



# La Salle Academy **NEWSLETTER**

## PHILADELPHIA

September 2024

### In the News...

#### Golf Outing

Our LSA 2024 Proud Golf Outing is Monday, September 30th at Whitemarsh Valley Country Club and Green Valley Country Club. Thank you to everyone who has supported this year's outing!

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Our La Salle Academy **Family Resource Fair** is on Tuesday, October 8th from 3:15 to 6 pm.

Information will be provided on Career and Job Training, Social Services, Educational Opportunities and more!

Special thanks to Philadelphia Career Pathways and the Nerney Family Foundation.

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#### Sig Phive K

Walk or Run for LSA at the annual Sig Phive K Run hosted at La Salle University on Saturday, November 2nd at 10am.

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#### Welcome to New Staff

LSA welcomes new staff members. We are blessed to have these positive additions to our team!

### Joy in the Journey



The 2024-2025 La Salle Academy school theme is "Joy in the Journey!" At LSA we hope our students, faculty, staff, families, and community members embrace the saying **"I will find JOY in the JOURNEY that God has set for me."** May our Five Goals- to be —Peaceful, Responsible, Consistent, Motivated, and Respectful— continue to guide our decisions and help us work toward creating a brighter future for all at LSA.

**PEACEFUL**

**RESPONSIBLE**

**CONSISTENT**

**MOTIVATED**

**RESPECTFUL**



**Letter From the President**

***“We believe in the transforming capacity of education!”***

- Lasallian Declaration 2020

Blessed greetings to the many friends and supporters of La Salle Academy! As we embark on the beginning of the 2024-2025 School Year, we are all filled with renewed energy hope and joy, strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit, for positively impacting our students. We join our Christian Brothers in affirming our commitment to the transforming power of education! Along with the Sisters of St. Joseph, we put the students at the center of our work and respond to their needs in support of their long-term success.

This photo of the impressive statue – “The Encounter” – on the grounds of Lewis University, depicts the welcoming spirit of St. John Baptist de La Salle at the moment he encounters students as they embark on their educational journey. So much of what St. John Baptist de La Salle and the Sisters of St. Joseph established more than 300 years ago still holds true today: we continue our commitment to quality Catholic education, developing empathetic, caring, insightful and spiritually connected young people. **It’s because of your support that we are able to continue to serve youth in these strong traditions.** Thank you for this privilege!

Peace and blessings,

*M J Walker*  
Maria J. Walker  
President



## Congratulations to the 2024-2025 Student Council



On Wednesday, September 18th, the LSA school community inducted our 2024-2025 Student Council during our opening Mass. Congratulations to our officers: President Collen (8th Gr.); Vice President Angel (8th Gr.); Secretary Sebastian (7th Gr.); and Treasurer Lilyana (7th Gr.). We would also like to recognize our Fifth and Sixth Grade Representatives: Samantha, Lezlyann, Liam, Samantha, and Royal as well as our Ambassadors: Phoebe, Aarin, Neveah, and Alexandra. We wish them a successful year ahead under the supervision of Mrs. Mulderig and Mr. Shackelford Peña.



**Letter From the Principal**

Dear Friends,

As we embark on the 2024-2025 school year, I am delighted to share with you this year's school theme: **"Joy in the Journey"**. Rooted in Psalm 16, "I will find joy in the journey that God has set for me", this theme invites us to remember that we do not journey alone.

We are blessed to believe that God journeys with us, protecting us along the way. Each year, I remember anew that we are grateful and blessed. We are grateful to our Board Members and benefactors for believing in, and supporting, the mission of La Salle Academy. We are happy to partner with our students' parents/guardians in our common desire to provide students with a holistic quality education. We are blessed with dedicated faculty and staff as they teach the students the knowledge needed to map out their lifelong route, managing the detours they may face along the way.

Fueled with our five goals of being respectful, responsible, motivated, consistent and peaceful, La Salle Academy students can navigate any roadblocks and unexpected bumps in the road. As our students learn about themselves, they will also challenge themselves in Math, Reading and Writing. They will discover new ideas through STEM projects and our many new Enrichment programs and LSA Clubs. Each LSA Class will focus on a real problem or issue, recognize big and small ways that they can help, and follow through with a service learning project.

As you read each class's goal for this year's journey, let's pray that traveling together we will all experience and celebrate the JOY in 2024-2025.

Gratefully,

Teresa Diamond  
Principal



The La Salle Academy 8th grade, new teacher Mr. Plumer and Ms. Diamond stepped out of the classroom and into the outdoors to discover more about themselves with Outward Bound. During this one day program, they participated in team building activities and even did a ropes course!

**Thank you for your support!**

Thank you to the generous individuals and companies who have donated to LSA, including Danella Companies, Glanzmann Subaru, Flynn & O'Hara, Partners in Outreach, Union League of Torresdale, and others.

**Third Grade****Teacher: Ms. Lauren Schwartz Zanoni****Education:** St. Joseph's University, BS, Psychology & Behavioral Neuroscience; University of Pennsylvania, MS, Education; Responsive Classroom Coach**2024-2025 Goal:** What a joy it is to be a 3rd grader at La Salle Academy! This year we will learn to follow the Five Goals each day and work to be empathetic, accepting, and compassionate students of La Salle Academy. We are excited to grow as readers and writers, memorize our multiplication and division facts before 4th grade, and find joy in each new day! We are looking forward to learning as much as we can about Jesus at our new Catholic school!**Favorite Candy:** Peach Rings**Favorite Sports Team:** Eagles and Yankees**Fourth Grade****Teacher: Ms. Tamisha Edwards****Education:** Indiana University of Pennsylvania, B.S.Ed., Early Childhood Education**2024-2025 Goal:** This year 4th grade will model a growth mindset. It is important for us to learn and understand that we can reach our goals through hard work and dedication. As the fourth grade teacher, I want to empower my students to be leaders who care about their education.**Favorite Candy:** Twix**Favorite Sports Team:** Eagles**Fifth Grade****Teacher: Mrs. Maryann Fynes****Education:** St. Joseph's University, BS, Elementary Education**2024-2025 Goal:** The fifth grade class will be finding joy in the learning journey by connecting learning to students' interests and the things they care about. We will focus on a positive mindset to overcome challenges and celebrate achievements and accomplishments - both big and small.**Favorite Candy:** M&Ms**Favorite Sports Team:** Phillies



**Sixth Grade****Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Mulderig****Education:** Holy Family University, BS, Elementary Education

**2024-2025 Goal:** Welcome to the third floor 6th grade! Now officially in middle school, the sixth graders will be exploring the world of ratios and unit rate, writing a personal narrative essay, and building their faith through studying Bible stories from Creation to Pentecost. We will strive to achieve numerous compliments throughout the day, so we can earn a class reward!

**Favorite Candy:** Reese's Peanut Butter Cups**Favorite Sports Team:** Phillies, Eagles, and Philadelphia Union**Seventh Grade****Teacher: Mr. Michael Shackelford Peña-Taylor II****Education:** State University of New York at Buffalo, BA, History

**2024-2025 Goal:** A big goal for Grade 7 this year is to infuse each student's talents into our subject content. For example, if a student excels in art, writing, or music, part of their subject grade will include how they used their talent to help their classmates and themselves improve their grades.

**Favorite Candy:** Anything with peanut butter and chocolate together but no nuts!**Favorite Sports Team:** Eagles and Yankees**Eighth Grade****Teacher: Mr. Jack Plumer****Education:** Vassar College, BA in Sociology and teaching certification in grades 7-12 Social Studies

**2024-2025 Goal:** In 8th grade we are doing the best to become prepared for high school next year. The 8th grade is hoping to finish our time at La Salle Academy strong by staying motivated in our academics. Lastly, we are striving to follow the five goals and be the best role models we can be for the rest of the school.

**Favorite Candy:** Reese's Cups**Favorite Sports Team:** Ravens and Orioles



**Art****Teacher: Ms. Marlene Adler****Education:** Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts; University of the Arts, MS, Art Education**Favorite Candy:** Dark Chocolate Salted Carmel**Favorite Sports Team:** Phillies and Eagles**Music****Teacher: Mr. Darin Williams****Education:** Roman Catechetical Religious Studies; St. Charles Seminary Overbrook; Certificates in Religious Studies and Religious Music**Favorite Candy:** Hershey with Almonds**Favorite Sports Team:** LSA CYO Basketball Teams**Technology****Teacher: Ms. Bridget Joram****Education:** St. Joseph's University, BS, Elementary and Special Education; Chestnut Hill College, MS, Reading Specialist Certification**Favorite Candy:** Starburst**Favorite Sports Team:** St. Joseph University Hawks**Welcome Bench and Planter Dedication**

LSA Art Teacher Marlene Adler wanted to create a special art installation to honor Sr. Jeanne McGowan, founding president of La Salle Academy. LSA Principal Teresa Diamond suggested highlighting the five goals of LSA: Respectful, Responsible, Motivated, Consistent, and Peaceful. This collaboration resulted in five beautiful planter boxes that were designed and painted by LSA students and alumni. The art project started pre-COVID, and Mrs. Adler said it was a true “labor of love.” This summer, LSA held a dedication ceremony of the five planters along with an unveiling of a Welcome Bench dedicated to Sr. Jeanne with the inscription:

*“That all may be one.”*





## Help us welcome the newest staff members of LSA!



## 2024 LSA Proud Golf Outing Monday, September 30, 2024



Thank you to our Board Members and donors who have already helped make this year's outing possible. If you would like to donate and support our students and mission while making this year's outing a hole in one, visit our GiveSmart page at: <https://LSAgolf2024.givesmart.com>



Scan the QR code  
for quick access





## La Salle Academy PHILADELPHIA

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US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit 146  
Southeastern, PA

### PA STATE TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

The PA EITC and OSTC Programs are  
are a critical part of La Salle Academy's  
fundraising and development work.  
Companies and businesses make a big



impact creating scholarships for our students. Individuals can also  
participate through Special Business Partnerships utilizing  
the same Pennsylvania Education tax Credits for  
Personal Tax Purposes.



Contact Megan to learn more about both options at  
[mgthomson@lasalleacademy.net](mailto:mgthomson@lasalleacademy.net)

Join LSA in supporting the

### Coach Charles Torpey Memorial Sig Phive K Run & Walk



Saturday, November 2nd  
10am  
La Salle University

### Stay Connected With LSA



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@ La Salle Academy