

(January 23, 2007) House Passes Lipinski's Resolution Praising Contributions of Catholic Schools

House Passes Representative Lipinski's Resolution Praising Contributions of Catholic Schools

Congressional Resolution Honors Catholic Schools' Week

Washington, D.C. - Today, by a vote of 428 to 0, the U.S. House of Representatives approved H.Res. 51, a resolution introduced by Representative Dan Lipinski honoring the contributions of Catholic Schools. Congressman Lipinski introduced this resolution to celebrate Catholic Schools' Week, which recognizes the outstanding contributions of American Catholic schools and the strong, values-added education they provide.

"Catholic schools play an essential role in educating America's youth," said Lipinski. "I understand how important Catholic schools are in providing a spiritual, moral, and intellectual foundation for students. My twelve years of Catholic education in the Chicago Archdiocese provided me with the knowledge, discipline, desire to serve, and love of learning that enabled me to become a teacher before I was elected to Congress."

Started in 1974, Catholic Schools' Week celebrates the important role of Catholic schools in American education and their continued reputation for excellence in providing a strong academic and moral education as well as teaching community responsibility. During this week, dioceses and schools work to build community awareness and encourage parents to take full advantage of the benefits of Catholic education. This year's theme of Catholic Schools' Week is "Catholic Schools: The Good News in Education."

"In the Chicago area, 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 Chicago 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."

"As a complement to our public schools and private institutions, Catholic schools provide top-quality, values-added educations for millions across this country. As we recognize Catholic Schools' Week this year, we must pay special tribute to the thousands of dedicated teachers, parents, students, and countless others that continue to support and promote strong Catholic values and educational excellence."