



# SalesTalk

TENUI NEC DIMITTAM

Educating young men in the example of the gentleman saint, Francis de Sales

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Success at Salesianum is measured in so many ways, mainly because of the varied and significant accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff. Throughout our 105-year history, we have come to expect many great things with those associated with this school, and this year has been no exception.

Since the fall of 2005, we have brought home eight more state championships, including a fourth straight soccer title. Once again, a large number of our juniors and seniors were recognized for their academic achievements by the National Merit Scholarship Program. Our fall show and Christmas concerts entertained students and parents alike. And last, but certainly not least, we were again named one of the Top 50 Catholic Schools by the National Catholic High School Honor Roll.

These successes certainly make us proud to be a part of this Salesian tradition, and we certainly want to sustain this success through the 2008-09 school year.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To that end, the school administration once again has worked with a highly qualified Budget Committee to project our expenses for the 2008-09 school year. After consideration of a report by the full Finance Committee, the Board of Trustees has approved tuition at \$10,475 for the 2008-09 school year.

As most of you know, the annual cost of operations for the school is primarily supported by tuition. The cost of utilities, namely electricity and gas, which we need to operate our building, are increasing significantly. We have also made many enhancements to our technology department, including updating the software programs that are essential to the academic needs of the students and faculty. Also, we have made many enhancements to our school building in terms of security and obtaining access to the school grounds.

Most importantly, we want to continue our commitment to provide quality instruction to your sons by attracting and retaining well-credentialed and experienced teachers. To achieve this, we must continue to offer a competitive compensation and benefits package for our faculty and staff.

As an institution, we are proud to say we offer the best price for a quality, Catholic education of any independent school in the area. We are able to do this through the considerable efforts of our Development Office. Through our annual giving programs, grants, and other donations, we were able to provide more than \$500,000 in financial aid to students, as well as complete our newly renovated Dining Center. Both of these were accomplished without the use of tuition dollars. These efforts have allowed our endowment to grow, which helps to secure the financial future of our school.

The completed and signed forms (which you will receive by mail shortly) along with the registration fee, must be returned by March 3, 2008.

We are honored that you have entrusted your son's educational and spiritual growth to us. We look forward to seeing that growth reach its full potential, so that he will become a true Salesian gentleman and achieve success in college and beyond.

Thank you and God Bless,

*Fr. James Dalton, O.S.F.S.*  
*jdalton@salesianum.org*



# FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful and blessed holiday. At the dawn of 2008, I feel compelled to reminisce about the year past as we look forward to the possibilities of the future. This past year has held many wonderful and exciting experiences for Salesianum School.

The academic excellence of Salesianum continues to be second to none with the number of National Merit Scholars named from our school. This includes the two semi-finalists, the 14 commended scholars, the National Achievement

scholar and the 57 Advanced Placement scholars we have this year. To see the pictures of these scholars, please visit the Scholars Bulletin Board on the first floor of the school. All of our students, at all phases, are reaching for higher scholastic goals. Of course, our NetClassroom accessible through the Internet is allowing our parents to track this wonderful progress to insure it continues.

Our sports program has experienced wonderful success again this school year. Although we did not achieve a triple crown victory in fall sports for a third time in a row, we are still proud of our outstanding athletes! Congratulations to all the sports programs, especially the soccer team which has won the state championship four times in a row now. Winter sports are in full swing and we anticipate much success from these dedicated athletes.

Our Open House this past year again had record numbers of prospective students visit. Additionally, we again have large numbers of students seeking admission to Salesianum School. This is perhaps due to what we offer in the areas of academics, fine arts, and athletics. However, we who know Salesianum best are also aware that our young gentlemen get all that, and so much more, from the fraternal Salesian spirit that permeates our school.

As we look forward to the year ahead we set new goals to ensure that Salesianum maintains its achievement of being named one of the best Catholic High Schools in America. We achieved this honor in 2004 and 2007 and look forward to the possibilities held in 2008. We anticipate many reasons to celebrate our students, faculty, staff, and parents. Thank you for being part of our community. Let us look forward together to the great days that lay ahead. St. Francis de Sales, pray for us!

*Rev. William McCandless, O.S.F.S.  
wmccandl@salesianum.org*

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Happy New Year to everybody! A New Year means a fresh new start again. We begin the New Year with the celebration of three Salesian saints. **January 10**, we celebrate the feast of St. Leonie Aviat, the foundress of the Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales. Her motto was "To forget myself entirely." What a humble way to serve one another. On **January 31**, we celebrate the feast of St. John Bosco, who founded a religious order of priests and sisters under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales. They are known as the Salesians of Don Bosco and they dedicate themselves to the service of the youth.

This month we will celebrate feast week from **January 22-25**. Here we honor our patron saint, Francis de Sales with reflection and festivities. On his feast day, **January 24**, we will have our school wide mass in the auditorium at 9 a.m. Parents are most welcome to attend. Also of interest that week on **Wednesday, Jan. 23** at 7 p.m. we will sponsor a lecture and book signing given by myself entitled *Witnesses to the Gospel: Reflections on Saints and Others Who Inspire*. I recently published a book under this title and I will discuss the book that evening with the opportunity for people to obtain a copy. The lecture will take place in the school library. I hope you can join us.

In addition to our January events, registration is underway for our SACRED program that is scheduled for **Saturday, Feb. 23**, here at Salesianum. For those of you who do not know, SACRED stands for Salesianum Adult Religious Education Day. Courses on spirituality and faith are offered to our parents with proceeds benefiting the various ministries of the Province of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. You can obtain more information and register by going to the Salesianum webpage and clicking on the SACRED link.

Finally, on **Tuesday, Jan. 22** some of our students will travel to Washington D.C. to participate in the March for Life under the direction of Mrs. Jennifer Carr of our Religious Education Department. As our students participate in this important cause it is a reminder to us all that we must continue to pray for a greater respect for life in our society in all its stages.

*May God be Praised,  
Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, O.S.F.S.  
dciriaco@salesianum.org*



**Student Council Elections:** Student Council elections were held on December 18 for the term beginning January 7, 2008 and ending in January, 2009. **Eddie Dillon '09** has been elected president and **Thatcher Howell '09** has been elected vice president. The president-elect and vice president-elect met with their predecessors after the election to begin the transition process and to initiate discussions on the appointment of new Cabinet members. President Emeritus **Geoff Vanover '08** and Vice President Emeritus **Jon Plush '08** will continue to have a very active role in the student council. In addition to advising and assisting the new president and vice president, they will particularly address concerns and events that primarily involve the senior class. I want to take this opportunity to commend Geoff and Jon as well as all of their officers for setting such a high standard for leadership through their hard work, their good example, and their dedication to Salesianum School.


## FROM THE ACTIVITIES OFFICE

**Dillon Makes First Appointments:** Student Council President Eddie Dillon, after consulting Vice President Thatcher Howell, has appointed **Robert Liszkiewicz '09** the new secretary of student council and **Evan Aldinger '09** as treasurer. President Dillon appointed these classmates because of their excellent work ethic and commitment to the school. In the coming weeks, the officers will address the appointment of other cabinet members including the external affairs chair, the social activities chair, the spirit chair, the student relations chair, and the archivist. These students will work alongside their senior counterparts for the remainder of the academic year. Any sophomore or junior who might be interested in these positions should see Eddie or Thatcher.

**March for Life:** Salesianum School's Pro-Life Club is organizing a bus to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 22. Interested students should see Mrs. Carr.

**Change in Open Dance:** Because of a conflict with the Winter Ball at Padua Academy, we have moved our next Open Dance from Friday, Jan. 25 to Friday, Feb. 1. The dance will be held from 7:30-10:30 p.m. in the Gymnasium. The proceeds from this dance assist in raising funds for our student publications.

*Rev. Michael Vannicola, O.S.F.S. '95*  
[mvannicola@salesianum.org](mailto:mvannicola@salesianum.org)



*An evening To Honor Excellence By Our Young Salesians*

**Friday, February 22, 2008 (7-11 p.m.)**  
Salesianum School

**Festivities Include:**

- Night at the Races (Cash Payouts)
- Music
- Silent Auction
- Food Tastings + Beer, Wine and Other Refreshments

**Tickets:** \$35 (*excludes horse betting*)  
Proceeds directly benefit renovations to Salesianum's Dining Center.

**Want to help out?** Contact [4theboys@salesianum.org](mailto:4theboys@salesianum.org) to join our event committee.  
**Want to help but don't have time?** Consider sponsoring or naming a horse at \$100 per horse or donating an item for our silent auction.



# FROM THE ACADEMIC DEAN

## Course Selection 2008 -2009

Believe it or not, it's nearly time for students to choose courses for next school year. A great deal of time and effort is involved in the process, so please work with your son to choose an appropriate course of studies for next year. Students will also benefit from the careful help of their teachers, guidance counselors, and the academic office. Making well-informed, careful choices now will make for a smooth transition into the next school year for your son, and it will give him the best chance for success.

Following are some points to be aware of in the course selection process.

### Part I

1) During January, the Program of Studies for 2008-09 will be posted on [www.salesianum.org](http://www.salesianum.org). This program is lengthy, so please encourage your son to review it early in the process.

2) During January and early February, students will learn about elective choices via our Homeroom Show, school newspaper, and firsthand discussions with teachers. Students should carefully research electives to make sure they are choosing courses that are right for them.

3) In early February, students will receive a Course Selection Form; within the next cycle, students will use this sheet to select appropriate courses for next year. Teachers must approve student choices, and parents must review and sign this form before it is submitted.

4) After the Course Selection Form is completed, each student will enter course selections into the computer using NetClassroom. Course selections forms will be collected during homeroom.

**Steps 3 and 4 above are critical; the school plans the entire schedule for the following year based on these selections. In some cases, it is difficult to make changes to a student's schedule after this point in the process, so please encourage your son to take these steps very seriously.**

Parents and students must remember that Advanced Placement (AP) courses truly are college-level courses. AP courses require extra hours of reading, research, and writing and in some cases laboratory work. AP courses should not be taken unless the student is willing to do such work.

### Part II

1) During March, teachers and guidance counselors will check course requests for appropriateness and to ensure that each student will meet credit requirements.

2) Preliminary student schedules will be generated in April. These schedules will meet the needs of most students, but many students will have to choose alternate courses in the case of electives; in limited cases, students will have to choose a different phase for a core course (such as English) in order to accommodate another course choice. It is important that students carefully choose alternate courses during course selection.

### Part III

1) Students will receive their schedules in late June to early July via mail and/or NetClassroom. Please review these schedules carefully and notify the Academic Office of errors or requested changes.

2) A \$50 course change fee must be paid for any changes made after **July 31**.

3) Once the new school year begins course changes cannot be made unless they are initiated by the teacher or the academic office. Student-initiated course changes will not be honored at this time.

*Jude M. Szczerba '96*  
*juszcz@salesianum.org*



## FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

The brief story below is a classic indicator for how we can become worried about what others are thinking, and lose sight of who we are in the process.

*A man was promoted into a management position. He felt very insecure as he was ushered into his new office. Nevertheless, he settled into his new digs an overstuffed chair with everything at his fingertips to do his work. Suddenly, there was a knock at the door. The new manager, wanting to look busy, picked up the receiver of his phone.*

*Then he asked the visitor in. As the visitor looked at him he nodded toward him saying, just a minute. "Just a minute I have to finish this call." Going back to the phone he continued. "Yes sir I can handle that account. I know it's the largest this company has ever had. You can count on me. You're welcome, sir. Good-bye."*

*The manager put the phone down and turned to his visitor. He smiled and asked,*

*"Now what can I do for you?" The young man smiled and answered, "Well I just came in to connect your telephone."*

### WHOM ARE YOU ATTEMPTING TO FOOL?

In our hope to gain status, look important, make a positive impression, etc., we can become entangled in losing our good self. To appear to have it all together, we may even tell a "fib", or worse. Below are some thoughts to resolve to retain our goodness and sense of balance, even under stressful situations.

*\*EXPECT STRESSORS; DON'T BE SURPRISED BY THEM*

*\*DON'T PANIC; REDUCE YOUR URGE TO WORRY*

*\*DON'T RUSH; RETAIN CALMNESS UNDER PRESSURE*

*\*WHAT YOU DO NOW AFFECTS LATER; LET IT BE TRUTHFUL*

The simple truth is a good maxim. This rule of conduct allows us to maintain balance in our lives. It speaks to who we are and who our God created us to be.

The newness of the year allows us the opportunity to re-dedicate ourselves to such goodness. Happy New Year!

*Michael Gallagher '69  
mgallagh@salesianum.org*

## FROM THE STUDENT FINANCE OFFICE

**REMINDER** – You will receive your registration materials for the 2008-2009 school year by the end of January. The completed, signed **Tuition Contract, Transportation Contract and Registration Fee** are due at Salesianum by **March 3, 2008**. If you do not receive your Registration Packet, please call the Student Finances Office at (302) 654-2495, extension 124.

*Heloise Osborn  
osborn@salesianum.org*

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Salesianum Parents' Association committees are busy planning activities and speakers for the winter and spring seasons. Do you have any suggestions? We would love to hear your ideas! Please feel free to contact any committee chairperson, new ideas are always welcome.

The Christmas Party was a festive occasion and welcomed the holiday season in a joyous fashion. Everyone had a wonderful time evident by the laughing and talking heard throughout the Dining Center. The Parents' Association thanks **Mary Schiavi, Colleen Davis**, and their committee who worked very hard to make the evening so wonderful. The holiday spirit was alive and well at Salesianum School that evening.

Happy New Year Salesianum Parents! The Salesianum Parents' Association has many exciting events planned for 2008. We wish you all the best, and hope 2008 brings wonderful memories for all.

*Ellen Hamilton  
ehamilton@comcast.net*

*Susan O'Brien  
suborien1@hotmail.com*

The financial aid meeting for senior parents is scheduled for **January 8** at 7 p.m. in Centenary Hall. Our speaker will be John Schodowski. You should file the FAFSA as soon as possible. Even if you have not filed your 2007 income tax forms, estimate your information on the FAFSA. It is imperative that it be done as quickly as possible. The web site is [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Please keep a record of all admission decisions and awards that you receive from the colleges. We will ask for that information in mid-April and it is used in the graduation booklet.

## FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Juniors should register by **April 1** for the **May 3** SAT which will be given here. You can register online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Our school code is 080195. There will be an assembly closer to the test date to explain the registration process. We also offer the ACT here on April 12. You can register at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). There are summer academic/college programs available to juniors. Some of them are residential. If you are interested, contact Mr. Lang.

Course registration for next year will take place the beginning of February. If you have questions regarding the process or proper placement, please contact your son's counselor.

There will be a meeting on January 10 for the parents of sophomores. We will discuss the PSAT. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Centenary Hall. Your son's counselor will be meeting with the sophomores to discuss PSAT results.

*Larry Fletcher*  
*lfletch@salesianum.org*

## NURSE'S CORNER

### Some tips on keeping your teen healthy:

1. Teens typically need 9-9 ½ hours of sleep per night. Studies have shown that getting enough sleep may help grades, increase energy and promote the release of growth hormones. This may mean cutting back on work hours or activities in order to be able to accommodate enough hours to study and get enough sleep.
2. Encourage your teen to eat breakfast. Studies have also shown that more than half of all teens routinely skip breakfast which may cause them to be tired and inattentive during the morning. If they can't get up a few minutes earlier in order to have time to eat, stock up on some healthy breakfast bars or other on the go breakfast foods.
3. Limit computer/video game/TV time. With an increase in time spent on these activities, they are more apt to be overweight because of lack of exercise, lose focus on school work and not get the proper amount of sleep.
4. It is recommended that teens do some sort of aerobic exercise for 20 to 30 minutes at least three times a week. Exercise strengthens the heart muscle as well as the other muscles in the body and is also important in maintaining good mental health, promoting self-esteem and for keeping the body at a healthy weight.

**Mark your calendar:** Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking—Wednesday, April 2, 2008—7 to 9 p.m. to be held in Centenary Hall.

**Parent Program:** "Navigating the Rites of Spring", Thursday, Jan. 24, 2008 at 6 p.m. at Padua Academy. This program will discuss information about keeping your teen safe during Prom, Graduation and Senior Week activities. Please register at [www.udel.edu/usa](http://www.udel.edu/usa) under "events" or call 302-831-4447 no later than January 16.

*Jo-Ann West*  
*jawest@salesianum.org*


 SENIOR  
CORNER

**Announcements:** Senior graduation announcement packets will be handed out mid- January in **homeroom**. Specific dates for ordering and collection in school will be posted on the web site and in February's *SalesTalk*. Any senior who misses the opportunity to turn in their graduation announcement & name card order on those dates must mail it directly to Jostens before **February 8**. All students **get 10 free announcements**. If you wish to send more, you need to purchase them from Jostens. Don't forget to order as many extra announcements as you think you will need!! There may be a few left over for you to purchase directly from Mrs. Bartkowski, but she cannot guarantee more than 10 extra per student, if that. Also, the students do not wear caps and gowns at Graduation, so purchasing a tassel is a personal choice.

*Note: Announcements are **not** invitations to graduation.* Tickets to graduation are organized by the Director of Activities - if you have any questions regarding tickets, please speak with Fr. Vannicola. **Eight tickets** will be given to each student. Both announcements and tickets will arrive in early April and be handed out to the seniors in mid/late April.

Prom Activities Committee (PAC): Prom Activities will begin at 11:45 at the Hotel DuPont. PAC is coordinated by the senior class moderators: Mrs. Stacy Bartkowski and Ms. Cindy Pilipczuk. Thank you to Mrs. Donna Baldino for volunteering as the PAC Chairperson this year.

The initial planning meetings for PAC are in mid January. There will be two meetings in January (back to back), **Tuesday, Jan. 15 and Wednesday, Jan. 16**. **THIS IS THE SAME MEETING**. We offer them both so that you have every opportunity to attend one if you would like to help.

A Sub-Committee Meeting will be scheduled a week later (TBA) at 7 p.m. in the school library. This is where you can sign up and begin work on your desired sub-committee.

The two PAC subcommittees are: Souvenirs and Gifts and Entertainment. The Souvenirs and Gifts Committee picks out t-shirts for the boys and solicits colleges and business for donations to give out that night. The committee also solicits donations for the Auction – this is a very important part of PAC. The Entertainment Committee provides gaming tables and other games for the event and runs them that night.

If you cannot directly work on the Prom Committee, but still wish to help out, donations are always welcome! The Souvenir and Gift Committee does need items for the Auction. Items such as DVD players, Dorm room items, Sports memorabilia, iPods, Playstations, TV's - anything parents think their sons would like and/or think will be helpful for them at college. Emails of the Sub-committee members will be located on the Senior Web page by February if you wish to contact them directly.

If you cannot make it to the Initial Meeting, please email the After-Prom Chairperson with any questions or with the committee you wish to work on. We especially need a lot of parents to help with the Souvenir and Gifts committee.

If you have any questions concerning the Prom Activities Committee please feel free to contact the PAC Chairperson, Mrs. Donna Baldino at [donnabaldino@comcast.net](mailto:donnabaldino@comcast.net) or Mrs. Bartkowski at school (302-654-2495, ex.241) or by email [sbartkow@salesianum.org](mailto:sbartkow@salesianum.org).

Senior Class Fundraiser: The class officers and Mrs. Pilipczuk will run a Senior Class Fundraiser to help supplement Senior Prom tickets in March. Seniors will be selling Joe Corbi's Pizza and Cookies. More information will be available on the web page and in the Salestalk in February.

If you have any questions concerning senior activities, please feel free to contact Mrs. Bartkowski or Ms. Cindy Pilipczuk at school.  
**Thank you for your continued support of the school.**

*Stacy Bartkowski*  
[sbartkow@salesianum.org](mailto:sbartkow@salesianum.org)

*Cindy Pilipczuk*  
[cpilicz@salesianum.org](mailto:cpilicz@salesianum.org)