

# LA SALLE Parent Newsletter

FOR PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL • YAKIMA • WASHINGTON

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2007-08

## Principal Ideas

Commitment to responsibility and building unity in our Lasallian school community has been a major highlight these past two weeks. For the first time in our nine year history, we celebrated a "Heroic Vow Thanksgiving Prayer Service." We honored **Br. Jack Henderson**, as the first **Lasallian Educator of the Year**, nominated by his faculty and staff peers for his contributions to living out and building on the values important to making our school a model for Catholic Lasallian education. During the prayer service we also called forth the Seniors in a commitment to leading the school in living out the same values. They received a cross with "Live Jesus in Our Hearts" as a sign of that commitment. We congratulate Br. Jack and the Seniors in stepping up to the challenge of "walking the talk."

The following week over 90% of the Seniors elected to go on retreat at Camp Ghormley, a number that is very high compared to our other Lasallian schools. Retreats are a huge commitment by students and staff, a commitment that continues to foster the kind of spiritual community we form at La Salle.

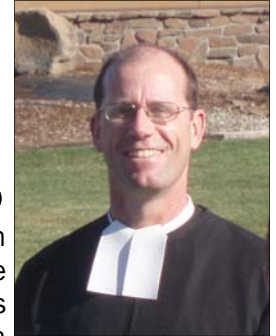
While the Seniors were away, many of the Juniors and their parents braved a very snowy night to participate in the Junior Unity Mass, followed by a potluck dinner. Monsignor Ecker of St. Paul's celebrated the Mass. Junior Andy Carroll highlighted the evening with comments about the class and its growth in moving more deeply in school leadership.

Junior Katie Roy inspired us with a poem. We congratulate the Juniors and their moderator, Mrs. White on pulling together a memorable rite of passage for the class.

### Preparing for 2008-2009

Though it may seem early to think about the next school year, now is the time to prepare in a couple of areas. This year over 40% of our students receive financial assistance. All financial assistance is determined on a "need basis." The need is determined in a great part by the data we receive from PSAS. For us to receive the data, their form needs to be completed and sent with a \$20 fee directly to PSAS. The deadline to assure consideration for financial assistance is early, January 15. Forms are available in the Administrative Offices at school and online in the "Tuition and Development" section of the website.

This is also the time off year we consider handbook policies, courses to offer, and textbook changes. All these decisions are done with consideration of the balance between academic quality and financial impact as well as the values and personnel guiding our programs. One development being considered for 2008-2009 concerns the Progress Reports. Faculty have already discussed shifting progress reports/grading to three times a semester instead of the current six. With the consistently updated PowerSchool and the workload in the main office, shifting to three reports mailed home each semester (two progress and one semester grading) at the 6th, 12th and 18th week, would continue to keep adequate formal communication on course progress. Essentially, we would drop the current reports that are sent home with the students. The potential shift in policy was raised with parents who attended the November Parent Association meeting and they were in support of the idea and provided some helpful input.



FINANCIAL  
ASSISTANCE  
FORMS FOR  
2008-2009  
DUE IN  
JANUARY TO  
PSAS



### Student Recruitment for 2008-2009

“Word of mouth” seems to be one of the stronger traits of the La Salle culture. As a strong trait, it also can be the weakest trait. As we move into a critical time period for admissions recruitment, we rely heavily on “word of mouth” inspired from its stronger side. With admissions testing January 19, now is the time to help spread the word about La Salle and encouraging potential students and parents to contact us through Ms. Cuevas (225-2928). As we look to our future, we realize that there are many parents out there, from both Catholic and public schools, who value our Lasallian education enough to make the financial

efforts needed to ensure a quality Catholic college preparatory education for their children. They just need to know more about us and, particularly, the efforts we make with financial assistance. Our timeline is important as it assures the proper planning we need to establish the course sections and quality staff needed to continue building the education environment we value.

Live Jesus in Our Hearts,



Br. James Joost, FSC



SPREAD THE  
WORD ABOUT  
LA SALLE  
AND EXTEND  
AN  
INVITATION!

## La Salle High School Impact:

### Share Our Success with Potential Students and Parents!

- **College Prep** – For the 7 graduating classes, over 90% go on to post-secondary education (98% in 2007)
- 20% of the class of 2007 scored in the **top 10%** students Statewide
- **2006-2007 Washington State Scholastic Cup:** 2nd in Division, 8th in State for all schools
- **Safe/secure** learning environment
- Individual **academic attention**
- 100% participation in Campus Ministry and **community service**, especially to those in great need
- Extraordinary **science opportunities**
- 90% participation in athletics and visual and **performing arts**
- Over 40% of our students receive **financial assistance**
- **Free transportation** each day to the Lower Valley



LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL

3000 LIGHTNING WAY

UNION GAP, WA 98903

TELEPHONE (509) 225-2900 • FACSIMILE (509) 225-2950

WWW.LASALLEYAKIMA.COM

THE LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL PARENTNEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED EACH SIX WEEKS (BROJAMES@LASALLEYAKIMA.ORG)

# Looking to the Future

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to our student athletes! Fall 2007 was another season of accomplishment for La Salle and we're proud of our competitors and coaches.

Earlier this year in the volleyball playoffs, the La Salle girls played a final gritty match against an always powerful Riverside squad and came up just short of a state berth.

Last weekend in the second round of the State football playoffs, our La Salle football team played with great heart and nearly toppled 6<sup>th</sup> ranked Asotin in a rematch of last year's state title game. And this was supposed to be a rebuilding year...

And finally, our soccer girls again took us on a journey to the top of the 1A soccer world ( the third year in a row), coming home with second place in State after a shootout to end the championship game.

Each of these teams was also recognized for its superior accomplishment in the classroom with soccer winning the Academic State Championship!

Most importantly however, are the values that are instilled through sports and our positive learning environment...core values that represent what Christian Brother schools throughout the world are all about.


Rob Lynch, a friend who is connected with La Salle, offered these observations about our La Salle students...

*"...Our family has grown to love this school through observing the Kennedy kids and their friends. Something in this program develops ordinary kids into remarkable human beings. They are not simply great athletes; they're great young men and women. Certainly far nicer than anyone I knew in high school! They would come over to baby sit our kids...but they come in "Packs." They are rarely seen in less than 6 or 8. Hire one babysitter, the whole backfield and a cheerleader shows up! Although we would joke about having a kegger...I never had a single fear that any of those kids were on anything more powerful than Jolt! Besides, they all treat our boys like absolute Rockstars! Applause to the fine athletes that played their heart out this weekend. Standing applause to the teachers, coaches and administrators that are part of the magic mix that turns these ordinary kids into such fine young men and women."*

Well said Rob! And congratulations to all our parents who are making such a wise investment in their child's future.

God bless you and all of our families.

Sincerely,



Tim McGree  
President



**QUALITY  
EDUCATION  
WITH AND  
FROM  
QUALITY  
STUDENTS  
AND FACULTY**

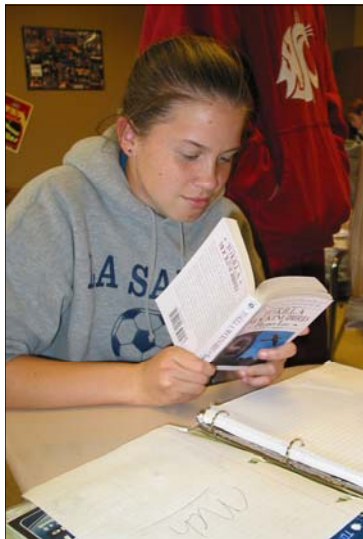


**QUALITY EDUCATION IN THE ARTS: MRS. WHITE WORKS WITH SENIORS IN SPANISH PREPARING FOR THE DIA DE LOS MUERTOS.**

# Dean of Studies

Br. Dan Morgan, FSC  
 brodan@lasalleyakima.org  
 (509) 225-2932

CALL  
 TEACHERS  
 DIRECTLY  
 CONCERNING  
 ANY QUESTIONS  
 ABOUT CLASSES  
 OR GRADES.

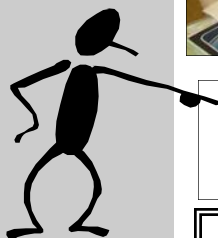


## PREPARE FOR SEMESTER FINAL EXAMS

Final Exams for the First Semester are BEFORE Christmas this year. The schedule is on the back page of this newsletter. Preparation through study and review may vary from class to class as does the weight of the final exam on semester grades. Grades are due in January and posted by Jan. 9. GPA at semester determine eligibility for the first six weeks of the second semester.

## Academic Letter

Students recently received their Academic Letter patches. Many students commented on how great they look. Following the publication of First Semester Report Cards, invitations will be sent to those students who qualify for the next application period. Already two students have submitted the necessary paperwork to join the others already recognized for outstanding and ongoing academic excellence. A complete list and sample of the academic letter are posted in the Bulletin Board located in Lightning Hall.



TAKE THE  
 POWERSCHOOL  
 SURVEY

**Three ways to access PowerSchool:** 1) go to [www.lasalleyakima.com](http://www.lasalleyakima.com) and follow the PowerSchool link; 2) go to <http://powerschool.lasalleyakima.org> (be aware this is an ".org"); 3) go to <http://207.149.115.136>

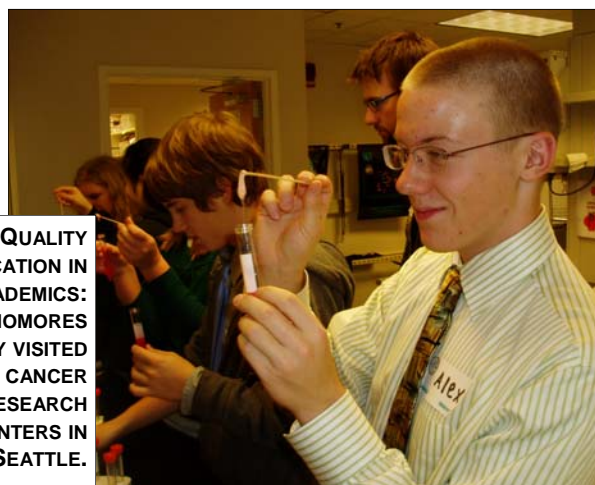
## PowerSchool: Parent Participation

La Salle's PowerSchool server hit the 12,000,000 hit marks last month. Since starting PowerSchool in the Fall of 2000, over 12,000,000 pages were accessed by parents, students, teachers and administrators. (This represents an average of 4,600 pages a day!) For a school our size, that is an amazing volume of server traffic. With additional features, we hope to increase the use of PowerSchool in the near future.

Currently, a quick survey is available for parents when logging into PowerSchool. When you log in, look for the blue "Click here to take the parent survey link." It will take you to a fast two item survey looking at frequency of your visits to PowerSchool and the purpose of accessing the parent portal. This will help us analyze PowerSchool usage and look for ways to meet future needs. We appreciate your participation in our survey. Look for results in the next newsletter.

## Prepare for the Second Semester

The week prior to semester exams, change of class schedule request forms will be available in Brother Dan's classroom/office, Room 302. Consideration of La Salle's graduation requirements, college admission standards and academic rigors are some items that should be reflected on prior to any request. Discussions with teachers, students and parents are an integral part of the process. Student or parent initiated class changes must be in place by January 10, 2007 (the fourth day of the new semester).



QUALITY  
 EDUCATION IN  
 ACADEMICS:  
 SOPHOMORES  
 RECENTLY VISITED  
 CANCER  
 RESEARCH  
 CENTERS IN  
 SEATTLE.

# Dean of Students

Mr. Matt Schulte  
mschulte@lasalleyakima.org  
(509) 225-2909

The year seems to be flying by, and things are moving very quickly in a positive direction here at La Salle. As we continue to focus on building inclusive community among the La Salle student body, please encourage your students to reach outside of their immediate friend group and meet new people. A few notes and reminders:

- Students and parents are asked to refer to the published La Salle High School website calendar when planning vacations and other non-emergency absences from school. In the event a student is taken out of school for reasons other than illness, the parents and the student must assume full responsibility for this action and its academic consequences. La Salle reserves the right to define an absence as "excused" or "unexcused" regardless of parental written or oral approval.
- Parents, we ask that you do not text or call your student on their cell phones during the school day. Some students are forgetting to turn off their phones and the phones are confiscated when they go off in school. If you need to reach your son or daughter, please call the front office (225-2900), and we will get the message to your student.
- As the winter sports seasons approach, please remind your student to act responsibly and respectfully while attending any sporting event – whether competing or watching.

## Notes From Sister Ann Marie (225-2915) Student Support Services

Besides the lunchtime college preparation workshops (all posted on the school calendar) which are designed for students, La Salle schedules a number of Parent Information Nights to present information on college preparation in terms of the national testing students took in October. Please note the upcoming nights:

### Wed., January 9: 7:00 PM

**Seniors** What you need to know about filling out the FAFSA—financial aid form for any/all colleges.

**Juniors** Overview of the PSAT.

**Sophomores** Overview of the PLAN.

The PLAN (act.org) helps students recognize their academic strengths and areas for improvement, helps them find careers that match their interests and gives them an early connection with colleges of interest to them.

### Tues., January 22: 7:00 PM

**Freshmen** Overview of the EXPLORE and looking ahead toward college.

## College Counseling

All seniors are reminded that they must meet deadlines for college and scholarship applications. Seniors are encouraged to check often for the latest scholarship information. Information is posted in Room 303 as it is received. They are also encouraged to search online for scholarships. Many of the scholarship search engines can be personalized so students are able to locate sources of financial aid that fit their specific circumstances.

Seniors who have not taken the SAT or ACT should do so as soon as possible. Those who want to take one the tests again should register now so that colleges receive the latest scores. Registration deadlines and links for online registration are on the school calendar.

It is not too early for students and parents to apply for a Federal Student Aid PIN number. It is recommended that the FAFSA be completed online. The PIN number serves as your signature for the FAFSA. Visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for detailed information on the FAFSA. The site provides all the information you need in order to complete the forms. The PIN application is completed at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov). The FAFSA cannot be submitted until after January 1. There will be a **FAFSA information meeting for senior parents on Wed, Jan. 9**. Mark your calendars.



**STUDENT TESTING EXPLAINED AT PARENT NIGHTS IN JANUARY.**

**ATTENDANCE LINE: 225-2920 BEFORE 9 AM**

# Student Life

Campus Ministry Contact: Mr. Kanelopoulos  
(tedk@lasalleyakima.org)

The Senior retreat, *Journey*, took place from November 28-30 at Camp Ghormley. Thirty-seven Seniors and five faculty participated in this retreat which allowed the Seniors an opportunity to pray over their upcoming transition from high school to college and the workplace.

**Season of Giving:** Thank you for all your support of our recent Thanksgiving and **current Giving Tree drives**. Through your generosity La Salle was and will be able to provide food and presents for five families this Christmas season. **Encourage your student to pick up a Giving Tree ornament to buy a gift.**

The **Called and Chosen Retreat** is scheduled from January 10-12 and is an opportunity for **Senior girls** to pray and further discern their individual gifts and talents and look at how they are called to use those gifts and talents to serve God and others. The retreat will include senior girls from Lasallian schools throughout the west and will take place at Saint Joseph's Camp near San Francisco, California.

The **Seattle Urban Immersion** in October was a great success. Mr. Kanelopoulos and alumni Brandi Wingerter '04 and David Butterfield '04 led thirteen students through a four day immersion serving and learning about homelessness in Seattle. Mr. Lowry and Ms. Cuevas are busy preparing ten students for La Salle's next immersion which will take place the last week of January at the De La Salle Blackfeet School in Browning, Montana. The parent orientation meeting is Wed., January 23 from 7:00-8:00 PM.

GIVING TREE  
NEEDS  
HELPING  
HANDS



Student Activities Contact: Mrs. Cuevas  
(rcuevas@lasalleyakima.org)

## Winter Ball 2008 Casino Royale

### Winter Ball (8-11 PM)

Please encourage your child to come to the dance, with a date or a group of friends. Either way he/she will be bound to have fun.

Tickets will be on sale during the week we return from Christmas Break (Jan. 7-11).

\*Ticket prices are \$7 for a single and \$11 per couple

**GUEST PASSES:** If your student plans on bringing a guest from another school they need to see Ms. Cuevas for a guest pass. Guest passes are \$1 and they may be purchased starting October 1<sup>st</sup>.

- All guest passes must be in 48 hours prior to the dance.
- If a student's guest pass is not in 48 hours prior to the dance guest will not be allowed into the dance.

**DANCE NIGHT GUIDELINES:** Dance hours are from 8 p.m.- 11 p.m.

**Arrival and Departure Reminders: Doors close at 8:30PM and reopen at 10:30PM**

- The gates to the school will be locked at 8:30 p.m. and reopened at 10:30 p.m. Those planning to arrive later than 8:30 p.m. or leave prior to 10:30 p.m. need to make *prior* arrangements with the Dean of Students.

**PHOTO I.D. CARD IS REQUIRED**

### Dress Up for this dance.

Appropriate dress for girls includes:

- Girls may wear halter, strapless and spaghetti strap dresses as long as the dress is modest, in good taste and appropriate for the girl's body type.

Inappropriate dress that is not allowed:

- T-Shirts with inappropriate words or symbols are not allowed. (i.e., those that might suggest or promote alcohol, drugs or sex)
- Skirt or dresses shorter than four inches above the knee
- Midriff bearing clothing or sheer/see-through fabric
- Plunging neckline—front or back

If a student is admitted and his/her apparel "regresses" to reveal any of the above, that student will be excused from the dance upon parent notification.

# Parents Association

## Volunteering Opportunities

The planning and organization of volunteer opportunities is ongoing and best communicated through the website and directly calling the Chairs.

President: **Jim Widhalm** at (509) 952-8891 or [jimwidhalm@filtrona.com](mailto:jimwidhalm@filtrona.com)  
 Academics/Arts Boosters: **Jay and Jill Carroll** at (509) 248-6030 or [jcarroll@vhlegal.com](mailto:jcarroll@vhlegal.com)  
 Athletic Boosters: **Chuck Stillwaggon** 697-9660 or [stillwaggon@elltel.net](mailto:stillwaggon@elltel.net)  
 Other Executive Board Members: **Chris Rivard** (vice chair), **Karen Cozzetto** (secretary),  
**Kathleen Smith** (Social and Volunteer Coordinator),  
**Chuck Wytko, Patty Nichols**



COME TO THE  
 PARENT  
 ASSOCIATION  
 MEETING ON  
 MON., JAN. 14  
 7:00-8:00 PM



## La Salle Fundraising for Student Programs

The following chart totals parent sponsored fundraising efforts. Totals are approximate. Some of the programs are ongoing (in **bold print**). A special thanks to the leaders of each area and the many volunteers who step up to help.

	As of Sept. 29	As of Dec. 1
Fall Fest	\$5,000	\$5,000
Golf Tourney		\$8,000
<b>Gate Receipts</b>	<b>\$5,300</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>
<b>Concessions</b>	<b>\$850</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>Coffee Bar</b>		<b>(\$490)</b>
<b>Coffee sales</b>		<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Sports Programs</b>		<b>\$700</b>
<b>Banner Ads</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$6,100</b>
<b>La Salle Apparel</b>		<b>\$500</b>
Indian John		\$1,300
Wreath Sales		\$22,400
	<b>TOTAL \$16,000</b>	<b>TOTAL \$60,200</b>

## Host a Japanese Student

Every three years La Salle has participated with the Yakima School District's cultural exchange program with Yamate High School, Yokohama, Japan, April 11 through April 25. Students will be assigned two girls or two boys per family. Cots, hide-a-beds and other temporary bedding are acceptable. Students may also share a double bed. Host families are asked to make Japanese guests part of the family during their stay. Housing and meals are the responsibility of host families; students are responsible for their own incidental expenses.

**Another piece** to this exciting exchange is an opportunity for Yakima freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors to travel to Yokohama, Japan from July 18 through August 2. Families and friends representing Yamate High School will host Yakima area students. Students will have to pay their own expenses (approx. \$1500) and will be accompanied by chaperones. Applications for both exchanges are available at area high schools or call the district Community Relations Office at 573-7007 for additional information.

## A La Salle Christmas

La Salle apparel is being restocked by the Athletic Boosters! We have a new load of sweatshirts for sale. Come to the concessions at



basketball— buy a pop, popcorn and a sweatshirt. LIQUID LIGHTNING coffee order forms are available on our website. Try the new "Double Bolt Bold" blend.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT  
MON., DEC. 10  
7:00 PM IN LIGHTNING HALL. RING IN THE HOLIDAY WITH MUSIC PERFORMED BY SOLOISTS AND THE LA SALLE BAND. RECEPTION TO FOLLOW. ARF.**



Naxos, the campus dog brings Christmas cheer.

- Thurs., December 6**  
5:00 PM Board of Trustees Meeting  
6:30 PM Silver Reception
- Sun., December 9**  
4:00 PM Football Awards Banquet in Lightning Hall
- Mon., December 10**  
7:00 PM Christmas Concert
- Weds., December 12 DRESS UP DAY**  
11:15 AM Virgen de Guadalupe Mass
- Mon., December 17 SPECIAL SCHEDULE**  
8:00 AM Final Exams– Period 1, 2, 7
- Tues., December 18 SPECIAL SCHEDULE**  
8:00 AM Final Exams– Period 3, 4
- Weds., December 19 SPECIAL SCHEDULE**  
8:00 AM Final Exams– Period 5, 6
- Thurs., December 20 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS BEGIN**
- Fri., December 21**  
7:00-9:00 PM Alumni Christmas in Lightning Hall
- Mon., January 7 SECOND SEMESTER BEGINS**
- Wed., January 9**  
First Semester Grades Mailed home  
7:00-8:00 PM Parent Testing and College Information Night  
Seniors: PSAS-College Financial Aid Forms  
Juniors: PSAT and prep for college  
Sophomores: PLAN and prep for college  
Freshmen: You are welcome to join the other groups.
- Sat., January 12**  
8:00-11:00 PM Winter Ball
- Mon., January 14**  
6:00-7:00 PM Arts and Academics Booster Meeting  
7:00-8:00 PM Parents Association Meeting
- Sat., January 19**  
9:00 AM– 12:00 PM Admissions Test
- Tues., January 22**  
7:00-8:00 PM Freshmen Parent College Prep Night
- Wed., January 23**  
4:00– 7:00 PM Admissions Test  
7:00-8:00 PM Parent Meeting for De La Salle Blackfeet Immersion

## St. Patrick's Raffle Tickets Sales



Raffle tickets will be coming home with your student on December 12. Each family will receive 120 tickets to sell. The tickets sell for \$2.00 each. The raffle ticket sale is the Spring fundraiser for student program needs. Each La Salle family is required to assist with this fund raising event. So, be sure to be asking your student during Christmas break about those tickets. The holidays usually provide many opportunities to sell to family and friends.

This year the raffle ticket prizes will be \$7,000 for first prize, \$2,000 for second prize, and \$1,000 for third prize. Last year the raffle tickets netted more than \$32,000 for La Salle student programs. Let's do even better this year!

**Collection Dates: First school Tuesday of each month.** (money comes to school Period 1):



- Tues., January 8
- Tues., February 5
- Tues., March 4

**If you have questions, please call Jean Jones at 965-6086.**



## PREPARE FOR SEMESTER FINAL EXAMS

Final Exams for the First Semester are BEFORE Christmas this year. Preparation through study and review may vary from class to class as does the weight of the final exam on semester grades. Grades are due in January and posted by Jan. 9. GPA at semester determine eligibility for the first six weeks of the second semester.

	Mon., Dec. 17	Tues., Dec. 18	Wed., Dec. 19
<b>8:00</b>	Warning bell	Warning bell	Warning bell
<b>8:05-9:35</b>	Period 1	Period 3	Period 5
<b>9:35-9:50</b>	break	break	break
<b>9:55-11:25</b>	Period 2	Period 4	Period 6
<b>11:25-11:55</b>	lunch		
<b>12:00-1:30</b>	Period 7		

## SENIOR Reminder

Senior Portraits for the yearbook are due December 7. Bring them to Sr. Ann Marie in Room 303.

