



THE BUSY BEAK

THE ST. FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



AMERICANISM ESSAY WINNERS!!

Group 1 grade level 7 and 8;
1st place Donovan Brilliant, 3rd place District
2nd place Adriana Costante
3rd place Michael Wehberg

Group 2 grade level 5 and 6;
1st place Lillian Stevenson, 2nd place District
2nd place Krue Shelton
3rd place Maya Braxton

Group 3 grade level 3 and 4;
1st place Gracie Johnson
2nd place Bella Johnson
3rd place Brennan Bergquist

The Busy Beak is a mission of the Development Committee

The St. Francis de Sales School Development Committee is organized to promote, market, and solicit financial support for St. Francis de Sales School. The funds raised through the efforts of the Development Committee are used to subsidize the operating expenses associated with the school budget in some of the following areas: teacher salaries, improvement of school facilities and the procurement of property. The principal raised is an endowment. The committee, with the approval of the pastor, shall decide how to raise funds and how to spend investment income.

If you would like to help us with these efforts, please send your tax-deductible donation to 500 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801. Checks may be made payable to St. Francis de Sales Catholic School with a reference to "Development Fund" included in the memo section.



**Know someone who isn't
receiving the Beak?
Receiving more than one?
Need to change your address?**

**Are you an alumnus with some
exciting news or
updates to share?**

We want to hear from you!

Email us at busybeak@sfdscs.org

Dear St. Francis de Sales Community,

One year ago, we had 175 students enrolled in school. As I'm writing this letter, we have more than 200 students registered for the 2018-2019 school year. We are excited and humbled to experience this growth and all that it means for us.

Our mission statement resonates with new families. They come to us seeking a safe school that offers a rigorous academic program. Additionally, our students have faith as a basis for discipline and personal decision making. We model our beliefs everyday through our service projects within our local community and by participating in various prayer opportunities as part of the St. Francis de Sales parish.

Our recent partnership with the Healey Foundation has rejuvenated everyone from teachers and staff to parents and students. This organization provides guidance and support as we take a close look at how we do business. Our new school board has begun to meet and make plans for the coming year. Through the board's committees of Finance, Development, Enrollment, Membership and Facilities they will begin to steer St. Francis de Sales Catholic School into the future. This board of specified jurisdiction as prescribed by Healey will focus on establishing an Annual Fund to support the school financially.

We will continue to maintain our Development Fund managed with the Community Foundation and the Diocese of Wilmington. Each year 75% of the interest earned may be used for the school. For example, this year's money was used toward upgrading educational technology for each classroom.

School parents have participated in surveys to help us focus on school sustainability and improvement. With all that's going on in the world, it's no surprise that safety is a top priority for them. In response, we have contracted to install a new security system for access to the school and parish center building. This new system will allow us to more closely monitor and regulate all those who enter. Teachers and staff have received active shooter training, and the entire school participates in drills for all emergency situations each month.

Families have also expressed the desire for more options for both in school and after school activities. Students in middle school will have choices for elective classes for the coming school year. Some of the course offerings include STEM, Busy Beak, yearbook, band, choir and Latin. We have a varied extracurricular line up. Students participate in Scouts, Lego Club, Relay for Life, soccer, golf, field hockey, basketball, and lacrosse.

Academics continue to be strong at St. Francis de Sales with our students scoring above both national and diocesan averages in reading and math. New this year was participation in benchmark standardized tests by Renaissance STAR Assessments. These tests are given four times per year and adapt to student ability. This allows us to challenge above grade level as well as to meet accommodations when needed.

We have a very busy Home and School Association. This group provides support to the teachers as they work to provide the best possible Catholic education. Their fundraising efforts are consistently fruitful. In addition to purchasing classroom materials such as Chromebook tablets and interactive white boards to enhance instruction, they host a variety of events. These include a 5K Penguin Run, Fall Festival, Santa Social and the amazing Annual School Auction. H.S.A. also provided transportation for all class field trips. We are truly grateful for all of their efforts and hard work.

The school is consistently supported by Father Chris LaBarge and the parish community. Many of our alumni have begun to register their own children. We are committed to **Scholarship, Faith, Dignity and Service**.
Please, stop in for a visit!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Debra Traum

Americanism for Everyone!

This year, the American Legion Auxiliary asked the question, **“What can you personally do to promote Americanism in your school or community?”** Students took to their chromebooks to share their thoughts as they entered the 2017-2018 Americanism Essay Contest. Students were grouped by grade levels to compete against others throughout the state of Maryland. At our local level St. Francis de Sales students shone through. We had winners in each category and two of our first place winners also went on to place at the District level.

1st place Donovan Brilliant, 3rd place District Spreading Americanism

Americanism is pledging allegiance to the traditions and ideals of the United States. There are many ways I can spread Americanism in my school and community. I believe the most important way I can do this is to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance each day. I also believe it is important to stand for the National Anthem and to encourage others to do the same.

One of the ways I can spread Americanism in my neighborhood is by displaying a American flag. I could ask my neighbors to display the flag as well. The election progress is a way to spread Americanism. I could become involved in local campaigns, or run for office during our school elections. I could also encourage others in my community to get out in vote during the election year. I look forward to the day, when I have a chance to vote.

In order to really spread Americanism, it is important to know the history of our country. I can make an effort to learn as much of our country's history as possible and share it with others. My family and I like to go to Historical sites. This is one way that we celebrate Americanism in my family. We go to Gettysburg every summer during the anniversary of the battle which is July 1st through 3rd.

An easy way to spread Americanism is to wear our colors of red, white, and blue. We can also decorate with these colors to celebrate the 4th of July. Speaking of the 4th of July, we spread Americanism by inviting our friends to the Red, White and Boom 4th of July fireworks celebration. I am proud to be an American. I am happy that we have a country where we can live freely.

Spreading Americanism is easy to do. If you are proud of our country, then spreading our values and celebrating our traditions is something that every American citizen should do. Many people have fought and died for our country. We should honor our military and service people by treating our flag with respect and by participating in Memorial Day events. In conclusion, I feel that I do a good job of spreading Americanism, and I plan to continue to do so in the future.

2nd place Adriana Costante Spreading Americanism

In my school and community, we proudly manifest our Americanism. We do so by saying the Pledge of Allegiance every morning in community meeting, and we have our country's flag displayed in each classroom. On holidays such as Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we have prayer services and other activities and/or service projects in honor of that day.

I can positively emphasize the good in America. I can appreciate the fact that American citizens can worship anywhere they please; in a church, a synagogue, or a mosque. I can appreciate all the men and women who freely volunteered to enlist in our armed services: the Army, Navy, Airforce, Marine, or National Guard. I respect my local police and fire department officers and volunteers who protect our city and keep it safe from crime and other dangers. These brave men and women have risked their lives to ensure my freedom and the fact that I don't have to live in fear, as in some other countries in the world. I personally celebrate their sacrifices by saluting them and praying for them each day.

I am part of a community that highly appreciates the protection and

service that the armed forces members have provided, and continue to provide, to American citizens. To show my gratitude for their sacrifices, I plan to organize a School Chapter of the United Service Organizations (USO). Our chapter will provide hospitality and care packages to traveling military members and their families. I will work with local Airport Officials to arrange an Armed Forces Appreciation Day at our flight center once a month. This event will include providing refreshments to our military heroes and their families as they arrive to or depart from the Salisbury Airport. As they're enjoying our hospitality, we will present them with a parting gift of various treats and treasures for them and their families.

This chapter will provide service to our military community each month during the school year. Each grade from our school will then be responsible for a care package for members of the military and one for the members of their family. I hope to start this chapter and inspire my schoolmates to continue this ministry of service for years to come.

3rd place Michael Wehberg Let's promote Americanism!

To promote Americanism in my school or community, I can support our president and government, I can honor Veterans who have served or given their lives for this country, and I can study United States history to learn about our country's beginnings.

I can support our president by listening to and understanding the president's words and actions. I can also support our government by watching the news and reading the newspaper. Also, I can support our government by watching political events or debates and following the growth and changes of our country. I can vote for which presidential candidate I think will lead our country in the best ways. Voting is very important in our American lives because we have the ability to choose who will be leading our country to find worldwide peace. This helps promote Americanism because it is our right as Americans to have a say on our future.

I can honor our Veterans who have served or given their lives for this country by respecting them and reflecting on their accomplishments. I can also respect them by simply saying "thank you for your service," and starting a charity to help raise money for those who have suffered losses. I can also visit cemeteries for the Veterans who have died in battle for America. I should also honor our American flag and fly an American flag in my yard. As an American citizen, I should honor, respect, and wear our American colors.

I can study our U.S. history by listening to and understanding in my history class. I can also read books depicting history to learn some U.S. major events and how they shaped our country. This can promote Americanism in my school or community by knowing the foundation of America and knowing how America came to be a free country. Knowing how America came to be a free country helps us to reflect on honorable days that America celebrates. I can also throw parties with my school or community on these special days to remember America's beginnings.

In conclusion, to promote Americanism in my school or community, I can support our government and president. I can honor Veterans who have served or given their lives for this country. Finally, I can study United States history to learn about our country's beginnings.

1st place Lillian Stevenson, 2nd place District Americanism Starts With You

One way that I can promote Americanism is by supporting and getting involved in American charities/causes that benefit other Americans. Wearing red, white, and blue on holidays such as Memorial day, Labor day, and the 4th of July is another way to promote Americanism. Recently, we practiced a flag ceremony in my Girl Scout troop. That is a very important show of respect and a great way to promote Americanism.

Another way that I can promote Americanism is by honoring the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner by doing things such as standing up, removing my hat, placing my hand over my heart, and being respectful in general. I am not old enough to vote yet, but when I am, an easy way to promote Americanism is by voting in the election. I think that it is important to express your political opinion, as long as you do it in a humble and good-natured manner. America is nicknamed "The Melting Pot," because lots of people from various places all over the world live in America. So, we have to be accepting of people from other countries and cultures.

The final way is to be an all around good citizen of America. By doing all of the above and more, I could help promote Americanism in my school and community, and become a better citizen of America in general. Whether you're doing something small or big for your community, every act helps a little bit more.

2nd place Krue Shelton

Americanism Promotion

Americanism can be promoted in many ways. Some ways that you can promote Americanism in your community can be as simple as standing and participating during the Star Spangled Banner. Americanism is a way that people show beliefs and traditions of their home country (the United States of America).

A way that you can promote Americanism in your school and community is by, 1 representing your country by supporting them in National events, 2 by following America's laws and paying taxes to the government, 3 standing for your country.

You don't have to be a grown up to do these things some of the stuff can be done in your neighborhood, in your homes and in your friends houses. Right now in the NFL (National Football League), many players do not stand during the Star Spangled Banner. Therefore many people have stop going to NFL games. I'm not saying you shouldn't watch NFL football, I'm saying, you shouldn't imitate them. Now, kneeling during the Star Spangled Banner is not promoting Americanism because whoever does is disrespecting our country.

Another way you can promote Americanism in your school and community is by following America's laws and rules and by paying your taxes. I know if you're not old enough to pay taxes yet, then won't have to worry about this part. But, there are still things that you can do even if you're not old enough. For example, When someone starts joking around about the people who fought and died for our country you can step up and say, "Hey guys, we wouldn't be able to have our freedom without them." So next time someone is not promoting Americanism by doing the opposite of what we just discussed, you can steer your family and friends in the right direction.

3rd place Maya Braxton

Promoting Americanism

One thing I can do is teach students how to properly say the Pledge of Allegiance. The reason why we should say it is because the Pledge shows respect for our country. Our objective to promote Americanism is to be respectful of our American flag and its long history.

I can personally demonstrate and promote Americanism to my community by showing my leadership and respect for our country. As Americans, our job should be to make all people in our community knowledgeable of our flags history, etiquette, and the proper salute for veterans.

Another way I promote Americanism is by being in Girl Scouts. In Girl Scouts we give back to the community. For example, we made gifts for the veterans, we gave bags to our local Seaton center, and we donated lots of food to our local Mercy house.

Another way I have promoted Americanism was when my school donated two hundred and fifty nine pairs of pajamas to the kids on the Eastern Shore that don't have any. Every kid that got a pair of pajamas, and they also received a new book.

Last year my family went to a program called Operation We Care. What you do there is you make boxes to send to people overseas, and we put in things like card games, snacks, candy, body wash, and other things like that.

Lastly, what I do every year with my school is we go down to the nursing home down the road. We walk with our prayer partners and bring the people at the nursing home joy and happiness on Halloween.

I promote Americanism everyday. I hope I can continue each and everyday.

1st place Gracie Johnson,

Americanism

I am proud to be an American. I think Americanism is freedom. America is the place you can live your dreams. It is the place you can wonder how you got in such a wonderful world. America is a place if you want freedom. People will fight and die for you that's how much they love you. The people like the navy and the army they fight until their last breath just for us or they win.

The places are outstanding and they all represent America and the freedom that we have like the Statue of Liberty, the Washington Monument, or just Washington D.C. Just like the American flag or the bald eagle- the bald eagle is the bird of America.

There are so many nice people at my school. In morning meeting we say our prayers and we say the national anthem. I think the people in this community are amazing; they help out with cleaning roads and they do there jobs amazing too.

I can promote Americanism by telling people about the freedom that the army and the navy and all the other people that help us in this world. I can tell how people sailed here just to have a free community. I am so glad to be an American and I will hold the American flag proudly.

2nd place Bella Johnson

America

America is a place I love, and I love living here this in this free country with all the people that have fought for us. I am happy to live here. America has so many wonderful people, places, and things. There are nice and kind people that try to make this country great and safe for everyone. There are places like Washington, D.C., New York, and Ocean City, and we have our flag, eagle, and holidays.

I have a wonderful school; it is amazing. During morning meeting We say the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and pray to God. My community is great. There are gardens, fundraisers, and people. It is so much fun, I love it. I can help my community by helping in the gardens, putting flags up, and saying the National Anthem. I can be praying for the vets who have died, and wave to the vets who spend or spent every day helping us.

I love all the holidays we have like Memorial Day and Fourth of July. I love all the people that help us and I thank them. I love the history that America has. I love my friends and family. I love my teachers and school. I love the stores and the community. I love my country it is amazing! I am so thankful for all the people and things we have. I and everyone I know knows that we are very fortunate to have America.

3rd place Brennan Conner Bergquist

Americanism

My ideas about Americanism are to respect others, other Christians, and other people's different beliefs. My ideas of people, places, and things that represent America are the important people and include the Army, the Air Force, and the Navy. The places that represent us are the White House and the Capitol which are in Washington, D.C. Things that represent us are the monuments, like the Statue of Liberty. One person who represents Americanism is Martin Luther King, Jr..

My school shows respect, caring, and safety to everyone in this community. I can support my neighbor because he fought in World War II. I want to respect him because he is one of the few left alive. I am proud to be American for having all of this freedom and justice. I want it to stay like this: without slavery and cruelty that people have died for us and we keep them in our hearts.

The Richard A. Henson Foundation Honors School with Grant

I recently had a visit from three angels disguised as Board members of The Richard A. Henson Foundation, Inc. Executive Director Donna Altwater along with two fellow trustees, Jon Sherwell and Tom Evans came to surprise me with a check for \$10,000 toward our newly established Annual Fund. They explained that our mission resonated with the philosophy of the Foundation. They are dedicated to the support of education and building of good character in local youth through leadership and example. The organization applies Christian principles to their grantmaking decisions.

Donna said that, "St. Francis de Sales Catholic School has provided children in and around the Salisbury community with an exceptional faith-based education." It is the Foundation's commitment to honor and support the important work we are doing with this significant gift to be used for STEM programs and equipment.

Richard Henson's legacy of philanthropy and dedication to science is legend in the Salisbury area. We are very grateful that his Foundation has chosen us as a recipient of this generous grant. While I feel blessed every day to lead this school, today was possibly the best day yet!

Mrs. Debra Traum
Principal





Our Pre-K3 Program Offers:

- ~ A variety of learning activities that will help each child grow socially, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually
- ~ A faith based academic curriculum concentrating on introducing the students to our community
- ~ Full Days and Half Days are available!

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Handwriting
Sign Language
Science

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STEM FAIR, April 20, 2018

6th grade

1st - Daniela Carrasco-Gonzalez

2nd - Connor Jansen

3rd - Lilly Stevenson and Sarah Miller

Honorable Mention - Colin McGinty and Bobby Simpson

7th grade

1st - Ron Darling

2nd - Luke MacDonald

3rd - Skylar Lynch

Honorable Mention - Heather Sanchez-Leyva and Sara Noojin

8th grade

1st - Jack Tucker

2nd - Timmy Synowiec

3rd - Sara Alessandrini

Honorable Mention - Ckenjy Mathurin

After several months of preparation, St. Francis de Sales Middle School students eagerly awaited the results from area science professionals as they judged their STEM fair projects. First, second, third, and Honorable Mentions were awarded to the outstanding presentations.



Jack Tucker was awarded 1st place for 8th grade. For his project this year Jack wanted to know if a group of native eastern oysters could improve the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. The results; After 24 hours of filtering water from the Bay that contained excess levels of nutrients, the nutrient levels were undetectable. Jack's impression of the STEM Fair this year: The judges were really tough, and everyone worked hard on their projects.

Advice for the future: Try your best and work hard.

Timmy Synowiec was awarded the 8th grade 2nd place. He wanted to determine what type of bridge would be the strongest. His hypothesis was that the trestle bridge would be able to support the most weight. The result; although different bridges could support more weight than others, some bridges would be better for short range distances as the resources needed played a factor as well.

Timmy's advice for future participants: Choose something that really interests you because that will make the STEM fair better for everyone.

Sara Alessandrini was awarded 3rd place at the 8th grade level. Sara wanted to know if various liquids had any effect on plants. Sara added coffee, orange juice, and milk to plants and studied the outcomes. The result: coffee is good for plants, but make sure it cools to room temperature. Sara's impression of the STEM fair this year: everyone put in a great deal of effort.

Advice to future participants: Plan ahead and don't wait until the last minute to do it.



7th grader Ron Darling took 1st place at his grade level for creating an Archimedes Screw Pump. His hypothesis was that more rotation of the pump with a tightly wrapped tubing would increase the amount of water flowing through. His results: the complete opposite. Ron was also impressed by everyone's effort.

Advice for the future: Put as much time as you can into your board. That's what the judges see.

Luke MacDonald took 2nd place in 7th grade to explore if washing hands kills germs. Surprise! It does not. Washing your hands only removes the germs; it doesn't kill them. One of the most difficult tasks for this project was being patient while waiting for the germs to grow. Luke was impressed by the judges' questions.

Advice for the future: Don't procrastinate or you will regret it later.

Skylar Lynch took 3rd place among the 7th graders. She wanted to find out which brand of battery would last the longest. Duracell and Rayovac both scored well. Skylar was impressed with the variety of experiments, the number of judges, and how her personal display turned out.

Advice for the future: Have fun, turn things in on time, and do your best!

7th graders Sara Noojin and Heather Sanchez partnered up for an Honorable Mention. They wanted to know if warm water would float on cold water. Although there was some mixing together, the warm water stayed its original color on the top. These ladies were impressed with the organization of the STEM fair.

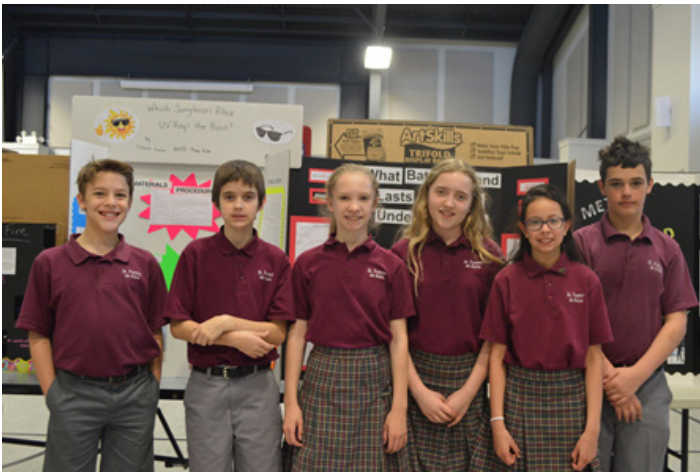
Advice for the future: Pick an interesting topic you can write a lot about. Also, spend a good amount of time on the design of your presentation.

Partners Sarah Miller and Lilly Stevenson won the 6th grade's 3rd place. They wanted to know if Alka Seltzer was affected by water temperature. When you need relief, warm water is the way to go to get those tablets fizzing. These ladies were impressed by all the hard work the entire class put into their presentations.

Advice for next year: Make sure you have all your materials before you start your experiment and don't wait until the last minute.

Partners Colin McGinty and Bobby Simpson received the 6th grade Honorable Mention for their quest to determine if the battery life of a drone is affected by the weight. As they expected it is. One of the most difficult parts of this experiment was working with the batteries.

Advice for next year: Have extra batteries!

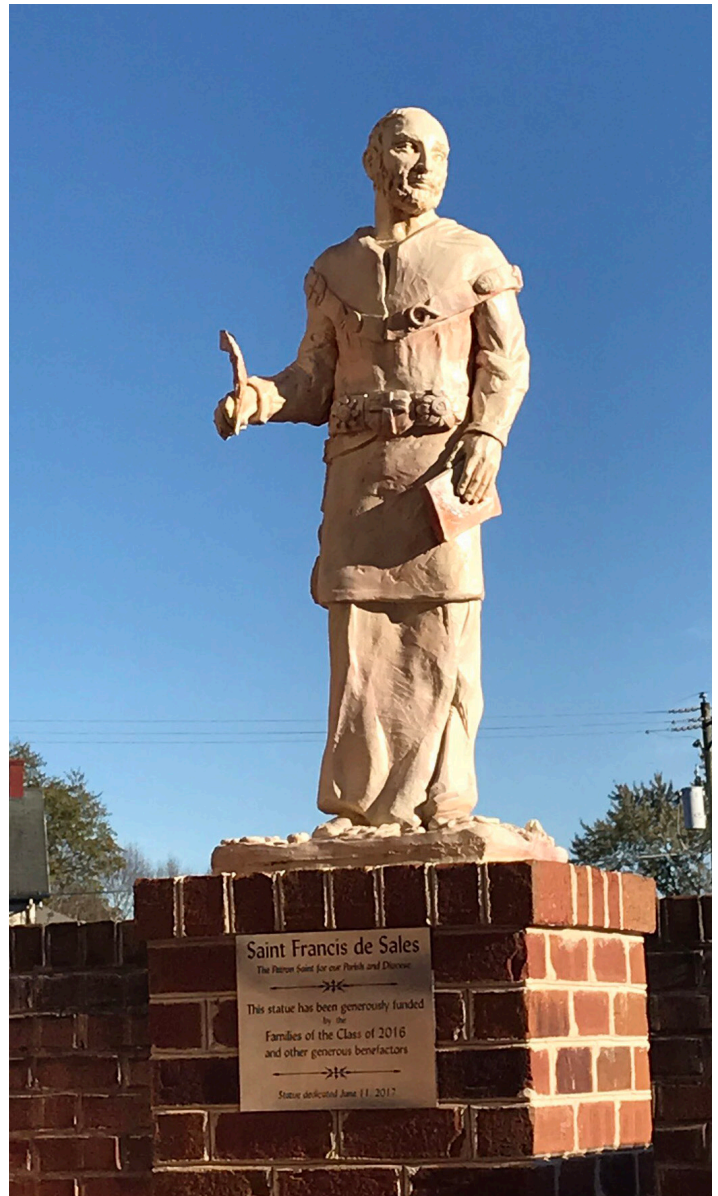


In the 6th grade Daniela Carrasco-Gonzalez won 1st place comparing leaf stomata of clover, white oak, and majestic palm leaves. The hardest part of the experiment was finding big clover and green leaves in the winter! Daniela was impressed with the variety of project and by how tall some of the judges were!.

Advice for next year: Do a project that is unique, original, and that no one else will do.

6th grader Connor Jansen took 2nd place. He tested out the 5 second rule. The results: Yes, food gets dirty even after only 5 seconds. What surprised Connor was that bread was the dirtiest of all, and that he won 2nd place.

Advice for next year: Do something that makes you happy and is fun.



New Board Members

Our school has instituted a Board of Specified Jurisdiction to help navigate the school's success in a changing and increasingly competitive marketplace.

Modeled after college-level boards, the Board will focus on school sustainability with individual members lending professional expertise to help address specific issues, challenges and goals facing the school. The Board will form committees to provide direction and decision-making in the areas of financial management, marketing and enrollment, fundraising, facilities and technology, and accountability.

St. Francis de Sales' board members are:

- **Chair**, Michael Scott, Ph.D., Professor of Geography and Interim Dean, Salisbury University
- **Vice Chair**, Norm Conway, former Maryland State Delegate
- **Secretary**, Kris Reilly, Your Doc's In
- **Development Committee Chair**, Julia Gardner, Dennis Sales
- **Membership Committee Chair**, Abby Marsh, Executive Director, Life Crisis Center
- **Facilities Committee Chair**, Tom Monahan, General Contractor; Real Estate Agent, Thomas P. Monahan, LLC
- **Enrollment Committee Chair**, Linda Roskovich, Director of Interactive Marketing, Perdue Farms
- Paul Butler, Director of Communications and Community Outreach, Wicomico County Board of Education
- Mike Houlihan, Mayor, Delmar, DE
- Rev. Chris LaBarge, Pastor, St. Francis de Sales Parish
- Dan Stevenson, Estimator, Paul Davis Restoration
- Karen Verbeke, Chair/Director of Teacher Education, UMES

We are very grateful to the focused leaders who have stepped up to serve on our board. In selecting board members, we looked to match the needs of the school with the skills and expertise of the individuals we asked to serve, as is evidenced by the talent, acumen and strong moral character these individuals bring with them. We are confident that with this new board leadership, St. Francis will continue to grow, to overcome challenges and to carry out our mission of developing tomorrow's leaders.

New Teachers at St. Francis!

We are so excited to welcome several new teachers to St. Francis de Sales for the 2018-2019 school year.

Miss Casey Flanagan will lead our brand new PreK-3 program. She is an alumna of St. Francis, and has worked in the school's aftercare program since high school. She holds an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from Worwic Community College, and also holds a Bachelor Degree from Salisbury University.

Working alongside Casey as an educational assistant will be Mrs. Melody Singleton. She holds an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from Worwic Community College. Melody has worked in the PreK 3 day care at Peninsula Regional Medical Center.

Ms. Laura Mansueti is no stranger to St. Francis de Sales, however she will move into a new role next year. She will be a wonderful addition to our middle school program as one of our two math teachers. She worked very closely this past year along with Megan Duick. Laura tutored many of our middle school students in math last year.

The void left in the fourth grade will be filled by Mrs. Susan Lageuex. She comes to us with more than 20 years of teaching experience. She has been both a classroom and special education teacher in Wicomico County. As a parent of rising 8th grader, Charlie, Susan is a very familiar face.

We had a wonderful long-term substitute for the third trimester named Mrs. Jordan Suber. She has agreed to become our regular art teacher for the coming year. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Art from Salisbury University where she also teaches. An interesting fact about Mrs. Suber is that her husband, Harry attended St. Francis as a student.

Miss Jessica Condori a recent graduate of Salisbury University with a Bachelor Degree in Spanish also joins our team. She will be the 6th grade homeroom teacher and our new Spanish teacher for PreK-8th grades.

We are so blessed that these talented educators will be sharing their gifts with our community.

St. Francis Alumnus AWARDED SILVER STAR

MAJOR WILLIAM J. DOYLE

grew up in Parsonsburg and attended St. Francis de Sales Catholic Elementary School. He graduated from Parkside High School in 2003. Doyle went on to attend the Virginia Military Institute and was commissioned into the Army in 2007. He served multiple deployments overseas and is currently a Major with the Army 10th Special Forces Group, (Airborne), Fort Carson, Colorado.



On May 2, 2018 Green Beret Major Doyle was awarded the United States Armed Forces third-highest personal decoration for valor in combat- the SILVER STAR.

Major Doyle's actions are described as follows:

For gallantry in action: Captain Doyle's bravery in the face of the enemy, skill at arms, and aggressive defense during an advise, offense and accompany operation, saved lives and enabled his Special Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha to defeat a prepared, determined and numerically superior enemy. Captain Doyle's valorous performance is in keeping with the finest tradition of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Special Operations Command-Africa and the United States Army.

All Shore Junior Chorus 2018

After many days of practicing and rehearsing, some of our St. Francis students took part in choral auditions with the hope of being chosen to take part in the annual Eastern Shore Choir Concert.

Of approximately 300 middle school students from all around the Shore who auditioned, 115 were selected. From those 115, a total of only nineteen 6th graders made the cut. From those nineteen, St. Francis sent four representatives: Patrick Gutierrez, Benjamin Cooledge, Brigid Reilly, and Cassie Johnston.

After auditioning the practicing continued as these four were given packets with additional songs they would need to learn on their own before the concert. The students traveled with choir director Mary Tyler Upshaw to Queen Anne's County High School in Centreville, Maryland where they spent one day with Master Conductor Christopher Fox fine tuning the nuances to each musical piece. The atmosphere was exciting and the sound was amazing!

In the evening the Junior Chorus filled the auditorium stage as they performed for family and friends. After finishing their pieces the choir was treated to the Senior Chorus' part of the evening. Expectations were high and goals were set. With determination and hard work we hope to see these students, and more, return next year for the next All Shore Junior and Senior Chorus Concert.





**St. Francis de Sales
500 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801**

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