

## (February 2, 2006) Congressman Lipinski Honors Catholic Schools' Week

### Congressman Lipinski Honors Catholic Schools' Week

#### Lipinski Introduces Resolution Praising the Contributions of Catholic Schools

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Congressman Dan Lipinski introduced H.Res. 657, Honoring the Contributions of Catholic Schools. Congressman Lipinski, along with Rep. Mark Kennedy, introduced this resolution to celebrate Catholic Schools' Week, which recognizes the outstanding contribution of American Catholic schools and the strong, values-added education they provide.

Started in 1974, Catholic Schools' Week has celebrated the important role Catholic schools play in American education and their continued reputation for excellence in providing today's young people with a strong academic and moral education.

To kick off Catholic Schools' Week, Congressman Lipinski held a breakfast roundtable for area Catholic school principals and administrators at St. Laurence High School in Burbank. This was an opportunity for area educators to share the strengths and challenges of Catholic education in our community. In addition to St. Laurence, Congressman Lipinski attended Catholic Schools' Week celebrations at St. Richard School.

"As a product of a Catholic education in the Chicago Archdiocese, I understand how important Catholic schools are in providing a spiritual, moral, and intellectual foundation for students," stated Lipinski. "My eight years in grammar school at St. Symphorosa and my four years in high school at St. Ignatius provided me with the knowledge, discipline, and love of learning that enabled me to go on to earn my PhD and become a teacher."

"In the Chicago area alone, more than 106,000 young people are preparing for the future at 276 Catholic elementary and high schools. In my district alone, there are 34 grammar school and 5 high schools preparing students for a bright future. Schools in the Catholic Archdiocese have an amazing graduation rate over 99% and 95% of graduates go on to college. That is a testament to the dedicated teachers and administrators who give so much to their students."

"Catholic Schools' Week pays tribute to the dedication, character, compassion, and values that embody Catholic education in this country," added Lipinski. "It is important to recognize the outstanding contributions Catholic Schools make in our country today and their continued excellence in educating our children is unparalleled. "