

*We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love*

**- St. Teresa of Calcutta**

# SAINTS

**AMOR VINCIT OMNIA** *(Love Conquers All)*

Our core values of FAITH, EXCELLENCE, SERVICE AND COMMUNITY, allow members of our Saints' family to have a sense of belonging to something greater than themselves. Throughout the first semester, we will be sending you information explaining each of our core values.

We understand every student comes to us at a different starting point. Education is about discovery and shared experiences. At Saint Thomas Aquinas, we challenge every student to personally grow academically, spiritually and socially.

Our parents become partners by investing in an educational vision that develops responsible leaders, guided by Catholic values. Our goal is to make sure all students move closer to Jesus Christ during their four years. We empower students to make their faith active, conscious and real.

Our academics are superb (We are a National Blue Ribbon School), our extra-curricular programs are exceptional (We hold 99 State Championships), our faculty and staff are passionate and professional (82% hold a Masters Degree)...but it is the TOTAL Saint Thomas Aquinas experience that sets us apart. We strive to guide our young men and women toward goals that are noble, faith-based, and aimed at serving their fellow human beings. Our approach works because we help EVERY student reach their God-given potential as our curriculum is designed to work with each student's individual needs.

Visit our community and witness how we prepare our students academically; to know how to study, and have the courage to do the right things each and every day. What sets Saint Thomas Aquinas High School apart from other schools is its sense of community or, in essence, its sense of family. As family, your son or daughter will be cherished, guided, respected and transformed.

Our students call our community their Home where  
**Love Conquers All!**



# FROM OUR STUDENTS

## FAITH

Going to Mass as a school is the best thing that we do. The communion of saints gathered before God is truly one of the most powerful things you will ever experience. Our teachers can freely talk about God in the classrooms, and this supplements the already excellent education that we get here.

Our campus ministry puts on a decade of the rosary after school, and I have found that this is an excellent way to relax in the midst of the hectic school year. Getting in touch with God is the most important thing at STA, and it comes naturally.

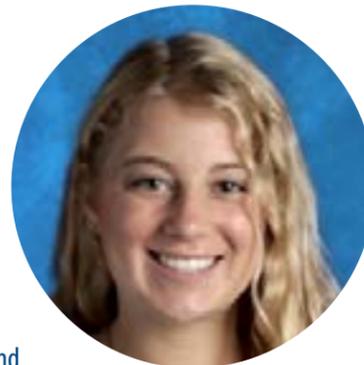
**Matt Andrews**  
Class of 2018



## EXCELLENCE

Everyone who has been part of the Aquinas community will agree that we do not settle for mediocrity. Whether it be in sports, academics, activities, or the canned food drive. We go above and beyond what is asked and expected of us. I think having a community that continually pushes us to strive for excellence will increase our personal drive for success in the future. It makes us want to do the impossible. We urge our peers to the point where there is nothing but greatness beyond. The first moment I walked into the gym and saw the many many state banners or walked down the trophy hall, I knew that this school would encourage me to do my very best in softball each and every day. Academically, I am challenged every day. The teachers here have such high expectations for their students. They are willing to go the extra mile to help their students achieve outstanding grades. Excellence is not a choice here; it is a requirement.

**Claire Heiman**  
Class of 2018



## COMMUNITY

The community at STA is supportive, generous, and all-inclusive. It is a community of passionate students and teachers in a passionate environment. The essentiality of community is understood in light of the other three values. We are a community of faith, excellence, and service, united through the love of God, through a desire to reach our God-given potentials, and a drive to serve God's people. Between the students, the social bond is powerful at Aquinas. People are not just friends with people from their grade schools, activities, sports, or classes; in fact, some of my best friends are people I have only a couple of courses with and the band is a sort of family to me. The social community enriches through school-wide events such as All-School Mass, Spring Olympics, the Canned Food Drive, and Homecoming Week. Homecoming Week is an especially vivid example of the community at Aquinas. Each class comes together in competitions to decorate the hallways, put on skits, create videos and more, and it all leads up to the homecoming football game and the dance. It is truly extraordinary to be a Saint that week and every week, where the spirit and enthusiasm of the community is like no other.

**Maria Schmeer**  
Class of 2018



## SERVICE

Even though service hours are required for graduation at Aquinas, most students view them as goals to achieve rather than burdens. Helping people is what we do, and we are proud of it. In addition to individual service hours, the school hosts an annual canned food drive to benefit Catholic Charities food pantries. Since 2010, Aquinas has donated more than half a million cans to Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas which helps 21 surrounding counties. It has become a goal every year to beat the preceding year's record for the number of cans donated, inadvertently also beating the national record as well. The entire school joins in to contribute to this and the other drives to support local charities and schools, proving Aquinas as a generous giver of time and goods.

**Nick Whiteside**  
Class of 2018



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

### Middle School Tailgate

Friday, September 22: 5:00 - 6:45 p.m.  
RSVP by September 20

### Saint for a Day

Shadow program - Eighth grade students are encouraged to visit us for a day. Registration is requested

### Information Nights

For parents and students to discover our vibrant and successful community, please RSVP for the date you would like to attend

### Open House

Monday, October 23: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Don't miss this once a year event

### Eighth-Grade Scholarship/Placement Tests

#### Choose one date:

Saturday, December 2, 2017 or  
Saturday, January 6, 2018

For more information, visit:

[www.stasaints.net/admissions](http://www.stasaints.net/admissions)



Saint Thomas Aquinas  
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# SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS



## 4 CORE VALUES

FAITH EXCELLENCE  
SERVICE COMMUNITY