

Dear friend of St. Ambrose Academy,

We have an important invitation for you to consider, to make a colossal impact for the Church in the Diocese of Madison and the revitalizing effect well beyond this community.

Our project entails a bold vision to create a renewed Catholic school presence in the iconic Holy Name Heights campus to:

- accommodate our explosive enrollment growth,
- continue providing a "complete education," as Cardinal Burke explains in his endorsement letter,
- provide families the comprehensive facilities they desire for their children.

We focus on equipping young people with the virtues to thrive and to be a blessing. At St. Ambrose, students become clear, critical thinkers and self-learners, responsible and hard-working citizens, generous and ambitious *leaders*, always eager to act on God's voice in their lives. The world tells us we can live anyway we want, be anything we want: yet this only leads to chaos. Our program instead teaches young people to foster order by embracing timeless truths, loyalty, purity, family, country, and faith – and true leadership is contagious, multiplying good upon good.

Because we have the privilege to partner with families to educate and form students for up to 7 years of their most impressionable years – we're incredibly effective in helping to raise up strong Christian leaders that benefit us all, and the fruits are lasting. Our own **Bishop Donald J. Hying** has enthusiastically recognized this:

"Whenever I meet a St. Ambrose graduate, I know what I'm going to encounter. I'm going to meet a young person who is strong in their faith, is well formed in knowledge, and is confident of succeeding at what matters the most — that is loving God and loving each other. As St. John reminds us, it's on those two scales that we will be weighed at the end of our life."

The approach and impact of our mission are a crucial remedy for today. Yet **we need a new home** and long-term facilities to continue this *transformational* program.

We have excitedly come to an agreement with the Diocese to improve and lease two spacious floors in the northeast wing of Holy Name and to begin serving students there in September 2024. Generous donors have put us in position to take the first big step to renovate these floors into essential classrooms and educational spaces, but we have more to do to create a *complete school* for these children. I'm excited for you to learn about the amazing potential in our Case for Support book and accompanying images.

An investment in St. Ambrose that leads to well-formed, well-educated lay Catholics and Christians ready to engage our world should matter to all of us. For as surely as our young people depend on us today, we will depend on them soon! Therefore, this project is not just for our school and children's future – as important as these are – but the future of the Church and world.

Please consider how you could uniquely help us rise to this significant and historic opportunity! I welcome you to learn more about our mission and project as well as to offer your ideas, referrals, and support in the days ahead.

Gratefully in Christ,

Joseph Draves

(Joe-

Development Director

josephd@ambroseacademy.org

(920) 284-4771