

# LA SALLE Parent Newsletter

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

MAY/JUNE 2007

## Principal Ideas

“The year has gone by so fast” commented one of the Senior Parents to me at the softball game yesterday. I would imagine even the Freshmen parents feel the same. Just this past week, the Seniors were submitting the regular petition to participate in the end of year ceremonies leading the graduation, the Freshmen were struggling as a class to organize their service day, and the Sophomores and Juniors were making plans for the coming year’s activities. Life goes on at La Salle and we continue to see the growth of the students, not without its challenging moments, as individuals, as classes and as a school. We are inspired by the Seniors’ efforts to stay focused and finish the year well.

### Academic Focus

We were pleased to see the number of students who were able to pull together their studies in time of the 12 week Progress Report so that they were not ineligible. As we approach the final month of the semester, it is important to remember that sports and other activities need to be balanced with the focus on academics. It is also important for students to not miss school especially in the two weeks prior to final exams when teachers do a significant amount of review and preparation.

### Administrative Personnel Developments

With Mr. Todd Kent moving on next year, the position of Dean of Students will be ably filled by Mr. Matt Schulte. Mr. Schulte will continue to teach some History classes also as he brings his gifts to the new position. Along with Br. Dan Morgan as Dean of Studies, the key positions in the school are now filled and we move on to working with our teachers and scheduling of classes. Dr. Laurie Moshier-Menashe will be moving on at the end of year after an incredible contribution of many years to the lives of our students. We thank her for

her commitment and care.

Because of very low numbers registered for the French classes we are in the position of having to discontinue the program.

The Spanish program continues to expand with the ongoing development of the Native Speakers class which was a new addition this past year.

### Book Returns

Toward the end of the month we will be able to publish the process for annual book return. In order to update very out of date textbooks, some books are being changed for next year which means some of the current books will not be able to be returned. The Curriculum Committee has been coordinating the introduction of new editions such that no one grade level is overly affected by multiple new books and the obvious expense incurred.

### Summer Program

This packet includes information about summer programs offered by La Salle. After five years without a summer program, we are pleased to be able to offer a basic program for support of incoming and returning students. Since it has been awhile, it took some time to coordinate the different programs we are offering. We also thought it good for everyone to receive the packet to see what is going on regardless of whether your student qualifies for or chooses to participate in the programs.

### Bus Service to La Salle

Union Gap is very close, once again, to providing a bus service on a trial basis from June to December. They are awaiting some final confirmation on their application for the funding they need. They have been given a



KEEPING AN  
ACADEMIC  
FOCUS

ADMINISTRATIVE  
TEAM  
STABILIZED FOR  
2007-2008



**THANK YOU  
VOLUNTEERS!**

verbal indication they will get the funding. The proposed plan is to have the bus start at the Yakima terminal and run through Union Gap, stopping on our campus in the morning before school and twice in the afternoon after school. This is a great opportunity for us and the hope is that if/when the service starts, the voters will think favorably of it when the November ballot initiative asks for a continuation of funding for the bus. We have plans of painting the curb red in our drop off circle in front of the school in order to facilitate the bus drop off and make it clear that the area is a no parking zone. We appreciate the continued efforts by students and parents to keep that area free of parked cars. Other signage and painted curbs for visitors will appear during the summer in

preparation for next year.

As a final note, I would like to extend our appreciation to the many volunteers, parents and others, who have helped this year in organizing and promoting events and keeping the campus the beautiful setting it is. Our donated storage building by the fields is now set solidly and the office and storage rooms, generously supported by a donor also making other contributions to the Arts, being added to Lightning Hall are reaching completion. Even our campus buildings have grown this year.

Live Jesus in Our Hearts,

*Br. James Joost FSC*

## Preliminary Calendar for 2007-2008

La Salle just contracted with PeopleCube, an internet company that supports WebEvent calendar systems. By late June the new calendar will be loaded onto our website. The calendar will allow Parents to sort specific types of event dates (academics, Parent activities, athletics, etc.) and to make calendar style printouts convenient. Other helpful functions include e-mail reminders and sorting calendars into different layouts. Besides a more coordinated communication, the savings on labor and paper are well worth the investment. The following general dates have not changed since the previous Newsletter.

Thurs., Aug. 16 New Teacher Orientation  
 Fri., Aug. 17 Faculty Meeting  
**Fri.-Sat., Aug. 17-18 Freshman Lock-in**  
**Tue., Aug. 21 First Day: Orientation**  
 Wed., Aug. 22 First Day of Regular Classes  
 Mon., Sept. 3 Holiday: Labor Day  
 Mon., Nov. 12 Holiday: Veterans' Day  
 Thurs.-Fri., Nov. 22-23: Holiday:  
 Thanksgiving  
 Mon.-Wed., Dec. 17-19: Final Exams  
**Thurs.-Sun., Dec. 20-Jan. 6: Christmas  
 Break**

Mon., Jan. 7: Classes Resume— Second  
 Semester Begins  
 Mon., Jan. 21: Holiday: Martin L.King, Jr.  
 Mon., Feb. 18: Holiday: Presidents' Day  
 Fri., Mar. 21: Early Release: Good Friday  
 Mon., Mar. 24: Holiday: Easter  
 Mon.-Fri., Mar. 31-Apr. 4: Spring Break  
 Mon., May 26: Holiday: Memorial Day  
**Wed.-Fri., June 4-6: Final Exams**  
 Fri., June 6: Baccalaureate Mass  
 Sat., June 7: Graduation

**CALENDAR  
PLANNING FOR  
2007-2008**



THE LIGHTNING

**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 EVERY NINE WEEKS  
 BR. JAMES JOOST, FSC (BROJAMES@LASALLEYAKIMA.ORG)

# Our “Creativity and Courage”

Dear Parents,

In the aftermath of the horrible and tragic events at Virginia Tech, all education institutions have to take stock of how well we are prepared for violence...whether it comes to us from outside our campus or within. La Salle High School is no different. While the learning environment here is very safe, and crisis procedures are clear, violence can come...even at La Salle. This past week our school conducted a “Lock down” drill to better prepare students and faculty for a situation if it were to arise. We also reviewed our emergency procedures and intend to have a fire drill also. Violence and accidents are part of the world we live in and we’re not “exempt.”



However, because La Salle High School is a very special place, we are better prepared. Here, excitement and enthusiasm are always evident as nearly 200 students come together in the presence of God for a faith-based, academically rigorous Catholic education. Our students and staff are expected to treat one another with love, respect and dignity as we gather to study, serve the community, work, worship and play. Therein lies the difference.

Our *preparation* for possible difficulties or even violence begins with the constant reminder to all of our core values. La Salle is a richly diverse school where students are educated, loved and nurtured by teachers who are inspired by the traditions of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. The school community recognizes the dignity of each student in a caring, moral environment; affords special attention to the poor; and is dedicated to service. These core values combine with our small school environment to guide all students. Because of that, few, if any, students slip through the cracks.

This foundation, built on values, is bolstered by the fact that the Brothers have been doing this for a long time in many, many different places in the world. The De La Salle Christian Brothers are a Catholic teaching order founded in France in 1680 by St. John Baptist de La Salle to educate the children of the poor. It is one of the most dynamic and successful teaching congregations in the Catholic Church.

Today, Lasallian Partners, the De La Salle Christian Brothers and our dedicated lay teachers/staff alike, continue the “preparation” of our young adults by providing academically sound, faith-centered education to all students willing and able to learn, regardless of their financial situation. Our Lasallian Partners in education are currently touching the lives and hearts of more than 900,000 students in 1,081 educational institutions in 80 countries on six continents. La Salle High School of Yakima is one of 13 Lasallian schools on the West Coast of the United States, several of which existing for over a century.

So, as we continue to pray for those involved in the terrible tragedy in Virginia, we should also pray in thanksgiving for the blessing of La Salle High School. The safety, health and welfare of our students is our most important priority and our campus design, policies and procedures have been developed to reflect that priority. However, it is important to remember that it is our core values, developed from 325 years of Christian Brothers heritage, that is the foundation for our preparation!

God bless you and your families.

Sincerely,

*Tim McGree*

Tim McGree  
President

AN  
EDUCATION  
IN  
LASALLIAN  
VALUES



# Academics

Sister Ann Marie:  
sam@lasalleyakima.org



The end of the school year is fast approaching. Many activities demand our time and attention. This is a good time to renew our commitment to working together toward academic success for all of our students.

## College Counseling

**Juniors** The Sunrise Rotary has invited La Salle to participate in their annual Vocation Day. The day begins with the Rotary breakfast. This is followed by a couple of hours during which Rotarians give talks, tours and/or demonstrations to share specific career related information with the students. The Juniors will have the opportunity to sign up to attend. The morning event is scheduled for Wed., May 23.

## Honoring Academic Excellence



Outstanding student achievement will be recognized at the Academic Awards Assembly and at the Senior Presentation. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors are recognized at the Awards Assembly Wednesday, May 30 at 7:00pm in Lightning Hall. Seniors are recognized at the Senior Presentation Monday morning, June 4 at 11:15.

## AP Exams

Some of our students will be taking Advanced Placement exams this week and next. The national exam schedule will be followed:

Wednesday, May 9 – Calculus (8:00-12:00)

Thursday, May 10 – English Literature (8:00-12:00)

Friday, May 11 – U.S. History (8:00-12:00)

Monday, May 14 – Physics (12:00-3:00)

Students should plan to remain in the testing room for the entire test session. Cell phones and other electronic devices are prohibited from the exam room and may not be used during the scheduled break.

## Summer Advantage in Academics



Summer school opportunities are available at La Salle High School, online, through a number of colleges and at local public schools. There is no guarantee that La Salle students will be able to attend their local public school. It is important to remember that one trimester of credit does not equal one semester of credit. Some of our students have experienced success with the correspondence courses offered by Portland State. Others have been very successful with the more structured format of [www.iacademy.org](http://www.iacademy.org). This Internet Academy summer session opens June 26 and closes at 4:00pm August 7. Any course taken for retrieval credit of an "F" grade in a La Salle course must be approved by Sister Ann Marie.

**Academic Ineligibility** reminder from the Student-Parent handbook: No student will be readmitted to La Salle High School in the fall with an "F" for a semester grade in any subject. All semester "F" grades must be made up by attendance at a summer school or tutorial approved by the Dean of Studies. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the grade(s) and credit(s) earned in summer school be sent to the La Salle Registrar for inclusion on the transcript. Make-up for "F" grades may not be postponed until a later time.

REGISTER  
FOR THE  
SUMMER  
INSTITUTE

DROP OFF  
THE FORMS  
AND FEE IN  
THE MAIN  
OFFICE

# A note from the Dean...

Mr. Todd Kent — [Tkent@lasalleyakima.org](mailto:Tkent@lasalleyakima.org)

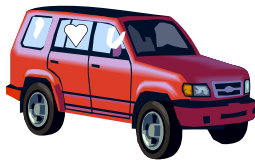


## Dress Right

As spring approaches we need to make sure our students are following the school dress code. Students are expected to adhere to the dress code throughout the school day. Students always are to wear a collared shirt. The general expectation is for students to observe the standards of modesty, moderation, and good taste.

If your student recently received their drivers license be sure to register your vehicle with the Dean of Students. Once registered, each student will receive a parking permit that is to be displayed in the front window or dashboard. A maximum speed of 5 miles an hour is to be observed in the parking lot and 25 miles an hour on Lightning Way at all times. Students driving privileges will be suspended if they are exceeding our parking lot speed limit and driving recklessly.

## Drive Right



## Wrong Turn

Student cars have been showing up to school with paint graffiti on them which was put there by friends leaving messages. The incidents of graffiti are beginning to get out of hand, moving from genuine shows of support to prank. Please have your child clean the graffiti off of their car before coming to school.

New for 2007-2008

**Academic Excellence Recognition:** La Salle High School will inaugurate its Academic Letter next year. The National Honor Society and parent input has helped the

Curriculum Committee in shaping a policy for next year's handbook that reflects consideration of the following: The letter would recognize students for consistent academic excellence. The letter would be awarded at the Honor Roll Assembly each semester to students who earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than a C, who have four semesters of the required 3.5 grade point average, and who take at least five academic courses each semester. Students who qualify would submit evidence of involvement in something outside of the classroom that uses their academic gifts. Students would receive an Academic Letter the first time they letter in academics. They consequently would receive a bar for each additional letter earned.

**Pic-a-Thon:** Students and faculty are planning a very early Fall student fundraiser where:

- Students voluntarily get sponsors to support them in a day of picking fruit in the EPIC orchards, the fruit going to Northwest Harvest.
- Northwest Harvest uses the fruit to feed hungry people in the Yakima area, Seattle and Spokane.
- La Salle Students use the funds for class activities, a student services improvement project and our Twinning School, St. Paul Secondary in Marsabit, Kenya.



Students also participate in service learning: through a service project specific curricular areas (e.g. math, social studies, literature) are brought into the day. In order to not conflict with Wreath Sales, the plan is to start the sponsoring before school ends (for returning students) so students may use the summer to do some additional sponsor gathering and picking it up again the first two weeks of school.

WHAT'S NEW  
IN THE FALL!

# Student Life

Campus Ministry and the Associated Student Body (ASB) have joined their leadership skills together this year to build a stronger relationship within the student body and our Lasallian values  
*Student Life Contacts: Mr. Kanelopoulos (tedk@lasalleyakima.org) or Ms. Cuevas (rcuevas@lasalleyakima.org)*

## Campus Ministry

### Service Immersion

We ended our year of Immersions with a very successful Venaver (“come and see”) Immersion led by Mr. Schultz and Mrs. White in Tijuana, Mexico. The two juniors and eight seniors lived at Centro La Salle and worked in the neighborhoods surrounding the school. The students returned with their eyes wide opened to the realities of life in this over crowded border city.



### Founder’s Day

On Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> we will gather as a school community to celebrate Founder’s Day with a special liturgy in Lightning Hall at 11:15 AM. “Founder’s Day” celebrates Saint John Baptist de la Salle who founded the Brothers and the first schools in Reims, France in 1680. He was canonized a Saint on May 24, 1900 and later on May 15, 1950, was proclaimed “Patron of Christian Teachers.” Because of that particular honor we recognize, along with schools around the world, May 15 each year as our “Founder’s Day.” As part of a larger **Founder’s Week**, we organize an all school service day where students travel out to various service sites as part of our Lasallian tradition and value of concern for the poor and those who need help. **Parent volunteers are needed to drive and lead small service groups on this all school service day during Founder’s Week on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Call or e-mail Mr. K (225-2914).**

## Lasallian Leadership

Students are currently preparing and fundraising for two important youth gathering sponsored by the District of San Francisco this summer. The annual Lasallian Youth Assembly where students engage in community service, justice education and community building among the Lasallian schools will be held in Los Angeles this summer from June 24-29. The Student Leaders Assembly will be held at Saint Mary’s College in California from July 22-27<sup>th</sup>. This is a formation program designed to prepare our student leaders for leadership in our school community.

### Second Semester Exams

The second semester exams are scheduled for:  
**Tues., June 5: Periods 1, 2 (Grade 12 Only)**  
**Wed., June 6: Periods 5, 6, 7 (All Students)**  
**Thurs., June 7: Period 3, 4 (All Students)**  
**Fri., June 8: Periods 1, 2 (Grade 9, 10, 11)**  
 Exams begin at 8:00 AM. This special exam schedule is posted on the web site.



## Teen Issues Day

Our recent Teen Issues Day of April 30 trained students in ways to help each other in dealing with depression and stress. Jim Pinnell of Comprehensive Mental Health lead workshops. We also were informed by agent David Hendrix of the FBI about safe use of the internet and protecting oneself from identity theft. **Agent David Hendrix returns to speak to Parents on the same subject on Mon., May 7 from 7-8 pm in Lightning Hall.**

# Parent Corner

SPORTS  
PHYSICALS

JUNE 14

Our children's school year is almost over and we are looking forward to the next school year. We still have a few opportunities to get your parent hours this year; please check the school website or contact me for more information. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you parents for the hours and hours of efforts to make La Salle High School in our Yakima Valley the quality institution it has become.

The Athletic booster has just finished the very first La Salle Athletic Booster yard sale. Thank you to Rich Wall and Greg Kilseimer for all of their hard work along with all of the parent volunteers. The Athletic Booster is planning for next school year with the Fall Fest chaired by Kevin Roy, the concessions and sports programs. **On June 14, Dr. Raymond Snyder of Orthopedics Northwest will host the Catholic School Sports Physicals** again and the Athletic Booster will be having a barbeque during this event. Please make plans to enjoy the food and support the Athletic boosters. Please check with the school for the date and time.

The Arts and Academic Booster is winding down for this school year and planning for next year. **Thanksgiving weekend La Salle will host coffee at Indian John Hill rest area.** This will be a very busy weekend (the Apple Cup is this weekend) and we will need all available volunteers. This event could provide our school with the necessary exposure and fundraising to help expand our Arts programs. Susan Kunkler, Mrs. Ball and Sr. Ann Marie have done a wonderful job this year in all of their hard work with our Arts and Academic Booster. We are still looking for parents to step forward and become part of this booster. If you are interested please attend the regular meetings held the first Monday of the month at 6 pm (just prior to the La Salle Parents Association meeting).

Your La Salle Parents Association board is going to be planning this summer for another school year. We have elected Chuck Wytcko to the La Salle Parents Association Board. Chuck and Carla have two students at La Salle and we are excited to have him available to work with us. In June we will say sad farewells to Mary Rummel and Dwight Miller whose terms have ended. We thank both for their dedication to the La Salle Parents Association and to our school. During our May board meeting we will be selecting our board positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Social Chair. Your board members are Chris Rivard, Kathleen Smith, Patti Nichols, Denise Seymour, Jim Widhalm, Chuck Wytcko, Juanita Justo, and myself. Some other ex-officio members of the board are Carol Schneider (St. Pat's Gala Chair), Susan Kunkler (Arts and Academic Chair), Greg Kilseimer (Athletic Booster), Tim McGree, and Br. James Joost. It has been our pleasure to serve you during this school year.

It was a goal this year to get all of us to share our time, talents and treasures and I really feel blessed that we have been able to accomplish this and more. Thank you for all of your hard work.

Thank you,

*Chuck Stillwaggon*

La Salle Parents Association

New for 2007-2008

## Mark Your Calendar

A preliminary date is set for a new La Salle event— **Fall Fest.**

**September 15, 2007** at La Salle.

Outdoor fun and entertainment in support of our Athletic programs. Parent Kevin Roy has stepped up as the coordinator.

## Parent Volunteering Opportunities

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

President: **Chuck Stillwaggon 697-9660** or [stillwaggon@elltel.net](mailto:stillwaggon@elltel.net)  
 Academics/Arts Boosters: **Susan Kunkler 972-4153** or [kunkler5@nwinform.net](mailto:kunkler5@nwinform.net)  
 Athletics Boosters: **Greg Kilseimer 388-6273** or [gkilseimer@lasalleyakima.org](mailto:gkilseimer@lasalleyakima.org)

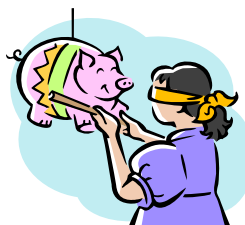
## Cinco de Mayo Arts Festival

### Sat., May 5: 11 am - 3 pm

La Salle is hosting an Arts Festival for the Catholic Schools of the Diocese on Sat., May 5 in Lightning Hall. A tentative schedule of events is updated on the website:

- 11:00-11:30 St. Joseph-Kennewick Music
- 11:45-12:15 St. Paul 5<sup>th</sup> grade choir
- 12:30-12:50 La Salle Band
- 1:00-1:30 La Salle Spanish Class Presentations
- 1:30 Breaking of Piñatas
- 1:45-2:15 St. Joseph-Marquette's/St. Paul's Band
- 2:30-3:00 St. Joseph-Marquette's /St. Paul's Orchestra
  
- 11:00-2:00 Lunch can be purchased (provided for registered participants)
- 11:00-3:00 Coloring Table (for the small children)
- All Day Art Displays by all schools

**We still need parent volunteers.** We are also looking for help with donated items for lunch. **Please contact Mrs. Marianne Ball — MBall@lasalleyakima.org.**



## Send Off for Our Graduates

**JUNIOR Parents:** We are looking for volunteers to help send off our Seniors and the Parents. After the Baccalaureate Mass on June 8 at St. Paul Cathedral, we host a reception that is typically organized by Junior Parents. Junior Parents of past years have documented well the needs and details of the reception. We would be happy to have Parent volunteers from the **FRESHMAN and SOPHOMORE classes too.** Contact Br. James (225-2998) if you can help lead this venture.

**SENIOR Parents:** We are still looking for assistance in organizing the pot luck gathering of Seniors, their Parents, and teachers for Thurs., June 7 in Lightning Hall. Contact Br. James (225-2998) if you can help with coordinating the food for this event.

## Office Depot “Back to School” 5% Awards

Office Depot will give to La Salle 5% of the purchase price of any school supplies purchased with our school **ID Number 70108132.** As you purchase qualifying school supplies (they would have that coded) give them the “**Back to Schools ID #70108132.**”

## Volunteering Opportunities

More important than fulfilling required hours, Parent volunteering builds community with other Parents. Get to know each other.

Parents are reminded that their students cannot fulfill the volunteer time in place of the Parents.

Please take note of the following volunteer opportunities, especially if you are seeking to fill the required hours before the May 15 deadline:

Sat., May 5: Cinco de Mayo Arts Festival (Contact: Mrs. Marianne Ball mball@lasalleyakima.org)

Mon., May 7: Parent Association Meeting/  
Presentation on *Internet Safety* (7-8 pm)

Fri., May 18: All School Service Day (Contact: Mr. Kanelopoulos 225-2914)

Campus Spring Clean-up days: dates forthcoming on the school website

June 8: Baccalaureate Mass Reception



**The Yard Sale netted over \$1,500!** Under the leadership of Greg Kilseimer and Rich Wall, the net funds from the sale help the Athletic Boosters with their annual goal of buying uniforms for two of our teams. A special thank you to our many volunteers, item donors, and Saint Joseph/Marquette for the use of their gym.