

Dear La Salle Families,

July 16, 2018

Happy summer!

With a few more weeks left in the summer break, we look forward to the new school year. We want to share with you what's happened over the summer and what to expect this year.

First, a few introductions. We've hired several new teachers – including two La Salle grads – who bring a wealth of experience to La Salle. They are:

- **Noah Banks '12, Religious Studies Teacher.** He recently completed Notre Dame's Masters in Theology ECHO program for teachers of Religious Studies.
- **Hannah Grossi, German Teacher.** She comes to us from Mountain View High School in Vancouver where she has taught German and served as an ELL coach.
- **Caitlin Hudson, Health Teacher.** A recent graduate of Yale University and Lewis and Clark College, she has taught at Springwater Environmental School and also led yoga classes.
- **Ryan Kain '11, Science Teacher.** After completing the Pacific Alliance for Catholic Education program at the University of Portland, he spent the past year teaching at Valley Catholic.
- **Mary-Catherine Sewell, Math Teacher.** She taught many of our students during her nine years at St. John the Apostle School.
- **Mallory Spanjer, Social Studies Teacher.** She just completed a MAT program from George Fox University and additionally has a Master's degree in Modern World History from the University of York, England.

Next, we want to let you know that we spent much of the summer renovating several areas of our campus. Major items include:

- **A renovated theater lobby.** We've opened up the lobby to the main hall, upgraded the bathrooms, and created an enclosed sound/tech booth at the back of the theater.
- **A new courtyard.** Located outside the library and the M.J. Murdock Trust Innovation and Design Center, this space will allow us to host classes and public events in the center with direct access.

The first day of school is Sept. 5. What can you expect? So far, about 700 students of many backgrounds will be in attendance. This year's La Salle community is more financially, culturally, and academically diverse than ever. For example:

- 34% of our students identify as culturally diverse
- 55% of our families receive tuition assistance
- 12% of our students access tiered intervention academic support programming
- 63% of our students take at least one of our 27 AP/Honors classes
- 41% of our students participate in fall sports



This year we will continue our annual exploration of a social justice theme rooted in our Lasallian call to respect all people and overcome injustice. Last year we began a multi-year exploration on identity, culture, and race, culminating with a week dedicated to the question “Who am I?” This year we’ll focus on understanding others through empathy. Not only is the ability to empathize a critical skill for 21st-century learners, diversity helps build stronger communities. In addition, we’ll send our second cohort of teachers to the Center for Equity and Inclusion to learn how to be a community that welcomes and celebrates diversity.

We have a lot to look forward to in 2018-19. The information in this packet should help you prepare. Please review everything; we’ll post more details and news at lsprep.org. I also encourage you to:

1. Check our website (lsprep.org) to review **grade-level specific** information
2. **Read emails** from the school
3. “Like” and keep up with La Salle on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and the class Facebook pages
4. **Subscribe** to our electronic calendar and sync it to your favorite platform via lsprep.org/apps/events/
5. If interested, return the **Carpool Information** form so we can help support transportation for all students
6. **Contact us** if you have questions. Our contact information is at lsprep.org/apps/staff/

Finally, thank you for your support as I step into an expanded role as President/Principal. We are blessed to have an amazing team of administrators serving the school and moving the mission forward. I especially want to thank Mr. Matt Winningham for stepping into the Executive Director role leading the key departments of advancement, finance, communications, admissions, human resources, and campus development.

The strength of our team reflects the strength of our community. This flows from our faith in the presence of God, respect for all persons, concern for the poor and social justice, desire for an inclusive community, and commitment to quality education – all core principles of Lasallian education worldwide.

Thank you for partnering with us in the sacred work of educating young people. We are honored to be entrusted with your children, blessed to have a wonderful Lasallian mission to guide us, and thankful for an incredible team of educators.

Live Jesus in our hearts,



President/Principal

P.S. Mark your calendars for our signature fall events: Red and Blue BBQ (Aug. 22), Orientation (Sept. 4), Back-to-School Night (Sept. 12), and Believe benefit (Oct. 6). These are wonderful opportunities to meet other families and support La Salle.

