



# ST. MARIA GORETTI REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL (SMGRCS) FAQ

## TRANSITION TO AN INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### **Why is the Archdiocese of Baltimore no longer able to fund St. Maria Goretti Regional Catholic High School?**

The archdiocese has provided SMGRCS with \$8,532, 853 in financial support over the last decade, with the hope that SMGRCS would be able to grow enrollment, increase donor revenue, and balance the budget. Unfortunately, enrollment and revenue continue to decline, while the amount of financial assistance needed to maintain operations continues to increase.

### **How much has enrollment declined?**

Over the past decade, SMGRCS has experienced a significant and increasingly sharp decline in enrollment. During the 2017-18 school year, SMGRCS enrolled 219 students. Enrollment for the current academic year stands at 147, a 33% decrease.

### **Can St. Maria Goretti Regional Catholic School become an independent Catholic School in the Archdiocese of Baltimore?**

An independent exploratory committee is exploring the possibility of transitioning to an independent Catholic school. It is their intention to formulate and share plans before the end of the 2023 calendar year. The Archdiocese fully supports this decision, provided they can establish their ability to operate without financial assistance from the Archdiocese.

### **What will happen to the Crestwood school buildings?**

The existing lease between the Crestwood building landlord HBC LLC and St. Maria Goretti Regional Catholic High School expires on July 31, 2024. The independent committee will explore options to find a new space for the academic campus or determine if renewing the lease of the Crestwood building is feasible.

### **How much is the annual rent for the Crestwood building?**

Rent is currently \$26,736.07 per month; \$320,832.90 annually.

### **Can a new academic building be constructed on St. Ann's campus?**

All construction and operational expense for the new academic building and Gael center will be the responsibility of the independent school.

### **How much will the construction of a new academic building on St. Ann's campus cost?**

A 2022 feasibility study estimated a project budget of \$15.4 million with a three-year timeline for design, permitting, and construction. When adjusted for the annual construction cost escalation (8%), the total investment required for the new building on St. Ann's campus is estimated at \$21 million by 2026.