

Letter from the Principal

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL building a strong foundation in faith and knowledge

For 100 years Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic School has provided an academic environment with a mission to cultivate the mind, body and spirit of the students and families that it serves from Fairfield and its surrounding towns. Established in 1921, our school has become one of the premier educational institutions in Fairfield County, with approximately 300 students in Pre-K3 through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Our school is also recognized as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the United States Department of Education.

Today we are writing to ask that you support our wonderful school by being a corporate sponsor.

Over the last year we have had to rise to the occasion to meet unprecedented challenges in order to maintain our model of outstanding programming in faith, education and personal growth. I am proud to say that thanks to the work of our incredible teachers and faculty, the dedication of our students, parents and community and with financial support from generous donors like you, we've been able to deliver in-person learning for our students safely.

We have invested in health and safety measures, in technology to advance and augment our in classroom programs, and in our teachers, without whom our school wouldn't be able to deliver the excellence in education our students and community have come to know.

As demands on our resources grow, so too does our financial need, not just for programs that keep our academics on the cutting edge, but for our families, many of whom have been hit hard by the economic circumstances brought about by the pandemic.

This academic year we were able to deliver \$30,875 in new scholarship funds to our families. We invested in classroom technology to make sure that our students have the resources they need, including chrome books and personalized learning programs that will help them compete now, and in the future.

As we look ahead to our growing needs and the interest from our community in providing a Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic School education, I humbly ask for your financial support. Each and every dollar given through our corporate sponsor program will be reinvested in providing the highest quality education to as many students in our community as we can.

This year our goal is to raise funds to grow our scholarship program, to continue to invest in our STEM programming and in our teachers, who have and continue to work with steadfast dedication and optimism to make this school year possible.

Attached you will find an outline of our corporate sponsor program. We are so grateful for your consideration and your support of our school community.

With warmest wishes and God's blessings for your consideration and kindness.

Patrick D. Higgins, Ed.D. Principal

As an education organization operated by the Roman Catholic Church, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School LLC is exempt from federal income tax under the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Federal Employee ID# 36-4791031.





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# HISTORY

Since 1921, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School has remained a consistently sought-after faith-based educational institution for students of Fairfield, CT and its surrounding areas.



### AWARD-WINNING

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School is recognized nationally as a **"Blue Ribbon"** School. "The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence, or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. The U.S. Department of Education seeks out and celebrates great American schools, schools demonstrating that all students can achieve to high levels."<sup>1</sup>

# MISSION STATEMENT

Our school community strives for academic excellence in a faithfilled Catholic environment that encourages children to reach their full potential and to become life-long learners. By word and example, we teach our students to model Christ's message of love.

# STATISTICS

- 297 Students-53% boys/47% girls
- Three Educational Levels:
  - Primary: Pre-K3-2nd grade
  - Intermediate: 3rd-5th grade
  - Middle: 6th-8th grade
- **Consistent enrollment** two classrooms per grade
- Students score well above the national average on standardized tests
- Average tuition per student- \$8,000/yr
- Tuition Assistance for Students in Need 15% of students currently receive assistance
- Students are residents of Fairfield, Bridgeport, Derby, Easton, Milford, Monroe, Norwalk, Darien, Shelton, Southport, Stratford, Trumbull, West Haven, and Westport

- 40 Faculty and Staff Members
- Dress code-Uniforms
- Active Home School Parent Association
- 25+ field trips/year to extend learning beyond the classroom (normal year)
- Students are accepted and excel at high schools of their choice including Fairfield Prep, Lauralton Hall, St. Joseph High, Notre Dame of Fairfield, Notre Dame of West Haven, Hopkins, Greens Farms Academy, Regis, and Sacred Heart Academy
- Extensive enrichment programs after school related to art, music, sports, science, service and fitness



## CULTURE OF GIVING

Community Service is fundamental to the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School culture. Each year the students reach out to others in service. The goal of the program is to assist students in understanding service as a way of life, and encouraging them to demonstrate values by planning and implementing a coordinated, school-wide effort. The focus is set by educational level:

**PRIMARY** Service to the elderly INTERMEDIATE Service to children who are facing illness and their caretakers MIDDLE Service to the poor through social justice



In addition to the grade level projects, St. Thomas Aquinas operates with the philosophy that kindness matters. Students also lead school-wide service initiatives including a Peanut Butter Jelly Drive for in-need Pre-K programs, donations of shoes to developing countries — setting a national record of shoes donated and named "The Kindest School in America," care packages for the military, Thanksgiving food drives, hair donation for childhood cancer patients, St. Baldrick's, and food to table initiatives for Operation Hope from our "Giving Garden". These are just a few examples of service programs that the school sponsors.

### CURRICULUM

The curriculum is designed to provide an effective foundation for higher learning. With a strong focus on language arts, math, and science, the curriculum also integrates religion, humanities, history, French and Spanish languages into the daily routine. In addition, music, physical education, art, library/technology classes are offered throughout the week.

Our math program incorporates three tiers of study: Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, and select students taking Geometry.

66 This is a community sincerely committed to the total development and well being of the kids. The good feelings are infectious. 99

— Joseph, Current Parent

# TECHNOLOGY HIGHLIGHTS

- Newly renovated Academic Resource Center
- Touch Screen Displays in every classroom
- Android tablet carts available for all grades
- Touchscreen Chromebook centers in grade 1-5 classrooms
- 300+ Touchscreen Chromebooks
- Google Classroom & Apps
- 3D printer in computer lab
- Chromecast display devices
- Digital content subscriptions
- **Personalized Learning:** IXL, Edmentum, Discovery Ed, Exact Path

#### **SECURITY**

- Secured entry and multi-camera exterior & interior monitoring
- Formalized drills and regular review of best practices

#### **BEYOND THE BELL**

A number of after school activities are offered as part of student enrichment. Activities recently included: Orchestra, Band, Chess, STEM, Math Lab, Multi-Sport Games, Running Club, Kindness Crew, Science Club, Sportsplex of Fairfield, "Giving Garden" Programs, Art Classes, and YMCA Swimming.

In addition, children can take part in extracurricular programs such as: Altar Serving, Choir, National Junior Honor Society, Spring Musical Production, Scouting, Student Council, Newspaper and Yearbook.

### **SPORTS**

Sports include Basketball, Cross Country, Tennis, and Golf.

For additional information, please contact: Barbara Turner, *Director of Admissions* 

Barbara.Turner@stasonline.net (203) 255-0556 ext. 225



St. Thomas is offering Platinum and Gold sponsors of the 2021 Spring to Auction access to promote their business through **Lamar Outdoor Advertising's Digital Billboard** location at the exit 25 off ramp on I-95. This is Lamar's Premier Digital Billboard for targeting Fairfield County. This board is seen by traffic heading south on I-95 and is a right hand read at the Black Rock neighborhood. The I-95 southbound traffic backs up here for hours every weekday morning so local commuter traffic will see your message repeatedly.

Digital Billboards are computer-controlled electronic displays with capabilities that take out-of-home advertising to a new level. Digital is perfect for the advertiser who wants to change their message multiple times during a campaign. Cutting-edge dynamic content makes digital even more effective. Lamar boards can stream posts from social media, show live scores and countdowns, respond to local weather conditions, traffic, and more. The creative rotates in a looping slide show, with each ad typically showing for 8 seconds before the next is displayed.

### **Digital Billboard Benefits:**

- 423,091 weekly impressions per spot.
- Located on I-95, one of 2 major north south highways in CT. Seen by morning rush hour traffic.
- Change your message as often as you want with no production or installation cost.
- The perfect medium for advertising breaking news, one-day sales, and special events.
- Stream live data and user-generated content from your website or social media platform in real time.
- Your ad is displayed on the board within minutes of being uploaded.





Sponsorship Benefits

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St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School is delighted to offer the following benefits to sponsors of the 2021 Spring to Auction.

PLATINUM \$5,000 Level – Same benefits as the \$2,500 level, plus:

**Significant advertising exposure on electronic billboard on I-95:** Sponsor advertising will be expanded to guarantee at least **200 flips per sponsor** during a 24-hour period.

**Prominent logo placement on auction website, mobile devices and auction scoreboard**: Logo will be featured for an extended length of time on the Spring to Auction website (BidPal.net/springtoauction), the mobile bidding app (on all guests' smartphones), as well as multiple large display screens which will highlight the latest results on funds raised, featured videos and auction items.

#### GOLD \$2,500 Level – Same benefits as the \$1,000 level, plus:

Advertising exposure on electronic billboard on I-95: Sponsor advertising will be included on a dedicated, digital billboard on I-95 in Fairfield with weekly impressions exceeding 430,000. The billboard is located at the South ramp of exit 25. The sponsor's ad will rotate with a minimum of 100 flips per sponsor during a 24-hour period and appear for a one month period in the Spring/Summer of 2021.

Significant logo placement on auction website, mobile devices and auction scoreboard: Sponsor will be recognized in Spring to Auction media and marketing materials, including significant placement on the auction website (BidPal.net/springtoauction), the mobile bidding app on guests' smartphones, and large video display screen which will highlight the latest results on funds raised, featured videos and auction items.

**Logo credit on event invitations:** Sponsor will be recognized with logo placement on event e-invitations which are sent to over 500+ patrons including St. Thomas Aquinas targeted friends, the school community and alumni.

#### SILVER \$1,000 Level – Same benefits as the \$500 level, plus:

Logo recognition: Sponsor logo will be credited in the following marketing materials

- Mobile bidding app on guests' smartphones
- 2021-22 School directory
- Banner on the Post Road
- Online thank you

- Event programs
- On-site signage
- Auction website

**Highlight a Sponsor Campaign:** The sponsor will be uniquely highlighted in a custom email campaign describing the sponsors relevant services and background with a direct link to the sponsor's website or call to action. This referral email will be distributed to the school community, alumni, targeted friends and patrons. The Highlight a Sponsor Campaign will feature one sponsor each, one-time on a weekday during the months of May and June.

#### COPPER \$500 Level

Named recognition: Sponsor name will be credited in the following marketing materials

- 2021-22 School directory 250+ distributed to the current families of St. Thomas Aquinas
- **Banner on the Post Road** Prominently displayed in front of St. Thomas Aquinas Church on the Post Road in Fairfield for the majority of the months of May and June, reaching a parish that has over 6,000 visitors and the general public.
- **Online thank you** Sponsor will be credited in a thank you ad on both the St. Thomas School website as well as on school's social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram.)
- Event programs 500+ electronically distributed to patrons of The Spring to Auction event.
- **On-site signage** During the months of May and June, credit on an event banner displayed prominently at the entrance of St Thomas Aquinas Catholic School.
- Auction website: BidPal.net/SpringToAuction

**2021-22 preferred vendor status:** Sponsor will be directly referred to the families of St. Thomas via a community-wide email (1,500 reach), school newsletter and in a preferred vendor listing in the 2021-22 school directory.

