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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/04/09

SPONSOR P. Griego LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE St. Michael's High 150th Anniversary Day SM 37

ANALYST Hoffmann

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

House Memorial 73 is a duplicate of Senate Memorial 37.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 37 declares March 5th, 2009 “St. Michael’s High School 150th Anniversary Day at the New Mexico Senate, and commemorates the history and tradition of St. Michael’s High School’s 150 years in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The memorial cites the ongoing influence of St. Michael’s High School in New Mexico, and chronicles the following events and includes the origin and educational principles of Lasallian education as summarized below.

In the summer of 1859, New Mexico Archbishop Lamy requested that the Christian Brothers from France come to Santa Fe to open a school for boys. Brothers Hilarien, Gondulph, Geramius and Galmier Joseph arrived in the early afternoon of October 27 and set to work opening a school on Old Santa Fe trail in an adobe hut next to the San Miguel Mission just two weeks later.

The first boarding students arrived on November 9 and classes began on November 22, 1859; and eleven years later, amidst difficult financial times, Brother Botulph Schneider arrived in Santa Fe to motivate and direct the Christian Brothers and the students. His joy and enthusiasm inspired his co-laborers, and they began to raise money for upgrading and developing St. Michael's High School. In 1876, St. Michael's conferred diplomas upon its first graduates.

During Brother Botulph's thirty-six-year tenure as director of the school, new structures were erected and the school's academic reputation grew. Two of those structures that remain in downtown Santa Fe are the present-day Lamy building and the present-day Lew Wallace building.

The New Mexico territorial constitutional convention met in the Lew Wallace building to draft the constitution of New Mexico in 1910, and one-fourth of the convention delegates were alumni of St. Michael's.

In 1926, a fire destroyed the tower and upper story of the school; and the damage was so extensive and estimated repairs so costly that St. Michael's faced closure. While the school's director, Brother August, was walking downtown and contemplating the fate of the school, he encountered Miguel Chavez, an alumnus and successful businessman. Miguel Chavez, upon hearing of the school's difficulties, decided to finance the rebuilding of St. Michael's.

The St. Michael's community continued to grow over the next five decades, and by the 1960s, it had outgrown its location on Old Santa Fe trail. The school moved to its current location on Siringo road in 1967 and in 1968 became coeducational after the closing of Loretto Academy.

In the 1990s, science laboratories and new classrooms were added to St. Michael's and the Tipton Sports Center was completed. A new building was added in the 2000s, and improvements were made to classrooms, offices and athletic fields. A statue of St. John Baptist de la Salle was recently installed at the school's front entrance.

St. John Baptist de la Salle founded the institute of the brothers of the Christian schools, the Christian Brothers, in 1680 in Rheims, France. The son of wealth and privilege, de la Salle joined the priesthood and became committed to educating the children of poor and working-class people. Over time, he trained and organized a group of men dedicated to the ministry of teaching.

The core principles of a Lasallian school are:

- A. faith in the presence of God;
- B. respect for all persons;
- C. quality education;
- D. concern for the poor and social justice; and
- E. a united community where diversity is respected

St. Michael's High School, with a college preparatory curriculum, has, as its mission, to educate every student in a spirit of faith and academic excellence according to Roman Catholic principles in the Lasallian tradition of the Christian Brothers.

The school's anniversary celebration begins today, with the reading of this memorial, and April 30, 2009 will be dedicated to the founders of St. Michael's High School, with Archbishop Sheehan presiding over a celebration and mass and with a dinner reception to follow. The celebration will continue with a sports achievement event that honors St. Michael's High School's long-running and successful athletic program. All of Santa Fe will be invited to "Community Day" on September 27, 2009, celebrating St. Michael's one hundred fiftieth anniversary in conjunction with San Miguel Fiesta and featuring tours, games and visual and performing arts. An all-class reunion and gala will take place the weekend of October 9 through 11, 2009; and on Sunday, October 11, 2009, a mass at the St. Francis cathedral basilica will be held to honor the one hundred fiftieth anniversary celebration;

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In addition to declaring that March 5, 2009 be declared "St. Michael's High School 150th Anniversary Day" at the Senate, the memorial directs that congratulations be extended to St. Michael's High School's Christian Brothers, students, alumni, staff and faculty, past and present, and that gratitude be expressed to Lasallian Brothers throughout the world for their commitment to educate all.

The memorial further directs that copies of the memorial be transmitted to the Christian Brothers, the St. Michael's High School board of trustees, the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Santa Fe and the County Commissioners of Santa Fe.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Memorial 37 makes no appropriations.

CH/mt