



Coulee Catholic Schools

www.couleecatholicschools.org

Aquinas High School

Grade Levels 9 – 12
315 S. 11th Street
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 784-0287
(608) 782-8851 Fax
Principal: Ted Knutson

Aquinas Middle School

Grade Levels 7 – 8
315 S. 11th Street
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 784-0156
(608) 784-0229 Fax
Principal: Patty Gallagher-Kosmatka

Blessed Sacrament School

Grade Levels 3 – 6
2404 King Street
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 782-5564
(608) 782-7765 Fax
Principal: Kay Berra

Cathedral School

Grade Levels 4K – 2
1319 Ferry Street
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 782-5998
(608) 784-9933 Fax
Principal: John Stellflue

St. Patrick School

Grade Levels PS3 – 6
127 11th Avenue N.
Onalaska, WI 54650
(608) 783-5483
(608) 783-2128 Fax
Principal: Greg Wesely

Mary Mother of the Church Early Childhood Center

Ages 6 Weeks – 4K
Before & After School Care
2006 Weston Street
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 788-5225
Administrator: Kurt Nelson
Director: Val Breidel

Central Office

521 S. 13th Street
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 784-8585
(608) 784-9988 Fax
President: Kurt Nelson
Director of Development: Monica Herman
Development Specialist: Jenny Baertsch
Human Resources: Tracey Simpson
Controller: Tammy Byington
Finance Assistant: Mary Schaub

Media inquiries contact:

Jenny Baertsch
Development & Communications Specialist
jenny.baertsch@couleecatholicschools.org
(608) 784-0707 Ext. 28

For Immediate Release

Subject: Aquinas Named National Blue Ribbon School

Date: September 9, 2008

Aquinas Named National Blue Ribbon School

LA CROSSE, Wis. — In an announcement by U.S. Secretary of Education **Margaret Spellings** Tuesday afternoon, Aquinas High School was named a *2008 National Blue Ribbon School* by the U.S. Department of Education. Aquinas was honored for its academic excellence and ACT scores in the top 10% of the nation.

“The awards process is very selective, and I want to congratulate our students, faculty, staff, and parents on this tremendous achievement,” Coulee Catholic Schools President **Kurt Nelson** said.

Aquinas was one of only three private high schools in the nation to be honored in 2008, and only nine other Catholic schools in Wisconsin have received the distinction over the past 27 years. Aquinas representatives will travel to Washington, D.C., in October to formally receive the award, and a celebration will be planned following their return to La Crosse.

“I have never been more proud of a group of students and staff than I am today,” Aquinas Principal **Ted Knutson** said. “(Aquinas Dean of Students) **Steve Murray** and his team of department heads and support staff have worked for two solid years to get this award. This is a great honor that the U.S. Department of Education has given us, and I’m very proud of our students and staff.”

A pep rally celebration will take place tomorrow, Sept. 10, at 2:30 p.m. in the Aquinas large gymnasium. Featured speakers include Nelson, Knutson, and Aquinas School Counselors **Deb Kussmaul** and **Sue Omans**. Members of the media are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please contact CCS Development & Communications Specialist **Jenny Baertsch** at (608) 784-0707 or e-mail jenny.baertsch@couleecatholicschools.org.

