

LEGACY FOR OUR MISSION:

For Our Children and the Future

SCECINA'S SMALL COMMUNITY PLAYS A BIG ROLE

IT'S SMALL AND STRONG. FATHER THOMAS SCECINA Memorial High School may only have 370 students, less than 25 faculty members and five administrators, but education thrives here on the east side.

grant that is being used to build a new roof and update the building so Scecina educators can concentrate on education. Funds from campaigns such as *Legacy for Our Mission* continue to help the school to provide services to the parishes of the Indianapolis East Deanery.

they continue to be involved with the community and carry on the values they learned at Scecina.

us, we will be a stronger school." But the strength still lies on the inside, where this community continues to grow.

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"We pride ourselves on our community feel. Everyone knows everyone; everyone has a relationship," said John Hegarty, assistant principal and English teacher. "I pride myself in that I think I know every child's name in this school."

Scecina also maintains a strong focus on Catholic traditions with morning prayer and daily Mass. The school even offers confession every Friday. "We have made a point of making sure our Catholic identity is really strong," Hegarty said.

"These particular students, even though they're the academic cream of the crop, are typical of our students, because they work hard and do the right thing," Hegarty said. "And because they work hard and do the right thing, they find success."



Father Bill Williams presides at a Mass for Scecina students.

For a small school, Scecina produces a lot: academics, athletics, volunteer programs, and a quality education infused with Catholic values. In its annual canned food drive, students at Scecina have regularly gathered more cans than schools that are three times its size. As a recent example, last year the school collected 23,845 cans, an average of almost 65 cans per student.

These Catholic values are applied throughout the school. "What I find satisfying is to take the great Catholic tradition and its moral theology and bring it right to their daily experience," said Scecina President Kevin Caspersen. "That's not easy to do."

And as Scecina looks ahead to shaping young students such as Arendando and Lockhart, the school also looks to the outside community for support.

"We have a very strong faculty," Hegarty said. "We are going in the right direction, and we're going to be very strong for years to come."

And despite older facilities, Scecina thrives. The school recently received an archdiocesan

Trinidad Arendando and Daniel Lockhart, the respective valedictorian and salutatorian of Scecina's Class of 2002, are prime examples of this tight-knit community. Now seniors at the University of Notre Dame,

"The most important thing is not a material thing," Hegarty said. "What we most need is the support of members of the community that they understand that we have had, we will continue to have, and that we're trying to improve strong academic programs. And if the community supports

Legacy for Our Mission, the archdiocese's upcoming capital campaign, is guided by the principles of Christian stewardship and addresses the needs of archdiocesan ministries such as Catholic education. By contributing to Legacy for Our Mission through your local parish, a portion of your gift will be allocated to Catholic education programs and distributed to organizations such as Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School.