



Frequently Asked Campaign Questions



What is *Building for Our Future*?

Building for Our Future is a campaign that aims to meet the specific needs of Bishop McNamara Catholic High School totaling a minimum of \$2.5 million.

Will other Bishop McNamara Catholic High School fundraising activities be held during the Campaign?

Yes. The annual fundraising efforts will remain in place. The Spring Auction, Ceile Calendar sales, and the Annual Fund drive are critical to help support the school's operating expenses and will be conducted separately in their regular timeframe to maximize their level of support. Campaign visitors will ask donors to make extraordinary pledges above and beyond regular giving. Donors are not asked to diminish their annual giving but rather to consider an extraordinary commitment to the school.

Who will be asked to support the campaign?

Every member of the Bishop McNamara family will be asked to prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift to the campaign. Because of the great impact that Bishop McNamara Catholic High School has within the community, businesses, foundations, and others who are interested in promoting educational choices in the area will also be approached for support.

Why emphasize pledges?

Pledges allow individuals and families the opportunity to make larger commitments than they would usually consider by giving a one-time gift. Donors who pledge are able to consider gifts four-to-five times larger than those who make one-time gifts. This is important in a campaign of this magnitude. A pledge is not legally binding. It may be increased, decreased or canceled at any time. We hope you will give prayerful consideration to this request that will best help Bishop McNamara with its financial plans for this project.

Why is an initial payment of 10% of the total pledge requested? Is it required, and when do payments start?

The campaign seeks initial payments from donors to help with our immediate funding needs. Many donors actually prefer to begin their pledges immediately. Some may even give more than 10%. Although we encourage an initial payment of 10%, the level of down payment can be tailored to suit the individual. A donor may choose to pay monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually, or according to a customized schedule. Donors will receive pledge payment reminders through the mail based on the terms selected.

Why is each donor asked to complete a letter of intent?

A donor is asked to complete letter of intent so that the gift may be appropriately recorded and acknowledged by Bishop McNamara Catholic High School. The most important information the Campaign Office requests is the total amount of the commitment, the amount of the initial payment (if any), the pledge balance, and the payment plan selected by the donor. Donors are asked to sign a letter of intent as a good faith commitment indicating they have agreed to the terms of the pledge indicated on the form. A letter of intent is not a legally binding document.

What happens if a donor is unable to fulfill a commitment to the campaign?

While we hope that all commitments are made with the intention of being fulfilled, a donor who becomes unable to remit a commitment to the campaign, even temporarily, is encouraged to contact Institutional Advancement Office.

Is my gift to the campaign tax deductible?

All gifts are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Donors with specific questions regarding tax deductibility should contact their attorney or tax advisor.

What about matching gifts?

Donors may also want to inquire about their employers' matching gift program. These programs match the amount of the donor's charitable gift often doubling or even tripling their donation.