

## McGuinness lands spot on top-50 list

By Dawn Marks

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For the second straight year, Bishop McGuinness High School has been named one of the top 50 Catholic high schools in the nation.

The school is listed on the Catholic High School Honor Roll compiled by the Acton Institute for the Study of Religion & Liberty.

"I know it's something we're very proud of," Principal David Morton said. "It makes us feel that the programs we have in place are being recognized by someone outside the school."

Bishop McGuinness is the only Oklahoma school on the list. The institute is an international research and educational organization based in Grand Rapids, Mich. The institute produced the honor roll in consultation with a national advisory board of Catholic college presidents and noted Catholic scholars.

The institute studies schools' curriculum, PSAT scores and students' involvement in the community, Morton said.

Bishop McGuinness, which has 640 students this year, ranked high in all three categories, he said.

School administrators and teachers stress to students the importance of giving to the community, he said. Hence, the school organizes community service opportunities.

The honor roll advisory board strives to prompt schools to educate students as well as possible while integrating the Catholic faith, thus providing a valuable service, said Father Bernard O'Connor, president of DeSales University and board member.

"It is important to highlight the accomplishments of schools that are contributing in exemplary ways to the moral and intellectual formation of their students," he said in a press release.

Sister Catherine Powers, superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, said Bishop McGuinness deserved the honor of being listed.

"The dedication of administration, faculty, staff, parents and students is truly outstanding. The school is committed to providing an education to high school students that is outstanding and Catholic," she said.