

To the Editor,

As many others, I have read articles recently in the Daily News in regards to how our elementary schools in Faribault have failed to meet AYP standards set forth by the “No Child Left Behind” Act. Because of the recent publicity, I am compelled to write this letter to remind parents of one of the educational choices they have here in Faribault for their children, Divine Mercy Catholic School.

Divine Mercy has outstanding curriculums for both reading (Project Read) and math (Saxon Math) as well as science, social studies, art, physical education, computer and library skills. Our 3rd-6th grade students have scored one to two years above grade level in every subject (reading, math, geography, science, and social studies) according to the 2009 Iowa Tests of Basic Skills, which is a standardized testing program utilized in both public and private schools across the nation.

It takes commitment, hard work, and sacrifice on the part of many individuals to make, what I believe Divine Mercy is, the best elementary school in Faribault. The faculty and staff are deeply rooted in their commitment to help our children reach their maximum potential. They truly care for and respect each child as the special gift God created. They believe in teaching the “whole person” which is evident in the actions and attitudes my children display in caring for people of all ages and ethnicity, not only here in Faribault, but nationally and globally.

I realize sending your children to a private school can be financially difficult. At Divine Mercy, over 40% of students receive financial aid, thanks to many individuals and families who are committed to its vision of teaching the whole person: spiritually, socially, culturally, emotionally, and intellectually.

Parents, remember that you do have a choice as to where your children attend school and the education they can receive. Please consider Divine Mercy Catholic School.

Angie Larson