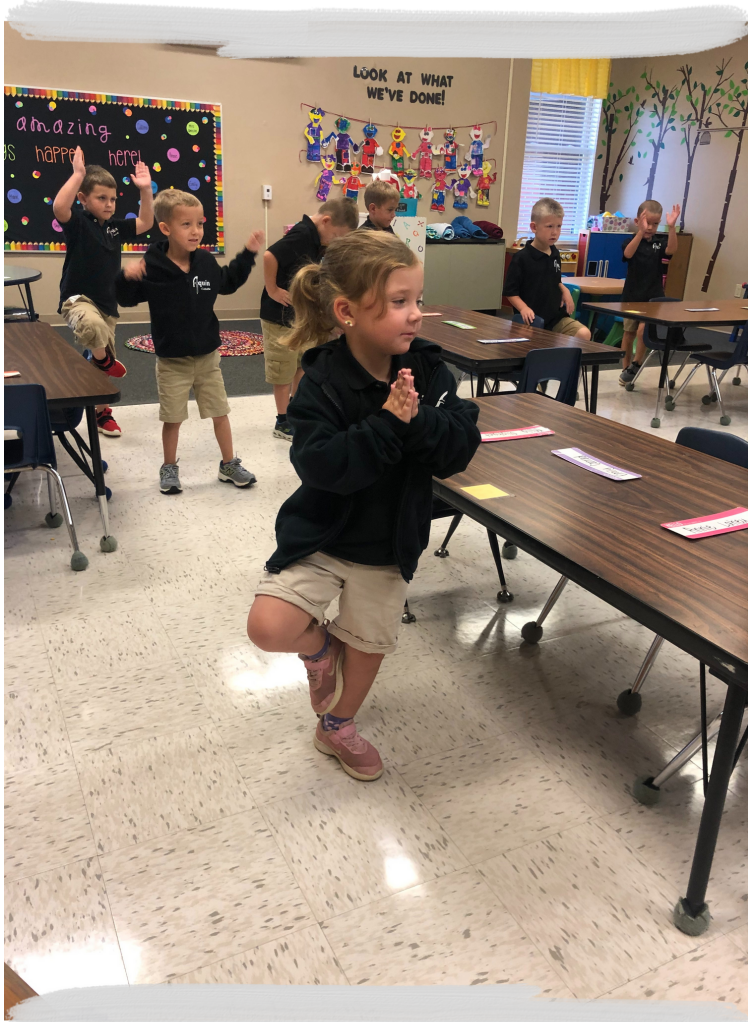


AQUINO CATHOLIC SCHOOL



STRATEGIC PLAN

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

My husband and I are both products of Catholic education. When our children were of age to begin attending school, there was no question that we would decide to enroll them in our local Catholic school. We have both experienced the Holy Spirit at work within the walls of the institutions we attended, and we wanted our children to experience that same fulfillment.

The Holy Spirit has continued to guide me as I have spent my entire professional career within the Catholic school system. Catholic schools are a special place of faith and academic excellence.

Our strategic plan ensures Aquin Catholic school will grow and prosper as we adapt to our ever changing world. The changes we make will allow for great opportunities, as well as challenges, to move forward. Our strategic planning committee (including administrators, teachers, board members, parents, parish representatives, and archdiocesan liaisons), will continue to improve this plan.

Within our strategic plan, we have addressed four areas of our school community: Academic Excellence, Mission and Catholic Identity, Leadership and Governance, and Operational Vitality. At Aquin, everything we do circles back to our mission where our faculty and staff are personally invested in educating the whole child, empowering students to reach their full potential and developing a closer relationship with God. In turn, our students are inspired to become lifelong learners firmly rooted in values of compassion, generosity and service to the church, community, and global world.

We ask that you continue to pray for our school, the committee members, and our students and staff. We appreciate your prayers as we work on this project and continue to move Aquin towards excellence.

Laura Herbers
#beloved #beaquin



LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parents and Benefactors of Aquin Catholic School and the St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate,

An important aspect of our life in the Body of Christ, the Church, is to enjoy the present moment, and all that each new day offers. The Aquin students have certainly given me a boost in enjoying each day during this past year. Their enthusiasm for learning about our faith, hearing about the lives of the saints, and their energy at Mass has brought many smiles to my face and the faces of our parishioners.

Another important aspect of our faith is to look to our future with God in heaven. For this reason, we encourage our students to be "lifelong" learners, especially when it comes to investing themselves in their faith in God and the Church. In our Aquin Catholic School mission statement, we have this goal:

"Our students (will be) inspired to become lifelong learners firmly rooted in values of compassion, generosity and service to the church, community, and global world."

To be a lifelong learner requires strategic planning and commitment by our students, parents, faculty, and staff members. This goal requires a desire to not only consider our day to day curriculum, but also a careful consideration of the "big picture" as we help our students to prepare for their contribution to our community and the wider world. For this reason, our administrators, faculty and staff have been composing this strategic plan for Aquin Catholic School. I am grateful for Vicki Palmer's leadership in helping to form this plan, and have confidence that Laura Herbers, as our new principal, will continue our strategic planning process.

We are grateful for your support of our efforts to strategically plan at Aquin Catholic School, so that our students can grow into God's plan for their lives, and generously offer their service to our communities, our nation, and our world.

May God bless you for your generous support!

Fr. Mark Osterhaus
Pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate



MISSION

Aquin Catholic School is an exceptional family-centered early childhood through eighth-grade educational program that serves students in Cascade and surrounding communities. Aquin's faculty and staff are personally invested in educating the whole child, empowering students to reach their full potential and developing a close relationship with God. Our students are inspired to become lifelong learners firmly rooted in values of compassion, generosity and service to the church, community, and global world.

VISION

Aquin Catholic School will be a faith and learning community recognized for its academic excellence, student-centered curriculum and service.



GRADUATE PROFILE

Academic:

- Independently seek knowledge and understanding
- Exhibit a capacity for creative and critical thinking and problem-solving
- Demonstrate strong work ethic and self-discipline through organizational skills, study habits, and time management
- Effectively communicate information and articulate ideas through written and spoken language
- Utilize technology in the learning process
- Analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information from a wide range of digital and print sources

Spiritual:

- Possess knowledge and understanding of Catholic teachings and gospel values as well as their implications for action in service to others
- Evaluate moral choices and issues based on well-formed conscience and the teachings of the Church
- Develop a personal relationship with God through prayer, liturgy, and a sacramental life
- Recognize and share the unique talents given by God
- Seek continual faith formation and be an active member of the faith community
- Appreciate the uniqueness, dignity, and value of every person

Social:

- Collaborate and build community in educational and social settings
- Show respect and appreciation for diversity and individual differences
- Balance academic expectations with extra-curricular involvement
- Act with compassion, kindness, and respect towards others
- Understand the principles of Catholic social and moral teachings, including securing justice for others, respecting the rights of others, upholding human dignity, and accepting ownership of one's actions

Service:

- Recognize the needs of others, both locally and globally, and experience the personal rewards of helping others
- Use the gifts, talents, and blessings from God to be of service to others
- Actively engage in supporting the physical and spiritual needs of others

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE GOAL

Aquin will promote and enhance educational opportunities for all students while ensuring the continuation of a nurturing and family-centered environment.

MISSION AND CATHOLIC IDENTITY GOAL

Aquin will foster greater participation in worship and faith formation among our Aquin families and staff.

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE GOAL

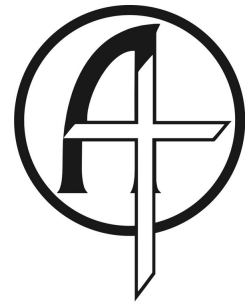
Aquin will equip the Board of Education and Finance committee to expand their roles and engagement in actively securing the long-term vitality of the school.

OPERATIONAL VITALITY GOAL

Aquin will continue to be fiscally responsible and engage in multi-year financial, facilities and enrollment planning to ensure long-term sustainability.



GOAL 1



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

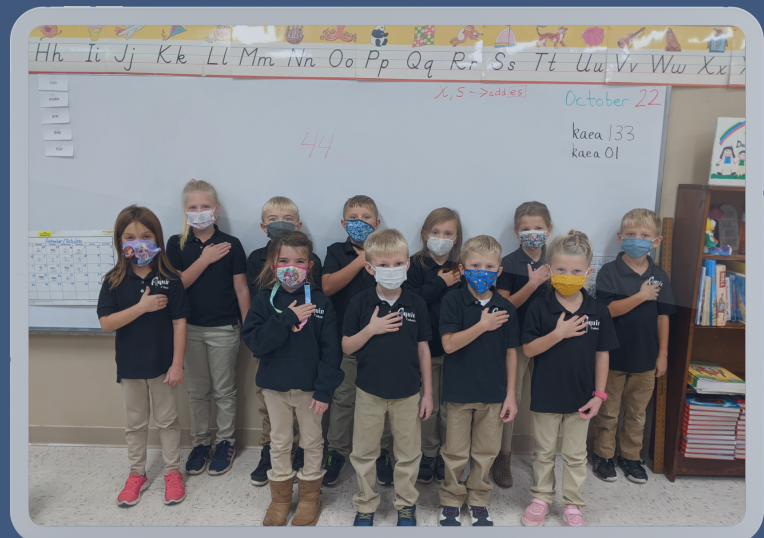
Aquin will promote and enhance educational opportunities for all students while ensuring the continuation of a nurturing and family-centered environment.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE A

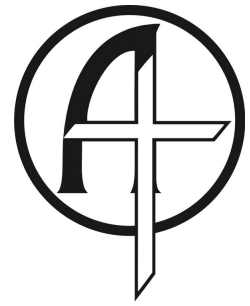
To establish and maintain a curriculum review cycle.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE B

To expand opportunities for all learners by strengthening enrichment programs and resource programming.



GOAL 2



MISSION AND CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Aquin will celebrate its identity as a parish school and grow opportunities for collaboration within the community.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE A

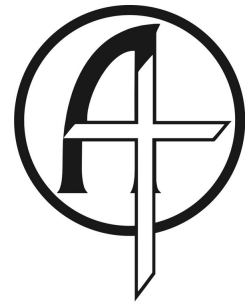
To provide more faith formation opportunities for our staff and students each trimester.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE B

To communicate monthly information to our families using FORMED, messages from parish leaders and other resources.



GOAL 3



LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

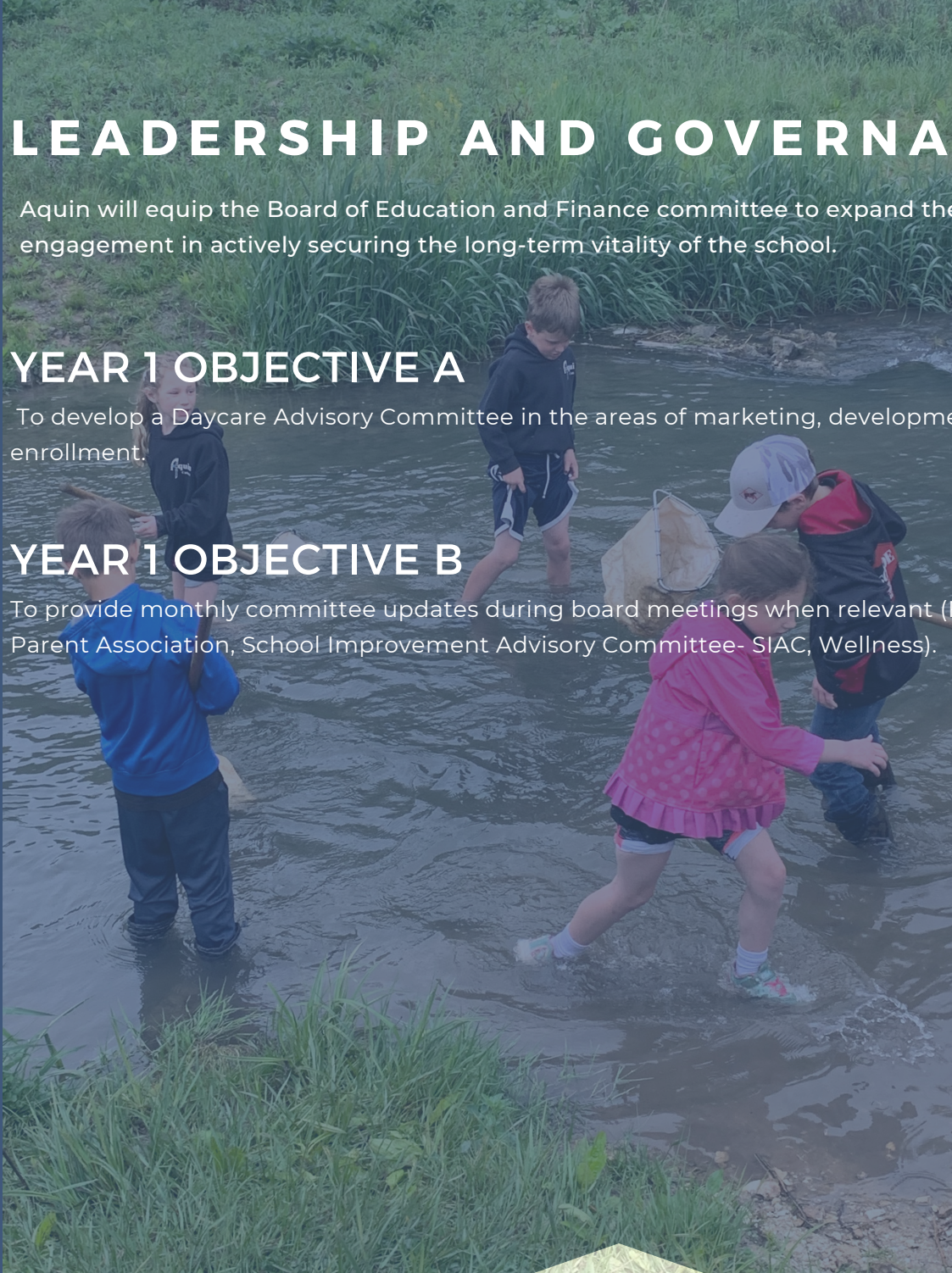
Aquin will equip the Board of Education and Finance committee to expand their roles and engagement in actively securing the long-term vitality of the school.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE A

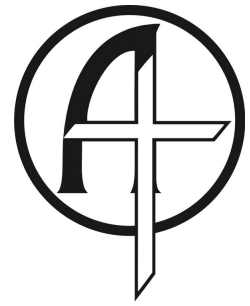
To develop a Daycare Advisory Committee in the areas of marketing, development and enrollment.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE B

To provide monthly committee updates during board meetings when relevant (For example: Parent Association, School Improvement Advisory Committee- SIAC, Wellness).



GOAL 4



OPERATIONAL VITALITY

Goal: Aquin will continue to be fiscally responsible and engage in multi-year financial, facilities and enrollment planning to ensure long term sustainability.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE A

To identify short and long range projects and to determine funding sources.

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVE B

To form a scrip committee to help educate and promote this fundraising opportunity to the Aquin families and parish.

