James B. Sellinger
Legacy Campaign
The Archdiocese of Baltimore has more than 200 years of excellence in Catholic education. From its early beginnings to today, Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore have sought to nurture and sustain the God-given gifts of every person, especially students, to be used in service to the Mission of Jesus.

When James (Jim) B. Sellinger joined the Catholic school team in 2014 as the first-ever Chancellor of Catholic Schools he sought to advance the work of Catholic schools by ensuring every student is provided a Christ-centered education that is academically excellent and empowers them to reach their full potential—spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and morally.

As we continue to move forward and build on the work of Jim Sellinger, the Archdiocese of Baltimore’s vision is that by 2030, the Archdiocese of Baltimore Schools—as a system—will be recognized as the exemplary Catholic School System within the United States.

To reach this goal and to honor the legacy of Jim Sellinger, the Archdiocese of Baltimore has established the James B. Sellinger Legacy Campaign. This campaign will provide future Chancellors with the necessary funds to provide superior educational opportunities for children and youth at Catholic schools throughout the Archdiocese.
FOUNDATION OF EXCELLENCE

HISTORY OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

1789 .......... The Archdiocese of Baltimore is established, becoming the 1st Catholic Diocese in the US.

1810 .......... Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton opens St. Joseph Free School, the first Catholic School to educate the poor, indigent, and immigrant children in the US.

1829 .......... Mother Mary Lange opens St. Frances Academy in Baltimore, the first Catholic School for children of Color in the US.

1920 .......... Catholic elementary schools in the United States reach a total number of 6,551. Secondary education continues to grow as well, with more than 1,500 schools in operation.

1960’s ........ Catholic school enrollment in the US reaches its peak, with 5.2 million students enrolled in nearly 13,000 schools.

Today .......... There are 59 Catholic Schools in 9 jurisdictions in Maryland–Allegany County, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Frederick County, Harford County, Howard County, and Washington County.
The Archdiocese of Baltimore’s Catholic schools are vibrant communities of faith and learning in pursuit of knowledge and academic excellence. With guidance and oversight from the Archdiocesan School Board and the Department of Schools’ leadership team, our Catholic schools strive to combine the best of tradition with innovations that meet the demands of the 21st Century.

Of all the ways in which our Church is present in the lives of those we serve, Catholic schools are unique because they are where faith and reason come together to form our students. Created in the image of God, we seek to develop the unique gifts of each student with a commitment to service and excellence. Our graduates embrace higher education and, as a result, make significant contributions to their communities, our Church, our country, and our world.

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<th><strong>CATHOLIC SCHOOLS BY THE NUMBERS</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>The Archdiocese of Baltimore Catholic Schools enroll almost 24,000 students.</td>
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<td>There are 41 elementary and middle schools</td>
<td>18 high schools</td>
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<td>1 early learning center</td>
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spread throughout the archdiocese, which includes: Baltimore City, Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard and Washington Counties.
During his tenure with the Archdiocese of Baltimore’s Catholic Schools, Jim Sellinger transformed our Catholic schools from a system of schools to a school system. He did this by creating a Master Plan for Catholic Schools to ensure that Catholic schools continued to be affordable, accessible, and competitive. This Master Plan provided a path forward for Catholic schools to continue serving the children of our Archdiocese today as well as future generations of children. 
Other accomplishments during Jim’s time as Chancellor include:

- His work with lawmakers in Annapolis to support the BOOST scholarship program that helps children from low-income families attend Catholic and other nonpublic schools in Maryland.

- The installation of 3D printers in many schools throughout the Archdiocese.

- The standardization of technology use throughout the archdiocesan school system.

- Leading the fundraising effort to secure $24 million to build the 1st Catholic school in Baltimore in 60 years – Mother Mary Lange Catholic School.

- Increased enrollment in our Catholic schools year-over-year.

Jim’s legacy and vision for Catholic schools will continue with Vision 2030. This new plan is focused on the Archdiocese of Baltimore’s Schools – as a system – being recognized as the exemplary Catholic School System in the United States by 2030. Vision 2030 will focus on four pillars Mission and Catholic Identity; Academic Excellence; Governance; and Stewardship.
The Archdiocese of Baltimore’s Department of Catholic Schools was led by Jim Sellinger from 2014-2022. As the first-ever Catholic School Chancellor, Jim put all of his energy, experience, and expertise into strengthening and growing the Archdiocese of Baltimore’s Catholic School System. To honor his commitment to Catholic schools, the Archdiocese of Baltimore honors Jim’s legacy by creating opportunities to support the work of future Chancellors.

Your gift will provide the necessary support for programs that are important to Jim and integral to the Archdiocese of Baltimore’s work to provide superior educational opportunities to children and youth.
INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

The targeted projects we plan to address through the campaign are initiatives that are important to Jim and central to the success of our students, faculty, and administrators. Partner with us to invest in the future of Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Baltimore by supporting one or more of the following initiatives:

THE JAMES B. SELLINGER CHANCELLOR’S ENDOWMENT FUND

Throughout his tenure, Jim Sellinger consistently showed a willingness to seek funds for educational enhancements. To continue this tradition, the Archdiocese of Baltimore renamed the existing Embracing Our Mission endowment to the James B. Sellinger Chancellor’s Endowment Fund, within the Archdiocese’s Catholic Community Foundation. With a current value of more than $13M, this endowment is aligned with Catholic Schools and currently provides approximately $600,000 in support annually to the Chancellor’s office to distribute as needed to schools throughout the Archdiocese. This Fund will continue to do what Jim started—provide the Chancellor’s office with discretionary annual funding that is responsive to school system needs year-to-year.

PARTNERS IN EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Partners in Excellence (PIE) Scholarship Program was founded on the core belief that every child deserves a quality education and that it is through education that we, as a society, will break the cycle of poverty for the families of our most marginalized and disadvantaged citizens.

For more than 25 years, PIE has advanced this mission by giving young people hope and opportunity through partial, need-based scholarships for elementary/middle and high school students in Baltimore City.
Mother Mary Lange Catholic School, the first Catholic school in Baltimore City in more than 60 years, opened to students for the 2021-2022 school year. In its first year, the school served 387 students, including 28 8th grade students who are now transitioning to 25 Catholic, private, or admission-based public schools. Jim’s legacy is explicitly tied to Mother Mary Lange Catholic School, having spearheaded the work around this community school and advocating for its impact on the community.

Gifts to the school will provide funding for initiatives such as tuition assistance, technology upgrades, or to enhance the school’s general operating budget.