

Bishop Baraga Catholic School

The Place to Grow

623 W. Lincoln Avenue, Cheboygan – (231) 627-5608

www.bishopbaraga.com

Why Bishop Baraga?

We think the best feedback you can get about a school comes from the families who have experienced it. The following are a few comments made by parents, alumni and staff on their experiences at Bishop Baraga Catholic School.

Stephanie Shaw-Jones – Current Baraga Parent

My name is Stephanie Shaw-Jones. I have been involved with Bishop Baraga for 15 years. We have children ages 22, 20, 9, and 7. All of them have attended Bishop Baraga! I love our school; Bishop Baraga to me, is extended family. When my friends ask why I choose Bishop Baraga my immediate answer is, "I feel as if I leave my children with my family when I drop them off at school."

Knowing that my children are going to be mentored and taught with a Christian philosophy every day and that they are expected to perform at a higher level is everything I want for them. Our 2 older children made the merge to the Public School System and it was very interesting. I found that my older two children, Lauren and Rory, were both at the top of their classes and both had very high academic standards set for themselves.

As a parent we all want the best for our children. I feel that the environment, the staff and the school fundamentals are the best for my children! I firmly believe that upon enrolling your child/children in Bishop Baraga, you too will feel the family environment and love that we all share for each other and our school.

Our community is truly blessed to be able to offer a Christian Education such as Bishop Baraga offers.

Melissa Goodrich – Current Baraga Parent

Moving from a top-ranking school district to Cheboygan, I was looking for a similar strong academic education for my children. Our family is not Catholic, but the reputation of Bishop Baraga's academic excellence and family-like atmosphere convinced me to enroll my three children. Even given the school's excellent reputation, I was concerned my children would be too far ahead and become bored. Instead, they had some catching up to do to reach Bishop Baraga's curriculum standards.

In addition to being challenged academically, the children are given a solid moral foundation, which will be vital in assisting them in their decision-making as they get older.

Regardless of each family's religious preference, the parents and students are very welcoming to newcomers and it was easy for the kids and I to quickly become part of the Baraga family.

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Will Hinkley – Bishop Baraga Alumnus

I will proudly stand up and tell anyone that the best teachers around can be found at Bishop Baraga. They were what made going to class fun as well as something to look forward to. There were no favorite students, as we were all equally important to all the teachers. They took the time to make sure that we understood and learned our lessons; and they took the time to make sure we were happy and having fun too. The teachers didn't forget their students as they moved on to the next year either. Once you had a teacher, you became part of them and they became part of you. We were truly a family at Bishop Baraga.

At Bishop Baraga School I learned a lot of important things. I learned my lessons in class, the importance of working hard and studying hard, and the importance of treating others with respect and kindness; a valuable lesson which I will never forget. I learned about our faith and that letting God into our lives is much more important than some people may think. And most of all, I learned that Bishop Baraga School is not just a school; it's a home.

Jaime Deitz – Bishop Baraga Kindergarten Teacher

To me, working at Bishop Baraga still feels very unreal. I consider myself fortunate that I was able to get a teaching job in Michigan and in my hometown, all within a year of graduating from college. However, I consider myself blessed that it is at Bishop Baraga.

From the moment I stepped into this building I was welcomed with open arms. It has been such a pleasure getting to know each and every one of the staff members. We all have this strong unifying connection that goes beyond the lines of coworkers. We truly care about the school, the students, and one another. I have witnessed the staff going well above and beyond their job description, not because they were told to, but because they want to. The school and its students are always a main priority. As a new teacher starting out, this is inspirational to see. It pushes me to continually be thinking of ways to do something better and to learn a little more.

Our school promotes a warm, welcoming environment that is reflected in the interactions of the children. It can be seen in the hallways as people smile and greet each other, in the lunchroom when a child does a simple act of kindness like helping someone open their milk, or in the classroom as the 6th graders help kindergarten with a project. I think it is this aspect that touches me the most. In a typical school, you might not imagine the older students working with the younger ones. They are usually kept to their separate hallways. However, at Bishop Baraga, we instill a sense of stewardship and responsibility in our older students to set an example and help out those that are younger. We are a family here at Bishop Baraga, and it is one that I am proud to be a part of.