



THE SAINT CONSTANTINE  
SCHOOL



# Annual Report

## 2023-24



Dear Parents and TSCS Friends,

I am pleased to share this Annual Report with you highlighting the efforts of our community to support and enhance the education and formation at The Saint Constantine School. We are so grateful to our Board, donors, faculty, and families who daily entrust us as partners in the education of their children.



At The Saint Constantine School, we have attempted to build our curriculum and hone our teaching methods in service to this vision of childlikeness rooted in the life of Christ.

This year, our efforts have been recognized by the Society of Classical Learning, which has formally awarded our K-12 school with accreditation. We have also opened a new courtyard space for our upper school students, expanded our athletics program, course offerings, and much more. Please take a moment to learn about these efforts. This would not have been possible without the support of our friends and families. Thank you!

By God's grace, the school will continue to grow in its mission to cultivate a childlike love for the world, our neighbors, and God Himself.

With Gratitude,

**Nicholas Dalbey**

Head of School

Instructor of Great Books, Writing, and History

The Saint Constantine School



Dear TSCS Community,

This was a maturing year as we move from a “plucky start up” to a joyful, more mature organization. We seek wisdom with virtue in joy and, by God’s grace, always will.



As we draw near to the end of our first ten years, our Houston campus is approaching planned capacity in the lower grades and our high school is growing into full size over the next five years. Naturally, as the high school grows, we are increasing offerings (robotics!) and academic options while maintaining our strong college preparatory core.

Our school and College have taken leadership roles in the classical education movement. We are represented on the advisory board of the Classical Learning Test (CLT) and in most major national conferences. Our Saint Constantine College has opened the Orthodox Studies Institution (OSI) that is providing introductory classes and research materials. OSI has received international attention. Families at Saint Constantine School and College have easy access to the courses and materials. The College is in the process of applying for national accreditation.

Growing up can be hard to do, but thanks to your support, we have maintained community while working to serve professionally.

**Dr. John Mark N. Reynolds**

President

The Saint Constantine Schools and College



# SAINT CONSTANTINE LEADERSHIP



Cate Gilbert  
VP for Schools



Megan Mueller  
VP for Finance  
& Strategy



Jonathan Mueller  
VP for Faculty  
Affairs



Ennie Hickman  
VP for  
Advancement



Timothy Bartel  
Provost

## DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

We are sincerely grateful for your support of The Saint Constantine School. Whenever you choose to support one of our scholarships, the Eagle Fund, or one of our appeals, you are aiding us in our mission to educate students in the pursuit of Wisdom, Virtue and Joy.

Because of the generosity of our donors and the energetic leadership of our staff and Board of Directors, we have been able to accomplish much in our first ten years. We can't wait to see what God has in store for the next ten!



Renee Polka  
Director of Development





## TSCS AT A GLANCE

- Founded in 2016 with 115 students.
- Grown to 520+ students in the 23-24 school year.
- Over 50 percent of students receive financial aid or scholarships
- 9:1 student-teacher ratio; classes capped at 16.
- 86% of Upper School faculty hold advanced degrees.
- Students spend an average of 2+ hours outside each day.
- We have 2 goats, 2 sheep, 8+ chickens, multiple fruit trees, and a sprawling, functional garden.
- TSCS students are immersed in reading the great books and study philosophy, history, literature and fine arts, alongside a rigorous math, science, Latin and Greek program.





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**His Grace, The Right Reverend Bishop THOMAS**

Director

Auxiliary Bishop, Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

**Emily Kasradze**

Director

Former CFO, TSCS

**Steven J. Kean, JD**

Director / Board Chairman

CEO and President, Greater Houston Partnership

Former CEO, Kinder Morgan Inc.

**Melissa Kean, JD, PhD**

Director / Vice Chair

Centennial Historian at Rice University

**Shell Keim**

Director /Secretary

Director St. Macrina Homeschool Co-op

**The Very Reverend Fr. Joseph Huneycutt**

Clergy Representative

Pastor, St. Joseph Antiochian Orthodox Church, Houston, TX

**Nick Massad**

Director

President and CEO,  
American Liberty Hospitality, Inc.

**Dragos Neacsu**

Director

Fundamentals Advisor,  
BP North America Gas & Power

**Archpriest Richard Petranek**

Director

Former Pastor (Retired) of St. Paul Orthodox Church, Katy, Texas

**John Pyrovolakis**

Director

Founder at Academic Venture Exchange,  
Innovation Accelerator Foundation, and  
Q-Net Security

**Gordon Shahin**

Director

Senior Consultant



## MISSION- MINDED

A key part of our mission is to make Christian, classical education accessible to families. Throughout our history, tuition has been supplemented by donations to cover our full cost to educate a student.

Additionally, about half our students receive financial aid or scholarship.

Philanthropic support is critical in assuring that we are able to meet student needs and recruit and retain highly qualified, mission-minded staff.

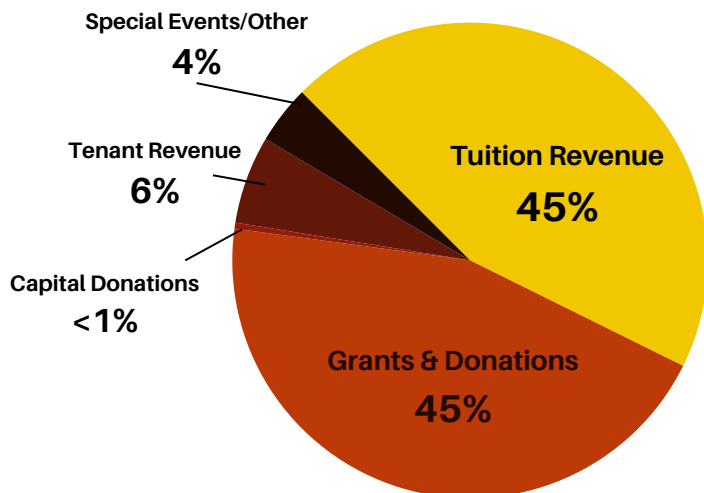


# A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

In 2023-24, donations (capital restricted, grants, special events and other donations) totaled \$4,941,000 million, or 49% of all revenue. Philanthropic support is critical to our mission in making world class Christian, classical education accessible to families.

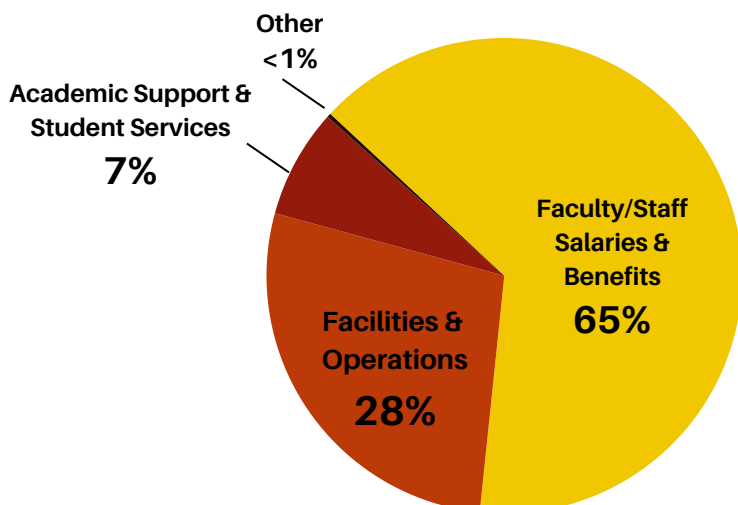
Each year, our greatest expense is salaries and benefits, which support the recruitment and retention of highly qualified, mission-minded faculty and staff.

## 2023-24 REVENUE



|                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| \$ 4,500,000         | Tuition Revenue                |
| \$ 4,500,000         | Grants & Donations             |
| \$ 41,000            | Capital Donations (restricted) |
| \$ 600,000           | Tenant Revenue                 |
| \$ 400,000           | Special Events and Other       |
| <b>\$ 10,041,000</b> | <b>Revenue Total</b>           |

## 2023-24 EXPENSES



|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| \$ 6,100,000        | Faculty/Staff Salary & Benefits     |
| \$ 2,600,000        | Facilities & Operations             |
| \$ 700,000          | Academic Support & Student Services |
| \$ 24,000           | Other                               |
| <b>\$ 9,424,000</b> | <b>Expenses Total</b>               |

\*These 2023-24 numbers are unaudited and subject to adjustment.



# GROWTH IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

Our Early Childhood program welcomes children into an environment that is an extension of home life. The primary focus at this age is the development of good habits while also laying a firm foundation for academic success and developing intellectual curiosity.

Having outgrown our existing facilities for the Early Childhood department, we added two new buildings to South Campus in 2023-24, providing Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten with **four new homerooms**, surrounded by abundant space to play and gardens to tend.







## SHARING THE JOY OF READING

In 2023, a generous gift from a TSCS donor enabled us to implement a new literacy program, UFLI Foundations, in Kindergarten through Second Grade. This is a systematic program that teaches students the foundational skills necessary for proficient reading.

The impact has been remarkable: literacy referrals dropped from 24 in the 2022-2023 school year to just two during the 2023-2024 school year, and multiple students have moved out of interventions after closing their literacy gaps.

At The Saint Constantine School, we know where our students need to go, and know what it takes to prepare them to understand reading Shakespeare and Plato by the time they're in 6th grade. We are committed to providing exemplary literacy instruction that supports and honors each child's unique developmental journey and are grateful for our partners who help to accelerate and enhance these efforts!



# GOLDEN EAGLE ATHLETICS

## 2023-24

We continued our growth in the 2023-24 school year both in number and in scope, and even joined the West Houston Christian Athletic Conference for our Middle School teams.

Our '23 Fall season grew from five to nine teams. We added Flag Football and Volleyball teams to our existing teams of Flag Football, Volleyball and Cross Country, bringing the number of student athletes from 60 to 87 for the fall season.

To our existing Winter/Spring basketball and track teams, we added middle School girls and developmental boys' basketball teams along with middle school boys' baseball. This brought the number of teams from four to seven and providing 43 more student athletes with the opportunity to participate in athletics compared to the previous year.

Special thanks to the coaches and parents for their time and dedication to helping our student athletes challenge themselves and excel!







# ELEVATING THE ARTS

We believe that there is nothing 'extra'-curricular about the arts - rather, earnest and consistent time spent in artistic pursuit is deeply tied to our ability to flourish as human beings.

Saint Constantine students participate in a variety of artistic programs during the course of their school day. Whether in a classroom setting or through private tutoring, these vital opportunities teach students to engage with powerful ideas through artistic expression, and hone their technical skills under the direction of highly qualified professionals.

In the 2022-23 school year, our students showcased their hard work and musical talent at the Christmas and Spring concerts, as well as throughout the school year at our monthly Music at Noon event, where students sign up on their own to play an instrument or sing to a captive audience of fellow students and faculty.





# THE SAINT CONSTANTINE THEATER

Thanks to a generous patron of the arts, TSCS was able to create a black box theater on North Campus! This space provides an intimate, flexible theater experience, allowing our cast and crew to reimagine and transform the physical world of the story with each production.

Having this space available for our students and faculty on campus has been immensely beneficial to our broader theater program, enabling more students to receive hands-on experience with the design, development, and construction of each play's set, costumes, and lighting plan.

Thank you to our donor for making this possible!





# THE GREAT OUTDOORS

The outdoor space at TSCS is a beloved "classroom" for all students, providing a vibrant setting that encourages creativity, exploration, and independent play. In 2023-24, our campus saw many incredible enhancements. This included:

- The Outdoor Learning Environment (OLE), a dedicated outdoor space for our Upper School students on North Campus, thanks to the generosity of the Steve and Carolyn Mafrige family.
- The purchase of additional cattle panels for the goat enclosure and a sheep tractor.
- Addition of 50 trees to South Campus in January 2024, thanks to the Don Fizer Foundation and Trees for Houston. Over 70 TSCS volunteers showed up for a successful planting day.





- A rain harvesting system on the garden shed from The Garden Club of Houston.
- A grant from the Native Plant Society of Texas to attract and sustain butterfly populations.
- Transformation of a lackluster detention pond into a vibrant ecosystem and immersive educational space. Thanks to a generous donation from TSCS grandparents, enhancements included the addition of flat-topped boulders, river rock, a dock, additional plants, and a pathway. The donation of beautiful wood block benches, contributed by a friend to TSCS, create space for contemplation and socialization.







# BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER



Feasts, Fests, and Field Days at TSCS are a part of our DNA! The school year is bookended by our Back-to-School and End-of-Year Feasts, and punctuated with Fall and Spring Field Days where students compete in athletic games to bring their House to victory through grit, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

In the Spring of 2024, we were honored to receive a new custom pit from Mr. Kenneth Fusilier. Now the St. Lawrence Grillers, a group of TSCS dads, come together several times a year to generously give their time and talent to prepare world-class brisket and BBQ for our school events!







## HARVESTFEST 2023

The 2023 Harvesfest was marked by our first annual raffle, where over \$32,000 was raised to support the scholarships and programs that make TSCS a world-class experience for our families. This massive event is not possible without the amazing parent, faculty, and student volunteers who donated food, provided entertainment, helped set up/clean up, served food and drinks, and ran game tables!



## GRANDPARENTS DAY

On a breezy and beautiful day in April, TSCS welcomed over 213 grandparents to our campus. They were treated to music by our choir and heard from TSCS grandparent, Mr. Jerry Scroggins, about how TSCS has impacted his family. Finally, grandparents enjoyed lunch outside with their grandchildren, who were delighted to show off where they get to play, learn, and pray!





A GALA BENEFITING



THE SAINT CONSTANTINE  
SCHOOL

## MIRACLES IN BLOOM

# A NEW RECORD AT THE 2024 GALA!

The 2024 Gala celebrated Miracles in Bloom. Over 252 people attended for our largest Gala yet, and **together we raised \$288,000!** These funds went to support scholarships and financial aid, changing lives for students and families in our community.

This event was possible thanks to our sponsors, attendees, auction item donors, and donors. A special Thank You goes to the volunteers who helped procure items, donate towards auction packages, set up the event, and provide support to make the evening a success!

### Chairs

Ted and Maggie Wissink

### Auction Committee

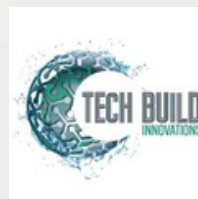
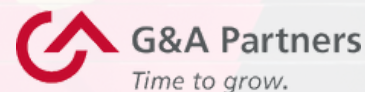
Bassil Family  
Beauchamp Family  
Emery Black  
Crowell Family  
Ewalt Family  
Hickman Family  
Madeline Hickman  
Kwok Family  
Mann Family

Marshall Family  
McPherson Family  
Murchison Family  
Nehme Family  
Pappas Family  
Shanar Family  
Smiley Family  
Voutsinas Family





# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!







# A BEAUTIFUL BEGINNING

Our Upper School is academically rigorous and prepares students to succeed in any college of their choice, with SAT scores well above the national average. But more importantly, Saint Constantine graduates have spent years training to pursue Virtue, Wisdom, and Joy. We are proud of the young adults they have become!

The 22 graduates of the Class of '24 matriculated to:

Baylor University  
 Houston Christian University  
 Oklahoma State University  
 Our Lady of the Lake  
 Saint Constantine College  
 Stephen F. Austin  
 Texas A&M - College Station  
 The Citadel  
 UH Clear Lake  
 University of Houston  
 University of St. Thomas





# MISSION-MINDED

A founding principle of our school is that financial need should not hold any child back from receiving classical, Orthodox Christian, world-class education. It's a noble mission, and it takes more than good intentions.

**About half our students receive financial aid or scholarship.** Philanthropic support is critical in assuring that we are able to meet student needs and recruit and retain highly-qualified, mission-minded staff. The generosity of these donors very directly changes the lives of our students and their families.

Through special appeals, grants, and events like Giving Tuesday and the Gala, TSCS invites individuals and businesses in our community to partner with us in this noble mission.

[DONATE NOW](#)

**Join us in changing lives and bringing  
Goodness, Truth, and Beauty to the world  
through classical, Orthodox Christian,  
world-class education!**





# THE SAINT CONSTANTINE SCHOOL

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