To Teach, To Build, To Serve

By SISTER ROBERTA TIERNEY Diocesan Superintendent of Schools

The rhythm of the school year provides an opportunity for relaxation and renewal during the summer months. It is in this stage of renewal" that plans and programs for the new school year are confirmed and disseminated.

The message contained in the May 6, 1976, statement of the Catholic Bishops of America, "Teach Them" reaffirms their support of the schools as a vital ministry in the Church. It also challenges school personnel to continue to strive toward the goals - to teach doctrine, to build community and to serve. Speaking of Catholic schools the Bishops said, "We wish to declare our belief in their future, to offer renewed encouragement to all our collaborators in the school apostolate, to call attention to signs of progress and hope, to point to new areas for investigation and action, and to do all this in a spirit of realistic hopefulness."

During the past year, diocesan elementary schools have been engaged in a self-study. This detailed evaluation facilitated the examination of how each school responds to the needs of its students and parish community. School faculties looked at present academic programs and recommended necessary adjustments. The uniqueness and Christian life of the school community were evaluated as essential characteristics of each school. The needs and recommendations of these Self. Studies provides special direction. for local school programs for this



SISTER ROBERTA TIERNEY

Language Arts course will be used for the first time in all of the schools. This course has been developed by a committee of teachers under the direction of Sister Edwardine Weaver Provision has been made for an in-service program to assist teachers with the implementation of the program and to evaluate its effectiveness.

New materials to strengthen the kindergarten programs are also available: Special consultation for schools with early childhood classes unites these programs with the total school

As a continuation of the bicentennial theme, lefforts are being made to develop and utilize materials to teach the concept of Education for Justice. Suggestions for integrating this concept through On the diocesan level, a revised courses will be offered to teachers.

program depends upon the extent of the cooperation between home and school. The role of parents is an essential asset in the diocesan system Emphasis on this cooperative role will be the focus of the Principals Workshop in October Plans for the revitalization of the Diocesan Federation of Catholic School Parents also are in progress.

Dedication to missions, academic quality and opportunity for individual growth are very much a part of the Catholic schools future. The fact of the rising cost of education is also a reality for Catholic schools: Due to the wise planning and realistic budgeting of pastors, principals and school boards, the schools have been ableto continue to offer strong programs. Efforts will continue to be made to investigate alternate funding sources and to seek government assistance for services required by state and federal directives.

The new year is before us; the needs and challenges are great. The gifts and talents of the men and women dedicated to Catholic

education as parents, teachers, represent the true qualities to students, and administrators successfully meet that challenge.



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School Calendar

Sept. 7—Faculty Orientation

Sept. 8—Opening of School (Full Morning Session - Sept. 8; Full Day Sessions Sept. 9, 10)

Sept. 29-Teacher Conference Day Schools closed

Oct: 11—Columbus Day-Schools closed Oct. 27—In-service Book Exhibit (Full Morning Session)

Nov. 1—All Saints' Day (Full Morning Session Nov. 11—Veterans: Day - Schools closed Nov. 25-26—Thanksgiving Day Recess

Dec. 8—Immaculate Conception (Full Morning Session) Dec. 23-31—Christmas Recess

Jan. 14—Martin Luther King Day-Schools closed Jan. 28—First Semester Ends

Feb. 21-25—February Recess

March 16—In-Service—Schools closed April 7—Holy Thursday (Full Morning Session) April 8-15—Easter Recess .

May 19—Ascension Day (Full Morning Session) May 30 30—Memorial Day - Schools closed

Morning Session Wednesday, June 22 for Elementary and Junior High students, providing schools have not been closed because of adverse weather conditions or other emergencies during the year.

June 22—Last day for students June 23—Last day for teachers

McQUAID GRAD PROMOTED :

Dr. Richard K. Rudy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Rudy of Webster and a 1965 McQuaid graduate has been promoted to lieutenant commander and surgeon in the United States Public Health Ser-vice He is on the staff of the USPHS Outpatient Clinic in Honolulu, Hawaii.

History Fellowship

Thomas Alan Schwartz, a graduate of McQuaid Jesuit High School and Holy Family elementary school, has received a two year fellowship to study history at Balliol College, Oxford University, in England

A member of the 1976 Columbia University senior class, he graduated summa cum laude and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa

THESE SPECIALS

GOOD 'TIL AUG: 21