

# CASE FOR SUPPORT

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**FULFILLING THE PROMISE.** A Vision for Saint Thomas' Episcopal Church & School

## Overview

STE is embarking on a \$29 million capital project to restore and enhance our campus. As a result of damages from Hurricane Harvey, STE has applied for grants from FEMA that are expected to net \$10 million to repair and protect our flooded facilities. STE will invest an additional \$4 million in restoration funding from insurance proceeds, cash reserves, and a grant from the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. This support will be further augmented by \$5 million in legacy gifts. To greatly enhance our campus and meet the growing needs of the community, STE needs to raise an additional \$10 million to construct a new state-of-the-art academic building and to complete sanctuary upgrades. Our future campus will allow STE to continue serving hundreds of students and families each year in order to achieve our mission of *forming honorable men and women through a classical education grounded in a Christ-centered worldview.*

## History

For 66 years, STE has provided students with a Christ-centered, classical education, making it the oldest classical school in Houston. In 1953, the Reverend T. Robert Ingram came to Houston and found that there was not enough Episcopal-Christian outreach to serve the rapidly growing population. Mr. Ingram, along with 22 parishioners, responded to this need by forming Saint Thomas' Episcopal Church and School, with its primary mission to offer to the Houston community an outstanding K through 12 education rooted in Christian principles. Headmaster Henry Walters led the school for 36 years starting in 1963. During Mr. Walters' tenure, STE grew to become one of Houston's premier parochial schools.



# Christian Heritage

There is a strong church and school connection among the families at STE. Part of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, STE is one of the few churches in the country that still uses the traditional, Anglican liturgy for all services. STE currently has 370 active members and provides families with 12 weekly services, including daily Chapel, the Daily Offices, Holy Communion, and Bible Study. Church programs include:

**Children's Programs** – Our offerings for children include Children's Church, Catechesis, confirmation classes, summer Vacation Bible School, a Sunday nursery, and a daily Pre-Kindergarten program that serves as an entry point into our K through 12 school.

**Fellowship Groups** – Regularly scheduled meetings for youth, women, men, families, and empty nesters provide fellowship and support for members at all stages of life.

**Parish Choir** – The Parish Choir is an intrinsic part of the life of STE Church and sings every Sunday throughout the school year in addition to the principal Feast Days. Liturgical music sung by the choir ranges from Gregorian chants to traditional compositions from the present day. Classics from the American Anglican and continental European traditions form the backbone of the choir's repertory.

**The Moseley Memorial Music Series** – This outreach program is named after our first Organist and Choirmaster, John Moseley. Our music series enriches the cultural experience of our community and supports local musicians and ensembles. Recent performances in the series have featured the Houston Ebony Opera, Bach Society Houston, Les Touches (Renaissance and Baroque period music), and Houston Brass Band.



**From the beginning, the school has been the church's primary outreach to the surrounding community. Parishioners have worked diligently over many years to ensure that facilities and quality resources are available for students.**

## Mission and Core Values

The mission of Saint Thomas' Episcopal School is *to form honorable men and women through a classical education grounded in a Christ-centered worldview*. Our Core Values include honor, Christian faith, love, discipline, excellence, and respect.

# The Saint Thomas' Difference

As Houston's premier classical school and the #1 Christian High School in Houston\*, STE is educating world-class

leaders for the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce. The educational opportunities provided at STE begin with preschool and extend through grade 12; **the opportunity for siblings to be a part of the same educational community even with large age differences is a unique and fulfilling family experience.** Beyond graduation, the support network and values students cultivate at STE last a lifetime. STE offers excellent student-to-teacher ratios, small class sizes, and a faith-based education that includes a rigorous academic curriculum, sacred studies, daily Chapel, and a wide range of extracurricular and elective offerings. The school participates in TAPPS (Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools) with competition that is focused on building character, fostering artistic and athletic abilities, and furthering student achievement. The benefits of a STE education include:



**K through 12 Education** - As a private, K through 12 college preparatory school, our diverse student body benefits from personalized attention, a variety of class offerings, and an emphasis on the arts — helping build a strong foundation for a successful future. STE students enjoy a **student-to-teacher ratio of 7 to 1**. Each grade level

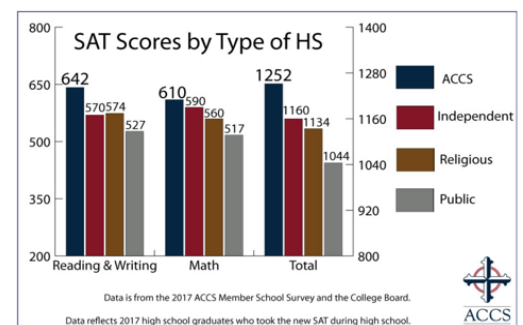
has approximately 43 students, allowing every student to receive individualized support. STE also separates students by gender through grade 8. Research and experience have shown that while boys and girls can learn the same materials at the same rate, they do learn differently and have unique psychological, physical, and emotional needs. This separation also allows teachers to build student confidence during the formative early and preteen years. This classroom separation ends in the upper school for college preparation and because students' interests and skills can be more easily matched through various coursework.

**Classical Education** - Classical education is a traditional approach to education that employs the historic curriculum and pedagogy of the seven liberal arts in order to cultivate men and women characterized by wisdom, virtue, and eloquence. Students are taught in developmental stages that allow them to master knowledge (grammar), learn to apply it critically (logic), and then utilize the intellect and reason to prepare for leadership in various academic disciplines and leadership areas. Among many other topics, students are taught Latin and analyze canonical texts that comprise the foundation of a classical education. A study published by the Association of Christian & Classical Schools (ACCS) show students receiving a classical education consistently outperform their peers on the SAT with an average total score of 1252. STE 2018 graduates received an average total SAT score of 1300.



## #1 in Houston

\*STE is rated the 2019 #1 Christian High School in the Houston area by Niche.





We also offer our upper-level students a broad range of electives with an emphasis on the liberal arts, foreign languages (Spanish, French, and Chinese), music (string orchestra and choir), visual/performing arts (art, dance, theater, band), communications (speech, yearbook, newspaper), computer science, and economics.

STE offers 21 Advanced Placement (AP) courses beginning in the sophomore year with a strong emphasis on STEAM. Students with the most rigorous course schedules can take between six and 10 AP courses during their upper school career, potentially earning up to 30 hours of college credit via AP exam test scores. In addition to many library

**“We want students to have a rich academic experience while also learning the values of perseverance and respect.”**  
— Michael F. Cusack, Jr., Headmaster

- |                             |                           |   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| • AP Biology                | • AP English Literature   | • AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism |
| • AP Calculus BC            | • AP French Language      | • AP Psychology                           |
| • AP Chemistry              | • AP Human Geography      | • AP Spanish Language                     |
| • AP Chinese Language       | • AP Latin                | • AP Statistics                           |
| • AP Comparative Government | • AP Microeconomics       | • AP Studio Art                           |
| • AP Computer Science A     | • AP Macroeconomics       | • AP US Government & Politics             |
| • AP English Language       | • AP Physics C: Mechanics | • AP US History                           |

and research resources through the Robinson Memorial Library, all students in grades 4 through 12 have access to desktop computers and portable Chromebooks.

**Daily Chapel** - STE educates the whole student, including the body and soul. Students attend Chapel daily, reflecting on Christ’s teachings and how they can follow His example in their own lives. As part of the curriculum, STE incorporates sacred studies and religion in lower and middle school curricula, and Bible class in upper school. This type of education trains students in the intellectual and moral virtues, wisdom, and grace, which lead to the comprehension of and appreciation for truth, goodness, and beauty.

**Scottish Arts** - A distinctive part of the heritage at STE is our world-renowned Scottish Arts department, which encompasses our Pipe Band and Highland Dance program. We are among a select group of schools in the United States (and a small community of schools in the world) that offer Scottish bagpiping, drumming, and Highland Dancing. Our Pipe Band has competed in Scotland 12 times over the past 35 years, where they have won five World Championships and have only finished lower than third place three times. The band won the American Championship in Norfolk, Virginia in 2017 and 2018. Our drummers are currently #1 in Texas in the TAPPS drumline competition. Our dancers have produced 24 U.S. Champions and one World Champion. Lastly, the STE Alumni Pipe Band is currently ranked #1 in the world, and both the Pipe Band and Alumni Pipe Band compete in the World Championships in Glasgow, Scotland. With the only Scottish Arts program in all of Houston, it is only fitting that we showcase our students’ unparalleled talent on some of Houston’s most prestigious stages. This Scottish festival, now called *Sounds of Scotland*, has been held annually for 55 years, playing in such august venues as Sam Houston Coliseum, Jones Hall, The Summit, the Wortham Center, the Toyota Center, and the Smart Financial Centre in Sugar Land.



**STE Alumni Pipe Band is #1 in the World**  
Our renowned Alumni Pipe Band won the 2019 Grade 2 World Championship at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, Scotland on August 18, 2019.

**Extracurricular Activities** - While maintaining the benefits of a smaller student body, we offer a wide range of extracurricular activities that one might expect to find at a much larger school. These include studio art, music, and Scottish Arts; 11 sports, including basketball, cross country, fencing, lacrosse, soccer, golf, swimming, tennis, and volleyball; and clubs that include Junior Cotillion, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, Choir, Hope Club, Junior Classical League, Literary/Art Magazine, Math and Science Club, Quiz Bowl, String Orchestra, Student Ambassadors, Student Foundation, and The Scottish Players.

## STUDENT BODY

STE currently has 553 students enrolled in grades K through 12 from the Greater Houston area. Enrollment is open to all students who qualify. Applications are competitive: students must submit test results, school records, and teacher recommendation(s), and both the student and a family member participate in an interview. Approximately 64% of students who apply are accepted and there is an enrollment waiting list for certain grades. Alumni who are also parents of current students represent 8% of our parent population. Our student body is representative of Houston's cultural diversity: 7% of STE students are African American, 12% are Hispanic, 22% are Asian, and 59% are of other races/ethnicities. STE attracts a diverse population that appreciates the results achieved by our teaching of Christian values, thus students also come from other religious backgrounds, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, and Islam.



The current tuition rate is \$15,800 for grades K through 5, \$17,800 for grades 6 through 8, and \$19,900 for grades 9 through 12. There are additional student fees for books, sports, band, dance, and other extracurricular activities. STE encourages all students who require need-based tuition assistance to apply. We currently award approximately \$600,000 annually in need-based financial aid to 11% of the student body. No academic, athletic, or other merit-based scholarships are awarded. Through these avenues, STE ensures a high-quality education is available to all students, regardless of income.

## RESULTS

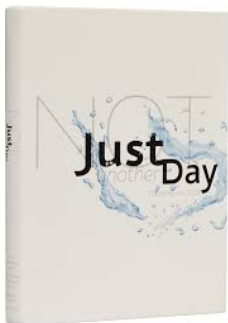
Our students carry their STE experiences with them through the rest of their lives, so we aim to cultivate a truly outstanding environment through exceptional academics, fine arts offerings, and athletic programs. As a private, K through 12 college preparatory school, we believe in nurturing our students through classical instruction. With a focus on personal development and college readiness, our graduates leave STE prepared for the rigors of higher education and, ultimately, to be kind and honorable citizens. STE gives students the tools they need to excel. Recent and current achievements include:

**College Enrollment** – One hundred percent of STE students are accepted into four-year colleges and universities upon graduation. Recent graduates are currently attending Yale, Stanford, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Columbia, Vanderbilt, Rice, Emory, Georgetown, University of Pennsylvania, California Institute of Technology, and USC as well as many other fine institutions throughout the United States and all major universities in Texas.

**Academic Achievement** – Fifteen percent of the 2018 graduating class were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program. STE students taking the SAT in 2018 scored an average of 268 points higher than Texas students overall. Similarly, the average 2018 ACT score for STE students was 28.6 compared to 20.7 statewide.

**Athletic Achievement** – In the past five years STE teams have won or placed highly at many TAPPS 3A state competitions. Notably, the girls' swim team were State Champions at TAPPS for three of the past five years; the boys' swim team and cross-country team were both State Champions in 2015; and with our extremely competitive soccer program, the girls' and the boys' teams won the State Championship in 2019.

**Liberal Arts and Communications Awards** – The STE Pipe Band is a five-time World Juvenile Pipe Band Champion and won the coveted American Pipe Band Championship in 2017 and 2018. The STE Drum Corps were TAPPS State Drum Line Champions for the last three years in a row. In 2019 our Choir and Orchestra went on a performance tour in New Orleans, singing and playing at schools and the historic Christ Church Cathedral. Our Mock Trial Team has won the Houston Regional Competition for 17 of the past 22 years and won the Most Professional Team award at the State Completion in 2019. In addition, many students compete in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art Competition, and in 2019 our students won 11 first place ribbons, 17 second place ribbons, one finalist for Best of Show, and one Gold Medal.



"Not Just Another Day"  
yearbook, with stories about  
Hurricane Harvey

**Yearbook Awards** – Competing against every public and private high school in the United States, STE's yearbook, *The Belltower*, has earned 21 prestigious national awards over the past 13 years, including five Gold Crown Awards and five Silver Crown awards from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and four Pacemaker awards (most recently in 2019) from the National Scholastic Press Association. Other honors include ten Star Awards from the Interscholastic League Press Conference and 14 All Southern Awards, the highest award given by the Southern Interscholastic Press Association.



# CURRENT FACILITY CHALLENGES

In 2016, STE launched a new strategic initiative to create a campus master plan to address aging facilities and overcrowding in our church and school. In August 2017 Hurricane Harvey made landfall, causing extreme flooding in as much as one-third of the city and surrounding communities. This unprecedented storm severely damaged the STE campus, with most of the school buildings inundated with two to three feet of bio-contaminated flood water. Facilities that experienced flooding included the sanctuary, lower and middle school buildings, administrative offices, gymnasium, and fellowship space. Nearly 70% of the campus was damaged. The campus master plan initiative that was fortunately already underway suddenly moved from being a long-term strategy to a critical need for the survival of STE.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, staff, students, parishioners, and community volunteers came together to support recovery efforts so that the congregation could have a place to worship and students could return to classes as quickly as possible. During the majority of the 2017-2018 school year, the upper school building (which was not damaged) housed the lower and middle school students, while the upper school students attended classes off-site. Although not a permanent or ideal solution, temporary modular buildings have been erected in the parking lot, which allowed upper school students to resume classes on-site. The utilization of this rented parking lot space for our temporary facilities was generously allowed by the owner of the property, Fidelis Realty Partners.



*"Although our lives in Houston changed in so many ways as a result of Harvey, absolutely nothing has changed regarding God's love for us. The rebuilding of our campus at Saint Thomas' reflects the eternal renewal of that love. Ideally, the campus itself serves as an offering to God. Our renovation and beautification of that space is a reflection of our love for Him." - Adam Ellwanger, PhD, School Board Member & School Parent*

One of STE's many strengths has been its ability to maintain traditions, while keeping an eye on the future. To continue providing our students with an outstanding classical education grounded in our core values of honor, Christian faith, love, discipline, excellence, and respect – and to prepare them for success in college and career – we must ensure that we have the facilities needed to support our church families, academics, and programs. The STE community is facing several significant facility challenges:

1. Our sanctuary is the physical and spiritual heart of our campus and is in critical need of mechanical and infrastructure upgrades;
2. We need new classrooms and administration spaces to meet the needs of our current and future students;
3. Our world-class Scottish Arts program needs updated and expanded studio and practice spaces; and
4. We are facing a serious challenge meeting our day-to-day parking needs, and this problem will further intensify as rapid development in our area continues to reduce the amount of parking available.



# THE SOLUTION:

## SANCTUARY UPGRADES & NEW ACADEMIC BUILDING

In order to better serve our church families, as well as current and future students, STE will greatly enhance our current campus with sanctuary upgrades, a new state-of-the-art academic building, and an underground parking garage. The new academic building will be home to middle and upper school; lower school will move to the current upper school building.



To reduce the risk of future flood-related issues, the sanctuary upgrades will include a wet floodproofing technique, which involves tile flooring, movable furniture, and flood gates around entrances. The new academic building will be built three feet above the 500-year Base Flood Elevation, which is approximately six feet above the existing grade and 2.8 feet higher than the upper school building, which did not flood. Underground water detention will also be installed as required in new building codes to assist in mitigation of another catastrophic flood event.

Below is a summary project description, cost, and timeline. Further details are provided on the pages to follow.

Project Description	Project Cost	Move-in Date
<b><i>Sanctuary Upgrades</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacement of all flooring with water resistant stone / tile</li> <li>• Painting of church interior spaces</li> <li>• Installation of family restrooms that are ADA compliant</li> <li>• Renovated narthex area for assembling and fellowship</li> <li>• Installation of removable choir desks and church pews for flexible utilization of space</li> <li>• Renovated lighting and fire safety systems</li> <li>• Upgraded sound system and acoustics</li> <li>• Lectern and pulpit renovations</li> <li>• Renovated robing room and sacristy</li> </ul>	<b>\$3 million</b>	<b>12/2019</b>
<b><i>New Academic Building and Parking Garage</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enlarged and secure lobby entrance</li> <li>• Improved visual arts classroom space and labs</li> <li>• State-of-the-art biology, chemistry, and physics lab spaces</li> <li>• Custom designed and expanded Scottish Arts Center</li> <li>• Innovative Maker Space for robotics and invention labs</li> <li>• New administrative offices and meeting spaces for church and school</li> <li>• New Center for Academic Excellence, created specifically for tutoring and individual support</li> <li>• Second story middle school classrooms, including a collaborative learning space</li> <li>• Thoughtfully designed third story upper school classrooms, with senior lounge and terrace</li> <li>• Secure, underground parking garage with ~60 parking spots for the church and the school</li> </ul>	<b>\$26 million</b>	<b>12/2020</b>

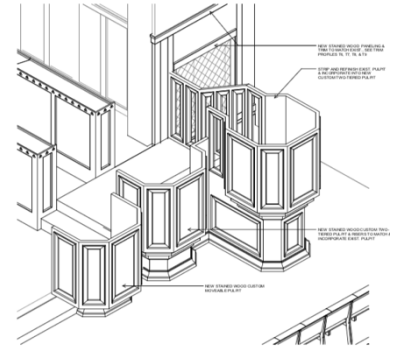
The construction timeline will be contingent on our FEMA settlement and the City of Houston permitting process.



# NEW FACILITIES PROVIDE PROGRAM SUPPORT

**Sanctuary Upgrades** – The large sanctuary at STE was designed for the worship of the church, not only to house the entire faculty and student body for daily Chapel services during the week. Sanctuary upgrades are critical for both the church and school, as it is home for the practice of our Christian faith, as well as the mission-driven services we provide to the community. The sanctuary upgrades will also communicate both the majesty and warmth of God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The sanctuary will remain a traditional, classical Anglican space, built according to the customs of the Anglican Communion. This includes a narthex, nave, pulpit, lectern, chancel, and altar. Renovations include a redesigned pulpit to be consistent with the customs of the Anglican church since the eighteenth century.



Additional architectural renovations include application of a *faux bois* technique (imitation of wood grain) to the sanctuary pillars and arches within the nave to give the sanctuary a warmer, more welcoming look and feel.

More practically, sanctuary renovations will include critical mechanical and infrastructure improvements. Updates to our dated sound equipment will enhance the spoken word and improve the composition of our choirs, orchestra, and band. Also important is that the pew chairs, pulpit, and choir desks will be removable, which makes the space flexible for community events, seminars, concerts, speakers, school events, and other functions. They will also ensure our ability to survive another flood of equal force with minimal adverse effect. The items will be moved to higher ground, minimal cleanup will be needed, and the items will be moved back in for a quick resumption of services.



Church rendering, post renovation

Lastly, our current restroom facilities will increase from two to four. All facilities will be fully renovated and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The renovated facilities will also function as family restrooms, to make best use of our limited space.

The goal of the renovations is not only to provide our parishioners and students a beautiful place to worship and join in fellowship, but also to facilitate an increase in church membership and outreach to the community.

**New Academic Building and Parking Garage** - The new academic building will allow us to deliver our mission to more students and prevent scheduling issues that arise due to space limitations, as well as give students a sense of pride about their school that goes beyond their academics. At STE, we want to provide a joyful and comforting environment that will promote good learning. The architecture and design of the proposed construction is consistent with the newer buildings on campus, which are in harmony with a classical school's goal of teaching beauty in all things, as well as truth and goodness.

Additionally, the new facilities will promote the welfare of our extraordinary faculty. Much of the stress associated with class preparation will be mitigated through comfortable workspaces, updated technology, and easy access to supplies, technology, and printing. They will have inspiring classrooms and workspaces. Happy, committed teachers tend to stay at schools longer, and the majority of our teachers have been here more than ten years despite the aged facilities; many span decades of service to our students. These new facilities will help us continue to attract and retain great teachers.

The new:

- **Academic Building** will also be home to the administrative offices, which will be grouped together to facilitate good communication within and between the school and church.
- **Maker Space (Innovation Room)** will give our students the ability to work with their hands and imaginations to show their learning in ways that complement and go beyond tests and essays.
- **Center for Academic Excellence** will provide opportunities for one-on-one tutoring, individualized support, and private lessons for students with specific learning differences, such as dyslexia.
- **Underground Parking Garage** is the first phase of a parking development plan that would potentially eliminate the need for rented parking space in the future.



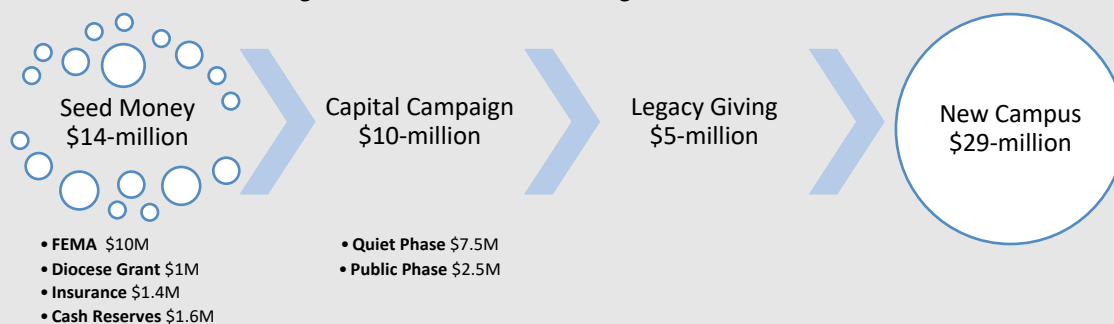
Sample Maker Space from University of Wisconsin

STE provides students with a high-quality education, exemplary academics, and a low student-to-teacher ratio — all with tuition cost well below equivalent private schools in the Houston area. For this reason, in many grades, we must turn away (wait-list) students due to higher demand than our facilities can support. New facilities will allow STE to provide our classical education to more students in our region. It is important that we keep an eye on the future, while maintaining our heritage, core values, and strengths. The new academic building will allow for a student population of up to 1,000 students, which will allow us to support the area population growth that has occurred. Below is a projection of our student population and potential growth over the next 10 years.

Current	Near Term				Potential Long Term					
2019-2020	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
553	640	680	720	760	800	840	880	920	960	1,000

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GOAL AND TIMELINE

STE is embarking on a \$29 million capital project to restore and enhance our campus. As a result of damages from Hurricane Harvey, STE has applied for grants from FEMA that are expected to net \$10 million to repair and protect our flooded facilities. STE will invest an additional \$4 million in restoration funding from insurance proceeds, cash reserves, and a grant from the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. This support will be further augmented by \$5 million in legacy gifts. To greatly enhance our campus and meet the growing needs of the community, STE needs to raise an additional \$10 million to construct a new state-of-the-art academic building and to complete sanctuary upgrades. Our future campus will allow STE to continue serving hundreds of students and families each year in order to achieve our mission of *forming honorable men and women through a classical education grounded in a Christ-centered worldview*.



**Capital Campaign Goal** - STE plans to raise \$10 million in donations to fund the planned improvements to our campus. The *Fulfilling the Promise* campaign will rely on philanthropic support from church members, current and past parents, grandparents, alumni, and foundations. The funding plan does not call for an increase in tuition to cover the cost of construction.



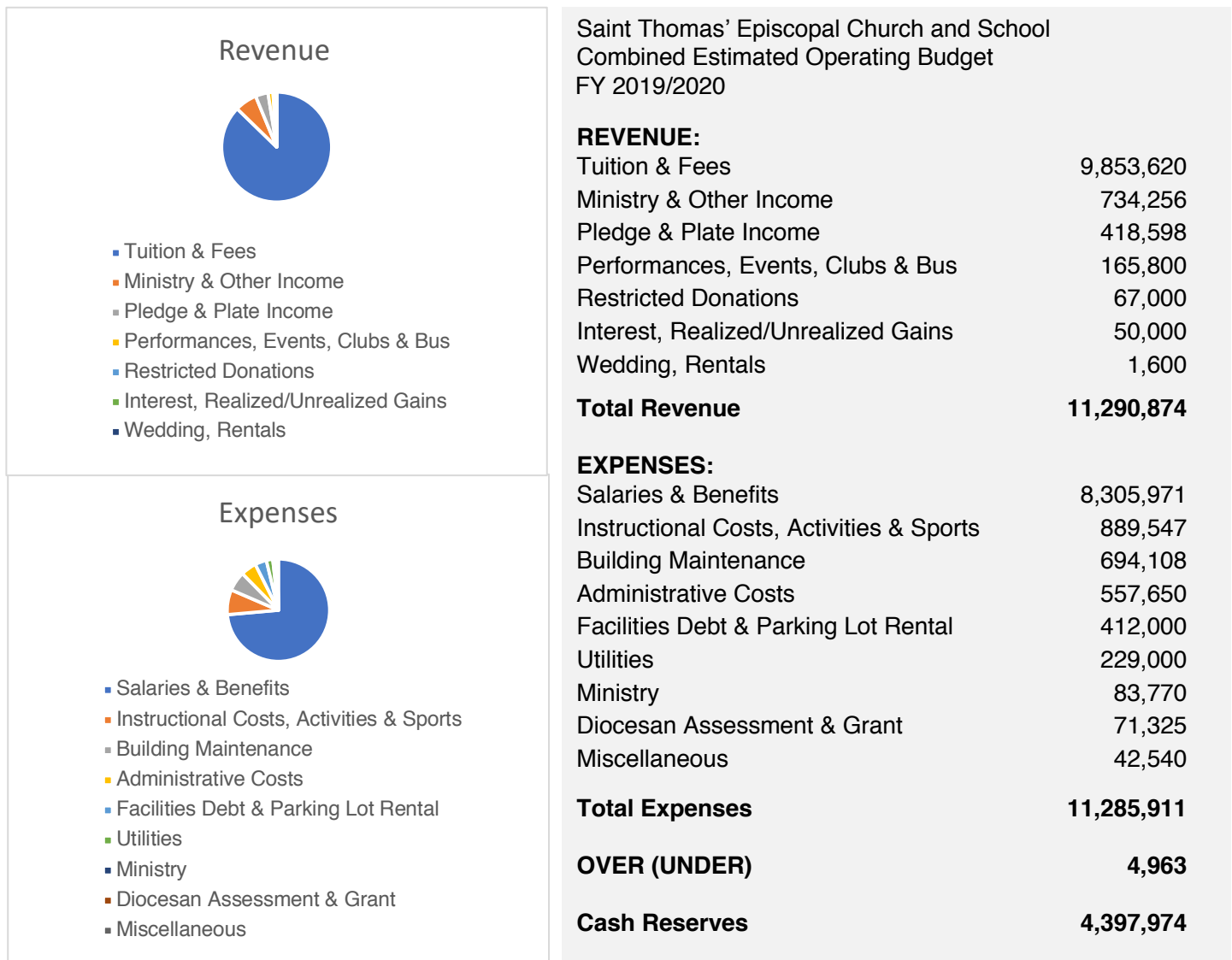
**Leadership Giving** - One hundred percent of the Church Vestry, School Board, and Campaign Committee have committed to the capital campaign. We have also received \$234,000 in gifts and pledges from faculty and staff. In total, the School Board, Church Vestry, Campaign Committee, faculty, and staff have committed \$1.6 million to the campaign, against a pre-campaign target of \$1 million for the leadership phase of the campaign.

**Campaign Timeline** - The capital campaign is presently underway. We are currently in the quiet phase of the campaign, during which we will be reaching out to our most influential supporters and Houston's philanthropic community. It is our goal to reach \$7.5 million during the quiet phase of the campaign. We anticipate launching the public phase of the campaign in the fall of 2019, with wrap-up efforts continuing into 2020. Pledges to the campaign are allowed to be fulfilled through December 2023.

# BUDGET

For STE as a whole, the estimated operating budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 is \$11.2 million. STE has more than \$4.3 million in cash reserves, part of which will be utilized for the project. Not included as part of this budget is the annual fund, also known as the Saint Thomas' Fund (STF), which is expected to raise \$400,000 for 2019-2020. Money raised through the STF is used for general enhancements, faculty and staff support, and items that would otherwise not be possible through tuition alone. Also, not included as part of this budget is the biennial gala, which typically raises just under \$200,000, and the proceeds of which go into the reserve funds.

For the purposes of enrollment projections and daily operations, the church and school maintain separate budgets. Budgets are reviewed and approved by the School Board and Church Vestry annually. STE is jointly incorporated as a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization under the auspices of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas (EIN: 74-6017007). Below is a combined operating budget summary for fiscal year 2018-2019, which is August 1 through July 31.





# LEADERSHIP

Under the Canons of the Diocese of Texas of the Episcopal Church, STE is led by Rector, the Reverend David O. Browder and Headmaster Michael F. Cusack, Jr. '79, as well as highly dedicated Church Vestry and School Board members, and more than 100 faculty and staff. The *Fulfilling the Promise* capital campaign efforts are led by Capital Campaign Chairs, Kirsten Shaw Herrscher '81 and Roger Herrscher.



**Rector: The Reverend David O. Browder** began his ministry at STE in 2013. Mr. Browder earned a Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Business Administration with a double major in marketing and accounting at the University of Alabama. He went on to the Trinity School for Ministry and was awarded a Master of Divinity, Theology degree. David's wife Kari is a highly active volunteer with the church. Their son Edward is attending Kindergarten at STE and is part of the class of 2032! They have two other sons, Hank and Sam, who attends STE Preschool.



**Headmaster: Michael F. Cusack, Jr. '79** became headmaster at STE in 2006. Mr. Cusack earned his bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University, where he graduated with a degree in political science and a minor in history. As a graduate of STE, he is intimately familiar with the culture and values that make STE special. Prior to becoming Headmaster, he was the Pipe Band Director. Mike is a world-renowned bagpipe player, and in 1984 he became the first American ever to win a major international solo piping competition. Mike has won numerous other championships since, including during his banner year of 1997, when he won three of the four major international competitions. Mr. Cusack's wife, Donna, has been teaching Highland Dancing at STE since 1983, and his son Michael Cusack III attended STE for 13 years and graduated in 2014.



**Kirsten Shaw Herrscher '81 & Roger Herrscher** serve as the *Fulfilling the Promise* Capital Campaign Chairs. Kirsten, a 13-year veteran and graduate of STE, has been involved with the church and school since birth. Her parents, Judith and Roy G. Shaw, Jr., were early members of the church, sending Kirsten and siblings Roy G. Shaw III '78 and Chris Shaw '85 to STE Church and School from baptism through graduation. Kirsten and Roger are both members of the church and were married at Saint Thomas' in 1991. All three of their children will be 13-year veterans of the school after their youngest child graduates from STE in 2020.



## CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

### Campaign Chairs

Kirsten Shaw Herrscher '81 & Roger Herrscher

### Honorary Chairs

Anne Walters Robertson '70 & Robby Robertson '73

Katherine Black Walters '77 & Hal Walters '74

### Campaign Committee

Jenna & Chad Arnold

Kathy & Tim Dennis

Patsy & Bob Finch

Lauri & David '81 Gordon

Cettina & Thomas Halsey

Samantha Stuart Kegge '92

Debbie Martinez

Lynn Millikan

Suzanne O'Neil

Rob Scholl '96

Carolyn Turner & Andy Wright

### Rector

The Reverend David Browder

### Headmaster

Michael F. Cusack, Jr. '79

### Campaign Consultant / Director

Wendy Ruiz, CFRE