



*Leavenworth Regional Catholic Schools*  
*Providing Quality Catholic Education For Over 158 Years!*



January 4, 2017

For Immediate Release

The Board of Trustees of the Leavenworth Regional Catholic School System (LRCSS) announces that it will recommend to the Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas, Joseph Naumann, to close Immaculata Catholic High School, grades 9-12, effective June 2, 2017. Xavier Catholic School, Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> grade will remain open.

The recommendation to close grades 9-12 is based on the inability to maintain financial stability. This is tied directly to the need for increasing enrollment, which we have been unable to accomplish. We continue to applaud the outstanding performance of teachers and students, and the sacrifices made by parents to provide a Catholic secondary education option for families in Leavenworth County since 1909.

While we have stabilized enrollment in recent years, we have not increased it, and that is the key to our financial sustainability. We have several families who have done an outstanding job recruiting students, but those few students are not enough. While our school and students are thriving and happy, we have simply run out of money and time to continue operations and meet our high expectations.

We are grateful to the Leavenworth community for its support of Immaculata High School over many years. We are particularly indebted to our wonderful donors, Catholic parishes and community partners, the University of Saint Mary and the Sisters of Charity, for their tremendous support. As much as we appreciate our partners for their support, we are unable to sustain Immaculata and its aging school building. We will continue these partnerships as we move forward with enthusiasm to sustain and enhance Catholic education at Xavier Catholic School (PS-8<sup>th</sup> grade).