

- St. Thomas Aquinas Academy's enrollment grew by 9% this year despite the economic downturn.
- Expenses have been reduced by almost \$200,000 by closing the Holy Family campus and sharing of personnel.
- Catholic Central High School is the only Catholic high school north of Green Bay and there are no Catholic high schools in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.
- The Catholic Central High School Foundation, operated independently from the academy, uses investment earnings to help the Academy.
- STAA has opportunities in The Angel Donor Program that sponsors tuition for individual students or specific families in the elementary, middle, and high school.

Supporters and benefactors of the Academy have a right to be proud of its academic achievements and, most importantly, of its community of young Catholic learners.

The 2009/2010 school year is a crucial one for the Academy.

To continue program expansion for our students and grow our enrollment, the Academy must raise sufficient funds in the 2009/2010 Annual Giving Campaign to retire a portion of our existing debt and to be ready to meet an anticipated budgetary shortfall.

The goal for this Campaign is \$300,000.

Levels of Giving

These levels may be acquired with a donation or pledge for the 2009/2010 Annual Giving Campaign. Acknowledgements will be made in upcoming newsletters and reports and on the Donor Wall in the High School Gym Entryway.

* \$5,000 or more
Executive Partner in Learning

"Man should not consider his material possession his own, but as common to all, so as to share them without hesitation when others are in need."

* \$1,000-\$4,999
Partner in Learning

"Love takes up where knowledge leaves off."

*\$500-\$999
Colleague in Learning

"Wonder is the desire for knowledge."

*\$250-\$499
Associate in Learning

"Give, expecting nothing thereof."

* Up to \$249
Friend in Learning

"Friendship is the source of the greatest pleasures, and without friends even the most agreeable pursuits become tedious."

Students in financial need can be sponsored or 'adopted' for a semester, a year, or any number of years. Sponsorship can cover full tuition or a percentage.

Our alumni are a shining example of how our school (Saint Thomas Aquinas Academy, Catholic Central High School and Lourdes Academy) has prepared its students for the future.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

This is a follow-up to the Fall 2009 Annual Giving Campaign Newsletter sent the week of December 6. The following gives a more personal look at the school including letters from parents, alumni and teachers. The 2009 / 2010 Annual Giving Campaign is a crucial piece of the future success of the academy.

- \$300,000 goal
- \$72,000 of the goal is to pay down past due debt
- Remaining amount will pay back long term loans and help build a nest egg for the 2010 / 2011 school year
- If each of the 2840 alumni and friends would give \$100 we would surpass our goal and have a sizable fund available for school improvements
- The St. Thomas Aquinas Auction will be on Sunday, March 14
- This year's Holiday Home Tour featured homes from three CCHS alumni; Eric Bulen '90, John Kuber '68 and Ken Seymour '90 along with the Tour Cocktail party at the home of Mary Staudenmaier '56

As parents of four children and being transplants from outside the area, we were looking for a school that offered a family atmosphere, high academic standards and a safe and inviting environment. After nine years at St. Thomas Aquinas Academy, we are happy to report that we have found all three plus more.

The Marinette / Menominee / Peshtigo area is blessed with fine public schools. However, we strongly feel that St. Thomas Aquinas Academy offers superior education. Test scores, comments from recent alumni in college, and reports from children who moved to other schools confirm our belief that St. Thomas Aquinas Academy's academics offers the best education in the area.

While spending time at the two campuses, we appreciate the similar morals and values shared by the diverse families attending the school. Our children benefit from the safety and security of such a family centered atmosphere that is rooted in Christian compassion and respect for one another.

We ask each of you to please consider the impact the school has made on your life and continues to make on other students. With the downturn in the economy, we need your prayers and financial support more than ever. Please pray for our school and consider making a donation to continue the legacy of our academy family.

Joe & Beth Beranek

- Cash
- Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds
- Life Insurance
- Memorial Gifts
- Wills and Charitable Bequest
- Business gifts
- Real Estate and Personal Property
- Annuities, Living Trusts and
- Special Needs Trusts

2009/2010 Annual Giving

Did you know?

STAA needs *YOUR* Support!



Become an Angel Donor



Forms of Giving

Parent

Catholic Central / St. Thomas Aquinas Academy has made a difference in many lives.

Since we are a smaller school we get to know each other better, like a family, and we share many triumphs and sorrows together. I am filled with emotion remembering many students (26 years) and their journeys in math and computer. I remember tutoring sessions, phone calls, projects in class, questions "how do I do this." I am amazed at how fast students learn, how generous they are with service to their neighbor, and how committed and dedicated they are to their studies. They become awesome adults and are a special gift. I fondly recall those who return to remind me of how hard I was on them and how grateful they are now. As you remember the school, I hope your memories of your time here are as special as mine are.

With loving memories,
Miss K.
(Marlene Kyllonen)

If someone would have told me 25 years ago that some day my children would be attending St. Thomas Aquinas Academy, I would have never believed them. But today, I am the proud parent of a 7th grader and 4th grader who share the same love for the school that I did when I was there in the 80's. I get a bit misty at times seeing them singing with Mrs. Rice or passing Ms. Fritz in the hallway and wondering where the time has gone. But I also realize in the crazy world we live in, that they are getting a foundation that will take them anywhere they want to go. As alumni, we are now being called to put our money where our heart is and financially contribute to save this school. If every alumni who reads this would donate \$100 we would be well over our goal. I want to see my kids graduate from The Academy and I am asking you, my friends, to please help us achieve our goal. Your tax deductible contribution will insure the future of our school. Go Cavaliers!

Lori Langer Paul '84

21st century education demands that each student learn to the best of their own ability. Many students struggle with ADD/ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Learning Disabilities, Cognitive Delays, or may be under challenged Gifted and Talented learners. Whatever the challenge is, the Resource Room at St. Thomas Aquinas Academy strives to provide for the specific needs of individual learners. Here, we recognize each child as an individual gift from God whose talents and abilities are different from their peers. In the Resource Room, our focus is to help the individual learn using the modality that works best for them.

Our Supportive Consultants provide students the support they need to succeed. Students who need visual supports may be provided visual prompts that enable them to complete their work without further teacher intervention. Those struggling with attention challenges might use sensory aides that enable the brain to focus differently. Students on the Autism Spectrum have the opportunity to learn strategies for coping with anxiety or stress, as well as get needed assistance with social and communication difficulties. Gifted and Talented students can learn to cope with their

own social and emotional challenges as well as meet their need to progress at a rate that is uniquely theirs. Those who require help communicating their knowledge can use assistive technology designed specifically for them. Organizational skills are also addressed through the Resource Room.

This year, I am teaching individualized math and reading as well. Students in my math class are learning using an online program designed by the National Science Foundation. The program, set to state standards, allows students to master skills, learning at their own pace. My reading class is part of Wilson phonics and teaches reading and spelling within a concentrated word study program.

The Supportive Consultant program has only been in place for one year and already some of our students who have struggled in other educational environments have found success and self-confidence at St. Thomas. Through our school year program, as well as our summer school, we have helped students reduce the need for medications and advance their academic achievement. It is my hope that we can continue to provide for those already here as well as expand our program to meet the needs of more students in our community.

Having graduated from St. Norbert College 26 years ago, I have worked in education my entire career. I have extensive training in Autism, Gifted and Talented, Reading, and Sensory Integration. My work with students at the Academy is some of the most rewarding and uplifting work I have done. Every day I have the opportunity to see the light of learning open up a new world to my students. To be able to help a child work through their disability and develop the confidence to allow their real gifts to shine through is truly a blessing.

Janet Gustman
Middle School Supportive Consultant

The academy website is a great way to reconnect with your school. If you just can't find the name of an old friend from school just look at the class rosters posted all the way back to 1910. Visit the site at <http://www.thomas-aquinas.org>

Return Form

- ___ I am pleased to support STAA with a gift of \$ _____. This gift will be designated for the greatest need unless specified otherwise.
- ___ Enclosed is my first contribution of \$ _____. With _____ installments over the next ___1 ___2 ___3 years.
- ___ I have already remembered STAA in my will, life insurance, annuity or trust. Please see the enclosed referenced information.
- ___ Tuition Assistance Fund gift of \$ _____
- ___ Angel Donor for a specific student or family in need . *We will contact you to set up the details

Name _____
Address: _____
City _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

Teacher

Alumni & Parent

Teacher

*Please make check payable to: STAA
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
1200 Main Street
Marinette, WI 54143*