



DIOCESE OF
Jefferson City

Aquinas Academy

Catholic School Office

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Director
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Aquinas in Brief



- ▶ Aquinas Academy is a weeklong enrichment camp for qualifying 6th & 7th grade students who attend Catholic schools in the Diocese of Jefferson City
- ▶ Held on the campus of Missouri Military Academy in Mexico, MO during the last week in June
- ▶ Approximately 95 students attend the academy each year

Mission Statement



Aquinas Academy provides an environment of learning and experiences designed to inspire Jefferson City Diocesan Catholic School students with exceptional ability to reach their full potential.

Aquinas Tradition



- ▶ Started in 1987 at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary
- ▶ Transitioned to Missouri Military Academy in 2002
- ▶ Approximately 2,000 Diocesan students have attended
- ▶ Staffed by dedicated teachers and counselors who return for years of service

Director



- ▶ **Lois Van Boening** / Formerly at St. Clement School – Bowling Green, currently at St. Clement of Rome School – Des Peres
 - 7th & 8th Math, assistant principal
 - Parent of former campers & counselors (4)
 - Aquinas: Physics / Music



Instructors



- **Father Paul Clark** – St. Thomas More Newman Center/ Columbia, Diocesan Vocation Director
 - Former camper & counselor
 - Aquinas: Chemistry



Instructors *(continued)*



- ▶ **Ryan Bax** / Helias High School
 - Algebra II and Geometry
 - Aquinas: Math
- ▶ **Amy Gundy** / Our Lady of Lourdes / Columbia
 - Former classroom and PE teacher
 - Cross country coach
 - Parent of former camper
 - Aquinas: Sports & Leadership
- ▶ **Kathleen Haeffner** – Cathedral of St. Joseph / Jefferson City
 - Parent of former campers & counselors (3)
 - K – 8 Art
 - Aquinas: Art

Camp Overview



- ▶ Sunday
 - Campers arrive
 - Orientation & Prayer Service
- ▶ Daily (Monday – Friday)
 - Prayer Service or mass
 - Academic Block classes
 - Activities with counselors
 - Activities with instructors
- ▶ Monday Evening – Counselor Prayer Service
- ▶ Tuesday Evening – Movie night
- ▶ Wednesday – Field trip to Hannibal (Sawyer’s Creek, Bowling)
- ▶ Thursday Evening – talent show & dance
- ▶ Friday – Closing ceremony & t-shirt signing

Historical Data 2014-2018



Year	Start Date	Cutoff Date	Total Applicants	Second Year Applicants	Total Campers Selected	Schools Represented
2014	1/30	3/10	128	30	95	32
2015	2/7	3/22	133	33	95	32
2016	2/11	3/14	126	30	95	32
2017	2/10	3/14	126	22	96	28
2018	2/10	3/15	137	23	97	32

Total Applicants represents number of applicants and includes students for whom recommendation letters were received without an application.

Timeline



- ▶ January
 - Qualifying students identified by School Office
 - Invitations extended to eligible students by School Office (includes application)
- ▶ February
 - Students request recommendation letters from teachers and principals
- ▶ March
 - March 4 – Applications and recommendation letters due
 - Contact and recruit teachers and counselors (teacher availability affects classes)
- ▶ Late March
 - Notification sent to campers regarding selection
 - Information sent to [parents of] campers regarding classes
- ▶ April and May
 - Fees are due to the school office
- ▶ June
 - Detailed information packet sent to parents
 - Camp – Sunday June 26 – Friday July 1

Camper Selection Process



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- ▶ Each school in the diocese automatically has one space reserved for an applicant who has not attended previously
- ▶ Preference is given to older (7th vs 6th) students who haven't previously attended Aquinas with earliest submittal (earliest postmark)
- ▶ After all available spots are filled, students are placed on a wait list. Most of these students on the waiting list are those who have previously attended.

Help Needed



- ▶ We are looking for qualified, innovative teachers.

Please contact the program director or the school office for more information.