

by Joy Pepito



Sacred Heart Catholic School (SHCS) is a place of compassion and community, dedicated to serving families in the Rogue Valley. Established as a mission of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, SHCS partners with parents to provide an excellent academic experience from a faith-filled perspective. The school offers enrollment from preschool through eighth grade, fostering a close-knit environment with a strong sense of family. SHCS embraces diversity, welcoming students from various ethnic backgrounds and faiths, while teaching the Catholic faith and virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity.



Curt D. Shenk, the principal of SHCS, has a deep-rooted connection to the school and the church. He became a parishioner at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in 1993 when he and his wife moved to town. Although aware of the school, his involvement began in 2005 when his boys enrolled. Over the years, he served in various capacities, including on the School Advisory Council and as a boys' basketball coach. In 2022, Curt felt a divine calling to transition from public school

administration to the principal position at SHCS. Embracing the opportunity, he stepped into the role with enthusiasm and a commitment to serving the faith community.

One of the aspects Curt is most proud of about SHCS is its unwavering focus on Catholic teachings. In a culture that often promotes materialism and individualism, SHCS emphasizes living a virtuous life and serving others. This approach fosters a sense of fulfillment and community among students and families.

Families at SHCS appreciate the strong sense of connectivity and relationships they develop. The school's smaller size allows for more intimate interactions and close bonds across grade levels. Community functions and faith families—groups that mix students from kindergarten through eighth grade—enhance these connections. Older students mentor and nurture younger ones, creating a supportive and caring environment that strengthens the school community.

Curt's mission aligns with the church's mission: to provide opportunities for students and families to grow in their faith. He believes that Catholic education not only offers a great academic experience but also a spiritual one.

SHCS has a rich history, serving families since 1865 and remaining at the same location since 1908. The school's enrollment has increased by 44% in the past two years, reflecting its growing reputation and impact. This summer, SHCS is undergoing a major gym remodel, the first significant capital improvement project in 40 years, marking another milestone in its long-standing commitment to the community.

Curt Shenk's dedication to SHCS shines bright with increased enrollment and improvements going on. Under his leadership, Sacred Heart Catholic School continues to thrive, providing a nurturing environment where students can grow academically and spiritually, building a strong foundation for their future.



Welcoming
 Youth
BACK TO SCHOOL!

WHO WE ARE

Project Youth+ has a mission to create a transformative environment for our most vulnerable youth. Through mentorship and strategic targeted support, we empower our youth to develop essential self efficacy skills to thrive in school, careers, and life.

We are excited to partner with schools to empower local students for academic and career success in the upcoming school year. Let's make this year the best one yet!

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