



Looking Ahead at DeLaSalle

Friday January 22, 2016

Dear Families of DeLaSalle:

On behalf of our staff and our students, thank you once again for the many ways in which you've enhanced our community this year. In the classrooms and hallways of our school, it's been a great year at DeLaSalle. Evident in their thoughts and actions, our students bring to life every day the tangible benefits of this year's prayer theme: "How good it is when God's people live in unity." We remain rooted in educating the whole person at DeLaSalle – mind, body, and soul.



We are committed to excellence and relevance in all that we do, in large part because we know you want all of this for your children as well.

The significant majority of our students earned a place on the first semester Honor Roll, which is no surprise given how successful they were as middle school students and how committed you are, as their parents, to the value of learning. Our seniors are receiving acceptance letters from colleges across the country, and we share their excitement with each offer they receive. Our teachers, while mindful of each student in their classroom, have been busy planning ahead to next year, when the Center for Innovative Learning opens and will further enhance our delivery of education.

Thanks in part to your many kind referrals, our enrollment continues to be strong: We have welcomed several transfers into DeLaSalle as the second semester begins, and almost 300 eighth graders (from over 75 different middle schools) have started applications to De, a number that will continue to grow with the application deadline still three weeks away. On a parallel track, we are 65 percent of the way toward meeting our \$17 million "Gateway to the Future" capital campaign goal by 2019. We have cultivated new donors to our Annual Fund and financial aid programs. We are blessed to still earn the support of several major donors who have been stalwarts at

DeLaSalle for decades. Our future is bright.

A year ago, I outlined five goals that have served as guiding principles in management of our operating budget at DeLaSalle for many years: (1) Maintain fiscal stability and be good stewards to parents who pay tuition and to benefactors who fill in the gaps with their gifts; (2) Continue academic and activity programs that not only meet students' needs but encourage them to stretch and to excel; (3) expand or renovate our facilities to support current student programs and to prepare for the needs of future Islanders; (4) Protect the historical mission of DeLaSalle and the Christian Brothers to educate a broad cross section of students; and (5) respond to the needs of individual households in a manner unsurpassed among Minnesota Catholic high schools.

We are meeting all five goals at DeLaSalle, and we cannot thank you enough for your help in support of the entire community. We do depend upon your necessary commitment to your share. We thank you for paying tuition on time and according to your stated plan and/or participating in the Islander Foundation program. Your faithful commitment to meeting your child's tuition obligations helps all families and all programs at DeLaSalle. Furthermore, you are modeling something important for your child and for all students about commitment and priorities, responsibility and collaboration – all of which are valuable life lessons.

We look ahead to 2016-17 with great anticipation that DeLaSalle will continue to be singular among the many high school choices in the Twin Cities. The vital role that you play as the primary educators of the wonderful young women and men we serve, combined with your prayerful support of our mission and our community, will lead to a better DeLaSalle for your child and for generations of children yet to come. Thank you for being our partners in this historic and necessary mission that we share.

For DeLaSalle,
Barry C. Lieske, AFSC
President

Re-Enrollment Process for 2016-17

Students who will be in grades 10-12 next year will be re-enrolling for 2016-17 over the next four weeks, a process that will unfold in four steps. In large part due to suggestions from our parents, we are making some adjustments to the process this year:

- **Step One:** Next week, each parent will receive an email with an online re-enrollment form for their son or daughter for the 2016-17 school year. Parents are asked to complete this document online no later than February 12. Parents will re-enroll their child, update family contact information, and make transportation requests for the coming school year.
- **Step Two:** On February 11, in grade level assemblies, all current students in grades 9-11 will receive information about requesting courses for 2016-17. They will be instructed to consult with their current teachers, academic mentor, and parents in order to have requests ready by February 16. During the week of February 16-19, in conjunction with parents having returned the online re-enrollment form, students will submit course requests for 2016-17.
- **Step Three:** Beginning on February 25th, and in response to the many families who find this more convenient, a charge will be added to the current TADS account for the \$350.00 non-refundable registration deposit for 2016-17. As always, the deposit will hold a space in the enrollment for next year, and it will be applied toward the charged tuition for 2016-17.
- **Step Four:** Between April 1-15, and working with TADS and its Tuition Management Program, we will send an individualized Tuition Agreement to each parent or guardian, reflecting the registration deposit as paid, detailing any financial assistance the student may receive (need-based grants and/or merit-based scholarships) and establishing a payment plan for 2016-17. Families will be asked to electronically sign the Tuition Agreement at that time.

2016-17 Tuition and Financial Aid

On January 21, the DeLaSalle Board of Trustees approved both tuition levels and a salary schedule for 2016-17. Tuition will be \$12,775. All of us at DeLaSalle appreciate the sacrifice that you make to send your children sons and daughters to our school. We know we must be good stewards. Support from our generous alumni and friends allows for a tuition that is considerably less than the actual cost of educating each student. DeLaSalle's 2016-17 tuition compares quite favorably with other Catholic or private high schools in the Twin Cities.

We remain committed to support approximately half of our families with the largest per capita financial aid program of any private high school in Minnesota to our families in 2016-17. Families who wish to apply for financial aid based on family need must submit an application to Tuition Aid Data Services (TADS) by Monday, February 22.



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Looking Ahead at DeLaSalle

Friday January 22, 2016 - Page 2

Winterfest / Catholic Schools Week Jan. 31-Feb. 6

DeLaSalle will celebrate its Catholic identity during Catholic Schools Week while also giving students an escape from winter through Winterfest.

Catholic Schools Week Liturgy

Wednesday, February 3, 9:15am, Florance Center

DeLaSalle will join schools around the country in celebrating how Catholic schools are communities of faith, knowledge, and service. De parent Deb Organ will reflect about the Year of Mercy.



Out of Uniform Themes

Students may dress out-of-uniform on these days, provided they follow the out-of-uniform policies found in the Student-Parent Handbook.

- Monday: Ugly Sweater Day
- Tuesday: USA Day
- Wednesday: Class Color Day
- Thursday: Sports Day
- Friday: Islander Day

Student Council Sponsored Activities

Monday Movie Night

Monday, February 1, 6:00-8:00pm, LL Gray Gym

Students are invited to watch Disney's "Aladdin" while enjoying concessions and free popcorn.

PowderPuff Volleyball

Wednesday, February 3, 3:30pm, Main Gym

The junior boys take on the senior boys in what may be the craziest volleyball game of the year.



Alpine Skiing at Hyland Park

Thursday, February 4, 3:30-8:00pm

Students are invited to hit the slopes as part of the Alpine Ski Club. Lift tickets cost \$15. Students may also rent skis, snowboards, and helmets.

Annual Blood Drive

Friday, February 5, 8:30am-3:00pm, A219

Students 16 and older may donate blood to Memorial Blood Centers.



Sadie Hawkins Dance

Saturday, February 6, 7:00-10:30pm, Florance Center

This year's Sadie Hawkins dance is winter themed, the dress code is casual, and ladies choose (or students can come with friends). Tickets \$6 (or \$5 with canned goods).

2-Hour Late Start on Wednesday, January 27

Classes on Wednesday, Jan. 27 will start at 10:30am, two hours later than normal, as staff participate in professional development. Morning transportation routes on Jan. 27 will also run two hours later than normal. Please note that additional two-hour late starts are scheduled on February 29, March 15, and April 14.



Important Upcoming Dates & Events

- **De Parents in Prayer**
Friday, January 29, 1:45-2:45pm, Florance Center
This group of parents and family members, sponsored by the Parent Association, gathers on campus once a month to lift up the school community in prayer. Students, staff, and families may place prayer requests in prayer boxes in the Lasallian Ministry office and Main Office. Requests may remain anonymous.
- **Parent Association Meeting**
Monday, February 8
- **Ash Wednesday Mass**
Wednesday, February 10
- **AP Parent Information Night**
Thursday, February 11, 6:30pm
- **Academic Mentor Meetings**
Friday, February 12
- **President's Day - NO SCHOOL**
Monday, February 15
- **History Day at DeLaSalle**
Tuesday, February 16

This Is A Test - But It's Only A Test **Make-Up Exams Offered Jan. 23, 24, 30**

Nearly 300 prospective 9th graders have already begun their application to come to DeLaSalle. By February 12, students must submit the [actual application for admission](#), at least one letter of recommendation, and transcripts from their middle schools, in addition to taking an Entrance Exam..

Make-up Entrance Exams are scheduled for Saturday, January 23 or 30, each morning from 9:00am to 12:00pm, or on Sunday, January 24, from 12:00-3:00pm. Students may pre-register for a make-up exam by calling Patrick Felicetta at 612-676-7605. If you receive Patrick's voice mail, please leave your name, phone number, student's name, and preferred exam date.



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