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**Saint Albert Announces Tuition for 2009-2010 School Year**

At an annual State of the School meeting on Feb. 23, James Rouse, president of Saint Albert Catholic Schools, highlighted a vision for the school that is multi-faceted, and is aimed at making the excellent school even better.

"The exciting new future of Saint Albert is NOW!," Rouse said.

This summer, Saint Albert will open the new Primary building, within which will be its first-ever Sheryl K. Johnson Early Childhood Development Center. The new space will allow for expansion of the enrollment while providing a top-quality, secure environment for the school's youngest children.

Rouse said the school's Gleason campus has been a beacon of quality, faith-filled learning on the hilltop for 45 years, and will now house students from six weeks to college-prep. The consolidated campus will afford families one-stop transportation and educational services for their children.

"Many families, churches, graduates, benefactors and other friends throughout the Council Bluffs and Southwest Iowa region have helped to make this vision come true," Rouse said.

He added that while construction ends this summer, financing of the project carries on into the future because pledges extend beyond the final bills. This anticipated gap, coupled with an increase in the cost of goods and services since the project's inception, will make it necessary for a continuing campaign to bring in extended, accelerated, and new investments by our donors.

In announcing the preliminary budget and tuition for 2009-10, Rouse said the three-part role of financial support would be tuition (44 percent), Parish investment (26 percent), and development/fundraising (30 percent). This will include a tuition increase ranging from \$9 per month (based on 10-months) at the K-6<sup>th</sup> grade level to \$15 per month at the 12<sup>th</sup> grade level – an overall average of three percent.

"The same great academic tradition, integrated with the lifetime values modeled and taught by Jesus, will continue to guide our young families at Saint Albert Catholic Schools," Rouse said. "We are keepers of a treasure that has been handed down to us, and we will respond as a broad-based community to protecting and passing this unique educational opportunity on to future generations."