division I, II,
and III levels.**

PREPARE.

Northwest Catholic prepares students for every college major and career imaginable. The School's strong liberal arts curriculum lays the foundation for any path a student might choose. Our graduates are ready to tackle college coursework in every discipline. Philosophy, music theory, biochemistry, international business, and more, NWC alumni are carrying their academic training and study skills to college campuses across the country.

NWC's college preparatory curriculum begins day one of freshman year.



"I sometimes imagine myself working in pharmaceuticals where I can do research to help find cures to diseases that could save lives."

Justin '19

Justin is a Varsity golfer at NWC.

Pathway to Success — Justin

Justin loves solving problems. He's a math wiz and wants to put his gifts to good use. As he discerns what path to follow, he imagines a career in pharmaceuticals. Northwest Catholic is preparing him for the college major and career he pursues.

Courses Justin took to PREPARE:
Computer Programming
Honors Biology
AP Statistics
AP Chemistry

Christian Morality
LEADS 11
AP Calculus
AP Computer Science
AP Physics
A Chance to Serve



The teachers at Northwest Catholic helped us develop a deep respect and appreciation for what it means to be an educated person in this complex world."

Mary Kay Fenton '82
*Executive Vice President & CFO
Achillion Pharmaceuticals*

“I’d love to learn more about different cultures, and I plan to travel!”

Angelica '19



Pathway to Success — Angelica

Angelica loves math, technology, and learning about different cultures. When she gets to college, she thinks she might major in business or hospitality management. She loves organizing events and imagines herself one day managing a business.

Courses Angelica took to PREPARE:

Speech & Communication
Honors Spanish IV
Civics
Computer Programming
Honors Concert Choir
Health
New Testament
Economics
Psychology
LEADS 12

**Angelica is a member
of the Diversity,
Equality & Unity Club
at Northwest Catholic.**



Northwest Catholic taught me discipline. Life can have many distractions but having discipline is a key to success. Little things like showing up on time and looking presentable were life lessons that were taught to us daily at Northwest.”

Ankit Harpaldas '07

Owner of TapRock, Porter21, Capital Spirits, Greenway Market, Dhaba Wala

Pathway to Success — Paris

Paris is interested in engineering. It's easy to imagine him designing and building anything we could drive on, fly out of, or ride through. He enjoys math, and he spends much of his extracurricular time in community — with teammates on the football field and track or with friends volunteering or enjoying the outdoors.

Courses Paris took to PREPARE:

- Geometry
- Computer Programming
- Christian Ethics
- Speech & Communication
- LEADS 10
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Oceanology & Stream Ecology
- Algebra
- Introduction to Visual Arts

“To be successful in any path I choose, I’ll be ready to face challenges along the way.”

Paris '19



Paris is a State Championship qualifier in six track & field events.



As a young student I had an affinity for science and math so I decided to pursue engineering. When I arrived at Lehigh, I was well prepared because of the rigors of Ms. Canora’s Honors Physics.”

Jason Lambert '95
Program Director of the Turkish Utility Helicopter Program at Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin Company



Pathway to Success — Madison

Madison's favorite courses are English and chemistry, which makes a lot of sense since Madison imagines herself in the medical field one day. She thinks she might become a nurse practitioner and wants to be sure no matter what career she chooses she is always working directly with patients.

Courses Madison took to PREPARE:

LEADS 9
Biology
Honors Chemistry
Anatomy & Physiology
Physics
Sports Medicine
Honors Spanish III
Death & Dying
Honors Concert Choir
Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry

**“If I want to become
a nurse practitioner
one day, I have work
hard in biology and
chemistry today.”**

Madison '19

**Madison volunteers at
nursing homes and hospitals.**



Because of the foundation in sciences I received at Northwest Catholic, today I am able to bring the latest advancements to my patients. But treating cancer patients goes far beyond the science of medicine. Making a personal connection with my patients and truly understanding their emotional and spiritual needs is often the most rewarding aspect of my work.”

David Grew '00
*Radiation Oncologist
at Connecticut
Radiation Oncology*



LEAD.

Northwest Catholic prepares students to be leaders in their fields. Through their varied experiences at NWC — in the classroom, on the athletic fields, on the stage, and in the community — students develop the skills they need to succeed at college and beyond.

A Northwest Catholic graduate aspires to be —
intellectually curious,
spiritually aware,
a compassionate leader,
community focused —
a whole person



Glendowlyn L. H. Thames '99

*President of Hartford City Council and
Executive Director of CTNext, LLC*

**“The foundation I received
at Northwest shaped my life,
personally, professionally, and,
most of all, spiritually.”**

Glendowlyn L. H. Thames '99

When attending Northwest Catholic, Glendowlyn participated in many service projects, and it was through these experiences she developed a keen sense of giving back. Her experience at Northwest Catholic shaped her path in life. From her first service project in Mrs. Gillespie's class, Glen developed a passion for solving social problems through policy and advocacy.

Upon graduating with her B.A. from Hofstra University, Glen traveled to South Africa to work with local entrepreneurs to improve economic conditions. It was through this experience she realized she had more work to do back home. In Hartford Glen served in key government roles spanning over eight years as Director of Constituent Services for the City of Hartford and as Special Assistant to the Superintendent for Hartford Public Schools. During this time she earned her M.A. in Public Policy from Trinity College.

Today Glen is the President of the City of Hartford Court of Common Council. Focusing on good government and sound public policy, Glen's intimate knowledge and experience working within city government and with the community provide insight and perspective that add value to secure Hartford's long-term success. She is a wife and mother of two.

The foundational education, community support, and life-long friendships she received at Northwest Catholic gave Glen the confidence and knowledge to achieve.



“I have constructed my entire career and my entire life journey around the lessons I learned at Northwest Catholic.”

Molly Rees Gavin '67

Molly Rees Gavin '67

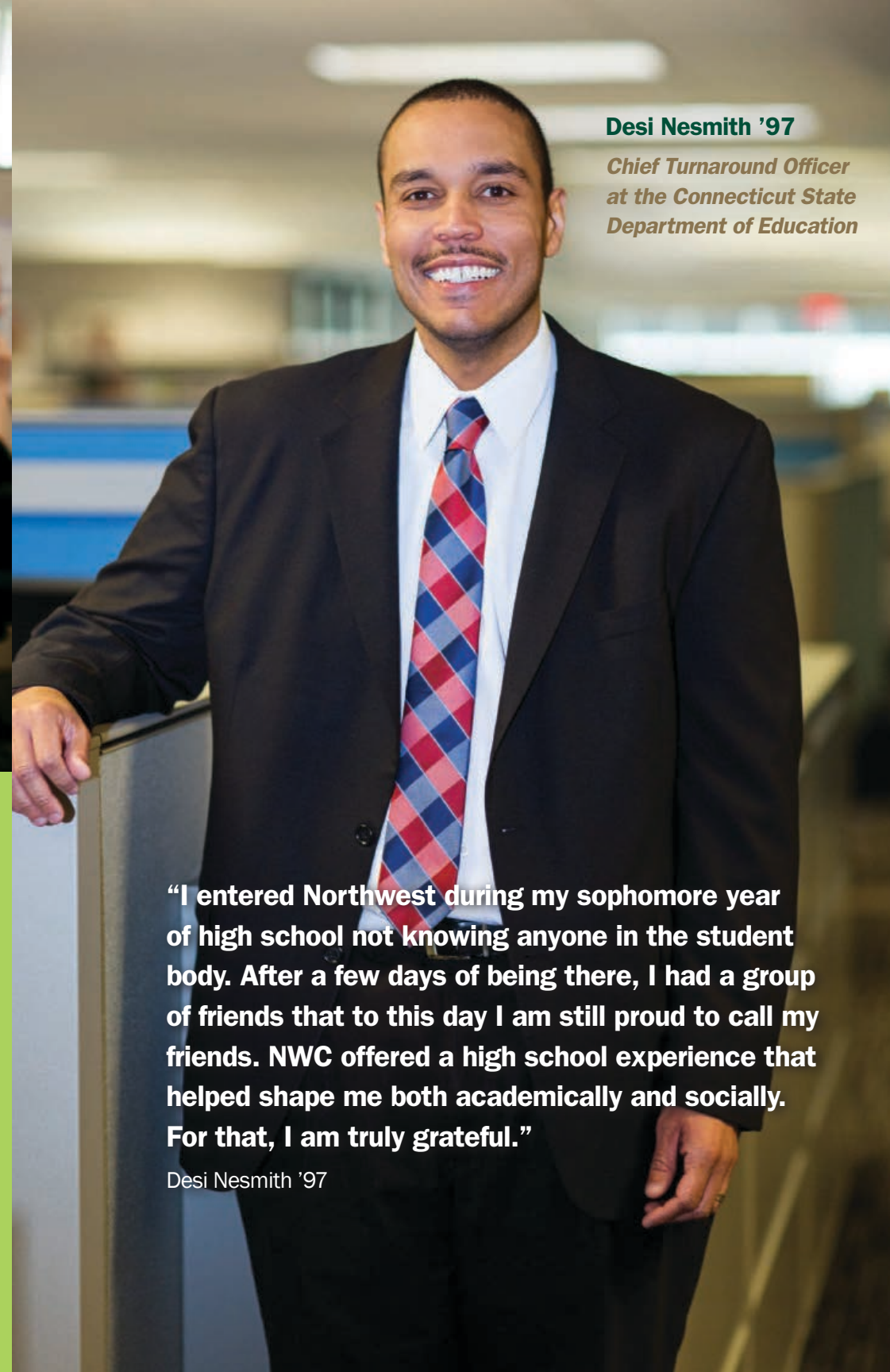
President of Connecticut Community Care

Molly has worked at Connecticut Community Care for over 40 years. Today she is the President.

After Northwest Catholic, she earned her B.A. in Sociology from the University of St. Joseph and an M.S.W. from Rutgers University. She was honored as 1996 Social Worker of the Year by National Association of Social Workers, Connecticut Chapter. She chairs the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration's Aging Discretionary Funds Grant Review Panels and is a founder of the National Association of Certified Care Managers.

Connecticut Community Care serves more than 9,000 clients at any one time. Her organization is vigilant in every aspect of care while, at the same time, focusing on cost effectiveness.

At Northwest Catholic Molly participated in an Adopt-a-Grandparent program. Her “grandmother” at St. Mary's Home become an important person in her life. In fact, after Molly married, she and her husband delivered her bouquet to her “grandmother.” She says Northwest Catholic set her on a path toward a helping profession, and she has been a compassionate, community-minded leader ever since.



Desi Nesmith '97

Chief Turnaround Officer at the Connecticut State Department of Education

“I entered Northwest during my sophomore year of high school not knowing anyone in the student body. After a few days of being there, I had a group of friends that to this day I am still proud to call my friends. NWC offered a high school experience that helped shape me both academically and socially. For that, I am truly grateful.”

Desi Nesmith '97

Before Desi Nesmith began his work as the Chief Turnaround Officer at the Department of Education, he was Principal of Metacomet Elementary School in Bloomfield where he helped shrink the third-grade achievement gap in reading by 19 percent and raise reading scores eight points above the state average. He also worked for a time as Principal of SAND Elementary School, a school recognized by ConnCAN as one of the top ten improved schools in Connecticut.

Desi graduated from the University of Connecticut with his B.A., M.A., and 6th Year Diploma in Educational Leadership. Desi has been awarded the Neag Alumni Society Outstanding Young Professional Award, the Connecticut Association of Schools First Year Principal of the Year, and the Neag School of Education Promising Young Professional Award.

On October 9, 2014 Desi was awarded the Milken Educator's Award, the only educator from Connecticut to receive the award that year.

NWC challenged Desi both intellectually and academically, and the experience he had at NWC propelled him to seek out challenges. Desi's experience with ACTS (A Chance to Serve) and its class trip to Chicago to volunteer in a homeless shelter left a great impression on him. Today he is still drawn to opportunities that are challenging and allow him to make a larger impact on the community. Desi is a husband and father of two.

Catie Talarski '99

Executive Producer at WNPR

Catie Talarski is an Executive Producer at Connecticut Public Radio. Her curiosity about the world and desire to ask and answer big questions was cultivated at Northwest Catholic. Her experience in the classroom learning about religion or philosophy, daydreaming while on a cross country training run, performing as a “pick-a-little lady” during *The Music Man*, connecting with others on a spiritual retreat, or doing a service project in the community, all contributed to her eventually reaching WNPR.

After Northwest Catholic, her path to public radio included spending a year as a Jesuit Volunteer, working at the Pulmonary Clinic at Children’s Hospital Boston, teaching, and studying documentary radio. Now Catie loves telling radio stories and working on Connecticut’s best local talk shows. She is a wife and mother of two.

“My experience on the cross country team was a defining part of my Northwest experience. I made best friends whom I adore to this day. Before Northwest I never considered myself an athletic person, but there I learned that I was much more physically capable and competitive than I imagined.”

Catie Talarski '99



“Northwest Catholic taught me to ask critical questions and communicate my ideas clearly. I use those skills every day as a reporter. Northwest also taught me environmental stewardship and social justice are the same, and that we all have a responsibility to care for our planet.”

Patrick Skahill '02

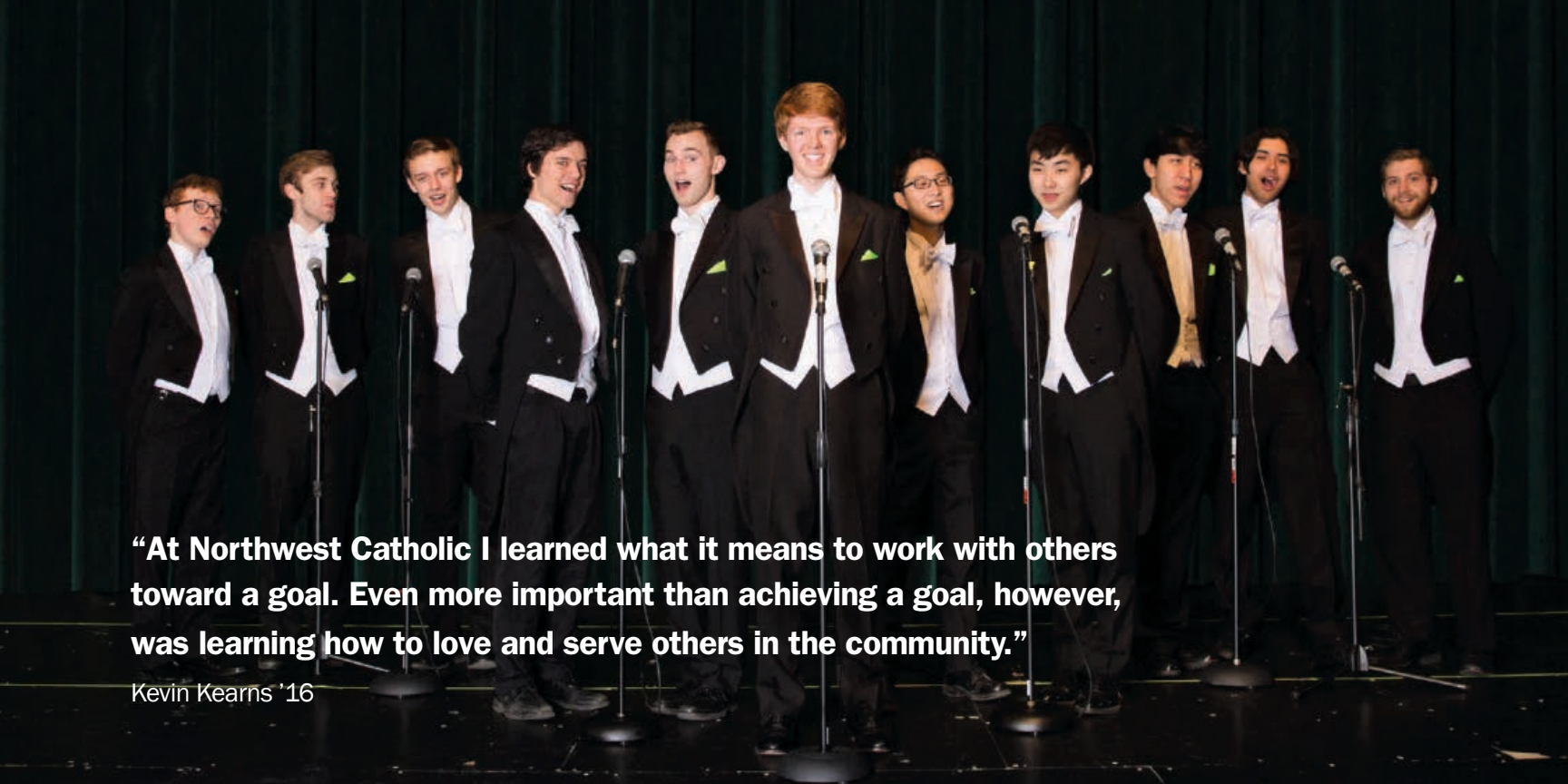
Patrick Skahill '02

Reporter at WNPR

Patrick Skahill is a reporter at Connecticut Public Radio, covering science with an emphasis on the environment. Before becoming a reporter, Patrick was the founding producer of WNPR’s *The Colin McEnroe Show*, during which time the show won a Public Radio News Directors Incorporated Award. Patrick’s reporting has appeared on NPR’s *Morning Edition*, *Here & Now*, *All Things Considered*, and *Marketplace Morning Report*.

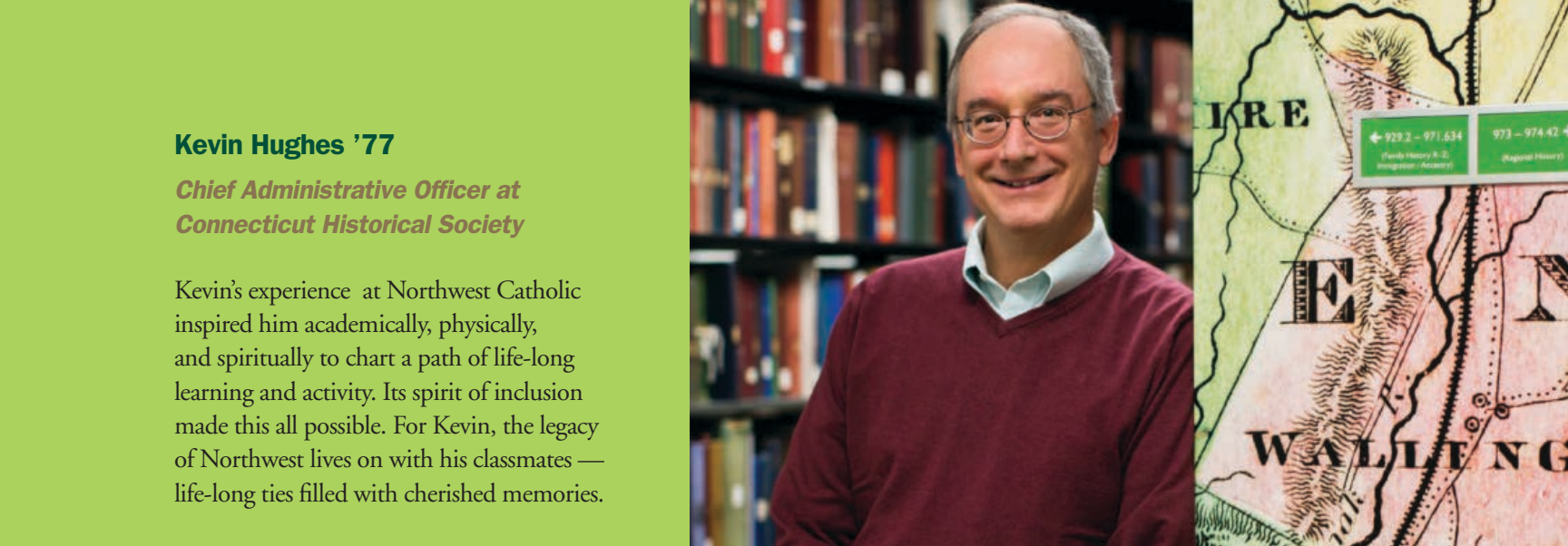
After Northwest Catholic, Patrick earned a B.A. from Villanova University. He majored in History with a concentration in Arab & Islamic Studies and a minor in Classics. He holds an M.A. in Social Sciences from the University of Chicago.

Patrick’s English and history teachers at Northwest Catholic were challenging and also inspired his life-long love of reading, learning, and communicating ideas. He still regularly thinks about his classes with Mrs. Juda and Mr. Kelly. He also fondly remembers cross country meets on cool fall days and running the hallways during indoor track practice in winter. These formative experiences are still with him today.



“At Northwest Catholic I learned what it means to work with others toward a goal. Even more important than achieving a goal, however, was learning how to love and serve others in the community.”

Kevin Kearns '16



Kevin Hughes '77
*Chief Administrative Officer at
 Connecticut Historical Society*

Kevin’s experience at Northwest Catholic inspired him academically, physically, and spiritually to chart a path of life-long learning and activity. Its spirit of inclusion made this all possible. For Kevin, the legacy of Northwest lives on with his classmates — life-long ties filled with cherished memories.

“Northwest Catholic played a big role in guiding my decision to choose non-profit management. Whether it’s human services programming or arts and culture, serving the common good has always been a key motivator for me.”

Kevin Hughes '77

Kevin Kearns '16
*Student at Harvard University and
 Musical Director of the Din & Tonics*

Kevin is studying philosophy at Harvard. Before he got there, he was wowing the Northwest Catholic community. Valedictorian of the Class of 2016, Kevin was a member of the Big Band, Jazz Choir, and Jazz Combo. He performed with the Honors Wind Ensemble and sang with the Concert Choir and Chamber Choir. Kevin learned the value of service at Northwest Catholic. Through various volunteer opportunities such as the New Orleans Instrument Drive and Unified Jazz, he learned how important serving others is.

“Northwest Catholic challenged me academically, from analyzing British literature to calculating compound interest, but most important Northwest rewarded me with life-long friends — the brightest and most authentic individuals a friend could ask for.”

Diana Chin '08



Diana Chin '08
*Director of Community Engagement
 and Outreach at West Hartford
 Community TV*

It wasn’t just the academics, although influential, that made Diana feel like she belonged at Northwest Catholic: it was the students, it was her friends. She counts herself lucky to have crossed paths with classmates she considers the most hilarious, intelligent, and engaging people she’s ever known. She marvels at how when in high school, she had no idea what a meaningful imprint Northwest Catholic would have on her character.

WE VALUE

faith

respect

our diverse community

leadership & service

education of the whole person

From our rigorous academic curriculum, to our exceptional athletic teams and arts programs, to our inspiring student life and character-building activities, Northwest Catholic provides opportunities for all students to learn and grow in a remarkable educational setting, grounded in Catholic faith and moral values. To create this setting we hold fast to our core values. These values are the cornerstones on which all decisions are made. From programmatic and scheduling decisions to student formation and discipline decisions, we look to our core values for guidance. All the while, these values lead us to our central promise — to EDUCATE THE WHOLE PERSON, in mind, body, spirit, and imagination.

Our welcoming and safe community allows students to become who they are called to be. We call this *educating the whole person*. Northwest Catholic fosters students' spiritual, social, athletic, and artistic lives.



Katie performing at Jazz Night



Steven in the lab



“At Northwest Catholic I have learned to accept and embrace people with different talents. The environment allows respect and acceptance to flourish.”

Steven '20



Katie on the set of *Into the Woods*

“Praying daily and celebrating Mass as a community are powerful experiences that have strengthened my faith and deepened my relationship with God.”

Katie '20

We believe that an education that does not take into account a student's spiritual life is incomplete. That's why we value **FAITH**, and we invite our students to explore what faith means to them and how they can live out their faith through acts of service.

We value **RESPECT** – respect for self, for one another, and for the environment. All are welcome at NWC, all are valued, and all are respected.



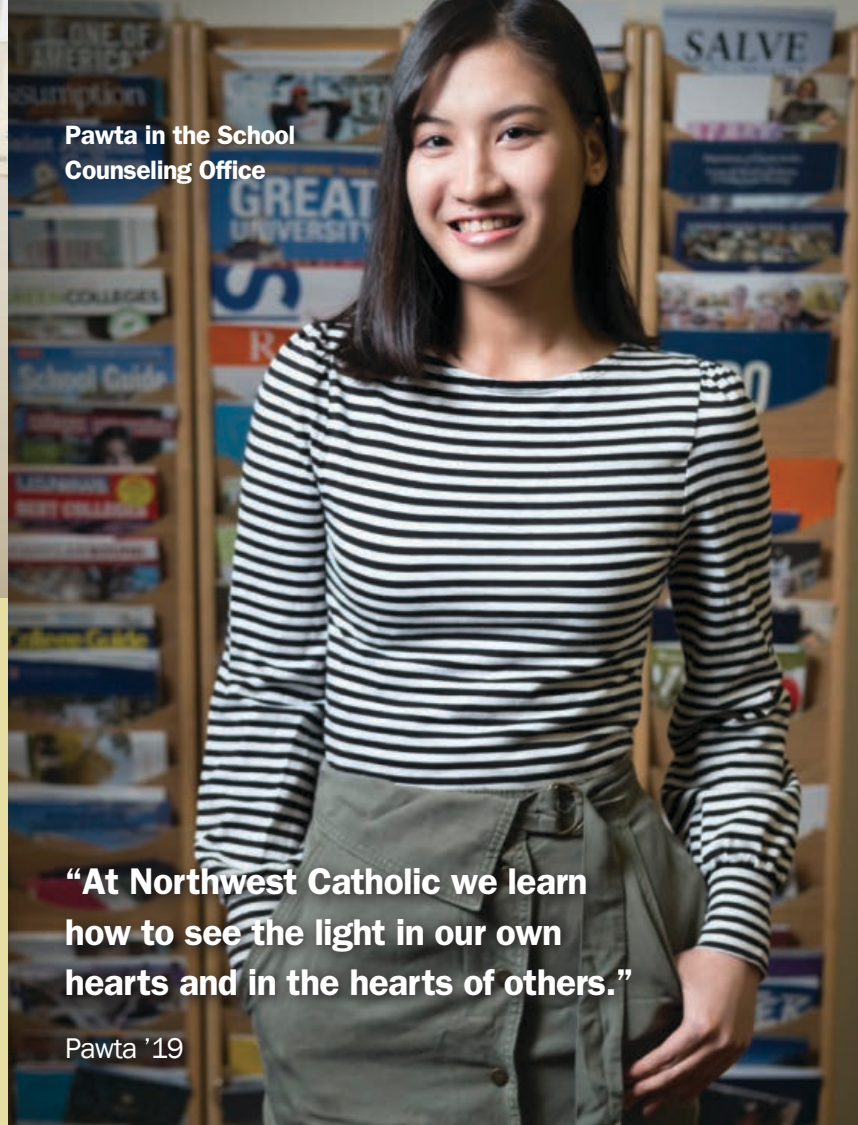
Katie in Religion class



Steven in the Easter procession



Pawta in
Chemistry



Pawta in the School
Counseling Office

**“At Northwest Catholic we learn
how to see the light in our own
hearts and in the hearts of others.”**

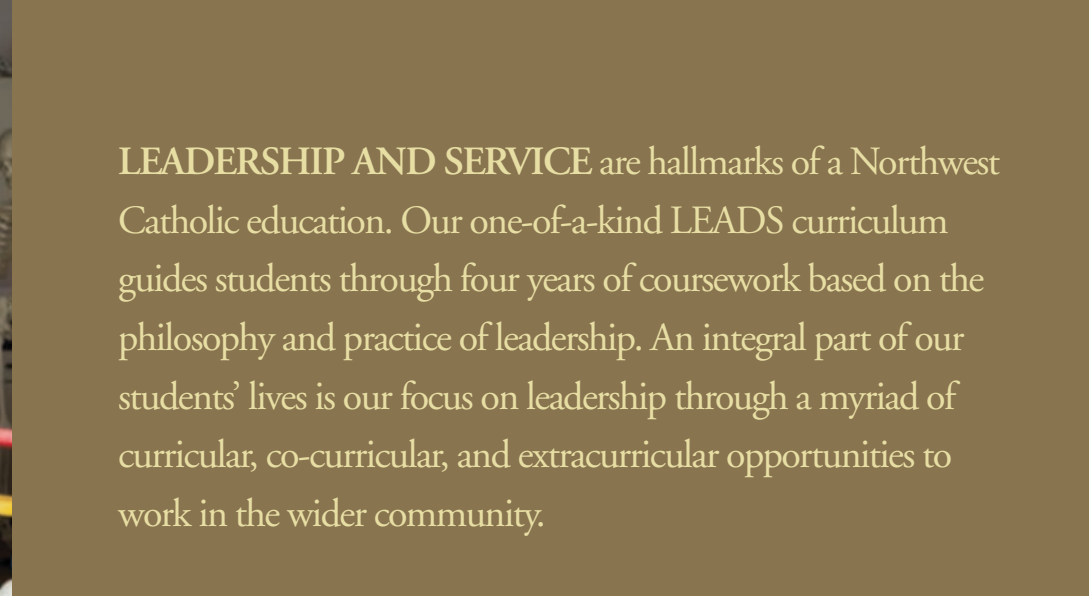
Pawta '19



Matthew in
Biology



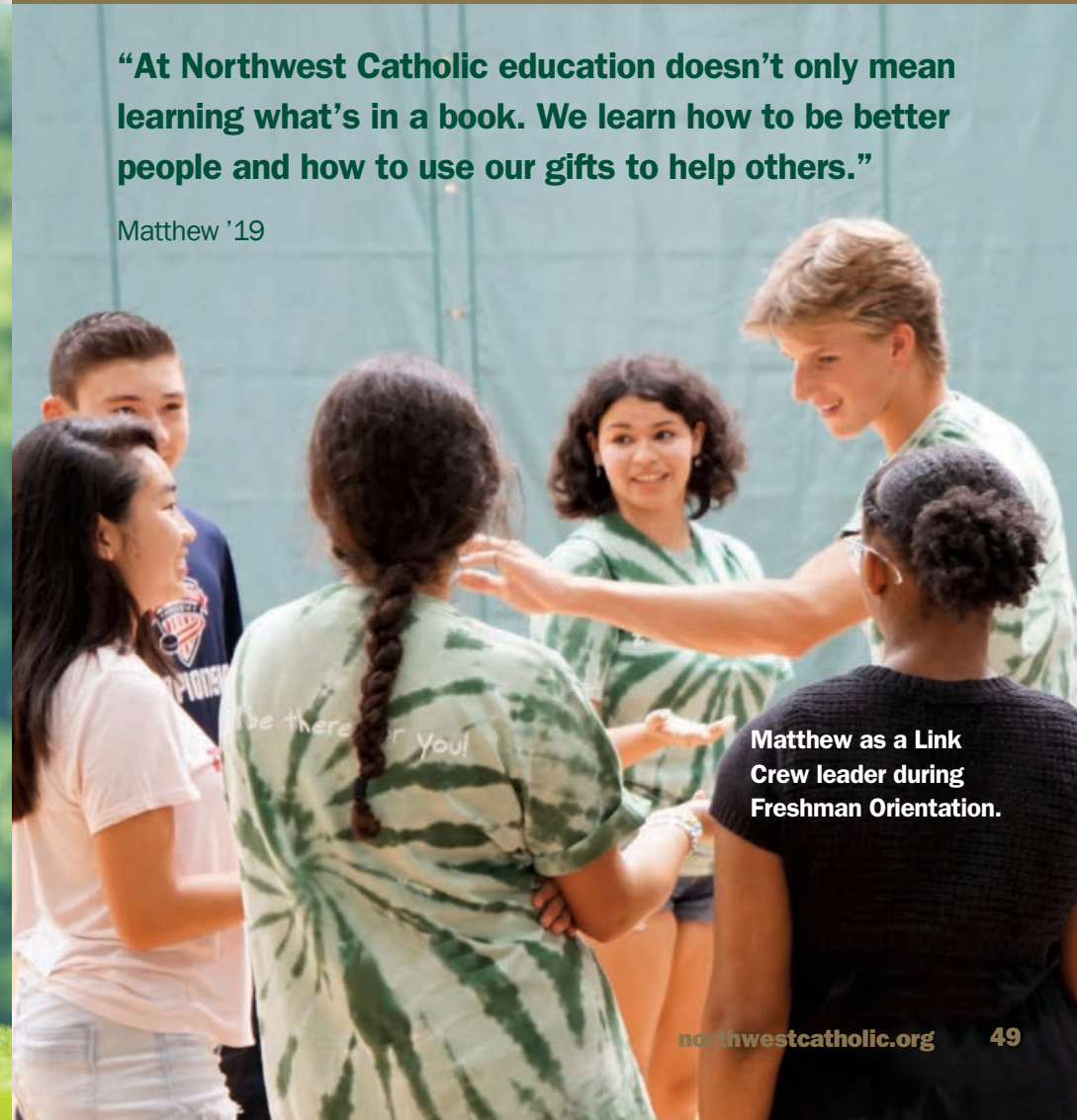
Matthew playing golf



LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE are hallmarks of a Northwest Catholic education. Our one-of-a-kind LEADS curriculum guides students through four years of coursework based on the philosophy and practice of leadership. An integral part of our students' lives is our focus on leadership through a myriad of curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular opportunities to work in the wider community.



Our **DIVERSE COMMUNITY** provides a rich environment for the cultivation of leadership and collaboration, with students representing broad cultural, economic, racial, and ethnic differences. Working with people from varied backgrounds fosters the skills needed for relationship-building, now and in the future.



**“At Northwest Catholic education doesn't only mean
learning what's in a book. We learn how to be better
people and how to use our gifts to help others.”**

Matthew '19

Matthew as a Link
Crew leader during
Freshman Orientation.



Pawta at Prom

BELIEVE.

At Northwest Catholic we believe academic formation and spiritual formation are interconnected. In other words, one cannot be a spiritual person in church but not in the classroom or on the court. We subscribe to the notion that our whole selves are invested in everything we do, and that God is at work in all of it.

We believe in our students. We know the combination of foundational learning, high expectations, discipline, and love is the right formula for success. Our graduates prove that again and again.



BELONG.

Northwest Catholic is the school
where you know you belong.

Since 1961 Northwest Catholic has educated the whole person — in mind, body, spirit, and imagination. We live by our motto *In Your light we shall see light* and develop leaders who serve God and others. Our graduates are intellectually curious, spiritually aware, compassionate leaders. They are living proof that our diverse community that welcomes students of all faiths, colors, backgrounds, and world views prepared them for their future.

Discover how Northwest Catholic prepares students for college and beyond by visiting us today.





**NORTHWEST
CATHOLIC**
HIGH SCHOOL

29 Wampanoag Drive
West Hartford CT 06117

northwestcatholic.org

#NWCbelong

