

**SCLA**

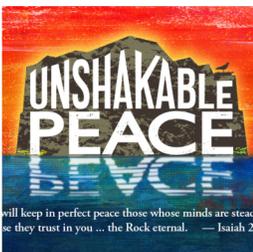
# Executive Report

October 2025



Brian Shult, Executive Director

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear SCLA Family,

As we launch into another exciting school year at St. Croix Lutheran Academy, we do so grounded in the truth of this year’s theme— “Unshakable Peace,” based on Isaiah 26:3–4, “You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.”

In a world that often feels uncertain, we are reminded that our confidence does not rest in circumstances—but in Christ. He is our steady foundation, our Rock eternal. As students, families, faculty, and supporters, we walk together in trust, knowing that God's peace is not fleeting. It is perfect, because it is anchored in His faithfulness.

This newsletter shares some of the many ways the Lord continues to bless SCLA through your partnership. From new ministry efforts and strong financial stewardship to campus improvements and spiritual opportunities, there is much to celebrate—and even more to look forward to.

Thank you for your support, prayers, and partnership. Let’s continue to walk forward this year with steadfast hearts and unshakable peace.

In Christ,  
Brian Shult  
Executive Director  
St. Croix Lutheran Academy

## CAMPUS SAFETY

In light of recent events—including the tragic shooting at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis—we are taking a hard look at our entire campus from a safety perspective.

We’re grateful for our ongoing partnership with the West St. Paul Police Department, which provided an on-site officer the day of that incident and continues to be a visible presence on campus.

We’ve also initiated a full threat and vulnerability assessment of our facilities, and we expect to receive recommendations this fall that will help us better protect our students and staff.

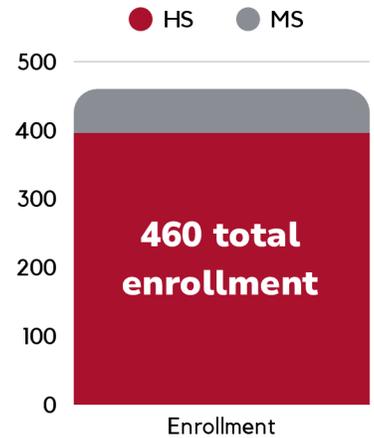


## ENROLLMENT & ADMISSIONS

This year, we made a strategic decision—unanimously supported by our Board of Regents—to create a new position focused on growing and strengthening our enrollment efforts. We called Mr. Nate Kallies to serve as our Principal for Enrollment and Engagement, a role that bridges admissions, church relations, and outreach. Nate’s deep love for this ministry and his strong relational skills make him the right person to lead this important work.

Our admissions team is also busy connecting with prospective families through events like “New & 9th Night,” tailgates, and school visits, all of which build familiarity and comfort early in the school year.

On the international front, we welcomed 45 new students from around the world. We’ve expanded our marketing efforts through platforms like Line and KakaoTalk, especially in Japan and Korea. Nate will be traveling with our international team this fall to Japan, Korea, Vietnam, China, and Thailand to strengthen our presence and recruit future students.



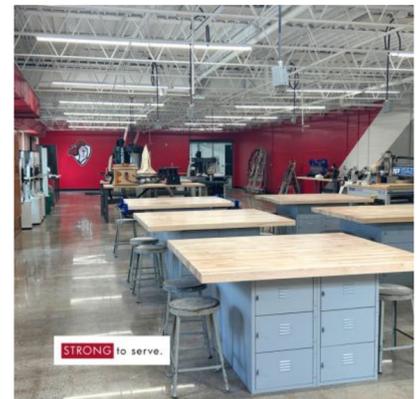
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## BUILDING FOR TOMORROW: TÉKTŌN UPDATE

The Tekton Building is now fully operational! Thanks to the team at Langer Construction, we completed the final touches just in time for school to begin.

Today, over 180 students are using the space in classes like Middle School Wood Shop, Wood Shop 1 & 2, and Construction & Architecture. Each class began with a focus on safety and tool operation—and now students are building real projects and gaining hands-on skills.

We also launched a new Super Mileage Club, where students will build a gas-powered car and compete for best fuel efficiency at Brainerd International Raceway next spring.



CELEBRATE

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Years of God's Grace

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The 2024–25 financial audit is nearly complete, and preliminary results show strong performance. Our operating cash flow, cash reserves, and overall financial stewardship remain healthy. Full results will be shared in our Annual Report this fall. Thank you to our supporters for your faithful gifts and ongoing trust.



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## NEW FACES AT SCLA



We're blessed to welcome several new team members:

**Mr. Andrew Kramer** joined us in June as middle school band teacher. A Minnesota native, he's passionate about building student relationships, glorifying God through music, and cheering local sports. His hobbies include guitar, basketball, writing music, and ultimate Frisbee.



**Mrs. Rachel Collins** began in June as our new Finance Manager. She will take over for Lori Kowitz, who plans to retire this December. Rachel brings a wealth of experience and is already familiar with our mission—she and her husband, Ross, are parents to three SCLA alumni: Robyn, Russel, and Reese.



**Mr. Josh Stehr** (SCLA '93) has joined SCLA's Maintenance & Groundskeeping team. A Lake City native and current SCLA parent, Josh brings skills, school pride, and dedication to keeping campus safe and beautiful for students, staff, and families.



SCLA is home to 50 faculty and 26 staff members committed to serving our community in 2025-2026..

## YOU'RE INVITED TO FALL EVENTS AT SCLA!

Join us on campus for a season of arts, community, and gratitude:

- Double Feature Drama: The Elves and the Shoemaker + A Midsummer Night's Dream (Shakespeare in an Hour) — October 9–12. Details & tickets: [stcroixlutheran.org/drama](http://stcroixlutheran.org/drama)
- Fall Concert — October 26. Enjoy performances by our student ensembles. Program & details: [stcroixlutheran.org/fallconcert](http://stcroixlutheran.org/fallconcert)
- Veterans Day Tribute — Thursday, November 6. Honor and celebrate our veterans with music, reflections, and student tributes. Info: [stcroixlutheran.org/veterans](http://stcroixlutheran.org/veterans)

We'd love to see students, parents, alumni, neighbors, and friends on campus—bring someone with you!



## SCLA WISHLIST - MAKE AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT

SCLA's online wish list offers a meaningful way for donors to directly support the needs of our students, teachers, and staff. Curated by our dedicated teachers and staff, the list includes items that enhance classroom learning, extracurricular activities, and campus life. [StCroixLutheran.org/wishlist](http://StCroixLutheran.org/wishlist)

Whether you're passionate about the arts, athletics, STEM, or student life, you can browse the wish list to see exactly what's needed and choose where you'd like to make an impact. From classroom supplies and technology upgrades to music equipment and athletic gear, your gift—big or small—helps us provide an excellent Christ-centered education and a well-rounded student experience. Thank you for partnering with us in this mission!

The year is off to a strong start, and that's a reflection of God's grace and your faithful support. Whether you're a parent, grandparent, alumni, donor, or community friend—thank you for walking with us as we continue to nurture students for lives of service, leadership, and faith. If you'd like to connect, tour our campus, or learn more about how you can support SCLA, my door is always open.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 3 Homecoming / Alumni Tent
- October 4 Run the Ravine 5K
- October 9 Fall Theater - Double Feature
- October 21 Legacy Workshop at SCLA
- October 26 Fall Concert
- November 6 Veterans Day Tribute at SCLA
- November 8 Festival of Seasons - Final Show



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