IMPACT REPORT

“There is no greater equalizer than a powerful education. Our goal is to offer a rigorous preparation for high school to students from underserved communities in San Francisco. The Sauer Academy will prepare these young people for an SI college preparatory education, providing them a clearer path to college and beyond.”

Edward A. Reese, S.J.

President, St. Ignatius College Preparatory

PERSIST

LOVE

LEAD

UNITE

SERVE

SEEK

Dear Friends of the Fr. Sauer Academy,

Every so often, I step back and remind myself of what we have built at FSA. What started in 2017 as a single classroom with two teachers has now blossomed into a vibrant school and community, with three grades of middle schoolers and active parents who are invested in our belief that students are successful when educators and families are a team.

The Fr. Sauer Academy serves Bay Area students by providing safe, rigorous, empowering, and high-quality private educational experiences. Our faculty and staff work together to create a school community that not only brings out individual excellence, but also emphasizes the success of the community at large. To that end, our partnership with families extends beyond the classroom, and we foster a learning community where families take an active role in educating young Ignatians to become people with and for others. Students' success is their families' success, and families' success is the school's success.

Of the many incredible memories I have of my journey as a school leader, I am perhaps most moved by instances of FSA alums returning to the school to help tutor younger students. Seeing a student who struggled while in the sixth grade at FSA now returning to help others who need mentorship has shown us a concrete example of what it means to be an Ignatian — being a person who embodies the charism of service, excellence, and perseverance.

Those students who stepped onto the FSA campus in August 2017 as shy sixth graders are now entering their senior year at St. Ignatius, confidently setting the example for those following in their footsteps. Whether in the classroom, on the stage, in athletic competition, or in affinity group leadership positions, our FSA graduates have taken full advantage of all of the wonderful opportunities available to them.

As you read this impact report, I hope that you enjoy getting to know more about our school and learning about the work we do, which is only possible thanks to the generous support of donors.

In partnership,

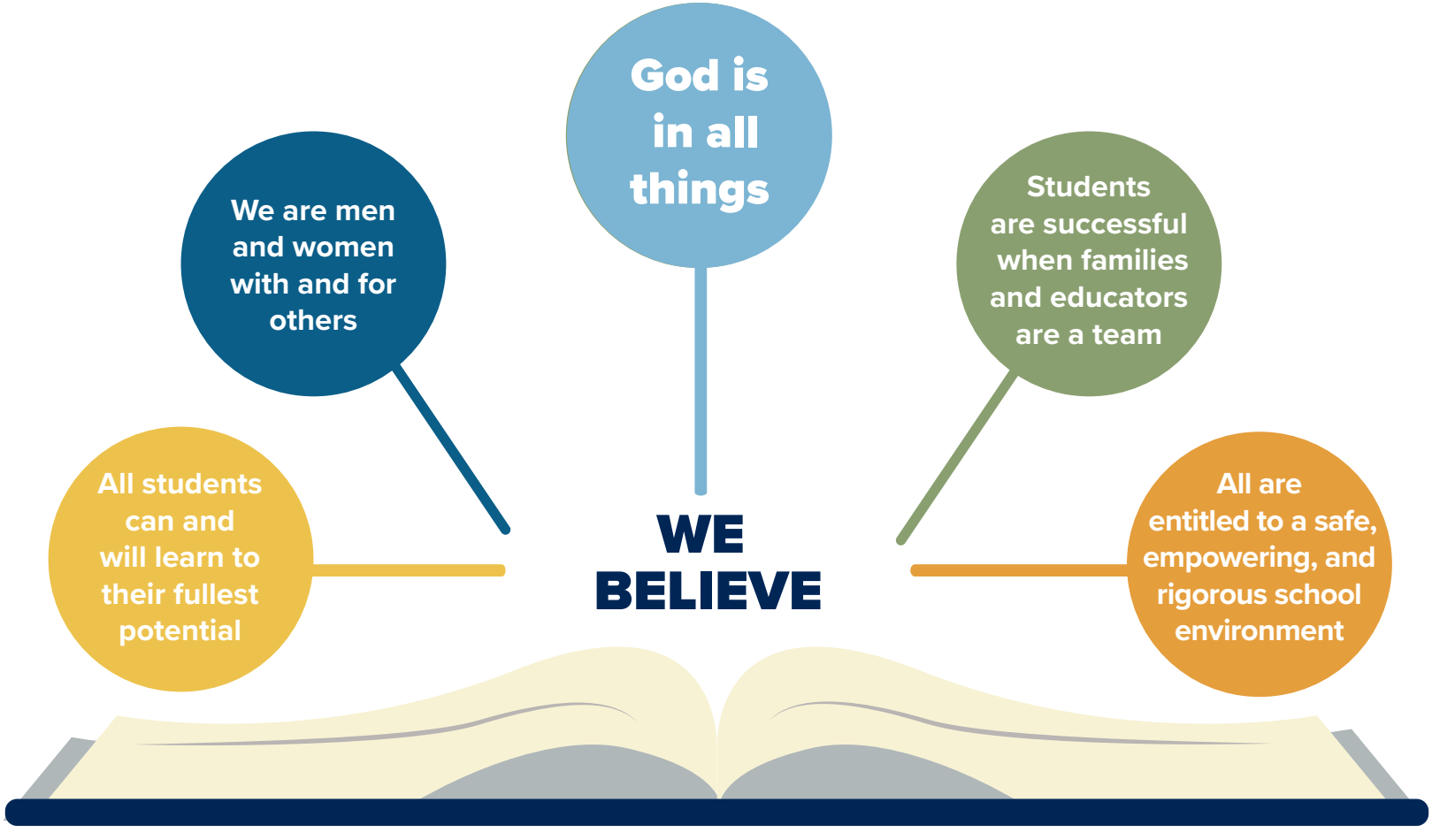
Theresa Bayze
Principal, Fr. Sauer Academy

OUR HISTORY

On Oct. 8, 2016, St. Ignatius College Preparatory President Edward A. Reese, S.J., announced the creation of the Fr. Sauer Academy, named for Anthony P. Sauer, S.J., the longtime president of St. Ignatius. FSA began as a full scholarship middle school program in August 2017 with its first class of sixth graders. In June 2020, the middle school graduated and promoted its first class of students.

OUR MISSION

The Sauer Academy seeks to prepare young women and men from under-resourced communities to be successful in a rigorous learning environment at St. Ignatius College Preparatory, in higher education, and beyond. In partnership with families, FSA provides access to a Catholic, Jesuit education so that students may develop their gifts and talents in a loving community for the greater glory of God. At FSA, students have the opportunity to transform their lives and maximize their potential through a well-rounded and quality education based on faith.



WHY ARE WE NEEDED?

The Fr. Sauer Academy is a middle school offering an exceptional academic experience to diverse young men and women who have demonstrated successful academic potential and an interest in a private school community. We address the educational gap by providing access to high-quality education to students from under-resourced communities in San Francisco and beyond.

30K+
Meals served each year

100%
Daily bus service offered

100%
Add'l academic support offered

STUDENTS SAY...

93% have a trusted adult they can talk to

88% feel safe to celebrate their culture/heritage

95% would recommend FSA to other students

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The valedictorian for the Fr. Sauer Academy's Class of 2023 was AK Bolano. In addition to excelling in academics, AK is an accomplished basketball player and says her goal is become a pharmacist. For her FSA profile, she wrote, "I want to be someone who makes a difference individually. I want to change lives one at a time. I want to be the type of person that people go to when they need help, without the fear of judgment." Below, read excerpts from AK's valedictory address.

"Right now, you see me as the kid who is excelling academically and always playing basketball. But if you've known me my whole life, you would see that I am so much more than that. You would see my specific upbringing in a single-mother household. You would see the hard work that I put into my academics and sports. You would see the commitment I have to social justice."

"FSA took someone like me, a kid with big dreams who just needed one shot, and gave me a huge opportunity."

AK Bolano (FSA '23)

FAST FACTS

100%
of students attend tuition-free

200+
students served since 2016

11:1
student/teacher ratio

EACH YEAR

65+
parents and

15+
high school students volunteer at FSA

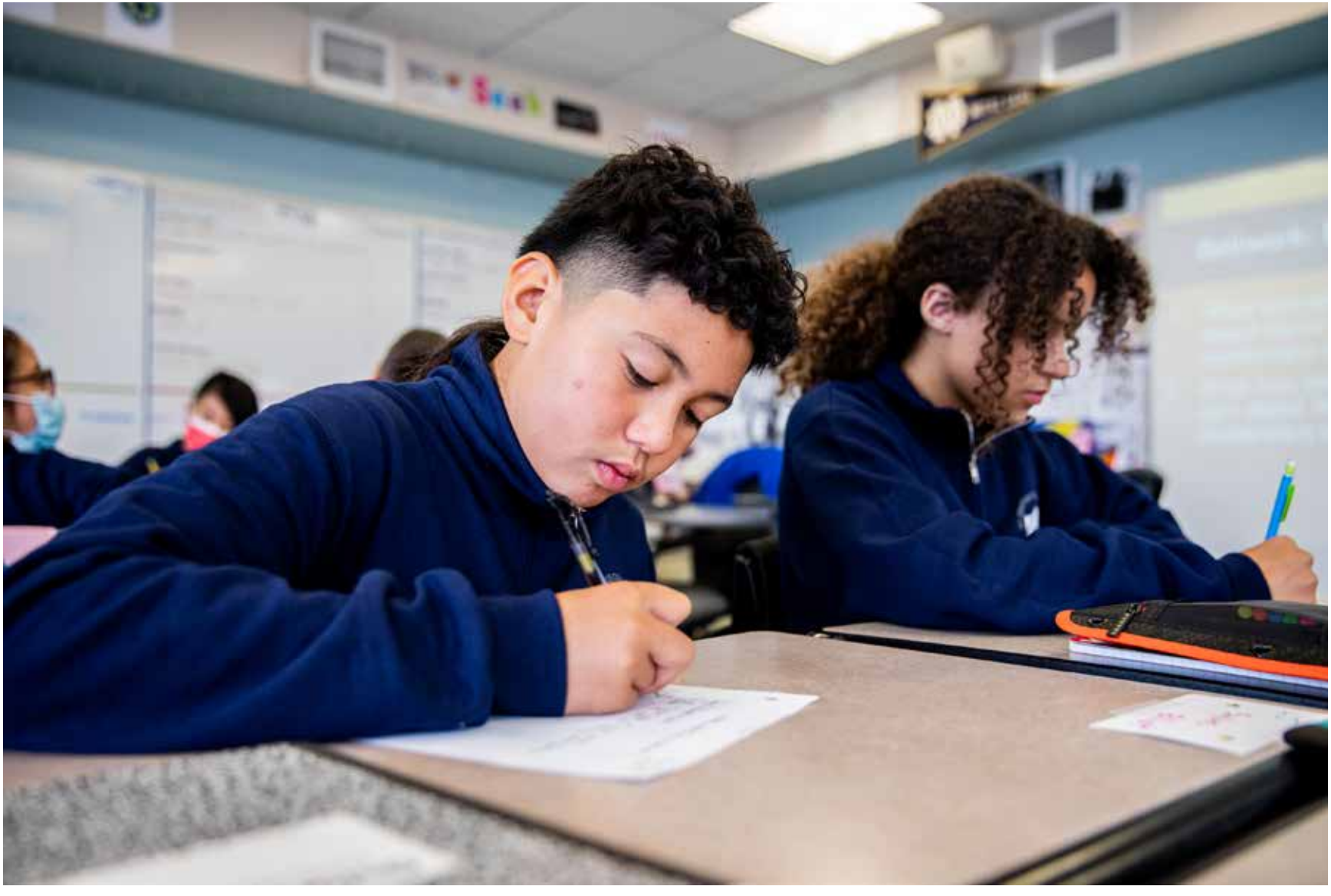
"I see Fr. Sauer Academy as an exceptional onramp to higher education."

Francesca Amann,
FSA Donor

In FSA's first four graduating classes, percentage of students who met or exceeded national growth average

75%
Math

78%
Language



HELPING STUDENTS JUMP TO THE NEXT LEVEL

PROGRAMS

Curriculum
Math, Reading, Language, Religion, Wellness, PE, Social Studies, Journalism
• 11 month program

The goal for all Fr. Sauer Academy students is to be successful in high school, college, and beyond. Students at the Fr. Sauer Academy receive daily instruction in four core classes: Computer Science, English Language Arts, Math, and Social Studies. They also start the day with a Religion component with their homeroom teacher. Students at FSA have a number of other weekly classes including Journalism, P.E., Wellness, and electives.

FSA also offers a Daily Academic Support Hub (DASH) twice a day to assist students outside of their direct classroom instruction. The first component is our mandatory lunch DASH for students with late or missing work, which is designed to prevent students from falling behind and to provide extra time to focus on organizational skills. Faculty and high school students, most of whom are FSA alums, also provide after-school DASH from Monday through Thursday. This is an optional space for students to stay after school and have a structured environment with academic support.

As a Jesuit school, our goal is to educate the whole student. Therefore, concurrent to academic instruction, our faculty and staff simultaneously work to teach students for all areas of their lives. By incorporating the PLLUSS verbs — Persist, Love, Lead, Unite, Serve, and Seek — across all curricula, our faculty inform students about the importance of being Ignatians: well-rounded, service-oriented, compassionate, and capable of addressing the challenges of our time.

“The biggest part of the Fr. Sauer Academy that I embrace is that the students are actually here on the SI campus. I think it is enriching for both FSA and SI students.”

Michele Meany, FSA Donor

76%
participate in Athletics

ATHLETICS

6 basketball teams, 2 soccer teams, 3 volleyball teams, cross-country, track and field

FIELD TRIPS

Alcatraz, California Academy of Science, Caritas Creek CYO Camp, Children's Creativity Museum, Children's Discovery Museum, Chinese Historical Society, Exploratorium, Golden Gate Park, Marin Theater Company, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Muir Woods, Museum of the American Indian, San Francisco Botanical Gardens, San Francisco Zoo, San Francisco International Airport, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Tennessee Valley...In addition, students have taken trips to see theater productions of "Aladdin," "Hello Dolly," "The Nutcracker," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

SUMMER CAMPS

Boot camp style classes to decrease learning gaps and prepare for the coming academic year, participation in Nike Sports camps, Coding, Cooking, Future Authors Workshop, Dance, Engineering, Yoga, and more.

TUTORING/DASH (DAILY ACADEMIC SUPPORT HUB)

Students who need extra attention attend lunch or after-school tutoring sessions four days per week. Many tutors are St. Ignatius students, fulfilling their community service obligations.

ABOUT OUR TEACHERS

Each student sees every core teacher daily, allowing faculty to build meaningful relationships with them. Knowing individual students at this level also means teachers have deep insight when they collaborate with other faculty to see what is working best for certain students and groups.

Faculty and staff are present in many areas of the school beyond the classroom. Teachers frequently participate in basketball games on the recess yard, work with students one-on-one during lunch or study halls, and coach CYO sports.

Finally, our faculty benefit from being on the same campus as their St. Ignatius colleagues, constantly learning more from high school teachers on how they can best prepare students for their next steps.

89%
Have Master Degrees

"This is a life changing place to teach."

Phyllis Tonna,
FSA Teacher

EVENTS LEAD TO LEARNING

Speaker Series

Mia and Dorell Wright
Wright Foundation, former NBA player

Dr. Ted Love with Joyce Love
CEO of Global Blood Therapeutics

Karl Watson
Professional skateboarder

Kevin Greene
Former NFL player

Jessie Byrd
Author

20+
On Campus Events per Year

Community Events

Diamano Coura
West African Dance Company

Harvest Festival

Hispanic Heritage Month

Thanksgiving Potluck

Christmas Dinner

Black History Month

AAPI Month

FSA ALUMS

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Andrea Phillips (FSA ’20)

“I go back to FSA and help tutor students there to give back to where I came from. It’s important to me to help empower the students coming after me.”

Brenda Valladares (FSA ’20)

“FSA helped me develop persistence. I learned I am capable of accomplishing hard things.”

Jazmine Hernandez (FSA ’20)

“Right now, I want to be a nurse. I know it’s going to be challenging, but it’s also something I know I can do because I have made it this far in my education and I can’t wait to face whatever comes my way.”

Cameron Jones (FSA ’20)

“FSA is like a second home to me, a place to go where there are people I trust, both peers and teachers.”

Mia Santiago (FSA ’20)

“I hope FSA is able to stay stable and continue because it was such a blessing to me. I never dreamed I would be here, with the opportunities that I do, but because of that program, I am here, and I am extremely grateful.”

ADVANCEMENT OVERVIEW

$12m
Total donations received since 2016

2,000+
Number of donors

“What motivates us to give to the Fr. Sauer Academy is to literally change the trajectory of people’s lives through education. The Fr. Sauer Academy is representative of the best of SI and the SI community.”

John Elder, FSA Donor

$4.5m
Total FSA endowment

Partner/Sponsors

Cow Palace

Gus’s Community Market

LRG Clothing

Mitchell’s Ice Cream

Original Joe’s Westlake and North Beach

San Francisco Giants

Smart & Final

Sparky’s Balloons

Foundations

Crescent Porter Hale Foundation

Knapp Family Foundation

Quest Foundation

The Olympic Club Foundation

The O’Shea Foundation

Yvonne and Angelo Sangiacomo Family Foundation

THANK YOU

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