



BACK TO SCHOOL PARTNERS IN MISSION & INSPIRATION

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Greetings, DLSA Community!

The start of a new school year holds promise for each of us. Our ability to build upon the progress we have made in three short years as an independent school is something I look forward to seeing come to fruition.

Three years ago, DLSA was still in "start up" mode, with various departments not yet established. I am happy to report that we have grown tremendously. We have an academic support program to ensure more students' needs are being met, along with counseling and graduate support programs that ensure we are more effective in holistically accompanying our youth from 5th grade through college. In order to continue on our path to sustainability, the Philanthropy Office supports community outreach and guides our efforts to fund our work for years to come. Reflecting on these additions to our scope of services and programs brings about such gratitude.

Our school theme this year is **Partners in Mission & Inspiration**. There is a palpable commitment to our mission that is embodied among all our shareholders: students, staff, families, graduates, trustees, donors, and volunteers. Because of this, I am confident that DLSA will take significant steps in achieving its vision of creating even more equitable opportunities for Academy students and graduates to achieve personal and academic success.

Now in our 9th year, we have 63 *alumni* in high school, along with 29 *college-aged* alumni. Last school year, our enrollment was 67 students. For the first time ever, we have enrolled **72 students** (the maximum building capacity)! This is truly a sign that so many in our community are sharing our story and inspiring new families to connect with us!

From improving our writing curriculum and assessment methods, to expanding the scope of our counseling and social emotional programming, there will be much to highlight in the year ahead. I am impressed by the faculty and staff's commitment to innovation.

The DLSA student is the most important person on campus. We create opportunities and inspire students to achieve their goals. In turn, our team is inspired by the transformation we see in them.

I am humbled and honored to go through this journey together. I encourage you to visit our campus and learn more about the opportunities for you to be **INSPIRED!**

Sincerely,

Chris Giangregorio
President

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DE LA SALLE



ACADEMY

FACULTY CORNER

Each year, DLSA faculty have opportunities to develop their skill set through professional development; share their expertise with colleagues; and bring their passion into the classroom.

DLSA is pleased to highlight more about its amazing team in the FACULTY CORNER!

Ms. Ashley Weinberger- Student Success Coordinator



What's Happening

- Obtaining IEPs for students
- Supporting faculty & building curriculum mapping
- Advocating for students through academic accommodations and modifications
- Provide academic support sessions



Q & A

Get to know Ms. Weinberger

Q: Where did you grow up and how did you end up at DLSA?

A: I was born and raised in Philadelphia and attended La Salle University. In 2018, I joined the Lasallian Volunteer Program, and I chose De La Salle Academy to start my service year.

Q: What inspired you to want to stay after that service year?

A: I felt a high level of connection with students - more than I experienced at any other school. The support I felt in multiple areas was important to me.

Q: Describe how your role has evolved over the years

A: Last year, my role was heavily focused on academic support and teaching. This year, my role is shifting!

I will still provide academic support, but will oversee curriculum and assessment development with our teachers. This news focus area allows a collaborative approach with teachers to make sure metrics are met, and accommodations and modifications for students are provided.

Q: What are the most rewarding experiences you have as a teacher?

A: I appreciate being close with the families and students. I can tell they are grateful for the work that I do. Also, seeing students improve their confidence and ability to advocate for themselves is rewarding.

Q: Our President keeps highlighting 100% staff retention. How do you see that benefiting the students, families, and staff at DLSA?

A: 100% staff retention creates essential trust in our school. Community and relationships are so important to our work, and the familiarity will strengthen the work we are trying to do.

CURRICULUM PLANNING

- Develops curriculum based on standards
- Assesses students with their different levels of thinking
- Creates and engages in differentiated activities and instruction

SCIENCE CURRICULUM

- Have students become interested
- Provides hands on activities (labs, projects)
- Develops students academic writing to retain the information

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

- Prepares students to be academically independent
- Advocates for students needs
- Provides a space where students feel comfortable asking questions

student SPOTLIGHT

Meet Luis Jovel



CLASS OF 2024

Providing a spotlight on students from the Academy is one way we can share the successes of the DLSA programs.

In this edition of our Newsletter, 7th Grader Luis Jovel, shares more about his experiences and aspirations.

Q & A

Q: What do you enjoy most about being at De La Salle Academy?

A: I get a good education and all the support that I need. I love the closeness of our community. I feel like we all try to support each other.

Q: What do you want people to know about you?

A: I care about how people feel. I want people to be happy.

Q: What makes you happy?

A: Art. I love drawing and comic books, especially the Batman series. I wish we had more art at DLSA.

Q: What are your aspirations and dreams for the future?

A: First, I want to follow in my dad's, uncles', and cousins' footsteps and go to De La Salle High School. Then, I want to go to St. Mary's College. I want to study and learn to become an actor.

Q: Why do you want to go to SMC?

A: I know a lot of the staff here went to St. Mary's, and you are all really intelligent and nice people!

Q: How will education help you achieve your goals?

A: I think my religion classes will help because I learn about the world and other people's feelings, and that is important if you want to be an actor.

Q: How has the theme of "Partners in Mission & Inspiration" supported you in your years at the Academy?

A: I have worked closely with Ms. Weinberger and Mr. Antonio. Ms. Weinberger has helped me with my study skills, especially my math facts so I can do better on my homework and tests. Mr. Antonio is always there to talk with me as a counselor. He helps me talk through challenges, and then I can concentrate better in class. I really appreciate all the teachers. I can tell you focus on having good relationships with the students, and you really care for us.

Q: This is your third year at a Lasallian school. What does being at a Lasallian school mean to you?

A: We always say we are in the presence of God. We focus on our faith and relationships by learning and having quality education. In our school, we are always trying to grow in these areas.

Q: Thank you for your time, Luis. Do you have anything else you'd like to add?

A: Just that I love it here! Thank you for letting me share!

*I can
and I will*

A Lasallian Catholic Education

De La Salle Academy is a 5th - 8th Grade Lasallian Catholic middle school. Inspired by the mission of the De La Salle Christian Brothers, De La Salle Academy provides a transformative, life-changing, and accessible Catholic educational experience for promising boys from under-resourced families in the greater Concord area.

De La Salle Academy works with philanthropists and community partners to provide students, graduates, and families with access to quality educational opportunities that might not otherwise be available to them due to geographic or socioeconomic factors.

De La Salle Academy

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<https://dls-academy.org>

DE LA SALLE



ACADEMY

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