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NEWS RELEASE

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MCQUAID JESUIT PRESIDENT

TO STEP DOWN NEXT JUNE

Rochester, New York, September 21, 2006...James E. Whelehan, McQuaid Jesuit's tenth President, announced to the Board of Trustees on Monday of his decision to step down as president at the end of this 2006-2007 academic year.

In his announcement to board members, Whelehan stated that when he was named president in 2003 he agreed to serve in that capacity for a four to five-year term. Since McQuaid Jesuit has met many of its 2001-2006 strategic objectives and is nearing completion of its 2007-2012 strategic plan, Whelehan thought it appropriate to turn over the leadership as president. Whelehan has agreed to serve the board of trustees as a volunteer and to assist with the initiatives developed under the new strategic plan.

In his announcement to board members, Whelehan cited that the time was right for him to turn over his work to another. "This is a good time to make a leadership change," said Whelehan. "The second phase of our capital campaign will end in June and the construction of our field house will be completed by next September. A new strategic plan will also be in place. Spiritually, we have re-energized the school's Jesuit identity and mission and academically we received accreditation from the Middle States for the next ten years. In addition, McQuaid Jesuit is in sound financial health. It's now time for someone else to take up the baton."

Whelehan, who served as the school's Vice President of Advancement from 1998-2003, was the first layperson to be named president in the school's 54-year history. During his tenure, Whelehan oversaw one of the key initiatives of the school's 2001-2006 strategic plan: the sustaining and strengthening of the school's

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Jesuit identity among a predominantly lay faculty and staff. He oversaw the completion of a ten million dollar capital campaign that resulted in the construction of the Fr. James J. Fischer, S.J., Hall, which houses the fine arts program. He also increased the growth of McQuaid Jesuit's annual fund and endowment and developed new educational initiatives. Mr. Whelehan led the way for the implementation of the second phase of the school's **Prepare to Soar Capital Campaign**, resulting in the renovation of the gymnasium and the construction, now underway, of a new field house. During his tenure, McQuaid Jesuit achieved many academic accomplishments such as an increase in average SAT scores and the naming of the school's first Presidential Scholar and Intel Science Talent Search Semi-Finalist.

Whelehan has been described as someone with an unwavering commitment to McQuaid Jesuit and who worked ardently to position the school academically, spiritually, and financially. "Under his leadership, Jim led the integration of the increasing role of the laity and McQuaid Jesuit's mission and infused faculty and staff with a greater awareness of their role in that mission. Although his leadership will be missed, we take comfort in knowing that he leaves the school in a position of strength and vitality," said John W. Crowe, Chairman of McQuaid Jesuit's Board of Trustees. "We wish him well and are heartened by his willingness to assist McQuaid Jesuit as a volunteer," Crowe added.

Fr. Gerald Chojnacki, S.J., Provincial, New York Province, stated, "I am very grateful for the outstanding service performed by Jim, who was the first lay president of one our New York Province schools. He has been an excellent model of a Jesuit-lay partnership found in our schools today. I am proud of him and am appreciative of the service he has performed for McQuaid Jesuit. I wish him well as he moves on to new endeavors."

A search committee to name Whelehan's successor will be formed.

McQuaid Jesuit is named for the first Catholic Bishop of Rochester, the Most Reverend Bernard J. McQuaid, is a private, Jesuit College preparatory school for young men in grades 7-12. It is committed to fostering the development of the spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional and aesthetic talents of young men through personal concern for each student, competitive educational programs, a distinctive Jesuit spirit, and a formative sense of community. In addition, McQuaid Jesuit offers financial aid to students in grades 9-12 who qualify academically but don't have the financial resources to attend.