



La Salle Monthly Newsletter

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER
2025

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Leadership Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year!! We are excited to begin this journey with you and your children, and we look forward to the many opportunities ahead for growth, learning, and community. At the heart of our mission are the Lasallian Core Principles that guide everything we do: faith in the presence of God, concern for

the poor and social justice, respect for all persons, quality education, and inclusive community. These principles remind us that education is more than academics, it is about forming young people of character who will use their gifts to serve others.

This summer, our entire faculty and staff read the book *The Energy Bus* by Jon Gordon. The book challenged us to think about the energy we bring into our classrooms and community. It reminded us that positivity, teamwork, and vision can truly transform our work. Together, we reflected on what it means to create an environment where students feel supported, encouraged, and motivated to succeed. We are committed to bringing that positive energy into each interaction - with students, families, and community members throughout the year.

This school year, based in large part on your feedback, we are excited to introduce a new “Out of Sight, Out of Mind” cell phone initiative. We want our students to be present, engaged, and free from unnecessary distractions during the school day. Phones will remain put away in backpacks, allowing students to focus on learning, connecting with peers, and developing strong communication skills. We believe this shift will help create healthier habits and strengthen the relationships that matter most. Thank you for participating in the survey and

informing us of our decision.

As part of our commitment to stewardship, we are launching a campaign this year, Small Action, Big Impact, All Heart. The campaign aims to ask for everyone's help in keeping our campus clean and welcoming. Stewardship is not only about caring for resources but also about taking responsibility for our shared environment. We encourage students to take pride in their school by picking up after themselves, reducing waste, and treating our grounds and facilities with care. A clean campus reflects the respect we have for one another and for the gift of our learning space.

We also want to highlight the importance of parent involvement. Parents are our partners in education, and your presence makes a difference. Whether you can volunteer at events, attend parent meetings, or simply support your child at home with routines and encouragement, your role is invaluable. Together, we can provide students with consistent guidance and a strong sense of community.

Finally, we remain dedicated to student advocacy. Our goal is for every student to know that they have a voice, that their concerns are heard, and that they are empowered to take responsibility for their own learning. Whether it is an academic grade issue in the classroom or a playing time issue on the athletic fields, by encouraging self-advocacy, we are helping students build confidence, resilience, and leadership skills that will serve them well beyond the classroom. Thank you for allowing your child to advocate for themselves.

As we begin this year, let us embrace the opportunities ahead with faith, hope, and joy. Thank you for entrusting us with your children. With your partnership and support, we know this will be a year filled with growth, success, and meaningful experiences.

Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever.

Ernest Siy, M.Ed
Principal

New Faces



EDWARD CORTEZ

Social Studies Instructor



JOE NGAMSANGA

Science Instructor



ANDRE NGO

Science Instructor



CATHY KWON

Counselor



LEILA REZVANI

Institutional Advancement
Coordinator



XIANGYI (IVY) WANG

Counselor/International
Advisor



OLIVIA VIRGEN

Communications and
Marketing Coordinator

Lasallian Mission & Service



French priest and founder of the De La Salle Christian Brothers, a Catholic religious institute of men dedicated exclusively to education. Today, the Christian Brothers operate the largest education network in the world. The global Lasallian educational network comprises approximately 4,000 Christian Brothers who, together with 100,000 women and men, operate 1,000 schools and educational centers in 79 countries. Over 1 million students are enrolled in these institutions worldwide.

August

Welcome back Lancers! This summer, the Student Life team has been hard at work, gearing up for the new school year. The students met weekly and attended a week-long retreat in Coachella, California. During these meetings and the week-long retreat, the students have been going through leadership training and workshops. They have learned skills such as negotiation, time management and public speaking. In doing this, the students have come up with a theme for homecoming, created fun activities for the first week of school, organized a donation drive, planned the fall rally, worked on the Mass of the Holy Spirit and so much more.

Our first events of the year were Freshmen Lock-In and Transfer

Orientation. The Lock-in was a combination of orientation and social. Students were able to find where their classes were for the first day, learn about some traditions we do here at La Salle and play games, while sharing in community. Transfer Orientation was created by students, for students. The day consisted of meeting new classmates, introducing students to the Lasallian world and some of our daily life, a tour of their campus so they knew where to go on the first day of school and the day ended with community games.

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Being Lasallian is at the core of who we are and drives everything we do at La Salle, both in and out of the classroom. But what does this really mean? The term “Lasallian” is a reference to Saint John Baptist de La Salle, a seventeenth-century

Our Catholic Lasallian values are at the heart of everything we do. La Salle offers students a wide variety of programs and resources that invite them to live our Catholic Lasallian mission on a daily basis. The heart of our Mission is a commitment to education, faith, justice, inclusivity, and respect. You will see our Mission lived out all over campus — in a friendly “hello” from someone you’ve never met, to a Student Life sponsored activity, or in coursework that explores ethics and global responsibility. Hundreds of years later, De La Salle’s mission inspires us and invites us to live out the five core principles of Faith in the Presence of God; Concern for the Poor and Social Justice; Respect for All Persons; Quality Education; and Inclusive Community in very intentional ways. The opportunities to make a difference range far beyond the classroom and we invite students to participate in all the opportunities that we offer.

September

Our first rally of the year was the Teachers vs. Student Rally! This rally celebrated all of our fall sports and academic teams. Teachers went head to head with the students in games and competitions. Games such as box relay, trivia, and musical chairs got the crowd amped! The teachers ultimately ended up the winners, to a rally that will surely be remembered.



Last week, our Lasallian community gathered for the first liturgical celebration of the school year: The Mass of the Holy Spirit.

This special tradition marked the beginning of our academic year by asking for the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Together, we prayed that God's Spirit continues to fill our students, faculty, and staff with wisdom, courage, and unity as we embrace the opportunities ahead.

It was a meaningful way to begin the year, reminding us that we do not walk alone, but with God's Spirit alive and moving within our community.

During welcome week, the Service Team hosted a "Back to School" drive and collected school supplies that will be donated to local

Pasadena and Altadena schools affected by the Eaton fires in January. The team also collected used textbooks from our student body and hosted a textbook swap during lunch on Friday, August 19. It was a great opportunity for students to help each other by donating and swapping books with one another.



First Day of School

The first day of school brought eager smiles and excitement, as students were reunited with friends and teachers in anticipation of the new school year. The entire community participated in Picture Day, while also enjoying breakfast sandwiches and activities on the field. During the Welcome to La Salle Assembly, new students had the opportunity to meet our amazing faculty and staff in various departments and learn more about the ins and outs of being a Lancer. With a fantastic first day, we can't wait to see what the rest of the school year will hold.



Alumni Corner



JUNIOR CAREER DAYS IN MENTOR (October 14th & 16th):

Hear inspiring stories from alumni as they share their career journeys and how La Salle played a role in their success. Our juniors will have the opportunity to learn from these accomplished professionals.

La Salle Alumni Homecoming 2025 is ON!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3
7:00 PM • KOHORST FIELD
LA SALLE LANCERS vs HARVARD WESTLAKE



RSVP for Alumni Discounted Tickets. [Click here](#) to RSVP for Discounted Alumni Tickets.

Stop by the Alumni Tent on the track level starting at 6:30 pm to say hello to fellow alumni and get some alumni swag. At half-time we will be honoring our Tenth Battalion Alumni Athletic Award recipients [Ravin Rhodes '17](#) and [Samantha Nieto '17](#).



Student Voice

Dear Lancer Families,

I am thrilled to share that the 2025–2026 school year is in action and has started off with a bang! The spirit on campus is definitely beaming, as we launched with a fun-packed Welcome Week that set the tone for the year ahead.

Our first day began with a Lancer tradition: the Welcome Tunnel! Led by the Student Life and Cheer Team, students were greeted with pom-poms, foam fingers, and words of encouragement for the first day of classes. Seeing friendly faces greet me in the morning made my day 10x better than what I could've imagined.

Throughout Welcome Week, lunchtimes were never dull. The amphitheater, filled with excitement, overflowed with students who engaged in creative activities and competitions each day. From the What's In the Box Challenge to the ultimate Hot Dog Eating Contest, the student participation and sense of community was through the roof. One of the highlights was watching students proudly gear up with blue face paint, leading up to the Teacher vs. Student Rally. After a week of redirecting focus back to academics, the fall rally never fails to be the light at the end of the first week. This tradition once again brought out the competitive spirit of both our student body and faculty.

The fall rally was a perfect showcase of what Lancer pride is about, showcasing all of our fall sports teams, academic groups, and performing arts. Students and teachers faced off in a series of games such as Musical Chairs with a Twist and a balloon snake game, getting the whole crowd to cheer on their fellow classmates. Our cheer and dance teams also featured outstanding performances that elevated the energy. After much laughter, cheers, and competition, the Faculty team secured the win with the most points.

In addition to the tremendous amounts of Lancer pride and spirit, we celebrated our very first liturgy of the year– the Mass of the Holy Spirit– hosted by our very own Spiritual Life Team. We began our spiritual journey with Father Tom from St. Rita Parish and our talented musicians from Music for the Masses. In addition, we were proud to host a Textbook and Supply Drive, organized by Student Life, which was definitely a success. Students had the chance to donate gently used textbooks, and our Book Grab was a huge success as students picked up any textbooks they needed for the new year– free of charge. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Jimenez, who generously donated 64 backpacks filled with essential supplies for children in need. This act of service

was a beautiful reminder of what it means to serve like a Lancer.

As for our incredible sports teams; football, cheer, girls volleyball, girls golf, boys waterpolo, girls tennis, and cross country have all been excelling in their fields! The football team started off the season strong, conquering a win at our first home touchdowns! The Student Section showed out in the best Black Out outfits and brought the best energy. Girls Volleyball takes on the court as they currently have won 4 games, beating Pomona Catholic 3-1! Boys Waterpolo defeated Edgewood 14-10, and Girls Golf dominated Duarte 11-2! Great job to all of the sports teams, they are ruling their seasons.

On August 29th, the Seniors celebrated the start of their last chapter of their high school journey. Gathered together on the football field at sunrise, the senior class reminisced their high school years and bonded together to commemorate the last ride. In the same fashion, the Senior Homecoming Court was announced under this year's theme: Viva Las Lancers, inspired by the Vegas strip. Congratulations to the 2025-2026 Homecoming Court, we can't wait to see what's to come next month!

As we look ahead, I couldn't be prouder of the energy and involvement our Lancer community has shown already. If you enjoyed this segment, expect much more from me this year. I am GiaBella Mena, the 2025-2026 Student Life President and I can't wait to watch as our school year progresses and to update you families along the way.

Until next month!

GiaBella Mena
Student Life President

Greetings from Parent Association



Hello Lancer families,

My name is Erin Amerine, and I'm honored to serve as Co-President of the Parent Association this year. As we kick off the 2025–2026 school year, I want to extend a heartfelt welcome to all our families. Whether this is your first year at La Salle or you're a returning member of our community, we are so grateful to have you as part of our Lancer family.

It's been a pleasure meeting many of you at Back-to-School Night and other recent events. Congratulations to our newest Lancers who've already taken part in Freshman Lock-In and Orientation, and to our seniors who gathered for the beloved tradition of Senior Sunrise. Across campus, the fall athletic

season is well underway, our arts programs are actively preparing for upcoming showcases, and both the Pathway Programs and Student Life activities are in full swing. It's truly an exciting time to be part of the Lancer community!

As a proud La Salle parent—with one current student (P'27)—I can personally attest to the powerful and lasting impact this school community has on our students' academic, spiritual, and personal development. La Salle continues to raise the bar each year, offering our children diverse opportunities to grow as learners, leaders, and faith-filled individuals. The dedication of our faculty, staff, and families plays a vital role in shaping this environment, and I am continually inspired by the commitment I see from our parent community.

The Parent Association is here to support and enhance the student experience by fostering connection among families, organizing events, and expressing our appreciation for the incredible work of our teachers and staff. But we can't do it alone—your involvement, in any form, makes a difference. Whether you join the Parent Association Board, support the Art or Athletics Boosters, volunteer your time, donate items, share your talents, or simply attend a meeting, every act of support helps strengthen our community.

Here are a few upcoming Parent Association-supported events to look forward to:

Sep 25, 2025: Teacher and Staff Luncheon

Oct 13, 2025: 29th Annual Lancer Invitational Golf Tournament

Keep an eye out for additional event details and Track it Forward sign-ups for parent volunteer opportunities. We hope to see many of you at these events and throughout the year!

I encourage you to attend our meetings, meet other Lancer families, and bring your ideas and energy to the table. When we come together as parents, we create an even stronger foundation of support for our students and our school.

Together, we can make this school year one of meaningful connection, joyful celebration, and lasting impact.

With gratitude and excitement,

Erin Amerine, P'27
Co-President, Parent Association

Counseling Center

**August/September 2025
College Center Newsletter**

New In the Counseling Center

We have two new counselors. Help us welcome both Ms. Cathy Kwon and Ms. Ivy Wong! We are so excited to have them here and joining our Lancer community.



First Few Weeks...

Counselor meetings are off to a great start. Check-in meetings are taking place, starting with

freshman and transfer students first. We remind students that the counselors are another touch point on campus for them, somewhere they can come and ask questions, pick up stress-relieving squishies, and sometimes we have candy on hand. As we continue with check-in meetings with our already established caseloads, we also begin senior college meetings this month.

So many wonderful and exciting things to get us started this new year. Thank you to all the parents who came to our Senior College Info Night. We had such a wonderful turnout and we hope you gained more insight into the college application process.

Free Online Workshops

Our partners at [Revolution Prep](#) offer some great FREE workshops.

Take a look at their page to check out all they have to offer.

Future Workshops include:

- Navigating the Critical Changes in Admissions Testing (**Sept, 11th & Oct. 14th at 7pm**)
- PSAT, Now What? (**October 29, 2025 6:00pm**)
- College Planning Case Study (**November 13th at 7pm & Nov 20th at 6pm**)
- Check out their page for more information

Free Online Writing Workshops for Seniors

La Salle is partnering with the [College Essay Guy](#), Ethan Sawyer wrote the current bestselling book on the personal statement, [College Essay Essentials](#). He's well-regarded in the college admissions field and is considered one of the go-to resources on college essays. His [website](#) has hundreds of free resources for applying to college.

College Application Workshops

Throughout the fall semester, we will be assisting our seniors with their college applications. Seniors are welcome to drop in to work on their college applications and have their questions answered or essays proofread by our knowledgeable counselors.

Date: Every Wednesday, starting on September 18 to November 20

Time: 2:45 to 3:30 pm

Location: Counseling Center

Walk-ins welcome!

College Fairs

NACAC College Fair on September 9th

The annual NACAC College Fair is taking place on Tuesday, September 9th at the Pasadena Convention Center from 9am to 12 pm and 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. With over 250 colleges in attendance, this is the largest college fair available in the Southern California region! We encourage families to attend to speak with college representatives and explore their many options. Click here for more info and to preregister.

Can't make it to NACAC on September 9th? No problem!

NACAC also offers virtual college tours and those dates can be found here.

- **September 14**
- **October 19**
- **November 19**

The California State University College Fair

The CSU and our 23 universities are ready to introduce you to the life-changing possibilities we have to offer! Join us this fall for our free [CSU College Night](#) and take the first step toward your future.

On Monday, September 29, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. come to the Pasadena Convention Center and meet representatives from across the CSU. This event is free and open to high school and community college students, returning students, adult learners, and their families. Parents, guardians, and educators are encouraged to attend and be part of this journey.

At CSU College Night you will:

- Meet and connect with representatives from all 23 CSU campuses
- Learn how to best prepare for CSU freshman and transfer admissions
- Get tips on completing your Cal State Apply application

- Discover resources to help pay for college
- Take a picture with a CSU mascot or two

[Register Here](#)

Pasadena Convention Center
300 E. Green Street,
Pasadena, CA 91101

Monday, September 29, 2025
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Parking: \$15 per vehicle (credit card or contactless only). We recommend parking at the Paseo Colorado or another nearby parking lot, as they charge significantly less. Food: Concessions will be available, with additional dining options nearby.

Come discover what's possible at the CSU—we look forward to welcoming you!

College Tours

This academic year, we plan to offer the following tours:

San Diego College Tour

University of San Diego, UC San Diego, and San Diego State University

Date: November 21, 2025

Cost: TBD

Registration: Open on September 22nd and

closes on October 21st. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis with a maximum of 36 students. Please reach out to Ms. Baltazar if you have questions.

Bay Area College Tour

The cost of the tour and registration process will be announced once finalized.

Date: March 5-6, 2026

(We will be departing early from Burbank airport on the 5th and return late the next day on March 6th.)

Registration: TBD

Info: For the 2026 Bay Area College Tour, we are planning to visit various schools, including UC Berkeley, Saint Mary's College, University of San Francisco, UC Santa Cruz, San Jose State & Santa Clara University! Schools are subjected to change. We encourage your family to visit colleges on their own as well.

Standardized Testing

Class of 2026

More and more schools are going test-optional. For up-to-date information on schools testing requirements, please

visit the [Fairtest](#) website.

The UC and Cal State System are no longer considering standardized test scores. The scores may, however, be used for class placement once students are admitted. For more information, please visit the [UC Admissions Requirements](#) and the [Cal State Freshman Test Requirements page](#).

Our recommendation is that students take either the SAT or ACT and then decide whether they wish to report their scores. We recommend sending scores if they mirror or exceed the college's admission averages. Seniors may also take the exam in the fall. We encourage students to check with their college of interest for the last accepted test date.

For more information on the SAT and ACT, including test dates, please visit the [College Board website](#) and the [ACT websites](#).

Class of 2027

The class of 2027 will be taking the PSAT on Monday, October 6th. PSAT/NMSQT stands for Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. It is a standardized test that provides first-hand practice for the SAT. It also gives juniors a chance to enter the National Merit Scholarship Corporation

(NMSC) scholarship programs. Please note we have already registered all Juniors to take the PSAT, and they will test with their own laptop or iPad. On Friday, 9/20, Junior Mentors will be helping the students to install Bluebook, the PSAT testing software, and to perform a digital readiness check for their devices.

The class of 2026 is encouraged to take the ACT at La Salle on February 10, 2024, when La Salle is a testing site for students (La Salle will reimburse junior parents for this test, stay tuned). In addition, most juniors will be taking the SAT for the first time in the spring of 2026. If your family is considering a test-prep course for the SAT or ACT, we suggest that you choose a program that finishes close to the test date. Students who are involved in a winter sport, theater, or have a full schedule during the months of January, February, and March might consider taking a test prep course over the summer and taking the SAT in August 2026.

Classes of 2028 and 2029

Both the classes of 2028 and 2029 will take the PreACT on Monday, October 6th, which is National Testing Day. The PreACT is a practice for the actual ACT, which students take in their

junior year. The ACT is as widely accepted among colleges as the SAT, which students take in their junior year. The ACT is as widely accepted among the colleges as the SAT.

Standardized Exam

The SAT will be offered here at La Salle as a convenience for our students. You can sign up at www.collegeboard.org for the following dates:

- **September 13**
- **October 4**
- **November 8**
- **December 6**
- **March 14**
- **June 6**

The ACT will be offered at La Salle as a convenience to our students, and you can sign up at act.org for the following dates:

- **September 14**
- **October 18**
- **February 14**
- **June 13**

Practice Digital SAT & ACT Exams

The best way to prepare is to practice. Open to all grade levels, the mock exams are an opportunity for students to “sit” and experience the test prior to taking the official exam. This will help students work on their pacing, endurance, and enhance their skills. Both the practice digital ACT and SAT will be

offered online, and students may take the exam from the comfort of their homes. Students will receive their scores immediately following the exam. Parents and students may schedule a free individualized score review with Revolution Prep representative, Jean Stroud, at (818) 217-0951 or at

jean.stroud@revolutionprep.com.

Below are the mock exam dates for the school year. To save your spot, please visit www.revolutionprep.com/partners/2/.

The price is a suggested \$20 donation.

- **September 20**, practice digital SAT
- **October 11**, practice ACT
- **February 28**, practice ACT
- **March 28**, practice digital SAT

Homework Help and Tutoring

Available to all grade levels, Revolution Prep also offers three resources for academic support. Expert tutors are on hand to help students in any major subject area, 7 days a week.

- **Homework Help** Students may drop in for help for just about any subject

- **Tutoring** A new program for 1 to 3 students to work with a consistent tutor in a major subject or for executive functioning support
- **Private Tutoring** One-on-one customized help with the same tutor

Off to a Good Start

Parents, encourage your students to be off to a good start this year by reaching out to their counselors whenever needed and taking advantage of the Academic Support period to have additional time with teachers. Academic Support is offered on A-days from 1:00-1:30 pm and on B-days from 11:10-12:20 pm. Your student is able to schedule which teachers they want to see for the upcoming week in advance. Students have from 2:45 pm until 9:40 am the following morning to schedule themselves during the week. Please note, if they do not, they will be assigned to attend Flexisched Bootcamp to make sure they know how to schedule themselves. Taking advantage of this time will not only boost their academic performance but also develop their assertiveness, communication skills, responsibility, and confidence.

Upcoming Events

AUG/SEP 2025

[Click here](#) to view our master calendar online

SEPTEMBER

24
WED

5 Core Principles Prayer Service

29-3
MON-FRI

Homecoming Week

OCTOBER

3
FRI

Homecoming Game - Kohorst Field

6
MON

National Testing Day -
No School for Seniors

10
FRI

Dollar Dress Day

13
MON

No School,
Indigenous People Day

14
TUE

Sophomore Service Day

15
WED

Sophomore Retreat

22
WED

Blood Drive

23
THU

Coffee with Counselors

28
TUE

Academic Awards Assembly

30
THU

All Saints Day Liturgy

31
FRI

Halloween BBQ

Communications Corner

La Salle College Preparatory is looking forward to sharing exciting news, important updates, and event recaps with our community! Please see below for more information on how to keep up to date and informed with what is happening at La Salle! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us via email at communications@lasallehs.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA - @LaSallePasadena

Be sure to follow us on all of our social media channels to see event highlights and updates.



www.instagram.com/LaSallePasadena



www.facebook.com/LaSallePasadena

WEBSITE - WWW.LASALLEHS.ORG

The La Salle website contains a variety of resources for parents and students. Here, you can find Athletic Schedules, a Master Calendar of Events, COVID-19 Updates, Bell Schedules, Directory, and so much more! Feel free to peruse through it to learn more about all La Salle has to offer.

EMAILS

All information will be sent directly to the parent email listed on PowerSchool. If emails are not being received, be sure to check the Spam Folder first. Otherwise, contact Owen Hou (ohou@lasallehs.org) to make sure the correct email is listed for your student.

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Every Friday afternoon during the school year, expect an email update from us regarding Upcoming Events, Announcements, and School News currently happening at La Salle. The [Weekly Bulletin](#) will also be available to view as a PDF on our website.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

During the first week of every month, we will send out an email with the [Monthly Newsletter](#) that contains recaps of the month as well as events to look forward to. The Monthly Newsletter will also be available to view as a PDF on our website.



La Salle
COLLEGE PREPARATORY



OPEN HOUSE

SAVE THE DATE

DATE

**NOV 2, 2025
(SUN)**

TIME

12 — 2PM

lasallehs.org/openhouse

OFFICE OF ADMISSION

admissions@lasallehs.org | (626) 696-4310 | 3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107

@ LaSallePasadena



AUG/SEP 2025



LA SALLE
Monthly Newsletter

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