

St. Francis de Sales — high school —

June 5, 2020

Dear Parents,

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted lives and institutions around the world, St. Francis de Sales School is no exception. When you first decided to send your son to St Francis, most of you made that decision because of the brotherhood, the Oblate commitment, the academic standards, the individualized attention, the dedication of faculty, and the SFS community. We are still committed to this exceptional value today, AND with a renewed commitment based on what we have learned over the last several months. No institution could have ever been prepared for the level of disruption we collectively faced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, through our lived experiences and shared insights, we are energized by the opportunity to serve your son(s) at even deeper levels.

One of our favorite times of the year is when we send out acceptance letters. When we accept a student, we are not accepting a 7th grader, or a freshman or a sophomore, we are accepting a future graduate of St Francis de Sales. We envision him wearing the blue cap and gown, and joining the Knight alumni brotherhood. And we will move heaven and earth to realize this vision. We have journeyed through loss, fear, uncertainty, crisis, and grief to come out at the other end. This journey is worth our lives.

Now is a time when everyone in our community, in fact everyone globally, is experiencing uncertainty in the face of this pandemic. We are committed to continue this journey with you and your son(s). We commit to walk with you by faith, **but** we will also muster all the resources we have as a Knight community to see your son continue his journey at St. Francis de Sales School. The work we have to do with your son is unfinished.

With the dedication of so many of our benefactors, we can continue the journey, and move forward with a purpose. This upcoming academic year we are able to offer our families some unprecedented financial support. With the unanimous support of our Board of Trustees, we will be providing a \$1000 grant for all students enrolled in the 2020-2021 school year. This grant will take the form of a reduction in tuition of \$800 and reduction in the activity fee of \$200. Furthermore, a significant contribution from the members of our Board of Trustees has created an additional pool of tuition assistance for our families. This additional tuition assistance will be distributed to families as needed on a case by case basis.

We do this because the St. Francis community is a family, and this is what a family does during a crisis. We respond with loyalty to our families, commitment to our students, and the use of all resources we have available. This is not something we could do every year, but it is something we are committed to do this year.

We have shared our vision for the upcoming year in our four Cor ad Cor videos representing each of our pillars. With intentional brotherhood, intentional journey, intentional collaboration and intentional

presence we know we will continue our partnership with you and the formation of your son in the spirit of St. Francis de Sales.

Each of the signatories to this letter has played an integral role to ensure that St. Francis de Sales School is in a position of financial strength and able to make this financial support possible. We are more committed than ever to seeing your Knight continue his Salesian journey and wear the blue cap and gown at graduation.

Sincerely in St. Francis de Sales,

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