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## THE FUTURE OF HOLY NAME SCHOOL BRIGHTENS

### New Group Will Focus On Long-Term Funding Solution

A group of benefactors led by Pete Ricketts is announcing their intent to form a community foundation that will ensure the long-term sustainability of Holy Name School. “When it comes to breaking the cycle of poverty for a child, Holy Name School is providing a successful environment to achieve that goal,” Ricketts said. “Our new organization will ensure that Holy Name School has the financial stability to continue their mission.”

Since 1918, Holy Name School has been a valuable asset to its culturally diverse, northeast Omaha community. Its students continue to uphold a legacy of success despite difficult life circumstances. Curriculum is designed to meet the students’ diverse needs by offering academic instruction as well as support services to wrap around each child’s needs. In addition, Holy Name students receive instruction in life skills, such as listening effectively, waiting patiently and interacting appropriately. A combination of a highly professional, caring staff and community partners such as Creighton University, the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Alegent Health and TeamMates allows these students to achieve at a higher level.

A look at high school graduation statistics of Holy Name students demonstrates the effectiveness of the school. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates of Holy Name between 1998 and 2007 graduated from high school on time at a rate of 98%. Of those students, 82% reported plans for post-secondary education.

An advisory board made up of Mr. Ricketts, James Arts, President and Managing Director of Aon Risk Services Central, Inc.; Rick Bettger, President of House of Mufflers & Brakes; Matt Dwyer, Vice-President of Sales for CETAC Technologies; and Rob Johnson, CEO of Javlin Capital has been studying the short and long-term financial situation of Holy Name School. Results of their analysis have led them to the conclusion that Holy Name School can be sustained and can grow with the community’s investment.

“We have seen the positive effects that the faculty, parents and students of Holy Name have made in our community,” said Ricketts. “Omahans have a rich tradition of investing in opportunity, and Holy Name School provides the opportunity for children to have a positive impact on our city.”

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