



Aquinas & St. Mary's Catholic Schools

Strategic Plan 2015-2020

Mission Statement

“The Mission of Aquinas and St. Mary’s Catholic schools community is to provide a Christ-centered learning environment to prepare students for their future involvement in church, family and civic relationships.”

Strategic Plan Vision

To be a Christ-centered, student-centered educational system that is dynamic in Catholic faith formation, academic excellence and leadership development.

Strategic Plan Pillars

Supportive Student Life: To create a positive student-centered experience with a spirit of achievement, unity and mutual support.

Sacred Catholic Foundation: To sustain a fully integrated Catholic culture that encompasses Gospel values, the sacraments, and service to others as we live and celebrate the vitality of our faith.

Exceptional Learning Environment: To make continuous learning a hallmark of Catholic education, maintaining high standards of academic excellence, while encouraging students to discover and fulfill their individual potential.

Dynamic Community Relationships: To develop and maintain strong relationships with the extended community and supporting parishes.

Financial Sustainability & Advancement: To foster a spirit of unity and mutual support among the schools, parishes and community for the long term success of the schools and parishes and to secure the financial future of Catholic education.



From the Administrator's Office:

Aquinas and St. Mary’s Schools have a storied tradition of providing our children with a strong Catholic educational system for over 50 years. The schools and the community have worked together to build a vibrant school system that is authentically Catholic, academically exceptional, and provides our students with the ability to learn and grow in a compassionate environment. This collaborative effort by so many people has yielded a solid and distinctly Catholic school system.

Now, we look to the future to ensure that future generations of our children have the same opportunity for an affordable Catholic education. This summer the Aquinas and St. Mary’s faculty, staff, our families and community members started the process of building a long term Strategic Plan for our Catholic schools. This plan will reflect our mission as a Christ-centered educational system that is affordable for all students, with a strong and stable financial future.

I am pleased to present the 2015-2020 Aquinas & St. Mary’s Strategic Plan that has a singular focus on ensuring that the children, grandchildren and future children in our communities will have a Catholic school that is sustained by a solid and safe foundation.

The plan is built on a broad perspective from hosting Strategic Planning meetings, Open Forum meetings, individual and group interviews and engaging in discussions with students, parents, staff and benefactors. The Strategic Plan is built for the communities that support our schools, by the community members, along with the staff and administration, as a collaborative effort to guide our schools into the future.

I am grateful to all those that have participated in the process and I ask that you pray for the success of the plan, as we pray for you.

Fr. Zimmerman
Chief Administrative Officer



Goal

To create a positive student-centered experience with a spirit of achievement, unity and mutual support.

Strategies

- I. To provide an educational environment that develops the whole child – spiritually, intellectually, creatively, and physically.
- II. To support each individual child to discover their unique talents and abilities to encourage them to become the best version of themselves.
- III. To maintain a strong, compassionate student life by knowing each individual student and their family, their challenges, their relationships and their talents.
- IV. To provide dynamic extracurricular offerings to ensure a broad range of activities and student involvement.
- VI. To consider any new programs or activities from the perspective of the overall benefits for students and their development.

Pillar One
Supportive Student Life

Goal

To sustain a fully integrated Catholic culture that encompasses Gospel values, the sacraments, and service to others as we live and celebrate the vitality of our faith.

Strategies

- I. To live the Catholic faith in all aspects of our schools in order to develop life-long Catholics who contribute to the evangelizing mission of the Church.
- II. To prepare students to develop and defend their Catholic faith.
- III. To encourage and integrate opportunities for leadership and service.
- IV. To encourage activities that enhances faith development in our families and the extended community.
- V. To provide activities that enhances faith development of our alumni, particularly recent graduates and young adults.



Pillar Two

Sacred Catholic Foundation

Goal

To make continuous learning a hallmark of Catholic education, maintaining high standards of academic excellence, while encouraging students to discover and fulfill their individual potential.

Strategies

- I. To provide broad-based learning opportunities, implemented through effective instruction methods to meet the diverse academic needs of students.
- II. To integrate technology throughout the curriculum to meet student and faculty needs.
- III. To embrace passionate and dedicated teachers and to provide them with opportunities for personal and professional growth.
- IV. To enhance the guidance curriculum to address the personal and social development of students and to assist students in exploring educational and career opportunities.



Pillar Three

Exceptional Learning Environment



Pillar Four
Dynamic Community Relationships

Goal

To develop and maintain strong relationships with the extended community and supporting parishes.

Strategies

- I. To ensure open communication among our students, faculty, administration and families.
- II. To develop strategies to strengthen engagement between the schools and families.
- III. To explore new ways to develop and strengthen outreach and engagement with supporting parishes and the extended community.
- IV. To maintain and enhance personal relationships with alumni and benefactors.

Goal

To foster a spirit of unity and mutual support among the schools, parishes and community for the long term success of the schools and parishes and to secure the financial future of Catholic education.

Strategies

- I. To create and maintain an equitable mix of funding sources that ensures affordable Catholic education for any student and long term financial sustainability of the schools and parishes.
- II. To provide a fair salary and benefits package for faculty and staff.
- III. To enhance enrollment strategies to optimize student to staff ratio.
- IV. To review the costs and benefits of the bus service to optimize busing resources.
- V. To create transparency in student educational costs and school finances.
- VI. To enhance development and funding strategies based on financial projections and needs.
- VII. To explore extended care and pre-school options to encourage parents to consider Catholic education.



Pillar Five

Financial Sustainability & Advancement

Strategic Planning Committee

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Chief Administrative Officer of Aquinas and St. Mary's, Pius X Graduate, Pastor of St. Francis Parish- David City

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