

LA SALLE Parent Newsletter

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

MARCH/APRIL 2007

Principal Ideas



**BR. DAN IS
BACK FOR
2007-2008!**

“The Newsletter is late and there’s no pictures—what happened?” was a response to one of the drafts of this Newsletter as it passed through the many hands it passes in being prepared. Ms. Harala, who has been editing the newsletter, moved over to increased responsibilities with teaching the Junior English classes. She filled in for Mrs. Bohoskey who decided to focus more attention on her family and moved on from La Salle. Mrs. Ball picked up her Senior English class. We are fortunate to have available teachers with background in English to continue to teach our students. With the change, the newsletter fell back to me at a time when all the planning for next year has been in full swing. We all wear many hats here at La Salle.

Administrative Personnel Changes

One of the major announcements about next year also includes personnel changes. Mr. Todd Kent will be moving on at the end of the year after five years of dedication to the students of La Salle in his various roles as Dean of Students, Coach, teacher, and counselor. We wish him and his wife well as they set out for the next phase of life for them. We will formally thank Mr. Kent later in the semester. Hiring is underway to fill his position for next year.

Also shifting in the administration for next year is Sister Ann Marie. She will be taking on increased responsibilities with student academic advising. Her position as Dean of Studies will be very capably filled by a familiar face at La Salle, Br. Daniel Morgan. Br. Dan was our founding Principal and we are very fortunate to have him back in any role, especially the one in which he has so much experience.

Admissions and Registration

You should have received the materials for registration for 2007-2008. Please be attentive to the directions and deadlines. If

you have any questions do call the appropriate person. If you have need for financial assistance and have not filled out and mailed in the forms to PSAS, please do so this week. We have a limited amount of financial assistance and many people who need it (over 48% of our families this past year). PSAS’s data our guide in distribution of assistance dollars. Forms are available at school and on our website.

Much has been done this year in assisting our students, Freshmen particularly, in adjusting to the academic and behavioral expectations we know sets the foundation for success at La Salle in preparation for college. This summer we are reinstating a summer program after a few years without one. For our incoming Freshmen, it provides an opportunity to get a step up on the adjustment to La Salle. As such, the acceptance letters for incoming Freshmen including some that require the condition of taking the “High School Prep” courses during the summer. Others received letters encouraging participation in the summer program. The third group may apply also. Other programs are offered this summer for our current students, especially those that find it hard to fulfill the Washington State PE/Health requirement (4 semesters of courses) or the Occupational requirement (2 semesters of courses) while also trying to challenge themselves in taking that third and/or fourth year of language, math, and science we all know prepares them for the rigors of college. As such we have included this summer, two courses that fulfill either a semester’s worth of PE/Health or of Occupational credit. Registration to these programs will be ready after Easter break but the essential information is described later in

**SUMMER
PROGRAMS
REINSTATED
FOR 2007**



**RESPONSIBLE
VOLUNTEERS
BUILD OUR
LASALLIAN
FAMILY**

this newsletter.

Volunteer Hours

The dedication and reliable presence of parents volunteering at events is deeply appreciated and needed to assure that our tuition remains low in comparison to the actual cost of the education. In the recent St. Patrick's Gala, the Parent Association Board has been concerned with incidents of parents confirming that they would work a time slot and then just not showing up. This provided moments of frustration for those that covered the work or, in some cases, those that were responsible for the area and had no coverage. In discussing ways to solve the problem the Board raised possibilities that included:

1. Require/remind parents to find a substitute and communicate to the Chair of the event when the emergency arises that would prevent one from fulfilling their commitment

2. Bill parents for the times they commit to work and don't show up.

We prefer the problem to be resolved with solution number one and will continue to monitor and discuss the situation during the remainder of this year and into the Fall. The registration agreements for Parent Hours for 2007-2008 is already in your hands and we will be looking at this situation when approaching the 2008-2009 school year agreements.

We are deeply appreciative to those parents who have not just worked at events, but do so in a way that builds the community and camaraderie that help make La Salle a family.

Have a Blessed Easter, a time of recognition of our humanity and for renewal in the life of the Resurrection.

Live Jesus in Our Hearts,



Preliminary Calendar for 2007-2008

Though the numerous details of next years calendar are currently being coordinated, we are able to release the major dates for the 2007-2008 school year in order to assist parents with planning. Note that we are finishing the first semester before Christmas. Also, we currently have 184 school days scheduled, so four of those days will be holidays scheduled in during the year as we need them for times of the year that are impacted by student participation/absences (State championships, Follies, etc.).

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**



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THE LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL *PARENTNEWSLETTER* IS PUBLISHED EVERY NINE WEEKS
 BR. JAMES JOOST, FSC (BROJAMES@LASALLEYAKIMA.ORG)

Our “Creativity and Courage”

Dear Parents,

This week I was reading an article in our national Lasallian magazine, *La Salle Today*, about “Creativity and Courage.” It was written by Br. George Van Grieken*. In the article, Br. George talks about De La Salle’s “almost foolhardy courage in trying new things and in keeping at it despite difficult circumstances.” That comment reminded me of our school and the many “heroes” whose *creativity and courage* have contributed to La Salle’s existence.

Bishop (now Cardinal of Chicago) Francis George is one of La Salle Yakima’s heroes. He displayed incredible courage, in the face of a great deal of skepticism, in supporting efforts for a Catholic high school. It was Bishop George who clarified our vision...a vision of a high school that is authentically Catholic; where students have an opportunity to develop their faith in every aspect of their school life; a school that is committed to excellence in everything it does; a school where diversity is a value that is respected and welcomed. Bishop George’s vision permeates every challenge and success that La Salle has had over the past several years. In addition, it was because of his contacts and leadership that the Christian Brothers came to our valley.

Another hero for La Salle is Br. David Brennan. In the 80’s, at the age of 38, Br. David was the President of Christian Brothers’ wine and brandy operation. In the 1990’s he became the Visitor (Provincial) of the District of San Francisco. Br. David had the courage to accept Bishop George’s invitation to sponsor a Lasallian high school in the Yakima Valley. He had the courage to look well beyond the familiarity and “comfort” of California to rural Washington State to expand the work of De La Salle. He courageously convinced Brothers and local clergy that through conviction, determination and working together we could bring the vision of a Catholic high school to a reality.

It was also Br. David who asked Br. Dan Morgan (another hero) to be our first Principal. Talk about courage and creativity! Br. Dan took the reins of a “pretend” high school facility (Holy Family’s long closed elementary school) along with 55 pioneering students and built the foundation for our future. Br. Dan served as principal, dean, athletic director, teacher, bus driver and anything else the school needed. He raised money, signed contracts for new campus buildings and met with inquiring students. He did it all with a creativity that would have amazed even De La Salle.

So, the next time you hear the words, “*Let us Remember...*”, a phrase that ties us to an incredibly rich 320 year heritage, remember Bishop George, Br. David, Br. Dan and the many others whose courage and creativity set our course. Their determination gave La Salle High School life...and, in turn, gave our children the opportunity of a lifetime!

God bless you and your families.



Sincerely,

Tim McGree

Tim McGree
President

*See the article on line at <http://db.cbconf.org/cbc.nsf/newsview/89E5D73A42EF1F5C862572850012CF23>



HEROES FOR
OUR
STUDENTS
AND VISON

Academics

Sister Ann Marie:
sam@lasalleyakima.org



The **second semester** is well under way. This is a good time for all of us – students, teachers and parents – to renew efforts that bring academic success. Your students should be able to share the course overviews for new semester courses they are taking.

College Counseling

College acceptances will continue to come in for the **Seniors** throughout the spring.

Reminder: Deadlines for college and scholarship applications vary. It is important to meet all deadlines in the process. **New scholarship information** continues to be posted in Room 303 as it becomes available.

Juniors should plan to take the SAT and/or the ACT during the spring. They will register for the SAT at www.collegeboard.com and for the ACT at www.act.org.

Juniors should set up their **My Road** account if they have not already done so. Each student who took the PSAT received an access code for this tool that helps in the college search and application process.

Seniors and Juniors are encouraged to visit college and university campuses during spring break. They are invited to participate in **lunchtime workshops** which will help them plan to get the most from such visits.

Online Registration for 2007-2008 classes opened on Tuesday, March 20 and closed on Tuesday, March 27. Students reviewed their transcripts, graduation requirements and college admission requirements as part of the preparation for registration. Students and their parents used their passwords to access the online registration through PowerSchool. If you would still want a copy of the course descriptions, you can go on line (follow the link from the homepage) and download a “Course Catalogue” or pick up a simple printed copy at school. Here are some course nuances for next year:

- We are offering a course in Business that will be an “Occupational” credit.
- Religious Studies courses in the upper division have been revamped. Current Sophomores and Juniors are to choose one choice from each of the two groups, the *Scripture* group and the *Church* group.
- The computer courses are being revamped and are now both *Computer Application*.
- “Electives” are any courses beyond the core requirements.
- If a student takes a summer course to fulfill “Occupational” or “PE/Health” requirements, that will free up space in the regular year schedule for other courses.

If your student missed the window of registration, he/she will need to talk to 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
NOW FOR
2007-2008

DROP OFF
THE FORMS
AND FEE IN
THE MAIN
OFFICE

A note from the Dean...

Mr. Todd Kent — Tkent@lasalleyakima.org

La Salle Prom, “Once Upon a Time”

Just a reminder that Prom is coming up. Prom will be held at the Yakima Tennis Club from 8-11pm on Sat., April 21st. Start shopping for those dresses and keep the dress code in mind while you do so. Guest Passes will be issued as Prom date approaches. Prom is a time of celebration and parents are encouraged to be vigilant to the planning of any parties after prom. Drugs and alcohol use associated with any party or gathering sponsored by or for students is not condoned by the school nor by most of our parents.

Did you know:

“The formal dance we now call prom was first christened ‘the prom’ in the 1890s. The word prom is a shortened form of *promenade*, meaning a march of the guests at the beginning of a ball or other formal event.”

Summer at La Salle

La Salle will be offering a number of select programs this summer. Brochures with times and dates are forthcoming but here are the highlights:

For La Salle Students:

0.5 credit courses = 75 hours = semester worth of credit
Cost: \$450 (\$15 registration fee)

PE/Health: elements of the following will be included: mentoring younger students at the summer sports camps, weight training, some class work

Lasallian Leadership (“occupational” credit): attending either the Lasallian Youth Assembly or the Lasallian Student Leader assembly, tutoring locally, class work with readings/discussion and formulating a leadership project for the fall (cost for the course does not cover the cost of the assemblies)

For La Salle Students:

Courses for recovery of “F” grades
Cost: \$75 (\$15 registration fee)

Students signing up for school approved internet courses would be able to be in a monitored classroom on La Salle computers to do the course. The cost does not include the cost required by the institution in charge of the internet class.

For Incoming Freshmen

Courses in Math, Reading and Writing
Cost: \$200 (\$15 registration fee)
8:30-11:30 am

June 25th-July 19th (June 25-29, July 2-3, July 9-12, July 16-19)
Students take all three courses.

For Elementary and Junior High Students

Sports Camps Plus Science
3 day Sport Camp: \$50
3 day Science Camp: \$50

Girls Soccer grade K-2: June 19-21 3-5 pm
Girls Soccer grade 3-5: June 26-28 3-5 pm
Boys Football grade 3-8: July 16-18 6-8 pm
An hour of Science Camp will precede the Sports Camps.

Two New Events for Fall 2007 that are in the works and more information will come out with the next Newsletter:
Student sponsored event: Pick-a-thon (in partnership with Northwest Harvest)
Athletic Booster sponsored event: Fall Fest (September or October)

**SUMMER
PROGRAMS
ARE BACK!**

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT
BR. JAMES
225-2998
BRJAMES@LASALLEYAKIMA.ORG

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

From February 15-17 seven students led by Brother James participated in Lasallian Connections Northwest in Portland, an annual gathering of Pacific Northwest Lasallian Schools. Our students shadowed students at De La Salle North Catholic HS in Portland, engaged in community service and built community as they celebrated our common Lasallian heritage.

In February the multi-cultural club from La Salle High School of Pasadena joined our students for a mini-immersion onto the Yakama reservation. At Saint Mary's Church in White Swan students learned about the Yakama culture, built community and engaged in community service through Native American Kinship Care.

On February 13th the Sophomores gathered for *Have A Heart*, their Sophomore service retreat. Students served with Volunteer Chore Services, Northwest Harvest and the Yakima Homeless Coalition in the morning and spent the afternoon reflecting on their Gospel and Lasallian call to be men and women of service.

Forty-one Juniors gathered from March 7-9 for a retreat entitled *A Lamp Unto Thy Feet* held at Camp Ghormley. Together the class of 2008 reflected on their gifts and talents and how they can begin discerning their personal vocation in life.

Bishop Carlos Sevilla, SJ joined us to celebrate mass on Ash Wednesday. On this day we also kicked off our annual Lenten Drive to raise funds for our twin school Saint Paul's Secondary in Marsabit, Kenya. The drive ends this week.

Upcoming events include the **Yakama Nation Immersion** and the **Faith in Action Week** exploring *Immigration*, both in the last week of March.

Parent volunteers are needed to assist with our all school service day on Fri., May 18. Call or e-mail Mr. K (225-2914).

Applications are available for this summer's Lasallian Youth Assembly in Los Angeles from June 24-29th. Students will be able to take a summer course which has the Assembly as part of it's curriculum (though cost will be separate).

Student Life Elections

We are very proud of all the candidates who ran for ASB and class offices for 2007-2008. The ballots are in and here is the slate of officers for next year.

Executive Council

President: *Lauren Chambard*
 Vice-President: *Melissa McCanna*
 Treasurer: *Megan Bonny*
 Secretary: *Lucinda LaCour*

Senior Class Council

Reps.: *Nicole Rivard & Max Picatti*
 President: *Alexis Bonny*
 Vice-President: *Katie Eschbach*
 Secretary/Treasurer: *Evan Rodriguez*

Junior Class Council

Reps.: *Maria Jin & Evan Sawyer*
 President: *Emily Stillwaggon*
 Vice-President: *Matt Smith*
 Secretary/ Treasurer: *Darcy Morford*

Sophomore Class Council

Reps.: *Jessica Serrano & Ross Anderton*
 President: *Julia Kennedy*
 Vice-President: *Olivia McLaughlin*
 Secretary/ Treasurer: *Amy Nuñez*

Teen Issues Day

La Salle is in the process of planning our annual "Teen Issues Day" for Mon., April 30. We take a topic or topics pertinent to the aspects of teen life that have emerged during the year and need to be addressed with information and discussion. This year we are addressing stress management especially as it is effected by depression and anxiety. We will also consider harmful and healthy coping strategies: suicide, creating internet identities and communication, anger management, etc.

Parent Corner

Spring is almost here and I am looking for my running shoes (that's not really true since I do not run at all). The calendar is full of all the opportunities we all have to stay involved in our school and receive the all important parent hours. Before we look to the future let us review what we have done and recognize our efforts and those around us.

In January we had a great Open House that brought in a lot of community interested in our school. A great big thanks to those parents who provide the terrific pastries, coffee and juice to all of the visitors. I would like to also thank the parents that volunteered to create the displays for the Parents Association, Art and Academic Booster, and the Athletic Booster. Our Parents Association board members provided information regarding our importance to the school and we had many visitors to our table. Thank you all.

In February we had our largest attended Parents Association meeting. There were over 200 people; of course it really helped having an outstanding presentation on *Islam* by Fr. Patrick Baraza. Thank you Br. James for your help in coordinating this event. Not only were there several parents and students but also there were many of the community and local clergy. With the winter sports winding down and having completed the last of our home games I would like to thank all the parents who helped setup, run, and clean up the gym. Thank you also to the parents who transported our students to practices and games. Our successful programs are testimony to the dedication of our parents.

Now we have to finish the year. We had a very successful and fun St. Pat's Gala and Fun Run on March 17th. Last weekend many parents assisted in making the *Follies* a enjoyable night for all. Mrs. Marianne Ball and Ms. Harala led a great show. There are many opportunities to offer your help, get some hours and be part of a great event. Please contact the school for information if you did not have a chance to volunteer. On April 10th we are having a couple of presentations by law enforcement agencies (YPD and FBI) about Internet safety and how this technology can be a great tool but dangerous for our families and ourselves.

In April we are going to have our first Yard Sale at St. Joseph/Marquette gym to help our Athletics Boosters. Rich Wall is the Chair for this event and can use all the volunteers possible. This is another very easy way to get some of your hours. We have several events in the works that will help support the Athletic Boosters and will give us all chances to become involved, whether we have a student athlete or not. Greg Kilseimer, our Athletics Boosters Chair is always looking for people to be more involved and welcomes your attendance at the Athletics Boosters meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month.

The Arts and Academics Booster is busy preparing for the Follies and looking forward to continued growth in coffee sales. If you have not purchased coffee please do so. You can order from the form online at www.lasallejakima.com or come to the office. A great big thanks to Susan Kunkler for all of her effort and leadership in our Arts and Academic Booster. As we look towards next year we are going to need parents to step up and become involved in the very important school booster program.

Almost like a salesman, if you want hours and need hours we have them. Come and see us.

Thank you

Chuck Stillwaggon

La Salle Parents Association

Yard Sale — Saturday, April 28

Clean out those closets and garages and donate sellable items to La Salle for the 1st Annual Yard Sale. To arrange for dropping off items, call Rich Wall at 969-6612

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
 Academics/Arts Boosters: **Susan Kunkler 972-4153** or kunkler5@nwinform.net
 Athletics Boosters: **Greg Kilseimer 388-6273** or gilseimer@lasallejakima.org

PARENT
MEETING
TUES., APRIL
10 AT 7 PM

TOPIC:
INTERNET
SAFETY

A Big THANK YOU

The past two weeks weekends have concluded two of the signature La Salle events of the year and a big thank you goes out to the dozens of students, faculty/staff, and parents that made them happen. These events do not happen without the dedication and generosity of dozens of volunteers. The following are signaled out as they participated as chairpersons and committee members.

St. Patrick's Gala

Chairperson: Carol Schneider

Parent Volunteers: Terry Shumaker

Student Volunteers: Br. James, Rosa Cuevas

Raffle: Jean Jones

Decorations/Set Up: Meg McGree, Chris McGree, Susie Switzer

Kitchen: Andy and Julie Roy

Tickets: Kathleen Smith

Bar: Chuck Stillwaggon

Clean up: Chuck Wytko

Dining Room Prep: Theresa McElrath

Other Planning Committee Members: Matt Anderton,

Jay Carroll, Tim McGree, Dwight Miller, Marisol

Summers, Kari Voelker

St. Patrick's Fun Run:

Chairpersons: Sean McGree and Teresa Kennedy

Follies: The Sounds of La Salle

Producer: Marianne Ball

Director: Annie Harala

Chief Coach: Mister O'Brien

Other Planning Committee Members: Chris Gamache,

Susan Kunkler, Loren Lund, Colleen Perrault,

Monica Piña, Susan Youngstrom

Patrons: The Arts and Academics Boosters

Both events were amazing. La Salle has a hardworking and talented community. We hope to have more involvement as the years continue.

The St. Patrick's Raffle and Gala netted over \$80,000. Wow!! That was an increase from last year's \$46,000. Our 2007 raffle winners were all current parents:

1st Prize \$7,000 Diana Juarez

2nd Prize \$2,000 Greg Weedin

3rd Prize \$1,000 Tim McCanna

Updated Parent supported fundraising totals (wreaths, sporting events, etc.) will be posted soon on the website.



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 Cinco de Mayo, Sat., May 5. All the Catholic schools have been invited to bring their choir and/or band and a display of art. The idea came out of both the art teachers and principals at the September Diocesan Inservice and Mrs. Marianne Ball is the chairperson. Besides performing themselves our band, World Language Club and other students will assist with leadership of the elementary and junior high students. We will need parent volunteers. We are also looking for help with donated items for lunch. **Please contact Mrs. Marianne Ball —MBall@lasalleyakima.org.**

Volunteering Opportunities

The requirement for parents to volunteer at events comes from essentially two premises:

- research shows that when Parents are involved with the life of a school their students are more apt to reach their full potential.
- La Salle needs volunteer help in order to afford the education we offer. All members of the community (Faculty/Staff, Parents, Students, Benefactors) make sacrifices to support the education of all our students.

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

Tues., April 10: Parent Association Meeting Topical Presentation on "Internet Safety"

Sat., April 28: 1st Annual Yard Sale (Contact: Rich Wall 969-6612 or Greg Kilseimer 388-6273)

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

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

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

Athletics— transportation and other needs: ongoing (Contact the team liaison or coach)