



ALL SAINTS ACADEMY

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Good afternoon All Saints Academy Families,

Last evening everyone was invited to share in a discussion on the vision and direction for the school in the coming years. Members of the Board of Trustees and the President of the Endowment Committee were in attendance, as well as the faculty and staff. The following is a brief summary of what was presented, and time was devoted at the end to listening to your thoughts, feelings, and concerns. We will be asking for more input from you in the coming months.

In light of creating a Strategic Plan and Crisis Plan for the school, and as we begin the process for NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) Reaccreditation, the Board of Trustees (BOT) and I have been examining where we are, and where we envision ASA to be in five years. This vision includes the evaluation of items such as: physical plant, program, safety procedures, student experience, climate and culture, and ultimately, where to best put forth our resources. As with any business, fiscal responsibility must always be at the forefront of any planning. We must ask ourselves how are we spending our money, and evaluate those practices.

Unlike many schools in the Diocese, ASA has been blessed with an endowment. The Endowment Fund has provided operational support to ASA since its inception, off-setting the difference between the school's income and expenses. With two aging buildings nearing a century each in age, the costs of maintaining both classroom buildings continue to grow and impact our budget. As a result, an evaluation of each property was conducted to examine not only the physical plant, but the flexibility of each property in terms of outside space. After consideration of each building and much debate, the BOT voted in favor of making the elementary campus the one classroom building for all students effective for the 2020-2021 academic year. The Corporation, to which the board reports and includes Bishop McManus, Fr. Reidy, Vicar General, Dr. Perda, Superintendent of the Worcester Diocese, Fr. Sanders and Fr. Adam, confirmed the vote to go to one classroom building. To be clear, ASA will remain All Saints Academy and a multi-parish community, but the educational instruction will be located at 48 Negus Street beginning in the 20-21 school year. The school's athletics and social events will continue to be held at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Hall at 11 Day Street.

The Board also voted to freeze K-8 tuition for the coming school year. The only increase will be with regards to preschool students with siblings in K-8. Those new rates will be available in January.

Over the coming years, the Endowment Committee will continue to provide operational support to the school. But beyond that, the Committee has also committed to providing the additional funding of \$250 thousand/year for two years to assist in making the necessary capital improvements to the facility and programming – again, with the goal of making ASA the best school it can be.

Over the coming months, we will be examining and reallocating physical spaces to accommodate the middle school students and staff. [Any capital improvement plans must be first approved by the pastor because the church owns the building.] We will be investigating, among other areas, our academic programs, our science lab,

gymnasium, parking lot, stage, classroom technology, storage solutions, after school program, and the playground area. To reiterate, this is a multi-year project/investment.

Each family is an important part of this process. While the decision to go to one campus/classroom building has been made by the BOT and confirmed by the Corporation, your input into making ASA the best school it can be is valued. We have begun to plan and prioritize what is essential to be completed for the start of next year, but we will also be creating surveys for your help in prioritizing the other various areas which will need to be explored over the next few years.

I look forward to the possibilities this will open up for our students and the opportunities to build and strengthen their educational experiences here. Thank you for sending your children to All Saints Academy and for trusting us to meet their educational, spiritual, physical, and emotional needs.

Yours in Christ,

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