

## Letter From the Principal



## LA SALLE ACADEMY SCHOOL UPDATE

## FROM THE STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE

Students wrote similes for Ms. Diamond to describe LSA.

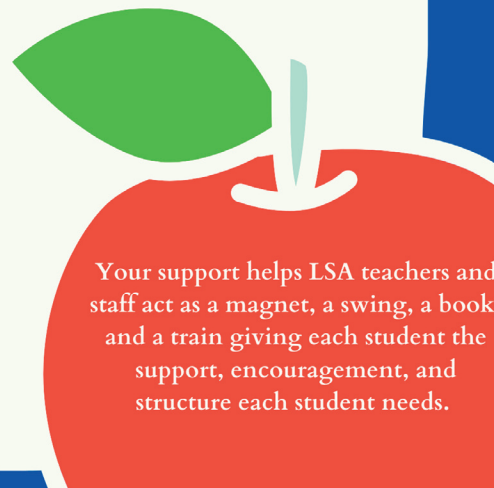
They wrote that LSA is like:

A SWING BECAUSE  
IT PUSHES YOU TO  
GO HIGHER AND  
HIGHER

A MAGNET  
BECAUSE WE  
ALL STICK  
TOGETHER

A TRAIN THAT  
DOESN'T LET YOU  
OFF UNTIL YOU ARE  
READY AND USES  
ITS CONNECTIONS  
TO MAKE YOU A  
GOOD CITIZEN

A BOOK THAT  
HELPS US WRITE  
THE NEXT  
CHAPTER OF OUR  
LIVES



## In Memory of our Friends



"When you are sorrowful look again in your heart, and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that which has been your delight." Kahlil Gibran

In the last month, La Salle Academy has lost two benefactors and friends. They each made a lasting impact on La Salle Academy, our students, and our mission. They truly brought delight to our school community.



Joe Loughran served as an LSA Board of Trustee Member. He had a passion for high-quality education, and he loved our mission. He and Airline Hydraulics helped prepare LSA Covid Protocols for our students.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.



Ann Curvan was an LSA Advocate who brought her love of reading to our students. She was an integral part of the team that set up our LSA School Library and the complicated online library borrowing system.

La Salle Academy  
PHILADELPHIA

1434 North Second Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19122  
215.739.5804

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Business tax dollars can directly help  
La Salle Academy students!

There is still time to apply for the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) Programs for the 2020-2021 school year. We are grateful for those companies that support LSA students' tuition and scholarship programs through these critical state programs.

Please contact Megan G. Thomson to learn more about how your business can participate at 215.739.5804 or [mgthomson@lasalleacademy.net](mailto:mgthomson@lasalleacademy.net).



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La Salle Academy NEWSLETTER  
PHILADELPHIA

September, 2021

## In the News...

LSA students are excited to participate in *Meditation through Movement* virtual meditation and yoga classes.

Our LSA Student Council is helping our community participate in the International Lasallian Day for Peace on **October 21st, 2021**. Students will Rise Together for Peaceful neighborhoods and communities.

Our LSA Proud Golf Classic was a wonderful success. 152 golfers joined us on a beautiful day at Whitmarsh Valley CC and Green Valley CC.

Students and teachers love our new Eureka Math Series.

**November 6th at 8:30 A.M.,** the Sigma Phi Lambda Fraternity will host their annual Sig PhiveK Run at La Salle University's McCarthy Stadium.



Mai (7th Grade) participates in LSA's bi-weekly assurance testing.

## Letter From the President



Greetings from La Salle Academy! Yes, we are a little later than normal, but we got off to a great start. This year for the first time, we had in-person registration in May. We wanted everyone to understand that we would offer virtual learning only for medical reasons. We experienced the benefit of this in August when Ms. Diamond and I held our mandatory Parent/Guardian Meetings and we had 96% attendance!!! Therefore, on September 8th, we were all ready. What I wasn't expecting were the happy faces from everyone...parents...students...and teachers. We were ready!!!

In August, Ms. Diamond and I met with our faculty and staff and posed the question, "What did we learn from last year and where do we want to go?" Last year, I said a million times how resilient everyone has been, and I still believe that. Now we couple resilience with compassion. We didn't give up on our students before and we certainly are not giving up now. Our theme for the 2021 – 2022 school year is "LSA Unlock Your Full Potential." During all the struggles our families and students face: financial struggles, COVID-19, and 410 homicides in the city of Philadelphia, our students come to school with a smile on their faces.

In development, we jumped right in. We had a very successful golf outing. Thank you to all who participated in any way. We cannot do what we do without the goodness and generosity of others, which leads me to my next point. La Salle Academy lost two great friends in September, Joe Loughran and Ann Curvan. Joe was one of our newest Board Members. Joe and Norma Jean Loughran have been involved since the beginning of La Salle Academy. Last year Joe became "hands-on" and made desk shields for our teachers and students. The other faithful member of LSA was Ann Curvan who worked with Mary Anne Duffy and Mary Jean Woods and literally built our state-of-the-art Library which is so useful today.

I don't want to end without telling you who we are today. We are 86 students strong representing 66 families. Our average gross income is approximately \$27,000. One major distinction that La Salle Academy claims is that we support our students through high school. We currently have 57 students in high school. Because of the goodness of Brian and Barbara Riley, who have given our students the opportunity to attend a Catholic High School, we have 37 in Archdiocesan High Schools; nine in Private Catholic, two in Private schools, six in Charter schools, and three in public schools. I can honestly say that our students are making the most of their education. Twenty-five students have graduated from a four-year college and twenty-nine have completed two years of college with an additional 88 students in the workforce.

It was Meg Kane who come up with the saying, "La Salle Academy is more than a mission. It is a miracle every day." We need your help to continue our mission of providing a quality Lasallian Catholic Education.

With prayerful gratitude,

*Sister Jeanne McGowan, SSJ*

Sister Jeanne McGowan, SSJ, President



LSA Students ready for Graduation Day!



**Third Grade**

This year third grade is learning our school's theme *LSA: Unlock your Full Potential* by following the five goals each day, inside and outside of school, as we grow to become confident and successful young learners. We are excited to become strong readers and writers and to memorize our multiplication facts before fourth grade! We are looking forward to learning as much as we can about Jesus at our new Catholic school.

**Fourth Grade**

The fourth graders are excited about this year's school goal of "Unlocking their Full Potential" during the 2021-2022 school year by following the five goals, helping, and working with each other, studying, and celebrating their successes as a class. They are especially excited about learning how to become journalists and publishing newsletters committed to healthy living as members of the *Healthy News Works* team.

**Fifth Grade**

In keeping with this year's theme, *LSA Unlock Your Full Potential*, the fifth grade will be working on a smooth transition into a newly adopted math program at LSA, Eureka Math. In their academics and extracurriculars, the students at LSA will strive for success as they Unlock their Full Potential.

**Sixth Grade**

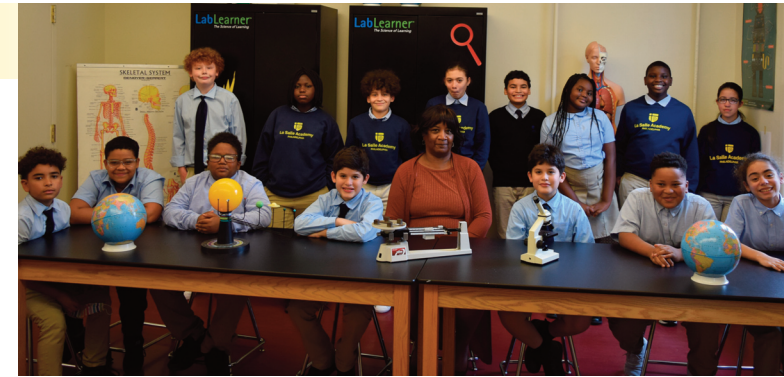
The sixth grade students are using their keys of being **Respectful, Responsible, Peaceful, Motivated, and Consistent** to start this school year with positive energy and high expectations.

Daily, students are consistently staying within their designated learning areas, wearing masks, and practicing safe distancing during school hours.

Sixth-grade students are not only showing daily respect to their classmates and to all LSA Staff, but they have a common goal to make a difference in their neighborhoods. They are making a collective effort to create ways to express kindness to the homeless and hungry by planning a Service-Learning Project that will bring support and comfort to those in need.

Best of all, the sixth-grade students are demonstrating motivation and responsibility by grasping and excelling at the new skills of Eureka Math, and the Language Arts lessons of their Journey literature activities.

I am certain that the sixth-grade students will continue to excel, and I am looking forward to helping each of them to discover the potential of success still yet to come!

**Seventh Grade**

It's a blessing to have our Lasallian family reunited in person and not virtually. Returning to in-person learning also brings challenges. Some of the students had been virtual since March of 2020. This means they have not been in a physical classroom setting since grade five. My main goal is to get all seventh graders acclimated to a full class environment by fully participating in their classwork, inspiring each other, and having the confidence and faith in themselves, each other, and God to overcome the obstacles they had the last 2 1/3 school years. As those goals are met, the academic achievements and the utilization of the five goals of the school will come easier.

**Eighth Grade**

The Class of 2022 are very excited for their final year at La Salle Academy. The students have high school on their minds but know there is still so much more to accomplish over the next nine and a half months.

Over these next few months, I really want the students to get a better feel for what high school will be like. Preparing the Class of 2022 for high school will be my number one priority. Another thing I would love to see from this year's eighth-graders is for them to grow as individuals, both socially and academically. I will instill in them that they need to be well-rounded individuals and learners. I truly have high hopes for each student. My hope is that they have those same high hopes in themselves.

**2021 LSA Proud Golf Classic**

# Thank You For Making The 2021 LSA Proud Golf Classic a Success!



Our Annual **LSA Proud Golf Classic** was a big success! Sr. Jeanne and Teresa welcomed 144 golfers to play on a beautiful day, and Whitemarsh Valley Country Club and Green Valley Country Club ensured that the golf outing was a great experience. It was a perfect night for an outside reception! In addition to Sr. Jeanne, Principal Teresa Diamond, and our LSA Board of Trustee Chairman, John Fenningham, Esq., our 2020 La Salle Academy Student Council President and Little Flower Freshman, Alexandra, spoke briefly. Alexandra thanked all who gathered for giving her a life-changing opportunity. We thank YOU, too.

We are grateful for all who golfed, volunteered, and sponsored our outing to help support our *Sponsor A Student* efforts. Our Board of Trustee Members and nearly 100 sponsors made the outing a big success.