



La Salle Academy **NEWSLETTER**

PHILADELPHIA

In the News...

The 2023-24 La Salle Academy school theme is **"Good News is POPPIN' at LSA!"**

...

Our annual **LSA Proud Golf Classic** is rescheduled for Tuesday, **October 24th** due to inclement weather.

...

Nov. 4th at 8:30am, the **Sigma Phi Lambda Fraternity** will host their annual Sig PhiveK Run at La Salle University's McCarthy Stadium.

...

Meet our Teachers - see inside to learn more about our amazing teachers!

Letter From the President

To be entrusted with the teaching of the young is a great gift and grace of God. -St. John Baptist de La Salle

It is an honor to have recently been appointed President of La Salle Academy! As I follow in the footsteps of La Salle's inspirational and visionary founder, Sr. Jeanne McGowan, I am committed to continuing the legacy of excellence she established.

This work is made easier due to the dedicated LSA staff, who, through their ongoing commitment to quality Catholic education, form the heart and soul of the school. No one's heart beats stronger in faith and devotion to Catholic education than LSA's Principal, Teresa Diamond, who lives the Gospel each day through her commitment to the students. It is a privilege to partner with such an experienced and seasoned professional.

Our students are truly a blessing from God, something St. John Baptist de La Salle knew and taught. I am happy to share that the spirit of the Saint is alive and well as the students grow and learn by following LSA's five core principles – *To be Peaceful, Responsible, Consistent, Motivated, and Respectful* – which we state every morning together. Walking through the halls of the school, I am moved to hear the echoes of the Saint's prayers recited throughout the day: "Let us remember, that we are in the holy presence of God."

Our Lasallian tradition of education also is bolstered by the strong connection to the Sisters of St. Joseph (SSJ). One SSJ Maxim stands out for me as I start this new journey in faith: *"Undertake everything for the advancement of the glory of God and the salvation of the Dear Neighbor."* (Maxim 7)

Peace and blessings,

Maria J. Walker
President



Letter From the Principal

Dear LSA Friends, Supporters and Benefactors:

Our 2023 - 24 Theme is "Good News is Poppin at LSA!" This School Year, the LSA Team will focus on the good that is happening within La Salle Academy, with our students and through our students.

We will emphasize our students' inherent goodness, a welcoming spirit and how wonderfully it works with our LSA Five Goals. I am grateful for your help and support in enforcing this message to our students and LSA Community. As Archbishop Nelson Perez often says: "Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit to work within you, through you and despite you." We are looking forward to a wonderful year!

With a grateful heart,



Teresa Diamond
Principal



Mrs. Walker and Ms. Diamond congratulate the La Salle Student Council, elected in September by the La Salle Student Body.

Back to School Mass:

Music Teacher Mr. Williams led an 8th Grade Choir to contribute their voices to launch the new school year during our opening mass at St. Michael's Church.

We are blessed to welcome our students, teachers, and staff to an AMAZING school year!



Third Grade

Teacher: Ms. Lauren Schwartz

Education: St. Joseph's University, BS, Psychology & Behavioral Neuroscience; University of Pennsylvania, MS, Education

Favorite thing about LSA: You feel the sense of family and community when you walk through the doors each day.

Inspirational quote: *"She believed she could, so she did."*

2023-2024 Goal: This year good news will be poppin' in third grade as we follow the Five Goals each day and learn to become empathetic, accepting, and compassionate students of La Salle Academy. We are excited to become better readers and writers and to memorize our multiplication facts before fourth grade!



Fourth Grade

Teacher: Ms. Tamisha Edwards

Education: Indiana University of Pennsylvania, B.S.Ed., Early Childhood Education

Favorite thing about LSA: How welcoming La Salle Academy is, especially to new students, family and staff members.

Inspirational quote: *"Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."* - Dr. Mae Jemison

2023-2024 Goal: 4th Grade Students will work on writing, speaking, reading and developing their speaking and critical thinking skills. They will use these growing skills, math and the LSA goals to become stronger students.

Fifth Grade

Teacher: Mrs. Maryann Fynes

Education: St. Joseph's University, BS, Elementary Education

Favorite thing about LSA: Seeing former students and sharing their success stories

Inspirational quote: *"If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world."* - C.S. Lewis

2023-2024 Goal: In 5th grade we will work to develop a growth mind-set that promotes student achievement by encouraging student accountability in areas of behavior and learning. We hope to achieve this by giving students the opportunity to set personal goals, reflect on progress, and develop strategies for improvement.





Sixth Grade

Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Mulderig

Education: Holy Family University, BS, Elementary Education

Favorite thing about LSA: The students! They are so genuine and caring.

Inspirational quote: *"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."* – Maya Angelou

2023-2024 Goal: By the end of sixth grade, students will display organization and independence. They will gain confidence and skills to become the best versions of themselves.

Seventh Grade

Teacher: Mr. Michael Shackelford Peña-Taylor II

Education: State University of New York at Buffalo, BA, History

Favorite thing about LSA: The relationships/support the school maintains with the families and the students for the many years after graduation is a true blessing.

Inspirational quote: *"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, an evidence of things not seen."* - Hebrews 11:1

2023-2024 Goal: Students hope to become confident and dedicated to their writing and presenting abilities. This will inspire them during high school interviews and presenting the school values.



Eighth Grade

Teacher: Mr. Michael Rossi

Education: Holy Family University, BA, Art

Favorite thing about LSA: Working with the 8th graders as they develop into high schoolers.

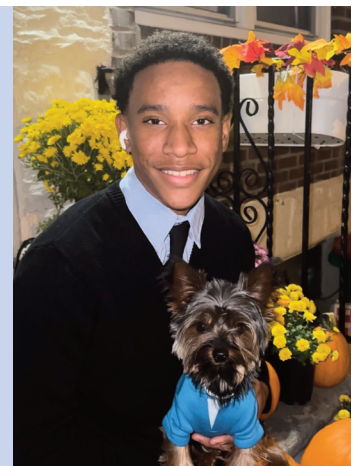
Inspirational quote: *"Believe you can and you're half way there."* - Theodore Roosevelt

2023-2024 Goal: As students work toward graduation, they will continue to respect themselves, classmates, and teachers while working to become responsible young men and women. Moreover, they will aim to show up on time every day and complete assignments to the best of their ability.



Art**Teacher: Ms. Marlene Adler****Education:** Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts; University of the Arts, MS, Art Education**Favorite thing about LSA:** Seeing students grow and develop their art skills each year.**Inspirational quote:** *"Be the change you want to be in the world."* – Ghandi**Music****Teacher: Mr. Darin Williams****Education:** Roman Catechetical Religious Studies; St. Charles Seminary Overbrook; Certificates in Religious Studies and Religious Music**Favorite thing about LSA:** The joy of the students and faculty.**Inspirational quote:** *"It takes a village to raise a child."***Technology****Teacher: Ms. Bridget Joram****Education:** St. Joseph's University, BS, Elementary and Special Education; Chestnut Hill College, MS, Reading Specialist Certification**Favorite thing about LSA:** Its strong mission.**Inspirational quote:** *"Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love."* – Mother Teresa

*La Salle Academy Students celebrate
the feast of St. Francis of Assisi
and pray for peace.*



Help us welcome the newest staff members of LSA!

Stephanie Torres: *Administrative Assistant*
Danielle Diamond: *Communications and Development Coordinator*
Dora Mastromarco: *Bookkeeper*
Rebekah Sawaya: *School Staff Support*

Pax * Paix * Peace * Paz

La Salle Academy created a new and beautiful space dedicated to the Michael and Margaret Driscoll Peace Room. Students and staff are enjoying the improved space! LSA uses this space for the Peer Mediation program, which guides students through peaceful, productive problem solving.



LSA Proud Golf Classic - Rescheduled for October 24, 2023

Hurricane Ophelia rained on our original golf date but did not dampen our spirits or effort. Our Annual Golf Classic will now be on **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24th** at Whitmarsh Valley Country Club. The golf outing supports La Salle Academy, our students and our unique mission.

You can still support our event and LSA.
Visit LSAgolf2023.givesmart.com

Proceeds directly impact our students and support our LSA model.



LSA Celebrates Students of the Week





La Salle Academy

PHILADELPHIA

1434 North Second Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19122
215.739.5804

FIRST CLASS
PRSRT
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit 146
Southeastern, PA

Board of Trustees

John C. Fenningham, Esq., *Board Chairman*
Jeanne McGowan, SSJ, *Founder, President Emerita*

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Timothy Abell | Peter Madden |
| Donna Bartynski | Joseph Mahon, FSC, PhD |
| Paul Bucco | Gerard Molyneaux, FSC, PhD |
| James Danella | Michael O'Neill, Jr. |
| Kristine Derewicz, Esq. | Rosanne Orchon, SSJ |
| Teresa Diamond | Frank C. Palopoli |
| Karen Dietrich, SSJ | Carol Melvin Pate, EdD |
| M. Cathlene Driscoll, Esq. | Julie C. Pukas |
| Dennis Durkin | Brian Riley |
| Eugene P. Hughes, Jr., MD | John D. Rilling, CPA |
| Mary Beth Hughes, Esq. | Derek Rodriguez |
| Dale E. Lintner, Jr. | Alfred Salvitti |
| James J. Lynch | Gregory Vizza, Esq. |
| Kathleen G. Lynch | Maria Walker |
| Eileen Maginnis | Timothy Woolley |

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 2023-2024 school year. We are grateful for those companies that support LSA students' tuition and scholarship program 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.

Join LSA in supporting the
**Coach Charles Torpey
Memorial
Sig PhiveK Run & Walk**

**Saturday, November 4th
8:30am
La Salle University**

Stay Connected With LSA



@LasalleAcademyPhiladelphia



@ La Salle Academy