

Aquinas & St. Mary's Catholic Schools

Strategic Plan 2020-2025



from the Chief Administrator

All of our lives were turned upside down in mid-March. When our school buildings had to close because of COVID-19, we were nearing the end of our Strategic Planning meetings for the 2020-2025 Plan. We had an amazing team assembled that included faculty and staff members, parents, and community members that strongly desire the present and future success of Aquinas-St. Mary's Catholic Schools. Thanks be to God, most of the "heavy lifting" had already been accomplished in our meetings, and the finishing touches were applied just recently.

I am happy to present the 2020-2025 Aquinas-St. Mary's Strategic Plan. Our focus has been to ensure that our surrounding communities' children and future children will have a Catholic school that is fortified by a solid and safe foundation. This Strategic Plan will be the living document that guides us for the next five years in the areas of academics, Catholic identity, community relationships, student life, and financial advancement.

We are grateful to all of those who have participated in this process, and we ask that you pray for the success of our plan, as we pray for you.

Fr. Sean Timmerman

Mission Statement

"The Mission of Aquinas and St. Mary's Catholic schools community is to provide a Christ-centered learning environment to develop individuals to be disciples of Christ in all areas of their lives."

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.

SUPPORTIVE STUDENT LIFE

- 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.



SACRED CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

- 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.



EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- 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.



DYNAMIC COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

- 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.



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY & ADVANCEMENT

- 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 create transparency in student educational costs and school finances.
- V. To enhance development and funding strategies based on financial projections and needs.



STRATEGIC PLANING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Pillar One--Supportive Student Life

Lindsey Crook, Eric DeWispelare, Carly Eller, Chad Fuller, Nathan Wall, Rachel Wisnieski, Melissa Yindrick, and Sarah Zook

Pillar Two--Sacred Catholic Foundation

Fr. Jay Buhman, Pam Comte, Mary Coufal, Cortney Hein, Fr. Ben Holdren, Tricia Koranda, Laura Moravec, Beth Nemec, Ali Prochaska, and Bill Yindrick

Pillar Three--Exceptional Learning Environment

Alison Fozzard, Shelly Mayo, Jessica Miller, Jody Pelan, Christina Podolak, and John Svec

Pillar Four--Dynamic Community Relations

Laura Adair, Kyle Eller, Katie Healy, Cole Ratkovec, Beth Roh, Kristin Scheele, Melissa Schneider, Deb Svec, and Megan Zimmerman

Pillar Five--Financial Sustainability & Advancement

Karey Adamy, Mike Adamy, Becky Junck, Mike Moravec, Marissa Roh, Tony Smith, Fr. Sean Timmerman, Austin Witmer, and Sarah Zook