



# #BackThePack

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"To be entrusted with teaching of the young is a great gift and grace of God" (Med 201.1). "God's word is powerful in touching hearts" (Med 180.2).

#### **Dear Friends of Saint Paul's School**

During 2021-22 school year, we celebrated the 103rd anniversary of Christian Brother presence at Saint Paul's School, which began in 1918 when the Brothers brought the Lasallian Mission to our beloved school. After being exiled from France in 1904 and barely escaping with their lives from Mexico in the 1914 revolution, the Brothers purchased the school in 1918 from the Benedictine monks of Saint Joseph Abbey, who started Saint Paul's in 1911. And the rest, as they say, is history.

As the school community celebrated its 111th birthday on September 14, 2022, I took the opportunity to remind the students of the challenges that had to be overcome in order for the school to survive:

- World War I, which saw the school divided between its German roots and the new French-rooted Christian Brothers.
- The 1918 Spanish flu pandemic, which roared through the school and community, claiming students, Brothers, and neighbors as victims and almost closing the school for good.
- The Great Depression, during which many parents could pay no tuition, yet the Brothers admitted and cared for those students anyway at great personal sacrifice.
- World War II, which saw many Brothers and students leave the school in order to fight for our country after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.
- The social upheaval of the 1960s, which brought profound changes to American society, including Saint Paul's School.
- The "oil/energy bust" of the 1980s, which again brought economic hardship to southeast Louisiana, with again, many parents unable to afford tuition.

#### - St. John Baptist de La Salle to the first Christian Brothers

But throughout these challenges and more, the school (Brothers and their lay partners) ministered to the students by living up to the Five Core Principles of Lasallian education: Quality Education, Inclusive Community, Respect for All, Concern for the Poor and Social Justice, and Faith in the Presence of God.

It is this last quality that, I believe, sustained the school the most, as Saint John Baptist de La Salle wanted the Brothers to believe they were doing God's work. As Saint La Salle put it: Domine Opus Tuum - Lord, the work is yours.

As we celebrate our prodigious academic, athletic, and service accomplishments of the present (especially our second consecutive U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Award), we face the challenges of the future – including financial stability to allow us to provide our students with the best teachers, facilities, and curricula. And to do that we need your help. Your donations make a difference. With your help, Saint Paul's will continue to spread the Lasallian Catholic education to the next generation of young men who will "Rise Up" as men of God and practice the Five Lasallian Core Principles in their homes, on campus, and in their communities.

Please enjoy the 2021 – 22 Advancement Report. We invite you to review the names of the businesses and individuals that partnered with Saint Paul's to further the Lasallian mission and invite you to become part of that number.

Be assured that the Christian Brothers regularly pray for those who support our Mission of providing a human and Christian education to the young men entrusted to our care. We have done so for over 100 years - and we will continue to do so as the Lasallian Mission continues its second century in Covington.

Live, Jesus, in our hearts! Forever! Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC The 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

## BY THE NUMBERS

2022 GRADUATES

COLLEGES

IN SCHOLARSHIPS

2015 AND 2021 **TWO TIME** 

WERE RECOGNIZED AS **NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP** 

**SCHOLARS** 

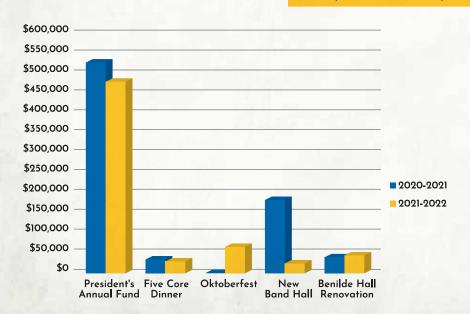
**SENIORS SIGNED** 

TO CONTINUE THEIR ATHLETIC **CAREERS** 

## Summary of Contributions

	- 4	2020-2021	2021-2022
President's Annual Fund		\$519,159.00	\$469,507.00
Five Core Dinner		\$24,375.00	\$20,994.74
Oktoberfest		\$0.00	\$55,347.00
New Band Hall		\$210,143.00	\$16,855.00
Benilde Hall Renovation		\$31,813.00	\$35,901.00
	TOTAL	¢752 677 00	¢542 702 74





\*\* 2020 - New event Oktoberfest was canceled due to Covid-19; 2021 Celebrity Dinner was also canceled due to the epidemic.

2021 New event the Five Core Meal was held for fifty people indoors as well as virtually



## President's Annual Educational Fund

## **Annual Fund**

Saint Paul's School Annual Fund is conducted each year; it allows the school to achieve the lofty goal of a Christian and human education to each child entrusted to our care. Unrestricted donations are used for major projects including classroom improvements, advancing educational programs, faculty compensation and continuing education, and physical improvements to our campus. Restricted gifts are funds directed to a specific program: tuition assistance, Wolves on Wheels, the Math Department, and campus beautification to list just a few. All donations are used to improve the school for the young men entrusted to its care, and if it were not for these donations, Saint Paul's would not be the thriving educational institution it is today.

- **Denotes Recurring Monthly**
- Denotes Lasallian Circle Giving Annual Giving for 3 or more consecutive years

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## Oktoberfest 2021



Oktoberfest was established during the fall of 2021. With a planned date of October 2nd, the anticipation of a brand new event generated lots of excitement. Then, Hurricane Ida hit the Northshore on August 30th. Due to the damage of the campus as well as the struggles to recover for Saint Paul's families, the decision was made to postpone the event to December.

Even though Oktoberfest in December was a little odd, a good time was had by all! Our guests enjoyed authentic Bavarian food, grilled brats, and hot pretzels. Live entertainment by The Bräts inspired plenty of dancing to the Chicken Dance and the Hogan's Heroes March. Santa Claus even paid a visit and offered to take pictures with the guests.

Profits from Oktoberfest are used to support numerous programs at Saint Paul's that are vital to the quality education of the students. Capital improvements, such as the new band hall,

receive funding from this signature event, providing students with a state of the art facility.





## **Oktoberfest Sponsors**

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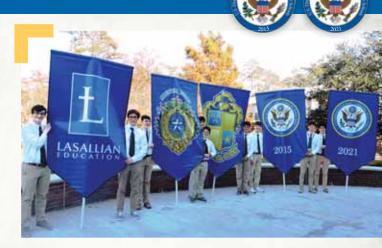
## School Earns Second National Blue Ribbon Award

The United States Department of Education once again has recognized Saint Paul's School as a National Blue Ribbon School Awardee. The school, now a multiple awardee, earned its first National Blue Ribbon award for excellence in teaching and learning in 2015. Saint Paul's is one of only four high schools in Louisiana and one of 23 private schools in the nation to receive the distinction for the 2020-2021 school year.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program, now in its 39th year, honors schools which have achieved high levels of academic performance. In order for a nonpublic school such as Saint Paul's to be recognized as "Exemplary High Performing," student achievement in math and English must be among the highest in the country, the top 15%, as measured by state and nationally normed tests.

Acknowledging the accomplishment of Saint Paul's School and the 324 Blue Ribbon honorees nationwide, Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona stated, "This year's cohort of honorees demonstrates what is possible when committed educators and school leaders create vibrant, welcoming, and affirming school cultures where rich teaching and learning can flourish. I commend this school and all our Blue Ribbon honorees for working to keep students healthy and safe while meeting their academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. In the face of unprecedented circumstances, you found creative ways to engage, care for, protect, and teach our children. Blue Ribbon Schools have so much to offer and can serve as a model for other schools and communities so that we can truly build back better."

Saint Paul's School was honored at an awards ceremony on November 4 & 5, 2021 in National Harbor, Maryland. Then Principal Trevor Watkins, AFSC, and Assistant Principal Joe Dickens were in attendance to receive the plaque and National Blue Ribbon School flag signifying exemplary status. A celebration for the Saint Paul's community was held in early December.





## Five Core Meal

The second annual Five Core Meal was held in the Briggs Assembly Center on the feast day of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, April 7. The Five Core Meal is a culinary reflection of the Lasallian Five Core Principles.

Saint Paul's mission is often expressed in Five Core Principles: Respect for All Persons, Faith in the Presence of God, Concern for the Poor and Social Justice, Inclusive

Community, and Quality Education. In order to explore these principles and how they relate to each other, the five-course meal was served with each course corresponding to each of the Principles.

The evening began at 7:00pm with an introduction from Bro. Ray Bulliard, FSC, President of Saint Paul's School, followed by five short reflections from a Lasallian partner pertaining to each Core Value. After each Core Value presentation, a 12 minute breakout session commenced, led by a faculty member trained in Lasallian pedagogy. Student Ambassadors assisted with serving the meal.

When the evening ended, our guests reflected that the evening was a very meaningful event. Thank you to our evening sponsor, DonahueFavret Contractors, Inc. Additional sponsors included Banner Ford & Chevrolet, Angel and Eric Dunavant, and Mele Printing.



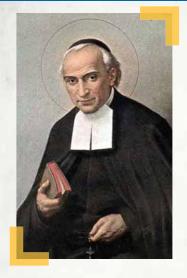
## E UP, O MEN OF GOD







## Benilde Hall Renovation



## Keeping the Drive Alive!

## Cost 4.8 Million

Benilde Hall was built in 1959 under the principalship/presidency of the late Brother Cassian Lange. The second and third floors were dormitories for 6th and 7th grades. The bottom floor contained study halls and recreation rooms. When Saint Paul's dropped 6th grade, the first two floors were converted into classrooms. The third floor remained a dormitory for 7th grade. When 7th grade was dropped, the third floor became the band room! When the number of boarders started dropping, the third floor was converted to classrooms.

Renovation of Benilde Hall was completed in the Fall of 2018. The Religion and Spanish classrooms on the second and third floors were extensively updated. Each classroom is equipped with a 70 inch monitor that is used for video presentations in addition to the standard 42" monitor for announcement and schedules. The first floor was completely reconfigured which includes a campus minister office,

one classroom for English, another two classrooms for publications and videography, and a bookstore. In January of 2019, a PJ's coffee shop became fully functional with students from the Entrepreneur Class preparing and serving coffee. PJ's Coffee of New Orleans was instrumental in assisting us with this endeavor from conception to completion. Supporters of this renovation are continuing their five year pledge.







## **Benilde Hall Sponsors**

### Major Donor (\$1,000 and above)

Mr. Christopher Blanchard '05 Mr. and Mrs. David Mahonev Mr. and Mrs. John McDonald Mr. and Mrs. Craig Paretti '93 Dr. Lisa and Mr. Greg Pellegrini '86

#### Partners (\$500 - \$999)

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Crifasi '66 Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore I. Impastato '66

## New Band Hall Building

## Get on the Band Wagon!

## Cost 2.5 million

In the summer of 1966, the school constructed a new "recreation center" exclusively dedicated to the recreational needs of the students living in La Salle Hall dormitory. At a cost of \$15,000, a building was constructed to provide for ping pong, pool, table games and TV for the boarders. Eventually, arcade-type games and a snack bar were added. In addition, a nine-hole miniature golf (putt-putt) course was built in front of the building, complete with lighting for nighttime use.

The facility, known simply as "the rec hall", served the recreational needs of the boarding students until the summer of 1995, when, once again, the needs of the school dictated change. The overall population of the school was growing, but the population of the boarding program was shrinking. Accordingly, the decision was made to move the "rec hall" into La Salle Hall itself and to move the band hall (which was located on the third floor of Benilde Hall) into the rec hall building, thus allowing us to construct five more classrooms in Benilde Hall. The miniature golf course had also deteriorated and was removed.

The building has served the Marching Wolves well since that time, but, again, needs dictate change. In addition to overall building deterioration, our band programs have been expanding of late and now include concert, jazz, and drum corps components in addition to the renowned Marching Wolves, now almost one hundred members strong!

The New Band Hall provides expanded space, restrooms, acoustics, and aesthetics to our music program. Construction began in the fall of 2020 and completed at end of 2021. The students have enjoyed this state of the art facility immensely!







## **New Band Hall Sponsors**

#### Major Gifts (\$1,000 and over)

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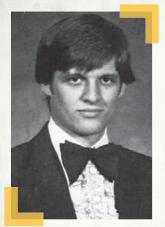
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## Trevor Watkins Retirement



Trevor arrived on campus in August of 1976 as an international student from Trinidad-Tobago.

He regularly was elected to the dorm student council, was an honor roll student, earned an honor diploma as one of the 90 seniors of the Class of 1979. Then principal Brother Jeffrey Calligan, FSC wanted to create a special award that year to honor a senior - the Signum Fidei award that recognized the senior who most closely lived the ideals of Saint Paul's; and Trevor Watkins was the first recipient. Since 1979, the Signum has become the highest award given.

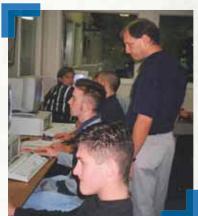
Little did Trevor know that his Saint Paul's journey was just beginning. He enrolled in Loyola University and graduated with honors four years later with a degree in sociology. Taking a year off to travel the world, he returned to Saint Paul's when Brother Jeff offered him a job teaching Spanish.

He rose to the chairmanship of the Spanish department and turned it into a five-year program - one of the few five-year high school language programs around.

Trevor was just getting started. For a time, he considered joining the Brothers and lived with them in the campus residence. When he decided against officially joining the Brothers, he became a dorm prefect in the boarding program.

So impressed were the Christian Brothers with Trevor's commitment to our Mission that the Superior General in Rome honored him by giving him the highest honor the Brothers bestow: Letters of Affiliation, making him, in effect, and honorary Christian Brother. That's why the initials AFSC follows his name: Affiliated Brother of the Christian Schools.

When the position of assistant principal became open a number of years ago, Trevor applied for the job. With his vision for the future of Saint Paul's, he was the logical choice. When all of the Brothers' schools in the San Francisco New Orleans province of Christian Brothers adopted the president / principal model of school administration, Brother Ray was named president and CEO of Saint Paul's, and Trevor was immediately appointed as the first non-Brother Principal of Saint Paul's School.



## A partial list of what Trevor spearheaded as principal is listed below:

- PLTW engineering and biomedical sciences programs.
- Expanded AP offerings and increased ACT scores and National Merit scholars.
- Envisioned and implemented the start to the CORE pack program;
   "CORE" is an acronym for "Catholic Opportunity for a Responsive Education," which includes children with developmental disabilities in the student body.
- Helped Saint Paul's earn two consecutive US Department of Education Blue Ribbon Awards.
- Campus facility upgrades including: the renovation of the main school building and La Salle Hall, the renovation of the old gym and Benilde Hall, construction of the new gym and new music facility and the expansion of the Briggs Assembly Center.

Everything Trevor has done on this campus has been for the good the students. While Trevor will retire from full time employment, his skills are too valuable to lose entirely. Therefore, he will continue to teach a Spanish class and will be a part time consultant to Brother Ray.







## The Signum Fidei award:

The student who receives this awaro has shown evidence of his faithfulness to The Saint Paul's School and to the traditions of the Christian Brothers through the quality of his leadership, scholarship, and involvement in activities. The recipient is selected by the Christian Brothers who own and operate Saint Paul's School.

The Brothers consider this young man as an ideal graduate of a Lasallian school, for he has personally embraced the Mission by internalizing the core principles of Lasallian education. More important, though, he has worked tirelessly to infuse the core principles into the lives of all of students and faculty of Saint Paul's.

As he and his classmates rise up today as men of God, he shines brightly. He is a Sign of Faith. And today, he is honored as a shining star of excellence in the finest tradition of Saint Paul's School and the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

# Saint Paul's offers strong Academic, Athletic, & Extracurricular programs.

























This is the Advancement Review for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The report covers the President's Annual Fund Drive, the Benilde Hall Renovation Project, the New Band Building, and special events. We understand that donations were made to other programs; however, that data is not reported in this document. We are grateful to all our donors, and this donor list has been prepared with care. But, we also know that omissions and errors can occur despite our sincere efforts to avoid them. If inaccuracies are noted, we hope that you will advise us and accept our apology.

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