



**Alleman Catholic High School**

**1103 40<sup>th</sup> Street**

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[www.allemanhighschool.org](http://www.allemanhighschool.org)

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Alleman Receives Largest Gift in School History**

Today Alleman Catholic High School announced it has received a significant gift from the Richard W. McCarthy Charitable Trust. Alleman is honoring the request of the Trust to not release the amount.

The gift from the McCarthy Trust will be used to implement both phases of Alleman's Strategic Plan, which was formulated in 2014. A portion of the funds will be used to establish the Father Mirabelli Excellence in Catholic Education Fund. That fund will be used to provide for the future needs of Alleman students and to maintain a quality academic environment.

Phase 1 began this school year; Google Chromebooks are being integrated into the Alleman curriculum. Alleman has created a 1-on-1 technology initiative into the school's curriculum. Google Chromebooks will be phased into student body use beginning next school year.

Other Phase 1 projects include: upgrades to both of the school's computer labs, enhancing the wireless network infrastructure, renovated science labs, curriculum improvements and teacher training. The gift also allows Alleman to implement Advanced Placement curriculum guidelines into its accelerated courses as well as Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) centric courses.

Phase 2, which will begin in the coming months, will improve Alleman's physical facility and includes replacing older roofs, renovating classrooms and upgrades to the school's heating and ventilation equipment.

"We cannot thank the McCarthy Trust and the McCarthy family enough," said the Rev. Daniel Mirabelli, Director of Development at Alleman. "This is the biggest single contribution Alleman has ever received. It bodes very well for the future of Alleman High School. It pleases me that our students will continue to obtain a strong education at Alleman."

"The Richard W McCarthy Charitable Trust is pleased to contribute to the educational infrastructure and facilities improvement at Alleman High School," said John S. Callas, of McCarthy, Callas & Feeney, P.C., and spokesperson for the McCarthy Charitable Trust. "Mr. McCarthy valued both the contributions of Alleman High School to the City of Rock Island and the educational opportunities provided by Alleman High School to all the residents of Rock Island County."

David Hobin, Alleman High School principal, saluted the gift. "We cannot thank the late Dick McCarthy and the Trust enough," Hobin said. "It's a great time to be a student at Alleman."

Hobin also saluted alums Dave DeJaegher, the school's business manager, and Jim Harl, former Alleman board member, in their work with the McCarthy Trust.



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"Alleman has continually proven to be a premier academic institution in the Quad-Cities," DeJaegher said. "This generous gift helps us provide a top-notch teaching and learning experience for our current and future students."

The late Richard W. McCarthy was a long-time successful Rock Island attorney who greatly valued his Catholic education. McCarthy is a graduate of St. Joseph's High School in Rock Island, which along with St. Mary's High School in Moline, were the forerunners of Alleman Catholic High School. St. Joseph's closed in the spring of 1949. That fall, Alleman opened.

Despite his success, relatives say, McCarthy was a very private man, who never wanted publicity.

McCarthy served in World War II as part of the 771st Field Artillery and later the 26th Infantry Division, earning a Purple Heart and four Bronze Stars. He participated in the invasion of Europe at Utah Beach and also fought at the Battle of the Bulge.

A 1943 graduate of St. Ambrose College, he attended DePaul University after the war and received his law degree. He then joined the law firm of Bozeman, Moran and Klockau. He was an assistant state's attorney in Rock Island in 1950.

In 1997, he founded the law firm of McCarthy, Callas, Fuhr & Ellison, where he actively practiced law up until a few weeks before his death in April of 2008.

"The additional benefit of the McCarthy Trust gift is that it will allow the school to concentrate future fundraising efforts on scholarship and tuition assistance opportunities for students," Mirabelli said.

**"Alleman Catholic High School is committed to giving our young people the highest faith-based education possible," Mirabelli added. "We are excited about the possibilities that this gift allows. Mr. McCarthy's legacy at Alleman will have a tremendous impact on future generations of Pioneers."**

**About Alleman Catholic High School:** Alleman Catholic High School is a secondary educational institution accredited by the North Central Association. Alleman, located in Rock Island, Ill., offers a quality Catholic education, and boasts a 100 percent graduation rate for the Class of 2015. Alleman students have consistently scored above the national average on the ACT college admissions test with a composite score of 23.8 in 2015. Last year, 112 seniors, of whom 18 percent were Illinois State Scholars, reported winning more than \$8.2 million (a four-year value) in scholarships and awards.