



SEPTEMBER 2022

FACE of the *future*

FAMILY AID - CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Director's Reflection:

Helping the Students of Today Meet the Challenges of Tomorrow



Terri Porter

My hope is this message finds you well as we witness record-breaking heat, devastating wildfires and an uncertain economy. During this time, we must take care of ourselves along with those most vulnerable around us. As we continue to experience difficulties beyond our control, it reminds me how critical the work we do together is. Providing opportunities for students experiencing economic hardship to receive a Catholic education can be life-changing. It assures us that the young people of today—the leaders of tomorrow—will have the faith-based, academically rigorous curriculum needed to face the challenges of the future.

Because of generous donors like you, we were able to award scholarship funds to **584** students for the **2022-2023** school year! 310 K-8 students were awarded \$2500 each; 267 high school students were awarded \$3500 each. In addition, we are very excited to announce that we have maintained our five Named Scholarship Awards. Thank you! You are transforming lives, families and communities with your gifts. While we are making significant progress, our work together is not complete; in addition to the 584 tuition assistance grants made, we still have over 500 on our waitlist.

On behalf of the FACE Advisory Board, FACE families and FACE staff, I want to thank each of you for your ongoing scholarship support for our students. Please know I continue to be humbled by your outpouring of love and generosity. I hope you enjoy the highlights of our work featured in this issue! We are making a difference, one student at a time.

With gratitude,
Terri Porter, Director





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SAVE THE DATE!

Don't miss these opportunities to share and celebrate the lifelong gift of a Catholic education!

NOV 29 2022

**GIVING
TUESDAY**

APR 22 2023

**Annual FACE Gala
An Evening of Scholarship
Blackhawk Museum
Danville, CA**

FACE's Voices: Interview with St. David of Wales Principal Farr



Kenneth Farr

How does your school serve your community?

St. David of Wales serves an important role as the only Catholic school option in Richmond. It provides a second home to many diverse, smart and loving children who deserve the special, enriching experience provided by Catholic schools in our Diocese.

What's unique about St. David? What brings families to your door?

St. David School has always been known for its strong community. Our families are extremely invested, and willing to do what it takes for this community to thrive. Both students and staff are extremely diverse in culture, background and other ways; these differences unite us and enhance our strong sense of community.

What is a challenge you face in serving Richmond's families?

In Richmond and in neighboring cities, parents and guardians work extremely hard, envisioning the opportunity to provide their children the best education and experience they can. Sadly, many of these visions do not come to pass, due solely to family income.

Recently, I had two parents come into my office with their son for a tour. The prospective student, without being prompted, walked up to me, looked me in the eye, said "Hello" and shook my hand. I immediately knew he was special. As the tour progressed, the young man continued to amaze me with his intelligence and heart. I felt he would be an amazing fit, particularly in his class. When it came time to discuss financial responsibility, his parents listened. Later that day, they emailed me stating how much they wanted their son to attend a school like ours. Unfortunately, they could not afford the tuition. For reasons like this, we miss out on students who will make the world a much better place, but don't receive the opportunity they need to grow and develop their potential in a Catholic educational environment.

How has FACE impacted St. David?

FACE scholarships directly lead to students benefiting from an education at St. David School that, without help, they could not receive. FACE has been one of the primary reasons we can educate and help form so many diverse students, while these children strengthen our community and make our school—and the world!—a better place. We are so grateful for the opportunities that FACE, and the generosity of donors, have given families, helping them achieve their vision to provide the best education and experience they can for their children.

OUR MISSION

To provide tuition assistance that enables diverse low-income children to attend Catholic schools and help families break the cycle of poverty by supporting access to quality Catholic education in the Diocese of Oakland encompassing the two counties of Alameda and Contra Costa.



Guest Article: Supporters and Students Give Back

ARTICLE BY JANET BLACK,
FACE ADVISORY BOARD
MEMBER AND NAMED
SCHOLARSHIP DONOR



Larry and Janet Black

Greetings, FACE Family! I would like to introduce my husband and myself: we are Janet and Larry, 43-year parishioners of Christ the King in Pleasant Hill and long-time contributors to FACE. Six years ago, I was privileged to be asked to join the FACE Board. I readily accepted because I see the deep impact of its mission and it is an opportunity to "give back."

My family has a long tradition of Catholic education, beginning with my grandmother in San

Francisco over a century ago. As a former teacher and a devout Catholic, I know the importance of not only a solid education, but also one that is faith-based. I have witnessed how the seeds of a Catholic education become the roots for a life of Christian living and service.

There was a time, as many of you remember, that a Catholic education was attainable for any family. But due to economic changes over the years, attending Catholic school is not within reach for many families who desperately desire it. That is where FACE comes in, providing partial tuition assistance for a diverse group of low-income students in the Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.

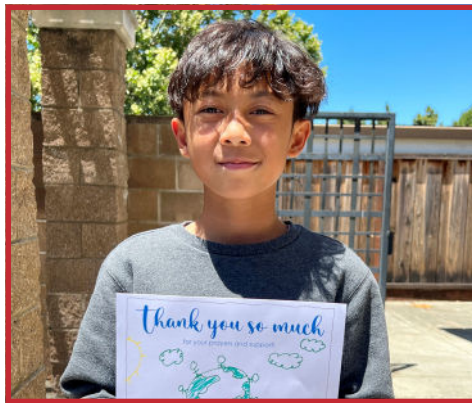
Every spring, I have the wonderful opportunity to meet scholarship recipients. The younger ones have a strong sense of gratitude and desire to "give back," and the older students have not only been incredibly successful academically, but also developed a strong sense of Christian purpose in their lives

as they continue with education and set professional goals.

My family contributes to a "Named Scholarship" awarded each year to a particular student. The current recipient is a sophomore at Salesian College Prep High School who is on the basketball team, involved with martial arts and plans on becoming an engineer or a veterinarian. We have no doubt that he will continue to make an impact on his school, in his studies and in society as he moves forward. All FACE students have high personal goals, and it is our great honor to help these young people achieve their dreams.

The need for FACE scholarships far exceeds our current ability to fund them. So we invite you to join us or to continue giving to this ministry. By contributing to FACE, you are providing Catholic educational opportunity to *more* children—incredibly deserving students—and helping to transform lives.

God bless you!



OUR VISION

By partnering with our generous supporters to award scholarships to deserving families, we are providing the young students of today the opportunity to rise above their economic challenges. This investment will inspire the next generation of active and engaged community leaders of tomorrow.

Family Spotlight: The Thompson Family



Malik, Darren and Crystal

excellent education while being nurtured through his faith-filled journey.

Darren has been a striving student at Saint Leo the Great since Pre-K and is currently in 7th grade. It is so fulfilling to watch him blossom and grow spiritually amongst this community! Because of the FACE scholarship, we have not only been able to maintain his attendance, but also be actively involved parents.

Since we have been fortunate enough to receive this opportunity, it is our wish that others' lives may be similarly enriched. FACE is an amazing organization that blesses the lives of so many children in the Diocese of Oakland. **Thank you!**

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to you for making our FACE scholarship possible!

We were thrilled to learn of our family's selection for the honor of a FACE scholarship, and are deeply appreciative of your support. My name is Crystal, and I have worked in the Diocese of Oakland for 21 years. Having had the benefit of a Catholic education myself, I wanted the same for our son, Darren, as did my husband, Malik. Because of this scholarship, Darren receives an academically



Through FACE, you affirm the power of education to transform lives.

For over a century, Catholic education has empowered low-income families to break the cycle of poverty through academic excellence, faith formation and community service. By giving a gift to FACE, you ensure that we lift up our children for generations to come.



We welcome YOU to join us in easing the burden on students and families. Make a gift today to support our mission of transforming lives through Catholic education!

MAKE A GIFT:

oakdiocese.org/face-donation



One thing that I ask of you: Never be afraid of giving. There is a deep joy in giving, since what we receive is much more than what we give.

Mother Theresa

