

Aquinas High School selected as Apple Distinguished School through 2019

Aquinas High School has been selected as an Apple Distinguished School for 2017-2019, a two-year designation. Schools earn the Apple Distinguished designation for continuous innovation in learning, teaching, and the school environment.

There are a handful of schools in California that are Apple Distinguished and a few hundred in the country. Aquinas, a private Catholic High School in San Bernardino, first earned the two year designation in 2015. They are pleased to announce their second term. Aquinas began its 1:1 iPad program in 2012. Five years later, the technology program has grown immensely.

According to Jonathan Keck, Aquinas' Director of Technology, the first Apple Distinguished Award Aquinas received was based around the establishment of technology infrastructure, launching all of the physical requirements to be a technology school, iPads, and things like appropriate internet speed. However, this year's award demonstrates the growth Aquinas has made in innovation instruction using technology as a central piece. This recognition is more evidence that Aquinas High School is not only becoming one of the best schools in the Inland Empire, but one of the best in the state of California.

Principal Chris Barrows said, "We are extremely proud to be recognized as an Apple Distinguished School for a second straight term. Being the only school in the area to be honored as such I believe is a testament to not only our teachers, but our entire school community for embracing this approach to education. We have seen an increased level of student engagement over the last several years and this can be directly attributed to the iPad program. The impact of this increased engagement is evident in the world class colleges and universities that our graduates are being accepted to every year."