

From the Superintendent's Office...

February, 2011

Following is an update regarding Aquin Catholic Schools:

"We are a family; we learn together and support each other." -Clare Curry and Keely Scace

"Aquin students, on balance, are typical American children. It's the Aquin system that produces excellence." - Mike Shippy

Calendar

- Snow days makeup: Friday, February 18 (1/2 day); Easter Monday, April 25 (full day); and May 31 (1/2 day).
- May 23, 24, 25 High School Final Exams
- May 24 High School Baccalaureate
- May 26 6th grade Graduation; High School Institute day
- May 27 8th grade graduation; Elementary School Institute day

Service

Birthday boxes for Salvation Army and F.A.C.C.; school supplies for Hope Rural School in Florida (many students are children of migrant workers); food drive for FACC; Christmas gifts for Head Start; Crosstown Classic (\$3,300 donated to McCarthy family); visits, Christmas ornaments, and valentines for Provena; letters to veterans; blood drive; rosaries and birthing kits for Haiti; coats for Salvation Army; gift cards for tornado victims at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., donations to Humane Society.

Celebration

- **Thanksgiving feast** for elementary students, staff, and school neighbors - a gift from Mrs. Diane Potts.
- **Elementary Christmas program:** a beautiful production held at Freeport Faith Center (across from Aquin Elementary School) - what terrific neighbors!
- **Ring Ceremony:** January 5th, Juniors' class rings were blessed by Fr. Mike Bolger; each junior received a candle from a member of the senior class symbolizing the ongoing Aquin heritage and the light of Christ they are asked to bring to others.
- **Illinois State Scholars:** Liz Bald, Austin Collins, Clare Ehlbeck, Zach Martin, David Murley, BethAnn Pospischil, and Ryan Zuravel.
- **IHSA All-State Academic Team** nominees: Clare Ehlbeck and Ryan Zuravel
- **Spelling Bee:** TomE Fellers (1st), Jaryd Whitmore (2nd), Korey Steil and Matthew Martinez (alternates)
- **Geography Bee:** Danny Guilliams (1st), TomE Fellers (2nd)
- **National Honor Society:** (criteria: character, leadership, scholarship (minimum 3.5 GPA), and service; candidates are selected by faculty vote): Tyler Altfillisch, Erich Awender, Liz Bald, Nolan Brannick, Sophie Brunner, Aubrey Chang, Lucas Diemer, Clare Ehlbeck, Elayna Erdmier, Alex Jelinek, Zach Martin, David Murley, BethAnn Pospischil, Morgan Reining, Paul Skonieczny, Morgan Thomalla, Ashley Townsend, Brooke Welser, and Ryan Zuravel.
- **Elementary aides:** Aubrey Chang, Brooke Bausman, Kaitlyn Doty, Brooke Welser, and Angela Zarnick help in the classrooms.
- **Peer mentoring:** high school students mentor and tutor younger students.
- **PAWS (Pro-life Advocates Willing to Stand):** Tyler Altfillisch, Dani Bald, Liz Bald, Brooke Bausman, Clare Ehlbeck, Kayla Harn, Krischan Heitz, and Brooke Welser traveled to Washington D.C. to participate in the pro-life activities on the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade (Supreme Court decision allowing abortion).

- **Catholic Schools Week:** elementary students spent the day at the high school for lunch and fun activities.
- **Certificate of Employability:** high school students who meet the designated criteria (academic, attitude, and attendance) are recognized as worthy candidates for employment by Freeport area businesses.

FACILITIES

High School

- New projector, screen, and sound system upgrades in auditorium (donation)
- Tree trunk carving (donation)
- Activity bus (Aquin Open & donations)
- Remodeled restrooms in gym lobby (alumnus donation)

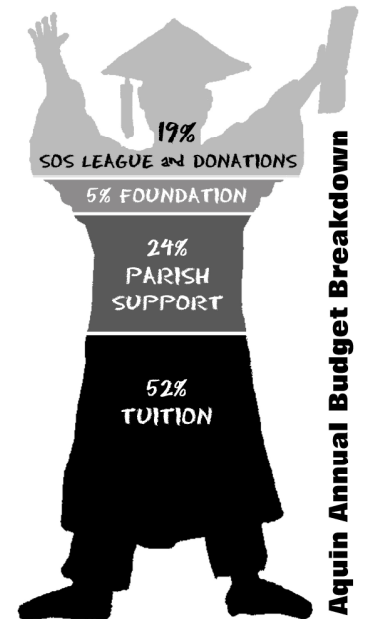
Elementary

- Completed hall murals (Mrs. Laura Diemer and volunteers)
- Security camera for Extended Care
- Dry erase boards in classrooms
- Boiler repairs
- Computer lab with computer teacher
- Planned: new digital signs on building (donation)

FINANCIAL

- Asbestos abatement: scheduled for summer 2011; approximately \$10,000.
- Fundraising 2010-2011:

Adesse	\$23,000 (budgeted)	\$18,000 (actual)
DawgFest	\$19,000 (budgeted)	\$11,800 (actual)
Annual Appeal	\$10,000 (budgeted)	\$ 6,480 (actual)
Extravaganza	\$68,000 (budgeted)	
- **2011-2012 Budget**
 - Tuition will remain at current 2010-11 rate
 - Reduced parish assessments (\$19,719 reduction)
 - Health insurance will increase by 3% (school must pay for all full-time employees @ \$8,400 per employee)
 - **Difficult Challenge: With revenue at or below current year we have to CUT EXPENSES IN 2011-12.**



- **HELP MARKET AQUIN - INCREASED ENROLLMENT WILL HELP WITH REVENUE!**

REGISTRATION

*Pre-Registration

- Current students go to TeacherEase under “Miscellaneous”; deadline is February 25.
- New students go to Aquin website.

*Online Registration: TBA

- Tuition Contract: supply information online, print, return to school on designated date.
- Parent and student signature pages: print and return to school on designated date.
- Course selection for current grades 6-11
- Finalize Registration: Turn in tuition contract, signature, and pay registration fee; date TBA
- 6th Grade visit (TBA)