

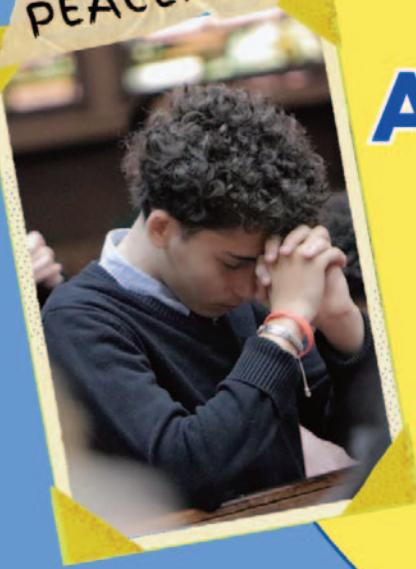
MOTIVATED



CONSISTENT



PEACEFUL



RESPECTFUL



La Salle Academy

Annual Report 2024-2025



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RESPONSIBLE



Letter From the President

“Our Mission is to live and work so that all people may be united with God and one another.”

- Sisters of Saint Joseph Constitutions, 16

Dear Friends of LSA:

La Salle Academy is blessed to be able to provide a high-quality Catholic education to the children of Philadelphia thanks to the generosity of our Board of Trustees and donors! Through this support LSA is able to continue to “unite our work with God and one another.”



This Annual Report reflects the incredible spirit of giving among our donors, as well as the dedication of our staff, faculty and volunteers who enable LSA to make a difference in the lives of our students each day for 11 months a year!

One of the ways we measure success is by our alumni students' high school graduation rate. Since 2003, we have had an overall high school graduation rate of 92%. Within the last five years, I am proud to say that our high school graduation rate is 100%! We celebrate our LSA alumni attending these fine Catholic High Schools: Archbishop Carroll, Cardinal O'Hara, Cristo Rey, Liguori Academy, Little Flower, La Salle College HS, Mercy Career and Technical, Merion Mercy Academy, Mt. St. Joseph Academy, Roman Catholic, St. Hubert, Sts. Neumann and Goretti, and West Catholic Preparatory.

We are working diligently to assure the continued success of our students and alumni not only by preparing our students to be life-long learners and developing their relationship with Christ within themselves and others, but also by launching a Strategic Plan process to ensure LSA's future success. LSA is currently working with ADAC, an educational consulting organization that works nationally with private and Catholic schools and archdioceses. We are blessed to have a diverse cross-section of LSA stakeholders participating in the Strategic Plan process, including board members, staff, faculty, alumni, donors and other friends of LSA.

With your ongoing support, we are confident that we are on the path to achieving our mission and goals for our students! Thanks for being a blessing to our LSA Community!

“You are called like the Apostles to make God known to others.”

- De La Salle, Meditations, 193.1

Peace and blessings,

M J Walker
Maria J. Walker
President, La Salle Academy



Letter From the Board of Trustees

Dear Benefactors and Supporters,

I am honored to write to you for the first time in my capacity as Chair of our Board of Trustees. As a Board member for the past decade, I have come to appreciate very deeply the contribution that each member of our community makes – donations of time and treasure, contributions of ideas and strategies, and most importantly, constant prayers for our students, families, administrators, faculty, and staff.

In these pages, you will read the details of the financial contributions made by so many individuals, families, and organizations. You'll read about the people who, in total, contributed more than \$2,170,000 to La Salle Academy, and I'll highlight that we raised significantly more in 2024-25 than we raised in the previous year in our Annual Fund Campaign, our EITC and OSTC campaign, and our Sponsor a Student campaign.



- Our individual donors contributed \$22,700 more than we had received in the prior year, and we successfully convinced twenty-four new donors to contribute to our mission.
- In our all-important category of EITC donations, eight people designated La Salle Academy to receive their tax proceeds (Call Megan Thomson if you want information on this opportunity).
- In all, forty-eight new donors contributed to La Salle Academy across all of our donor options—individual donations, EITC, event sponsors, etc.
- And, we raised \$64,685 more in total unrestricted dollars.

These funds are critical to all that we do for our students – a strong academic foundation; commitment to the Five Goals; full-time support from our social worker; art, music and STEM classes; and health support for students and families through Education Plus Health. I daresay that no other elementary school envelops their students the way LSA does, rooted in the Catholic faith and charism of the Sisters of Saint Joseph and the Christian Brothers. We welcome you to visit school and spend time with our students and faculty. There is no better reminder of the important work we are doing than to experience the energy and the joy that is alive and well in the halls of La Salle Academy.

Thank you for your kindness, your donations, and your prayers.

In peace,
Kristine Grady Derewicz

Kristine Grady Derewicz
Chair, La Salle Academy Board of Trustees



Letter From the Principal

Dear Friends of La Salle Academy,

When I first began teaching in the Chicago Public Schools, I learned how to teach, and to reach under resourced students in urban settings. When I transitioned to Catholic School leadership in the Cristo Rey and Ascension Catholic Academy networks in Minnesota, my experience grew through partnerships with Latino and African American students. During my time in the University of Notre Dame's Remick Leadership Program, I learned what it means to lead with faith, to build community, and to serve with humility. In my four and half years as a principal in a Catholic elementary school in Delaware County, I learned that every child holds God-given dignity, and each child learns and grows at a pace that is uniquely their own.



But in these first months at La Salle Academy, I have felt and witnessed something deeper. I have come to realize that every step of my journey has led me to 2nd and Jefferson Streets. Here, God has brought together all of my experiences and placed me in a community where strong pedagogy, loving relationships, joyful community, and individualized learning come together in a truly grace-filled way.

Each morning during our LSA Assembly, I feel God's presence, and I see it in the smiles and determination of our students as they recite the Five Goals. I hear it in the steady rhythm of their voices as they say the LSA Pledge. I feel it in the energy in our classrooms, and the warmth with which our students greet one another. La Salle Academy offers not only an excellent education—it offers a spiritual foundation built on hope, dignity, and love.

I feel blessed beyond words to follow in the footsteps of Teresa Diamond, who served this community with extraordinary dedication and heart. It is a privilege to carry the mission forward with our committed faculty and staff, our incredible families, and our generous supporters. Most of all, it is a blessing to walk with our students and to help them truly become consistent, motivated, peaceful, responsible, and respectful.

La Salle Academy is shaping young hearts and minds who will one day carry compassion, justice, and faith into the world. I truly believe they will change our world for the better—because they are already changing mine.

With gratitude and blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brigid McClelland".

Brigid McClelland
Principal, La Salle Academy



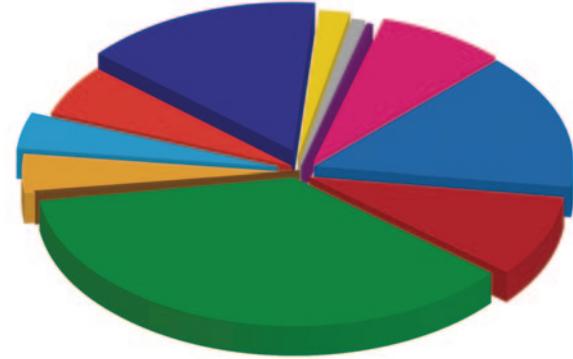
FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2024-2025

La Salle Academy is deeply grateful to our Board of Trustees and to our Benefactors who have made the 2024-2025 year a fundraising success. Because of your generosity, La Salle Academy reached our toughest fundraising goal to date. We are sincerely thankful for your help in making a difference in each of our students' lives. This was a year of growth, and a year we could again witness our students and graduates succeeding. LSA spent \$2,350,000 on general operations, our Academic Program, the Education Plus Health and educational supports.

Gifts and Donations by Source of Funds

During the fiscal year 2024-2025, La Salle Academy received approximately \$1,100,000 in unrestricted donations, \$1,325,000 in restricted Scholarship and Sponsor A Student funds; \$250,000 in donations and restricted funds for the LSA Graduate Support program. Our Board of Trustees continues to recognize Sr. Jeanne McGowan, SSJ's work and legacy with the Sr. Jeanne McGowan Family Support and Scholarship fund.

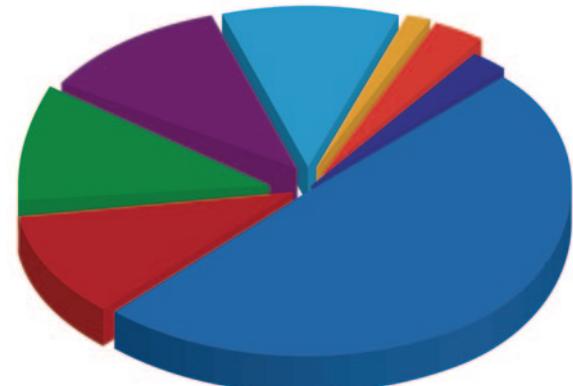
Sources of Gifts	FY 2024-2025 Gifts
Board and Board Related	\$375,000
Individuals	\$225,000
Companies (including EITC & OSTC)	\$920,000
LSA Families, Faculty & Staff and Volunteers	\$11,250
Foundations	\$100,000
Religious Congregations	\$100,000
Other Non Profits & Scholarship Orgs	\$145,000
LSA Sponsor A Student Program	\$375,000
Transfers from United Way and other entities	\$50,000
Day of Giving	\$20,000
SJM Fund	\$10,000
Income from Investments	\$200,000
	\$2,431,250



Operating Expenses by Program

La Salle Academy spent \$2,427,750 for Academic Programs and Operations in the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year. With the help of our Board of Trustees, LSA Administration and many dedicated teachers, volunteers and donors, the education of our students and the LSA Mission remain the focus.

Purpose of Expense	FY 2024-2025 Expenditures
LSA Academic Program	\$1,125,000
Graduate Support	\$255,000
Administration	\$275,000
Development	\$272,000
Family Support programs	\$250,000
Event Programs	\$125,750
Facilities Spending	\$75,000
Extended Year Programming	\$50,000
	\$2,427,750



Please note: Development includes newsletters, printing, event support and the salaries of the Development Assistant, the Development Director and a portion of the salary of the President.

La Salle Academy Endowment Fund

The La Salle Academy Endowment Fund was established in 2006 and as of June 30, 2025, LSA leadership has grown the fund to \$3,400,000. In 2014, the LSA Board of Trustees established a Board Designated Endowment Fund with an intermediate focus. These funds are valued at approximately \$6,100,000. Our hope is that these Endowments will provide support, stability and security for long term operations of La Salle Academy and the LSA mission.



OUR DONORS

La Salle Academy continues to live our mission of educating the whole student and reinforcing the Five Goals of La Salle Academy: to be peaceful, motivated, consistent, responsible and respectful. Thank you, Board of Trustees, Benefactors and Donors! Your gifts of time and treasure have brought us all great joy and the ability to continue to educate students from underserved and underprivileged neighborhoods. The following pages reflect donations and gifts made between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025. We are grateful, and we are humbled by your generosity.

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La Salle
GOLF OUTING
Academy

**LSA's Annual Golf Outing
was nothing short of tee-rific!**

**Our golfers enjoyed a beautiful day
at both Whitemarsh Valley Country
Club and Green Valley Country Club.**

**We would like to extend a BIG thank you
to every Board Member, company, organization, and individual who
supported our Outing. Because of your ongoing belief in our mission,
students, and school, we can continue providing a hole-istic education.**

PENNSYLVANIA TAX CREDIT DONATIONS

The Pennsylvania Tax Credit Programs provide significant donations and scholarship support to La Salle Academy, our students and our families. We are very grateful to the companies and individuals that donated these critical funds to La Salle Academy. With gratitude, LSA recognizes these donors below. Thank you for participating during the 2024 - 2025 fiscal year. Your partnership makes a big difference!

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program Business Donors

ACME Corrugated Box Co.	Double H Manufacturing	Meridian Bank
James J. Anderson Construction Company	Driscoll Construction Company	Movers Specialty Services
Beneficence Partners	Elliott-Lewis	Pathfinders, Inc.
BLOCS	First Citizens Bank	Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance
Bridge Educational Foundation	Firstrust Bank	PNC Financial Services Group
BSI Electrical CCompany	Foundation for Catholic Education	Swartley Brothers Engineers, Inc.
Customers Bank	Global Packaging	
Danella Construction Corporation	Joe Hand Promotions	

EITC Individual Donors

LSA recognizes and thanks the individuals below who participated in the EITC program for the 2024-2025 fiscal year:

Anonymous (2)	Josech C. and Luci Harp	Edward Nelling
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The Pennsylvania EITC and OSTC Programs make a wonderfully positive impact on La Salle Academy each year. If you think you, or your business, could participate, please contact Megan G. Thomson, Director of Development, at mgthomson@lasalleacademy.net

TERESA DIAMOND SPONSOR A STUDENT PROGRAM

The LSA Sponsor a Student Program has been renamed the **Teresa Diamond Sponsor a Student Program** to honor our foundational Principal who retired in July 2025. This program honors Teresa's LSA legacy and acknowledges her more than 20 years of dedicated service to LSA's children and families. Sponsorship levels include: **Diamond Level: \$19,500 (true cost of tuition); Heart Level: \$10,000; Wisdom Level: \$5,000; Spirit Level: \$2,500; and Faith Level: \$1,000.**

Thank you to the people below who have generously supported our Sponsor a Student Program on a yearly basis or through a 6-year commitment.



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In 1858, the Sisters of Saint Joseph and the Christian Brothers educated and served children at 2nd and Jefferson Streets.

Members of the 1858 Society have a lasting impact on children's lives by including La Salle Academy in their estate plans. For more information about how you can help secure LSA's future through your estate plans, or to notify us of inclusion in your will, please contact Megan G. Thomson, Director of Development, at 215-739-5804 or mgthomson@lasalleacademy.net.

Volunteers in Service to La Salle Academy

La Salle Academy offers a more comprehensive and enriching education with the help of our volunteers. Thank you for sharing your time, energy and most especially, your heart with our LSA family.

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La Salle Univ Sigma Phive K

Under the direction of LSA Board Member Brother Gerard Molyneaux, FSC, La Salle University's Sigma Phi Lambda Fraternity generously donated their time and talents to La Salle Academy again this year. Members of the Fraternity supported our students during our Extended Day Enrichment time as well as during the Annual Coach Charles Torpey Memorial Sig Phive K Run. A huge Thank You to all the members of Sigma Phi Lambda and to those who supported the Sig Phive K.

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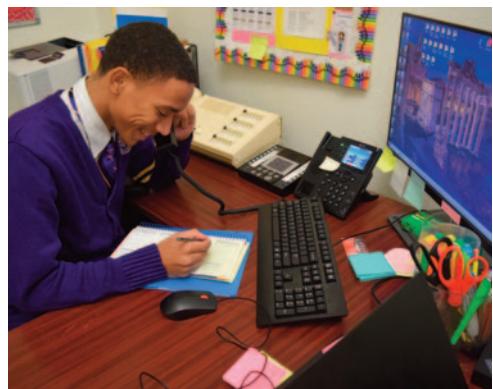
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LA SALLE ACADEMY GRADUATE SUPPORT PROGRAM



The La Salle Academy Graduate Support Program works closely with our soon-to-be graduates, and LSA graduates, to maintain the connection to the LSA mission and to help them become successful.

Our LSA Graduate Support Program guides 7th and 8th graders through the high school application process and ensures they find the school best fit for them. While many grade schools might lose contact with their recent graduates, LSA continues to nurture our alumni, motivating them to do well in high school and develop a strong sense of self. Once a month we host our alumni for LSA Connects, a night designed to keep alumni engaged with LSA's Graduate Support team while offering educational sessions such as mock interview prep with real professionals.

For the 2024-2025 school year, our LSA Graduate Support team supported nearly 74 students with the following outcomes:

100% of our graduates received scholarships to Catholic High Schools	132 hours of community service with La Salle Academy	71% of our current high school students earned honors	65+ financial aid applications for high school and for college were processed
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NAME OF SCHOOL	# OF STUDENTS
Mercy Career and Technical	17
Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School	8
Little Flower High School	5
Roman Catholic High School	4
Neumann Goretti High School	3
Liguori Academy	3
Strath Haven High School	2
Archbishop Carroll High School	1
St. Hubert High School	1
West Catholic High School	1
Archbishop Ryan High School	1
La Salle College High School	1
Merion Mercy Academy	1
Mount Saint Joseph Academy	1
Community Academy of Philadelphia, C.S.	1

The LSA Difference

LSA Extended Day Enrichment Program



Our Extended Day Enrichment Program helps LSA provide a more holistic education for our students. Three days a week our students are here until 5pm. During these additional hours, students have extra academic time through Homework Club, as well as a chance to participate in activities that broaden their minds and skills. From learning to cook through My Family Kitchen to Mindfulness Through Movement to Scrabble Club and Art Club, our students are gaining valuable skills that they can use in high school and beyond.



LSA Extended Year Summer Session

LSA's Extended Year Summer Session is just the right balance of education and warm sunny days outdoors. Our summer curriculum, which includes exercises in math, reading, and writing, is designed to help our students avoid the dreaded summer slide. By keeping up their coursework over the summer, we find that our students transition much easier to next year's curriculum. Outside the classroom, our third and fourth graders partook in swimming lessons and all classes took a trip to the bowling alley and spent a day at the beach thanks to the generosity of our Board of Trustees.



The LSA Difference

Education Plus Health Nursing Program

The Education Plus Health Program is a critical piece of La Salle Academy's mission to educate the whole child. Through this program, LSA has on-site nursing services five days a week, access to behavioral and health counselors for our students, and assistance with connecting families to primary care physicians. Ed Plus Health's presence at LSA has increased our daily attendance rate because we have the resources to support students' mental and physical needs within the comforting environment of our school.



Special Programs

LSA is blessed to have partnerships with individuals and organizations, which help us offer special courses for our students. Here are just a few of our programs:

- Our Fourth graders work with Healthy NewsWorks to create a newspaper while building their research, writing, communication and critical thinking skills.
- John Kearney, a member of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps., conducted a year-long Public Speaking Course for all grades to help them improve skills including eye contact, volume, and dictation.
- Our Eighth Grade also took a course on Financial Literacy, led by John Hopkins and Junior Achievement. Here, students learned to be good stewards of their finances while understanding the importance of saving money.



Social Worker

Another piece of the LSA model that has a huge impact on our students' educational journey is having a full-time social worker on campus five days a week. Colleen Burns works tirelessly to support our students and their families with a holistic approach. Whether she is speaking with a student about how they feel or she is working with a family to handle personal challenges, Colleen plays a crucial role in ensuring our students feel they have a safe learning environment where they can freely express their concerns.



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Your leadership, guidance and loving support are the backbone of our community. Thank you to our benefactors and our donors. Your donations help us grow and furthers our success. It is because of you that we can continue our unique model with an Extended Day and Extended Year, an engaging Science Program, a strong Fine Arts Program, the Education Plus Health school nurse program and our unique Graduate Support Program. Our La Salle Academy community is grateful for you and your support.

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