



RESPONDING TO THE CALL

BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Greetings De La Salle Academy Community,

It is my honor to welcome you back to De La Salle Academy for our 2021 - 2022 school year. We are blessed to have students return to in-person instruction. To our newly enrolled students and families, I welcome you on behalf of the entire DLSA Community!

We are entering our 8th year of collaborating with benefactors, community partners, and families to support and educate the students entrusted to our care. We are especially grateful for the generosity and support of the Hofmann Family and Christian Brothers for making this Lasallian community possible! DLSA is now starting to realize the full scope of its impact. This past Spring, its first class graduated from high school and are modeling the school's goal of empowering students to have successful life paths. While academics contributed to their success, the values of **faith**, **perseverance** and **responsibility** were just as integral to their significant accomplishments. Last year, we added a counseling program, and this year DLSA's annual theme is the **Power of Character**. Our team of educators know that a student's academic success will only be fully actualized when they are a young man of strong faith and character. We are committed to offering a well-rounded educational experience, and we are invigorated by the new opportunities that lie ahead in this year's journey!

Chris Giangregorio
Principal/CEO

SAFETY UPDATE

As we resume in-person instruction, we would like to remind you of how important it is to wear your mask and practice healthy hand hygiene while on campus. There are hand sanitizing stations and air purifiers throughout campus to help us stay safe and healthy. Be sure to wear your mask over your nose at all times. Your participation will truly go a long way to ensure the community's safety. We are grateful for the trust and communication we have with our families, as they are essential in helping us do everything possible to remain open and continue to offer in-person instruction.

OVERVIEW

Principal's Welcome...1

Safety Update...1

Summer Session Highlight...2

First Day of Class...2

New Staff Update...3

How to Support...3

SPECIAL POINT OF INTEREST

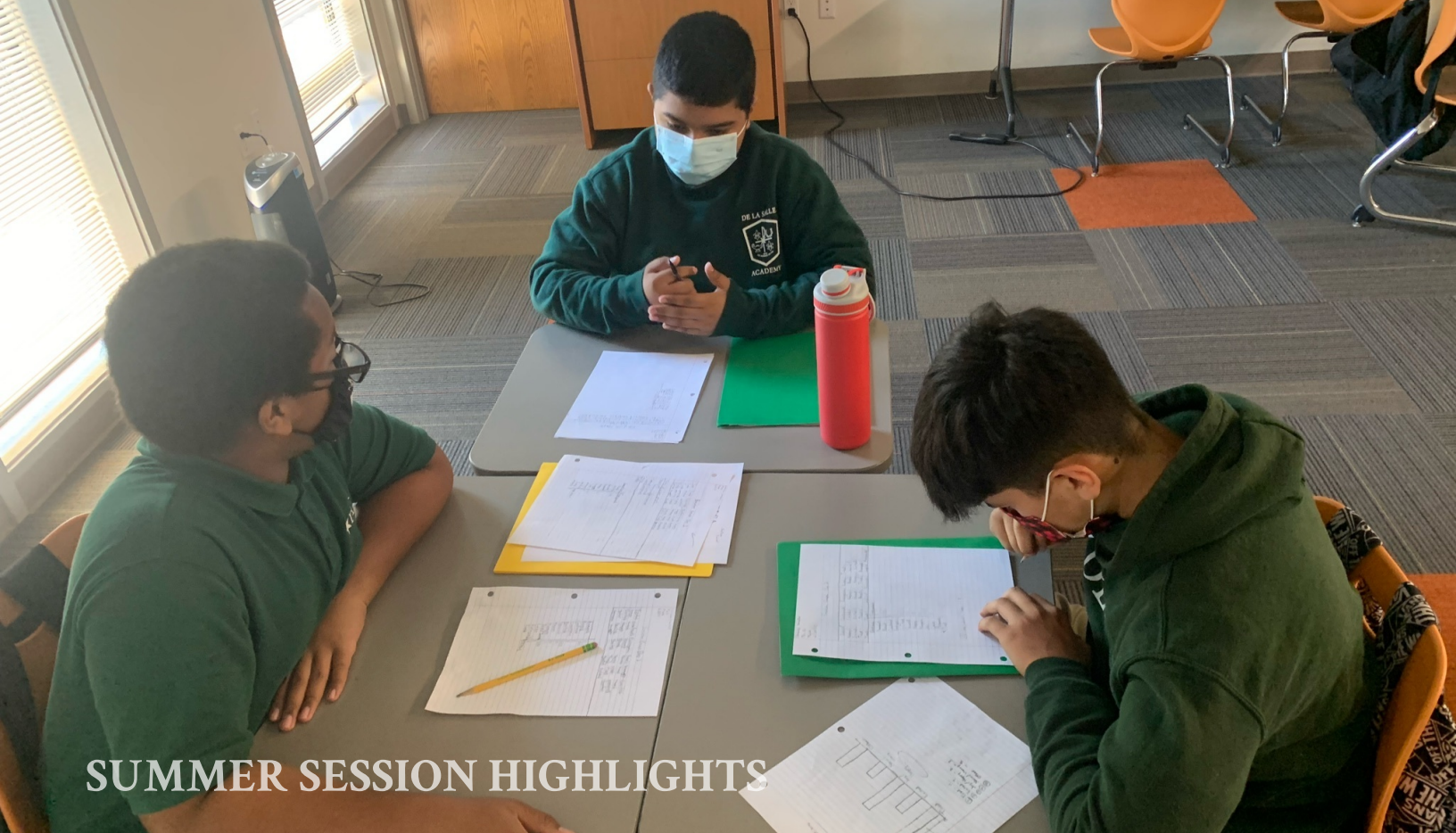
Our Schoolwide Theme:

Power of Character

DE LA SALLE



ACADEMY



SUMMER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

De La Salle Academy was excited to offer its students a 4-week summer program this past summer. This on-campus and in-person experience was vital in supporting our efforts with students in several ways:

- Increased comfort and familiarity with the current expanded schedule
- Provided opportunities to build community after a school year that saw so much isolation
- Closed achievement gaps from one school year to the next

Another significant feature of our Summer Program was the new **Freshmen Support Program**. Graduates from the Class of 2021 returned for three weeks to work on reading and writing skills that will improve their preparations for their English Classes at De La Salle High School. The Class of 2021 also demonstrated **service** and **responsibility** by helping lead and facilitate the **5th Grade Orientation**. Connecting graduates with leadership opportunities during new student orientations was a new experience for the students and graduates, and we are excited to include it as a hallmark feature in our Graduate and Student Programs for years to come!

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

On Monday, August 23, we had a wonderful start to our first day of school. Having students walk the halls and seeing them engaged in class was uplifting and inspiring. Students were excited to see one another, meet their new teachers, and most importantly, create their community for this school year.

We appreciate our families' patience as we get into a routine during drop off and pick ups. We know adjusting to the new schedule and daily routines is not easy, but it is our hope that we will continue to improve these procedures while educating the students in the best way possible.

As we reflect on this week, let us remember that our schoolwide theme this year is "Power of Character". This phrase will be seen and heard throughout the school year as we instill the values of **faith, responsibility, perseverance, respect, and service** in our students and help them realize the importance of these virtues in achieving their goals.



NEW STAFF ALERT

In case you missed the update via our social media channels, we want to share with you exciting staff additions. DLSA recognizes that advancement and sustainability are keys to its future. As a result, this summer we have hired two new administrative positions that will help the school be better stewards of the generous gifts and financial support that keep its mission growing and thriving.



David Flores
Director of Finance

With nearly 15 years of Accounting under his belt, David is excited to get back into a Catholic educational environment. He previously served as a Business Manager at St. Mary Magdalen in Berkeley and as the Finance and HR Manager at St. Patrick's Seminary & University in Menlo Park. When David is not managing finances, he enjoys getting outdoors and visiting parks throughout the Bay Area with his wife and their three young children.



Wendy Duncan
Director of Philanthropy

Wendy has over 13 years experience in fundraising and the non-profit sector. She has a degree in Multicultural studies and is fluent in Spanish. She truly enjoys her profession as a fundraiser and is looking forward to engaging our donors and community in new ways. In her free time, she enjoys yoga and spending time with her husband and two kids.

We are blessed to have them both be a part of the DLSA community.

HOW TO SUPPORT

There are many ways to support the work we do at De La Salle Academy:

- **FOLLOW US** on social media
- Shop on Amazon? Visit smile.amazon.com, search for "De La Salle Academy, Inc" & start shopping. Amazon donates a percentage of the goods purchased



2 WAYS TO GIVE



1. ONLINE

Visit our secure online giving site to give a one-time donation, or set-up easy recurring gifts.

<https://dls-academy.org/giving>



2. CASH OR CHECK

If you prefer to give cash or check, please mail to:

Attn: Wendy Duncan
1380 Galaxy Way, Ste A
Concord, CA 94520

AS WE RESPOND TO THE CALL THIS YEAR WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING OUR STUDENTS A TRANSFORMATIVE AND HOLISTIC EDUCATION.

De La Salle Academy

1380 Galaxy Way
Concord, CA 94520
(925) 471 - 8160
<https://dls-academy.org>

DE LA SALLE



ACADEMY



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 underserved 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.

Pictured: 7th grade class

