



# Building The Kingdom of God

January 26, 2017

On January 10 and 11, our school was visited and accredited via AdvancED. This was a culminating event after conducting a self-study, reviewing test scores, interpreting data, and sharing this with the three member visiting team.

The team commended us on many items including our Catholic Identity and how students take an active role in their school. The team praised MART and how comprehension, writing and thinking skills were incorporated into the curriculum. They liked that 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders were collaborating on a special project during their visit.

Additionally, they congratulated us on our state accountability grade moving from a C to an A. They wrote, "Your growth has been tremendous and you deserve the recognition of "exemplary" that the A grade stands for."

Certainly, they left us some areas for improvement. The team would like to see a plan to acquire and incorporate more technology into the school. The interactive whiteboards are being used, but mobile carts of laptops or tablets would be ideal.

Next, the team recommended that more differentiated instruction should be in the daily schedule. This would have us grouping students into smaller groups to work on specific skills or groups of skills. Finally, the team suggested more labs and "what if" exercises to be worked into lessons. Labs and higher order thinking skills will allow the students the opportunity to synthesize and evaluate more material.

The final paragraph from the team sums up the visit, "It was plain to see that Queen of All Saints earned its exemplary status. The warm, caring environment, faith activities, collaboration, and mapping (curriculum) all create a fantastic learning environment where the students are thriving. There is harmony and growth, plus high expectations for continued success. There is no doubt that the school will continue to be successful and harbor a wonderful environment for its families. They are building the Kingdom of God."

All the best,  
Ms. Marie Arter  
Principal

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Today marks our 100th day of school. We have had one hundred days to learn, pray, grow, improve and become the person God intends us to be.

**FRENCH STUDENTS:**

Two French students will be joining QAS School community in February. Cassandra will be staying with the Neary family. Antoine will be staying with the Oleksiuk family. Both students arrive in the USA on February 2 and will spend four weeks at Queen of All Saints School!

**FREE THROW SHOOTING CONTEST:**

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Free Throw Shooting Contest on Jan. 28 for students who are 9 to 14 in the QAS gym. Parents must bring a copy of the child's birth certificate. Registration is at 5:30 and the competition begins at 6. More information is available in the school's office.

**SCIENCE NIGHT & SCIENCE FAIR:**

Please mark your calendars now to attend Science Night & Science Fair on Wednesday, Feb. 1 from 5 to 7 PM.

All students in grades PK—8 are encouraged to enter the Science Fair. Mrs. Betty Catterlin has Science Boards for sale at \$2.50 each plus she has complete instructions. Projects can be investigatory, research, demonstration, models or collections. Experiments involving humans or animal subjects are not allowed.

**ANGEL AWARD:**

Students, parents, colleagues and others are requested to nominate teachers for the Angel Award. This award is to recognize outstanding, creative, and innovative accomplishments of teachers in the Diocese of Gary. See office for an application.

**UPCOMING DATES:**

Jan. 31—Bring Someone Special to Lunch

Feb. 1—Science Night & Fair 5 to 7 PM

Feb. 2—City-Wide Catholic Schools Mass at Marquette High School. WE NEED DRIVERS!

Feb. 3—Fun Fair

**USDA CORNER:**

The face of school snacks is changing. Healthful foods are replacing cookies and candy as birthday and party snacks given to kids.

So often, when we think about celebrating, we think about FOOD. It's a birthday, so we go out to eat. Our student is successful in sports, we stop for a pizza. It's good to celebrate and get out of the FOOD cycle.

When your child celebrates their birthday next school year or Christmas or Valentine's Day, consider a little non-edible treat. I know you can pick up many of these items very inexpensively at the Dollar Tree: pencils, journals, book marks, and stickers.

Or you can donate a book to the classroom and inscribe it with a special message to or from your child. A book will keep giving all year to your child's classmates and future students.

Please let me know if you have any other suggestions for non-edible classroom treats.