



LA LUMIERE SCHOOL

Character • Scholarship • Faith

P.O. Box 5005 • LAPORTE • INDIANA 46352-5005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

La Lumiere School enters its 45th year of Academic Excellence

LaPorte, Ind. – August 21, 2008 – The La Lumiere School campus was bustling with excitement on Sunday, August 17 as registration day began. The 2008-2009 school year opened with a record enrollment for the third consecutive year. The student body is at 175. La Lumiere has attracted day students from as far away as South Bend, Granger, Schererville and Valparaiso. Traditionally, boarding students come from the Chicago and Indianapolis areas, but this year students hail from Wyoming, California, Florida, Washington D.C., and Kentucky. Internationally the following countries are represented: Germany, Russia, Croatia, South Korea and China.

As a new member of the community, Director of Admission, Mary O'Malley commented, "The start of the academic year at La Lumiere is as unique an experience as the school itself. The sense of community one feels is overwhelming – which is heightened with the activities scheduled the first full week of school. Orientation has been an exciting prediction of a great year."

Returning students arrived eager to reacquaint themselves with friends and teachers and anxious newcomers were offered a warm welcome which eased any initial apprehensiveness they may have felt. "La Lumiere's orientation program helps our new students assimilate more easily into our community – to learn not just the names and faces of their new classmates, but they learn about the School's expectations, guidelines and time-honored traditions. For the returning students, Orientation 2008 provides an opportunity to help welcome these new students - as the returning students share testimonials of how they once reacted when posed with a particular scenario. New school policies are introduced for new and old student alike," said faculty member, Patrick Kennedy.

Once the three-day orientation is underway students are equally divided into four teams: *Moore*, *Webster*, *Bunting* and *Sullivan*, each named for a La Lumiere School former headmaster. The teams compete against one another in intramural competition that instills community and school spirit. In addition to the many social and team building exercises, such as tug-of-war and scavenger hunts, students attend orientation sessions that cover an academic overview, school traditions, community service expectations, athletics and prep school life.

Although school was not in session during the summer months, the campus was full of activity hosting many camps and conferences, and offering several academic classes. In addition, La Lumiere School continued its investment to campus improvements and facility upgrades; athletic opportunities have grown, adding both girls' golf and boys' tennis to the fall schedule, and six new faculty and staff members joined the La Lumiere community for the current school year.

According to Headmaster Michael Kennedy, "A major focus for us has been on hiring the best faculty possible for our students. Because we are able to offer our instructors the benefits of small class size, curriculum input, and opportunities for professional development, La Lumiere has become very competitive in the independent schools for open positions. We conduct our searches nationwide and have high caliber applicants. As a result, our faculty has a wealth of experience and are extremely knowledgeable in their fields. La Lumiere encourages advanced degrees, so it is common for faculty members to have their master's degree and even the number of PhDs is on the rise. We couldn't be more pleased to offer this level of academic experience to our students."

Classes began Wednesday, August 20, 2008.

Contact:
Maria Grieshaber
Director of Development & Communications
La Lumiere School
219.326.7450, ext 106
alumni@lalumiere.org

La Lumiere is a coeducational lay Catholic boarding and day school that provides a comprehensive college-preparatory school education for qualified young men and women from a rich diversity of backgrounds. It seeks to develop character, scholarship and faith, while remaining both independently accredited and faithful to its Catholic heritage. Current enrollment is 177 students. It is situated on a beautiful rural estate 8 miles north of La Porte. Please visit www.lalumiere.org for direction and additional information.