



De LaSalle News



“A Beacon of Hope
for students with learning challenges.”

Summer 2018

Principal’s Corner

As the school year draws to a close, we conduct our annual meetings with individual staff members. These meetings traditionally follow the standard for performance reviews, but this year we tried a new approach. Staff members were given a set of possible talking points and asked to consider these in our 1:1 discussion, including such questions as, “What do you think visitors to our school would find as our greatest strengths? What do you feel is working very well in your classroom and the school as a whole? “How can we better fulfill De LaSalle’s mission?” The responses we received were a testament to our De LaSalle community. Common themes included “students are happy and engaged; staff is flexible; small class sizes make a difference; positive, loving atmosphere; students feel supported; staff collaborates constantly; there’s no place better to teach; clubs are great;” and the list goes on. I believe the equation is: Happy Staff + Happy Students = Successful School! Congratulations to staff, students, and parents for another amazing school year!



**Principal
Mrs .Riti**

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De LaSalle Celebrates Largest Graduating Class to Date

On May 18, 2018, De LaSalle Academy proudly conferred high school diplomas on eighteen young people who are eager to begin making their dreams a reality. Their next steps include college, trade school, vocational training, and employment. Graduates have already been accepted at Mercyhurst University, Florida SouthWestern State College, Fort Myers Technical College, and Lorenzo Walker Technical College. Two are already gainfully employed. We wish them the best of everything as they move forward on their journey. The ceremony also featured a presentation of awards to all 152 De LaSalle students. Congratulations to our 2018 graduates !!!!

Tanner Babcock

Robert Duke

Brent Hyet-Ussery

Adam Naqui

Jordan Smith

Gaige Carvalho

Rebecca Erlich

Michael Lawson

Emily Puente

Cameron Wilber

Matthew Cherry

Shawn Gannon

Taylor Lowe

Zachary Santiago

Tommy Doke

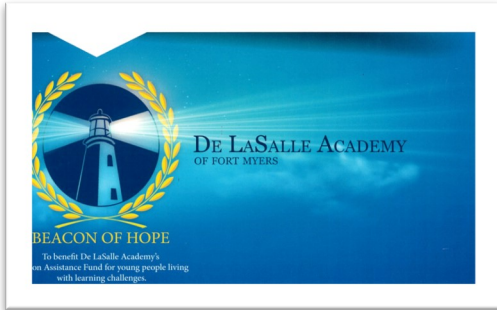
Jordan Griffin

J.W. McCarthy

Kaitlyn Scarnato



Beacon of Hope Fundraiser a Big Success



On April 15th, De LaSalle Academy hosted its first large community - targeted fundraiser to support tuition assistance for families who may not otherwise be able to afford to send their child to the school. The weather was working against us and the event had to be moved from the beautiful MarineMax location to the De LaSalle gymnasium. The event committee, with a group of hard working volunteers, transformed the gym in a few short hours into a beautiful entertainment space.

More than 200 attendees enjoyed a delicious meal provided by Mario's Meat Market and Deli with wine from Ada's Natural Market, beer provided by J.J. Taylor, and dessert provided by Norman Love Confections, Perfectly Scrumptious, and Mario's. NBC-2 Anchor Kellie Burns hosted the event that also featured a spirited and entertaining live auction led by Jay Severson.

The event raised more than \$115,000 for children with learning challenges who need the quality education and on-site therapies offered at De LaSalle. Event sponsors included the Comrie Foundation, Elite DNA Therapy Services, FineMark National Bank and Trust., Mrs. Mary Katin, Karen and Jim Nathan, McCaughan Home Lending, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Van Coverden, Vickie Gelardi, Bob and Debbie Silver, Radiology Regional Center, UBS Maurillo Group, and more.

De LaSalle's Performing Arts Club



De LaSalle Academy's Performing Arts Club just gets bigger and better. Each year the club stages two productions, a holiday-themed show in the winter and a musical in the spring. Participation has grown from a handful of students to more than 20 for each production, making it De LaSalle's most popular after-school club. Students receive opportunities

onstage and back stage depending on their interest.

The American Alliance for Theatre and Education has found that drama can improve skills and academic performance in young people with learning disabilities. Additionally, drama activities can improve and help to maintain social and language skills for these children. This year students learned about radio plays while producing *It's A Wonderful Life; A Live Radio Play* as a holiday presentation. They ended the year with a performance of the rousing western musical, *Wagon Wheels West*. (pictured above).



De LaSalle Academy
6401 Techster Boulevard
Fort Myers, FL 33966
(239) 245-8212

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