



September 4, 2025

Dear St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School Families,

As we joyfully welcome students and faculty back for the 2025–26 school year, we would like to take a moment to reflect on a successful close to the 2024–25 year. We are pleased to report that we finished the last fiscal year right on target financially. Careful stewardship and planning allowed us to meet our budget goals of modest, positive cash net income, positioning us well for continued investment in our students, faculty, programs and facilities all the while keeping tuition affordable.

This summer, thanks to the generosity of key donors and targeted outreach by our Advancement team, we completed two important capital projects:

- A **newly renovated Library Learning Commons**, transforming the library into a vibrant hub for learning, collaboration, research and innovation.
- A **fully refurbished gym**, working closely with the Sports Committee, new flooring, painting and staining resulted in a refreshed space perfect for physical education, athletics and community events.

Both projects reflect the strength of our community when purpose and partnership align. We are deeply grateful to the benefactors who believe in these initiatives (including our current families who supported our 2025 auction raise for the library) and specifically to Mr. Fielding, Ms. Strub, Ms. Gardner and the Sports Committee for their hard work and unwavering commitment to completing these projects on time and on budget.

We also completed our **six-year technology project to replace all interactive display boards** a year ahead of schedule, continued to replenish our student technology fleet, and stayed on schedule for **annual flooring and painting needs** – the new hallway floors in the 1921 building are spectacular!



Another long-anticipated milestone reached this September was the **launch of our new website**. While the transition was driven by a mandated change resulting from an acquisition of our hosting platform, we saw it as a valuable opportunity to better tell St. Thomas' story and streamline our communications. With the support of the 2024 Giving Tuesday campaign and the benefactor behind our Alumni videos, we were able to dial it up and create an amazing “almost final” product—the process took longer than expected, in large part due to the heavy lift taken on by dedicated volunteers (website content was created 100% by volunteers). Their behind-the-scenes work made it possible, and we thank them sincerely.

Looking ahead, we're entering the year with enthusiasm and energy. This fall, we will begin the process of launching our **next strategic plan**, which will help set our priorities for the coming years. We are also excited to regroup and reinvigorate our **community-wide kindness initiative**—a cornerstone of our values and a reminder that how we treat one another matters just as much as what we achieve. Kathleen Curran and Morgan Mooney got us started on school-wide service last January with the **Pantry Project** and we are excited to continue to extend our community outreach which is a core part of this initiative.

The Board remains focused on results – the **Academic Committee**, in collaboration with school leadership, has been carefully analyzing **i-Ready assessment data** and engaging with our **high school partners** to better understand how our students are performing once they leave us. This data-driven approach is helping us identify areas of strength and opportunities for growth, ensuring we can **continuously refine and strengthen our academic program** to best serve all learners. In conjunction with the website initiative, we look forward to making information about our academic program more accessible to parents.

In closing, we want to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the school's leadership team for their tireless work over the summer to prepare for a strong start to the year. From readying the campus to hiring an incredible group of new teachers, their commitment to excellence continues to shape the experience our students receive. Please join us in welcoming these new faculty members to our community. We also warmly welcome the two new members of the Board, **parent alum - Chris Gidez and current parent - Katie Scinto**, who bring fresh perspectives and deep passion for the mission of our school.



Thank you for being a part of this incredible community. We look forward to an inspiring and impactful year ahead. As always, please connect with us at board@stasonline.net.

Warm regards,

St. Thomas Board of Directors

Erin Russell, Chair

Jen Anderson

Chris Gidez

John Gnibus

Paul Halas

Kristen Landino

Sarah Nocerino

Fred Paulmann

Darcy Ronan

Greg Sargent

Katie Scinto

Tracy Strub

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