

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

September 12, 2011

For more information contact:

Name:	Greg Vetter	or	Sr. Thomas Welder
Telephone:	701-355-2329		701-355-8168
Email:	gvetter@weareamerican.com		stwelder@umary.edu

Bismarck Catholic Schools move into final phases of strategic planning process

The Catholic Schools of Bismarck have finalized a vision statement and now will move into phase three of a four phase strategic planning process begun in May of 2010.

The final phases will be the development and implementation of a strategic plan for the four schools within the system: St. Mary's Central High School, St. Mary's Grade School, Cathedral Grade School and St. Anne's Grade School.

"The vision statement, along with data collected earlier in the process, was given to the strategic planning committee and will be used to identify the Bismarck Catholic Schools goals and serve as the foundation of the strategic plan," says Greg Vetter, who co-chairs the planning committee with Sr. Thomas Welder.

Vetter continued, "The vision statement is designed to ensure our schools provide strong Catholic spirit, educational excellence and a focus on servant leadership." The entire vision statement can be found at www.ascensionbismarck.org, www.cathedralparish.com, www.corpus-christi.org/Resources, www.stannesbismarck.org, www.stmarybismarck.org.

The strategic planning committee is made up of 45 members of the community chosen from the parishes and community for their experience and expertise in one of the planning areas as well as their desire for the success of the Catholic schools. Planning areas include: Catholic spirit, academic excellence, leadership, governance, finance and operations, facilities and property, marketing, development and communication, and resources.

The long range planning is being led by Catholic Education Consulting Services, a consulting firm based in Denver.

Phase three is expected to be completed in December 2011 and lead to implementation and transition beginning in January 2012.