

NEWS

# Nativity School of Worcester creates scholarship fund with \$200K from J.D. Power foundation



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WORCESTER — The Nativity School received a \$200,000 gift from a foundation tied to the late J.D. Power III.

The gift, which will establish the J.D. Power III Scholarship Fund, was given to the school by the Power family's Kenrose Kitchen Table Foundation.

"Though we've received other generous gifts over the years, this is the first major gift that specifically creates an endowment fund that will provide scholarships for our students," said Tom McKenney, president of the school.

He said that the gift strengthens the endowment, ensuring that students, "can receive a life-changing education that is tuition-free and that they otherwise may not receive."

Power, a Worcester native who passed away in 2021, founded the well-known J.D. Power and Associates, a publisher of customer satisfaction rankings, notably for the automobile industry.

"My father was a proud Worcester native from humble beginnings," Susan Curtin, Power's daughter, said in a statement released by the school. "His success was shaped by the influences of a tight-knit family and Jesuit education. Our family is honored to support this scholarship fund in his memory."

Power graduated from St. Peter's High School and the College of the Holy Cross before attending the Wharton School and earning an MBA. He then worked in the auto industry before eventually starting his own business conducting research in the late 1960s.

The Nativity School, which will turn 20 years old next year, is an independent Jesuit middle school that provides tuition-free education.

"Our community was filled with gratitude when we learned of the gift as we knew it would have a major impact on the success of our students and community," McKenney said. "The Power family's support and deep commitment to ensuring our students meet their full potential means so much to our community and we can't thank them enough."