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**Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools Selects Pearson's PowerSchool® Premier as New Student Information System**

RANCHO CORDOVA, Calif. - June 29, 2009 - Pearson today announced that the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools has selected Pearson's PowerSchool® Premier as its new web-based student information system (SIS).

The Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago, with over 90,000 students and more than 6,000 teachers and staff, play a critical role in the life of the community by instilling values, teaching discipline, and achieving strong, consistent academic results for students of many races, faiths, and backgrounds in the 218 elementary and 40 secondary schools in Cook and Lake counties.

The Archdiocese of Chicago selected Pearson's PowerSchool Premier as its comprehensive SIS based on PowerSchool's successful track record of working with Catholic dioceses. PowerSchool will supply the Archdiocese of Chicago with the tools to easily create the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) report, which is an annual data export of aggregate student and staff data as specified by NCEA. The NCEA report data collection process has historically required months of effort from many individuals in the Archdiocese; however, with PowerSchool, the NCEA report will now only require one person to run an instant data query.

"While many of our schools have implemented on-line grading and parent communication systems, we feel [that] PowerSchool will be robust enough for system-wide expansion," said Sr. M. Paul McCaughey, OP, Superintendent of Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools. "In addition to the value added for parents, it gives us the tools to document academic excellence across the Archdiocese."

Historically, the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools has not had real-time access to centralized student information. For the first time, the Archdiocese of Chicago will be able to view accurate, live, student information enabling them to effectively measure student performance data over a period of time.

"With the addition of the Archdiocese of Chicago as a Pearson customer, Pearson now serves the SIS needs for 84% of schools in the Chicago area," said Paul Fletcher, President of the School Systems group of Pearson. "We have a long-time partnership with Chicago Public Schools using Pearson's Chancery SMS, and by selecting PowerSchool, the Archdiocese of Chicago will also create an open, integrated solution that enables the Archdiocese to adapt to the ever-evolving education technology landscape."

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PowerSchool will serve as the information backbone for the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools. Through its robust set of communications tools, PowerSchool will provide access to secure, real-time student information through a web browser, effectively creating an interactive dialogue between parents, students, and teachers. Additional benefits, such as master scheduling and standardized grade cards, will lend substantial efficiencies to the district.

The Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools will begin the implementation of PowerSchool in June 2009. For more information about Pearson and PowerSchool Premier, please visit [www.PearsonSchoolSystems.com](http://www.PearsonSchoolSystems.com).

#### **About Pearson**

Pearson, the global leader in education and education technology, reaches and engages today's digital natives with effective and personalized learning, as well as dedicated professional development for their teachers. This commitment is demonstrated in the company's investment in innovative print and digital education materials for preK through college, student information systems and learning management systems, teacher professional development, career certification programs and testing and assessment products that set the standard for the industry. The company's respected brands include Scott Foresman, Prentice Hall, Addison Wesley, Benjamin Cummings, PEMSolutions, Stanford 10, SuccessNet, MyLabs, PowerSchool, SuccessMaker, and many others. Pearson's comprehensive offerings help inform targeted instruction and intervention so that success is within reach of every student at every level of education. Pearson's commitment to education for all is supported by the global philanthropic initiatives of the Pearson Foundation. Pearson's other primary businesses include the Financial Times Group and the Penguin Group.

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