

Aquinas High School

Principal's Newsletter

Principal's Message

Scripture of the Month:

We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone complete in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all His energy, which so powerfully works in me.

Colossians 1:28-29



God bless you all in this New Year. Finals should be just about ended by the time you read this newsletter. Finals end on Friday January 22 at 10:15 unless your student has a zero (0) period class or needs to make-up a final, then his/her dismissal time is 12:15pm. Remember, the semester grade is the transcript grade that is seen by colleges when they make their acceptance decision. The semester grade is made up of the two quarter grades and the final exam grade (40% 1st Quarter, 40% 2nd Quarter, and 20% exam.) The end of the semester brings on the new semester and a clean slate. Think of it as all students have a 100% on day one and it is their responsibility to maintain that grade.

Our sports teams are off to a great start. The girls' and boys' basketball are set to dominate the Christian league this year. The boys' basketball team is favored to repeat as league champions. Our boys' and girls' soccer teams are looking to improve this year. The addition of a new boys' head coach and a new girls' assistant coach to help Coach Amanda Egan fine tune the girls should help them greatly. Please note there was an error on the date of the invoices sent out for sports fees. I apologize for any stress this may have caused any of you. Sports fees for the winter sports should, however, be paid by now. If you have not paid them, please bring them into the business office as soon as possible.

Thanks to all of you who get your tickets for the quarter fundraisers in on time. This is a way of offsetting what would be a tuition increase. If you do not get your tickets in on time, you still have to pay the \$100.00 each quarter and you are invoiced for that amount each quarter. If you do not pay the \$100.00, it will be added to your account and must be paid before May 1st so that your student may take final exams. The intent of doing fundraising rather than a tuition increase was so that families would not bear the full load of a tuition increase.

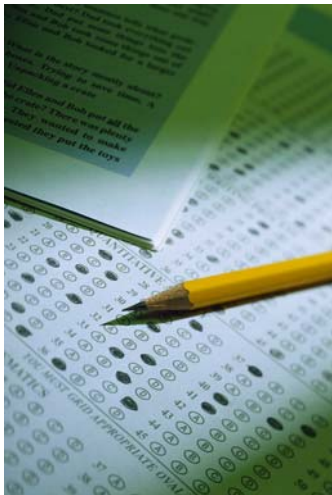
Congratulations to our Mock Trial Team for winning numerous awards on January 14, 2010. Mario Flores won Best Support Role for Bailiff, Esther Sequeira for Best Pre-Trial Prosecution and the Coach's Award, Elaine Hanson for Best Prosecution Attorney, Nicholas Paramo for Best Defense Attorney, Hana Lee and Michael Del Rio for Best Defense Witness and Ashley Mefford took second place in the county for her courtroom artwork. A special thanks to Dr. Netta Jones our coach and our attorney coaches. Great job!

The Aquinas community turned to help those who less fortunate during the Christmas season. The students in the Key Club collected canned foods for Mary's Table. The students in the International Club supported the Catholic Charities. ASB collected children's pajamas for Loma Linda Hospital and umbrellas and blankets for Mary's Table. The students on the San Bernardino Bicentennial Committee wrapped presents for Operation Santa Claus. On Friday January 15, the students collected \$700.00 for the victims of the Haitian earthquake. All of this goes to show that charity is a fundamental principle practiced at Aquinas.

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Mr. Herdlein, Principal



Senior Section: Mrs. Burton's Office

From the Guidance Corner...

2010 is here whether we are ready for it or not! An information sheet about Federal Funding (FAFSA) has been passed out to every senior. It includes web pages for the FAFSA and a separate sheet for Cal Grants. The Cal Grant form needs to be signed and returned to me by February 12th so that we have time to enter the information into the computer by 3/2/10. The deadline for Californians is 3/2/10...**No Exceptions.**

College acceptances and scholarships keep rolling in! Please let me know which colleges your senior has been accepted to so that I can get the information posted on the website. Please remember to have your student listen to the announcements daily and

check the whiteboard in the Guidance Center for scholarship opportunities.

I have now spoken with every junior and senior at least once this semester. The process will begin again second semester. We discuss community service, grades, SAT test dates and future goals. While the seniors are waiting for college acceptances, the juniors should be making plans to visit college campuses and preparing for the SAT test.

Please visit the "College Timeline" on the Aquinas website. Just click on the "Academics" section and follow from there.

As always, I am available by email at mburton@aquinashs.net or by phone at (909-475-4194).

Remember to sign up for and take the SAT or ACT before December

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ON TO WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.COM FOR SAT INFORMATION OR WWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORG FOR ACT INFORMATION.

FINANCIAL AID: WWW.PIN.ED.GOV WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV WWW.CALGRANTS.ORG

Sports Update:

Happy New Year!! We are back from a much needed break, and all teams are into their league portion of their schedule. Both the varsity basketball and soccer teams competed in tournaments over break and held their own versus stiff competition.

The boys' varsity basketball team is coming off a win against Arrowhead Christian. They are currently undefeated in league and will be playing at home against Ontario Christian on 1/22. The girls' varsity basketball team is also

coming off a big win. They beat Arrowhead teams will be hosting Ontario Christian on 1/22 as tario Christian on 1/22 as into fashion and evened their well. Keep working hard!!

The wrestling team recently competed in the Estancia Tourney. Their next dual will be at home on 2/2 versus St. Margaret. Good luck gentlemen!!

I would like to wish all our teams' good luck and continued success in their push for the playoffs.

God Bless,
Coach Ybarra

From the Desk of the Vice Principal Mr. Mark Hunter

In the last Vicariate meetings, last month, our students filled out a Dress Code survey, the results of which, I am currently collating. The entire school participated in the exercise which included a detailed description of why the Dress Code policy exists in Catholic High Schools. Students were then asked their input, while a designated secretary from the group collected and wrote the responses. Boys concentrated on boy's policy and girls concentrated on girl's policy.

Every three to four years it is the policy of this office to re-look

at the dress code. The seniors have "lived with" the dress code for the duration of their career here at Aquinas, so it is only fitting that the school obtain their input before they leave for their next adventures in college. We were unable to schedule a Dress Code Committee last year, for lack of interest by parents.

With just a cursory glance so far, opinions vary on proposed changes and or additions. Our next step will be to create a dress code panel consisting of teachers, parents and ASB officers. Once organized,

this committee will meet in April to decide upon changes to the Dress Code for the next three to four years.

If you are interested in joining this group, or would like to nominate another person, please feel free to let my office know. Mrs. Mejia (Dean of Girls) and I (Vice Principal, students) can be reached at (909)886-4659 extension 265 or 280.

-Mr. Mark Hunter
Vice Principal

Campus Ministry

Apologetics without Apology

Lent is Coming!

Ash Wednesday is February 17. This day begins the season of Lent for Roman Catholics and many Protestants as well. Lent is a time to reassess your life and to change ingrained, bad habits. It is also a time to teach your family about the Catholic Faith.

Join Father Justin on Wednesday, February 3 at 6:00 pm for the next Catholic Parenting Evening: Apologetics Without Apology. The evening will consider the opportunity that Lent presents for faith formation and growth.

The group will talk about the themes of Lent and Holy Week as tools for sharing the Faith. As always, attendance at this evening fulfills two parent service hours.

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Lux et Veritas

**We're on the Web:
www.aquinashs.net**

Upcoming Events:

January 23	Scholarship Dinner @ 6 p.m.
January 25	Second Semester Begins
January 28	St. Thomas Aquinas Liturgy
January 30	Freshmen Placement Exam
Feb 1-5	Catholic Schools Week
February 5	Minimum Day
February 6	Campus Clean up Day
February 9	Junior day of Prayer
February 15	Winter Break Begins, No School
February 22	School resumes

Please check the website for the latest information.

Office Hours:

The Aquinas Main Office is open Monday through Friday from 7:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please try to make your appointments during the normal business hours.

Our website is continually updated. We ask that parents use this important means of communication.

Non Discrimination Policy:

Aquinas High School admits students of any sex, race, color, religion, creed, national and ethnic origin to all rights and privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to all students of the school. Aquinas High School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and athletic or other administered programs.