St. Thomas Aquinas School 624 Dubuque Street Webster City, IA 50595 515/832-1346 www.stthomaswc.org

January 24, 2023

Dear St. Thomas Aquinas School Community,

It is with great excitement that we celebrate a win for Iowa families—the ability for families to choose the school that best fits their child's needs! The Students First Act has been passed in both the Iowa House and Senate. It is expected to be signed by Governor Reynolds very soon. ESAs are now a reality for Iowa families beginning in the 23-24 school year and beyond! Thank you for sharing your voice with your legislators and friends.

We will maintain a focus on our Catholic identity and core values. There is nothing in this legislation that requires us to stray from our mission and vision. This bill will not restrict or make changes to the academic and faith-based curriculum we offer today as accredited schools in the state of Iowa. Our enrollment policies and procedures remain intact. Our Catholic faith will continue to be at the core of all we do!

Over the next few weeks and months, we will learn more about the details of how the ESA program will be implemented. Being new legislation, there are certainly things we do not know right now. We ask for grace as we learn, implement, and communicate about this opportunity for families. We will continue to communicate with you as more information becomes available. Until then, please review the information below to learn more about how ESAs will impact your family and invite others to consider our school for their family.

How will the ESA work?

Parents who choose to enroll their children in an accredited nonpublic school will receive \$7,598, the amount of per pupil funds allocated annually by the state, to use for tuition, fees, and other qualified expenses.

ESA Eligibility:

ESAs will be available based on the following eligibility:

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YEAR 3 (2025-26) YEAR 2 (2024-25) YEAR 1 (2023-24) All K-12 students All kindergarten All kindergarten students students in Iowa · All public school All public school Regardless of students students income Private school Private school students at or students at or below 400% FPL below 300% FPL \$111,000 for a \$83,250 for a family of four family of four

May God continue to bless us abundantly as we prepare to serve all families that desire a Catholic education.

Sincerely,

Theresa Schleisman

Principal