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## Newport Central Catholic High School

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **NEWPORT CENTRAL CATHOLIC “BROKE GROUND” ON NEW BUILDING ADDITION**

On Friday morning, May 9<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 am the Most Reverend Roger J. Foys, D.D., Bishop of Covington, led an important ceremony at Newport Central Catholic High School. Bishop Foys aided by a group of distinguished guests and benefactors, with the school population looking on, “broke ground” on a project that will completely transform this coed Diocesan high school of 467 students.

NCC moved into its present 60,000 sq. ft. location in 1955. The building with only the addition of two classrooms and a girl’s locker room in 1983, a few trailers and a transformed former residence has been the school for now over fifty years. NCC traces its roots as far back as 1903. The school’s history includes four different buildings and the merge of two single gender schools. The religious and educational traditions of the Diocese of Covington, Sisters of Divine Providence, Christian Brothers and faithful people of Campbell County have combined to create what is a truly unique Catholic School.

Bob Noll, NCC’s Principal since 2000, commented, “The beginning of the actual construction, both the new 23,000 sq. ft. facility and the complete renovation of the existing facility, is a tremendous testimony to the volunteers and generous benefactors who are making it happen. Six years ago a dedicated group of volunteers first had a vision of what we could be. And, it has been their hard work since then which brought us to today.”

The “We Believe” Capital Campaign kicked-off in the fall of 2006 and to date has raised \$5.1 million toward its goal of \$7.5 million. Phil Ciafardini, one of the project’s leaders explains, “The generosity of the NCC family has been truly outstanding. However, I do have to remind everybody that we still have a way to go. And if all of our

alumni, friends, and community continue ‘to believe’, then we will be successful.” NCC officials report that fundraising will continue throughout the fall or until the goal is reached.

Bishop Foys thanked all of those in attendance for their hard work and generosity and commented, “Thank you for joining me in my belief that urban Catholic education can and should be supported. We all must remain committed to our cities.” He then went on to remind the students that their prayers were needed for all those who would work on the building project. “We all have a part to play in this important endeavor.”

The first phase of the project that the Diocese has approved will be construction of a new 2,000 sq. ft. chapel, seven new classrooms, a black box theatre and a health center with new and upgraded locker rooms, wellness areas and strength and conditioning equipment for athletes. Construction on the new facility will begin in early June as soon as school is finished. Preliminary work will begin on the renovation of the existing building, but its completion is dependent upon raising the additional \$2.4 million.

Ralph Drees, an Honorary Co-Chair of Leadership and one of NCC’s most distinguished graduates, when asked to comment on the project said, “Irma and I believe so strongly in NCC’s mission that we wanted to financially support its efforts at a level that would have a deep impact on the lives of its students and their overall education. This project will do just that.”

The project has been designed by GBBN Architects and the construction will be managed by HGC Construction.