



Saint Thomas More Academy, Inc.  
Board of Directors

Kirk Doran, President  
Margaret Freddoso, Vice President

November 28, 2021

Dear St. Thomas More Academy Family,

Happy Thanksgiving! We indeed have so much to be thankful for. God has blessed us with dedicated families, passionate faculty and staff, and joyful children. Our opening months of Saint Thomas More Academy have been a stirring adventure for all of us, and we can't wait to continue that adventure together! We are writing this letter to make a few important announcements about this Spring, next school year, and our long-term plans.

We are delighted to announce that, starting in January 2022, we will transition to a new, full-time head of school: Anthony (Tony) Biese. Mr. Biese, a graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville, brings with him seven years of experience as Headmaster of Catholic classical schools, and twenty-one years of experience in school administration. Tony will add depth of experience to our young and innovative team, while deeply sharing our vision for what Saint Thomas More Academy is all about. He and his wife Siobhan and eleven children are overjoyed to come to South Bend, where the two oldest already live for much of the year as students at the University of Notre Dame, and where the whole family will be an integral part of one of the most exciting new schools in the country. Tony is a warm, wise, and courageous leader with proven experience helping schools grow, and we are looking forward to collaborating with him closely in the years ahead. We will share more in the coming weeks about how our transition to Tony's headship will take place!

We also want to announce the tuition for our upcoming 2022/2023 school year: \$7,200 per child. The vast majority of our families will receive one of three forms of financial aid. First, if a family meets income requirements as outlined in the Income Eligibility Guidelines listed below, parents may designate that the state public funding assigned to their child will follow their child to an accredited non-public school (such as St. Thomas More Academy). *Currently, 40% of our families are receiving Choice Scholarships, and next year, 72% of our current families will be eligible for Choice Scholarships.* The out-of-pocket tuition per student for families who receive vouchers will range from about \$900 to \$1800 per student, depending on their school district. The income eligibility guidelines are as follows:

| Household Size* | Family Annual Income (Adjusted Gross Income) |
|-----------------|--|
| 1               | \$71,484                                     |
| 2               | \$96,681                                     |
| 3               | \$121,878                                    |
| 4               | \$147,075                                    |
| 5               | \$172,272                                    |
| 6               | \$197,469                                    |
| 7               | \$222,666                                    |
| 8               | \$247,863                                    |
| 9               | \$273,060                                    |
| 10              | \$298,257                                    |

\*Household size includes adults and children in the household.

In order to receive a Choice scholarship, a student must also be eligible by satisfying the requirements of one of eight tracks. One of these tracks is to have received money in a previous year from a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO), or to have a sibling who has received money from an SGO. We will ensure that students from our incoming families receive SGO scholarships if they meet the income requirements so that all siblings are eligible to receive Choice scholarships in the following year. Finally, we will offer a limited amount of scholarship money to families who do not qualify for scholarships through a Choice Scholarship or the Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO).

The most important point is that *we never want finances to be the reason your child does not attend Saint Thomas More Academy*. So please do contact us as questions about tuition expenses arise.

Finally, we want to assure all of you that Saint Thomas More Academy is deeply committed to adding one grade a year until we are a K through 12 school. We don't say this lightly: much work will have to be done, and much sacrifice, but ultimately we know that all of this is in God's hands, as are we, and with his strength we are sure of victory. We are at the beginning of a grand adventure, an adventure that is going to have many turns in the road and unexpected challenges and blessings for years to come, and we are so grateful to be on this journey with all of you.

Sincerely,

Kirk Doran, President  
 Margaret Freddoso, Vice President and Interim Head of School