



THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy, Boalsburg, PA

WELCOME TO 2020-21

Here we are on the eve of another school year - our 10th academic year! We know that this is going to be a school year unlike any of us have ever experienced.

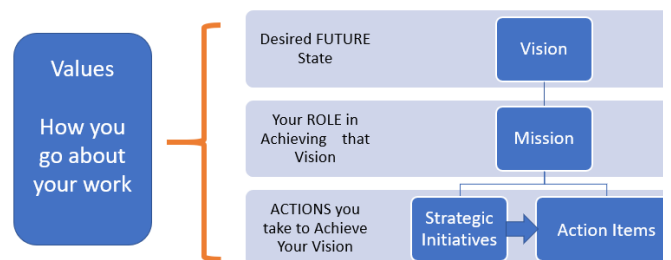
We've said it before but it bears repeating: we are so grateful for and proud of our faculty and staff and how they handled the abrupt end to last year. They have been diligently preparing for our return all summer amidst constantly shifting guidelines.

We met in July for a half-day Board retreat and the COVID-19 pandemic was a major topic of conversation. While we know our students are eager to be back in school, we would NOT be permitting in-person instruction unless we felt completely confident in the ability of our students, faculty and staff to follow best practices related to health and safety. Our SJCA Health & Safety plan will be continuously updated and can always be found on our school website. Everyone's complete cooperation will be required for us to be successful.

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Strategic Planning Process



BOARD OF TRUSTEE NEWSLETTER

To further enhance communication and transparency, we are beginning this quarterly newsletter to share information from our meetings with the greater community. We will also host our annual stakeholder meetings (TBD whether in person or virtually) later this year.

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And while we hope it isn't necessary, we are prepared to go 100% virtual again if that is what is best for our students and school personnel. Please be sure to read all school communications, and you can always reach out to Jennifer Mallett, Head of School with any questions.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our expected revenue for the 2020-21 academic year is approximately \$1.7M - 55% of which is derived from tuition payments, and the remainder which comes from donations, fundraisers, and EITC/SPE contributions. It costs \$16,250 to educate each SJCA student and our current tuition is \$9,200 with a \$650 activity fee. 65% of our total expenses support faculty/staff salaries and benefits. With great uncertainty surrounding our annual fundraisers (Gala, golf outing, Salt & Light Serve-a-thon), frugality and an increase in donations and EITC participants will continue to be critically important to a balanced budget this year.

Numerous capital projects were completed this summer including: new windows in the rear of the building, interior painting, new signage inside and at the Pump Station, a new outdoor patio area with picnic tables, and numerous additions to support our health and safety plan.

Thank you to Jennifer Mallett, Katie Sosnoskie and Officer Franie Pollack for their work in securing a PPP grant as well as an additional \$48,500 in safety grant funding for SJCA related to COVID-19.

BOARD CALENDAR

June 2020:

- Individual meetings with all faculty and most staff
- Board Survey

July 2020:

- Half-day retreat focusing on school safety and strategic planning
- Draft updated SJCA Vision and Mission statements; revisions

August 2020:

- Finalize SJCA Vision and Mission statements
- Approve the SJCA Health and Safety Plan

September/October 2020:

- Begin outlining Strategic Initiatives
- Development activities and EITC

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!!

We are so happy to report that we awarded \$311,000 in financial aid to our families this year thanks to the generous contributions of our EITC/SPE donors! For information on directing your PA State tax payment to support SJCA student scholarships, contact Susan Robinson-Frucl, SJCA Director of Development and Advancement at srobinson@stjoeacad.org

VISION AND MISSION

As we enter our 10th academic year and prepare for our Middle States re-accreditation in 2021-22, the Board of Trustees spent time this summer updating our SJCA Vision and Mission statements. At our core we remain true to the objectives of our founders, and our four pillars of faith, scholarship, leadership, and service continue to provide a timeless foundation for our school community. The following vision and mission statements were approved by the Board in August. This fall, we will begin to update our strategic plan to guide our growth and assessment for our next five years. We will also be asking faculty, staff, and students to contribute to a "culture wall" project in the school later this year.

VISION

Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy develops the next generation of Christian leaders who embody our four pillars of faith, scholarship, leadership, and service.

MISSION

Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy educates and prepares young women and men for lives of purpose in a global society through:

- a Catholic values-based environment that nurtures each individual's relationship with Jesus Christ
- a compelling and challenging curriculum focused on academic inquiry and critical thinking
- the identification, growth and development of personal leadership skills combined with the opportunity and courage to practice them
- engaged and generous community service and philanthropy
- a foundation of inherent caring, integrity and respect

WE BELIEVE

As part of the Middle States accreditation process, we are required to submit Belief Statements. We spent time this summer articulating these foundational tenants. We believe:

- Christ is the reason for this school, therefore we are all called to be visible signs of the Gospel message in our daily lives
- a Catholic education teaches faith, scholarship, leadership, and service
- faith formation is a collaboration between school, family and community
- each person has dignity and worth
- instruction and assessment must provide for the diverse needs and abilities of all students
- in continuous improvement through research, ongoing education, and implementation of best practices

A Prayer for Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy Back-to-School

Please pray aloud with your family

Almighty Father,

As we enter into a new school year, let us rejoice and be glad in it. There is much uncertainty in our world and in our hearts. Draw us to moments of laughter and lightheartness rather than worry or fear. Bless our faculty as they educate our students during this time when we have to be mindful of physical proximity. Bless our staff and coaches who are analyzing and re-imagining everything in our building and athletic teams to keep our community healthy and safe. Bless our students who may be returning to school with a mixture of excitement and trepidation. Keep our students learning from home connected to us and included. Provide each student joy in the discovery of learning new things, confidence from finding solutions to challenging problems, and resilience to persevere. Bless our Head of School, our School Chaplain and our Board of Trustees with wisdom and leadership. And bless each SJCA family with health and secure employment.

Allow us all to find new ways to connect and support each other; to show love and be love to others as you love each of us at all times. Give each of us an extra measure of patience, grace, flexibility and kindness. Let us be grateful each day for the blessing of this community and for all that we have as we place our trust in you.

Amen.