

A GUIDE TO

GIVING AND GETTING INVOLVED

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

INVESTMENT IN STUDENTS

SANTA MARGARITA EAGLE FOUNDATION

A FOUNDATION FOR SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



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EAGLE FOUNDATION
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The Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation proudly supports Santa Margarita Catholic High School and is faithful to the school's charism of Caritas Christi and the pursuit of excellence. Together we embrace a culture of faith, learning, collaboration, and inclusion to create a caring community. Santa Margarita students excel as thoughtful learners and leaders strengthened by community and empowered to make a difference in the world. Simply stated, by being involved and part of the Eagle family, you assist with the growth and well-being of our future leaders.

We don't ask just our students to live out the four core principles of Caritas Christi - compassion, humility, justice and goodness. We invite our entire extended family - parents, alumni, grandparents, friends, and the community - to practice these same values by sharing their time, talents, and resources to make a difference in the lives of others. There are a variety of meaningful ways to become engaged in the life of our school, and we are grateful for every contribution.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

VOLUNTEERING AND GETTING INVOLVED

"Volunteering at SMCHS is a meaningful way to live out our commitment to faith, service, and community. It provides the opportunity to make a positive impact on our students while building lasting friendships with families who share the same values and commitment to excellence.

Being involved creates a true sense of belonging, strengthens our Eagle community, and helps make SMCHS an exceptional place for every student to learn, grow, and thrive."

DEBBIE MCGREGOR, MOTHER TO NICOLE '15, AUSTIN (AJ) '18 AND KADIN '21

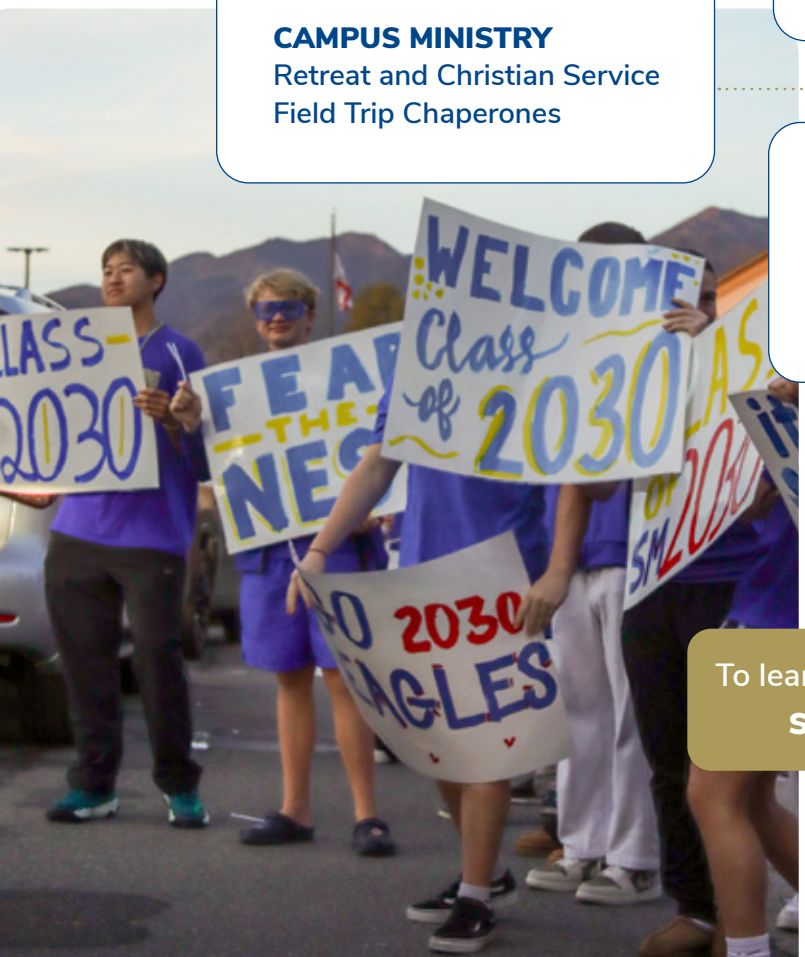
A vibrant campus life and a culture of generosity and service towards others is created not only by the students, faculty and staff, but also by dedicated and caring volunteers. As one of our most cherished assets, giving countless hours of their time to school and foundation endeavors, our volunteers are the heart of the Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation and SMCHS. With dozens of volunteer opportunities, every parent, alumni, or friend can become engaged with our community and make an impact on our students through a variety of programs.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS
Blue and Gold Gala and Eagle Classic Golf Tournament that help support SMCHS students

ORGANIZATIONS
Mothers Club, Grandparents Club, Alumni Relations, Athletic Boosters, Arts Alliance

CAMPUS MINISTRY
Retreat and Christian Service Field Trip Chaperones

GENERAL CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES
Clerical Support, One-Day Event Support, Team Opportunities



To learn more and sign up, please visit
smhs.org/volunteers

EAGLE FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

MOTHERS CLUB

Join current and alumni parents in activities that support the school, students, and one another. The Mothers Club offers several programs each month that provide fellowship, enrichment, not-to-miss social events, and fundraising opportunities for scholarships!



MOTHERS CLUB ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Coffees
- Halloween Hoot
- Lunch Bunch
- Book Club
- Bunco
- Parent Education
- Wine & Dine
- Christmas Boutique
- Christmas Tea
- Grant and Scholarship Programs
- Faculty & Staff Appreciation Days

To learn more and sign up, visit:
smhs.org/mothersclub



EAGLE FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

GRANDPARENTS CLUB

The Grandparents Club is an exciting and fulfilling way to be involved with the Eagle Family. The club's mission is to have fun and meet fellow grandparents. The members support their grandchildren while participating in philanthropy and raising funds for the Grandparents Club Scholarship Fund.

GRANDPARENTS CLUB ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Annual Grandparents and Special Friends Day
- Special spirit section at football and basketball games
- Open invitation to all school Masses
- Providing and serving snacks to students during finals
- Social outings and Lunch Bunch dates
- Grandparents Club tables at the Blue and Gold Gala





To learn more and sign up, visit:
smhs.org/grandparentsclub

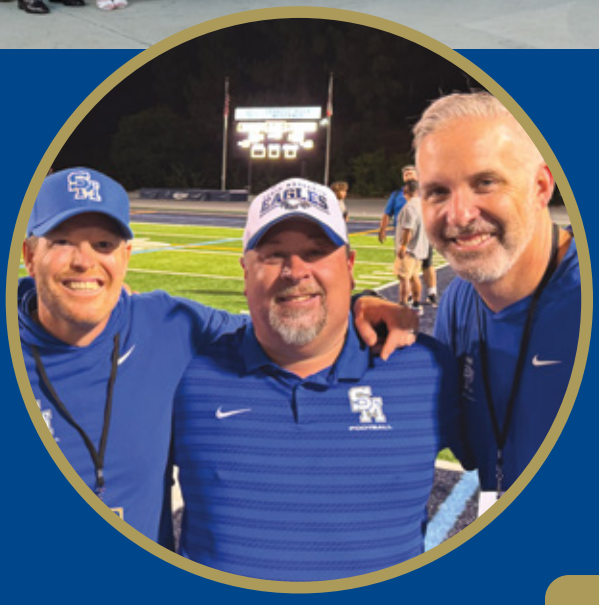
"Being a part of the SMCHS Grandparents Club is such a blessing. I love the fellowship, the shared experiences and celebrating together the special role we have in our grandchildren's lives. The friendships and sense of community are a cherished part of my life."

TERRY MAROUTSOS

ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

SM ALUMNI GETTING INVOLVED AND LEAVING THEIR LEGACY





With our alumni network extending over 35 years, more and more graduates are returning to SMCHS in a variety of ways. As current parents, teachers, coaches, administrators, volunteers, and committee members, it's always exciting to welcome our alumni back to the Eagle Nest!

To learn more and sign up, visit:
smhs.org/alumni





INSPIRE STUDENTS

ALUMNI CAREER DAY

As our alumni have flourished into excellence, we have the ability to draw on their talents as they return to campus and share their experiences with our current student body. Whether it's real estate, engineering, medicine, law, business, nonprofit, athletics, education, entertainment or the arts, we have alumni thriving in every field. Real-life perspectives from our alumni inspire Santa Margarita students, providing them with guidance to transform their dreams into reality while living out Caritas Christi, the love of Christ.

ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

PARTICIPATE IN ALUMNI EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

CLASS REUNIONS

Reunions are a perfect opportunity to reconnect with old friends, reminisce about all the good times, and create new memories. Alumni attendance is what makes these events special and reinforces their bond as Eagles.

HOMECOMING GAME

Revisit Friday Night Lights with old friends and watch our Eagle football team in action! Join us before the game at our alumni check in.



LEGACY FAMILIES

We believe that the foundation of a faith-rooted Santa Margarita Catholic High School education has inspired our alumni to ensure that their own children receive the same enriching experience. Celebrating our legacy families has become a beloved tradition. At the beginning of the school year, we welcome our current legacy families with the annual Legacy Family Breakfast. Additionally, as a part of our graduation celebration, we recognize and honor our alumni legacy families by giving a commencement stole to the graduates whose parents are alumni of our beloved school.

ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

NETWORKING AND SOCIAL EVENTS

SMCHS offers opportunities throughout the year to reconnect with fellow alumni, including some events for the entire family!



EAGLE FUND CLASS CAPTAINS

Rally your fellow classmates to give to the Eagle Fund, our annual giving program, and engage in a friendly competition between the classes throughout the year and during Giving Week.





GIVE BACK TO YOUR ALMA MATER:

Supporting SMCHS with a gift to the Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation is the best way to ensure that the SM experience you loved is possible for future Eagles.

To learn more about the ways for alumni to get involved, contact the Alumni Office at (949) 766-6080 Ext. 1165 or visit **smhs.org/alumni**



ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ARTS ALLIANCE



The Arts Alliance is a parent-led organization whose mission is to raise visibility and to support the Visual and Performing Arts programs at Santa Margarita Catholic High School.

Arts Alliance opportunities include:

- Coordinating volunteers for Performing and Visual Arts events
- Provide arts enrichment activities for students
- Meet and socialize with fellow families involved in the arts programs







ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUBS

Parent-led booster clubs are a wonderful way to meet families, show your Eagle spirit, and help offset athletic participation fees. One of the primary ways to support the athletic booster clubs is through the annual Eagle Classic Golf Tournament hosted each spring by the Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation.

To learn more and sign up, visit:
smhs.org/athletics

INVESTMENT IN OUR STUDENTS

The Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation supports Santa Margarita Catholic High School in achieving its overall mission and strategic goals by meeting the financial needs of the school through philanthropy and investment from our parents, alumni, alumni parents, friends, and community. With your support, the foundation plays a dynamic role in providing excellence in Catholic education, which develops graduates who are people of faith, skilled life-long learners, healthy individuals, and involved citizens of the world.

"Walking onto Santa Margarita's campus, you can't help but want to be part of something special. SM is a place where our children are not only educated but encouraged and prepared to become the people God intended them to be.

Perhaps that's what I love most about volunteering—the chance to be present for a small part of their journey while giving back to a place that gives so much to them."

CANDICE STUART

CATHOLIC SCHOOL FUNDRAISING AT A GLANCE



HOW YOU CAN KEEP SMCHS FLYING FORWARD

FUNDRAISING & COMMUNITY EVENTS

FREQUENCY
Annually

WHAT IT FUNDS
Funds programs and fosters community!

BLUE AND GOLD GALA
Tuition assistance and annual expenses in the operating budget not covered by tuition

EAGLE CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT
Provides funds to enhance programs and athletic teams on campus

SCHOLARSHIPS

FREQUENCY
Annually

WHAT IT FUNDS
Tuition assistance for students in need

CAPITAL PROJECTS

FREQUENCY
Periodically

WHAT IT FUNDS
Our future! The investment income helps keep tuition affordable through funding salaries and benefits, tuition assistance, and enrichment programs.

LEGACY GIFTS & PLANNED GIVING

FREQUENCY
Once in a lifetime

WHAT IT FUNDS
Financial stability for years to come. The gift can be bestowed to the endowment or donor's choice

ANNUAL FUND EAGLE FUND

FREQUENCY Annually

WHAT IT FUNDS Annual expenses in the operating budget not covered by tuition, including educational technology, classroom supplies, extracurricular activities, and campus betterment.

INVESTMENT IN OUR STUDENTS

THE EAGLE FUND - A YEAR-ROUND GIVING OPPORTUNITY WITH AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT

The Eagle Fund is our annual giving program that supports every aspect of the SMCHS experience, helping to offset the difference between tuition and the cost to educate each student. A gift to the Eagle Fund is the best way to make a direct and immediate impact on the unique experience our students receive every day. By making your gift, you are:

- Showing your commitment to the students of Santa Margarita Catholic High School.
- Investing in the future of SMCHS by supporting the formation of tomorrow's leaders.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GIFTS TO THE EAGLE FUND AND OTHER GIFTS TO BENEFIT SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL?

Gifts to the Eagle Fund are unrestricted and are designated to the highest priorities on campus. These funds are used to:

- Maintain Our Campus: Support campus needs and improvements, including the nurse's office expansion, upgraded Dome seating, teacher training for AI integration, and an additional weight room.
- Enhance Student Programs: Support programs and resources that enrich the student's experience.
- Provide Tuition Assistance: Help make an SMCHS education accessible to more students.
- Increase Campus Security: Continue investing in the safety and security of our campus.

Every student benefits from your generosity when you make a gift to the Eagle Fund. Help our Eagles soar to new heights!

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

Each family is encouraged to participate in a way and at a level that is most meaningful to them. Most importantly, all gifts, no matter the size, are valued and deeply appreciated.

In the past three years alone, gifts of $500 or less have added up to over $200,000 in support of the young men and women at Santa Margarita.

CAN I GIVE ONLINE?

One-time donations, as well as monthly recurring gifts, can be made online at **smeaglefoundation.org/ef**. Online credit card contributions are processed via a secure server (PCI DDS compliant).

INVESTMENT IN OUR STUDENTS

WHAT IS AN ANNUAL LEADERSHIP GIFT?

Contributions of $2,500 or more to the Eagle Fund in a single academic year are designated as leadership gifts. Donors who choose to contribute at this level are invited to a special appreciation dinner at the end of the school year to honor their support and commitment.

Eagle Fund Giving Clubs include:

President's Cabinet: $50,000 +
Principal's Circle: $25,000 -$49,999
Circle of Honor: $10,000 -$24,999
Sacred Heart Society: $5,000 - $9,999
Blue and Gold: $2,500 - $4,999
Eagles: $1,000 - $2,499
Wings: $500 - $999
Benefactors: $250 - $499
Friends Up to: $249

*Contributors with lifetime gifts of $25,000 or more will be recognized on the Pursuing Excellence monument on campus in the Strader Family Grotto.



SM12
The Eagle Fund

SM12 - MONTHLY GIVING MAKES AN IMPACT

Join us and become a monthly donor by registering for our SM12 program benefiting the Eagle Fund SM12 contributors make their support throughout the year on a monthly basis via a credit card. These gifts allow a donor to give smaller gifts throughout the year, making a larger impact at the end of the year. With a one-time setup, your gift will automatically be charged to your credit card each month.



Set up monthly giving at:
smeaglefoundation.org/ef



BLUE AND GOLD

Our annual fall gala, Blue and Gold, is the highlight of the school's social calendar and the largest fundraiser of the year. At Blue and Gold, fun and fundraising come together for an incredible evening of dining, dancing, and bidding to benefit Santa Margarita students.

To learn more about sponsorships or to purchase tickets this fall, visit
smeaglefoundation.org/signature-events

EAGLE CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

Eagle Classic Golf Tournament

The annual spring golf tournament in March allows you to support a specific athletic team or program. Participants enjoy a day of golf, followed by an auction and dinner to support student programs.



INVESTMENT IN OUR STUDENTS



THE GIFT OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Through the generosity of many, several privately funded scholarships have been implemented for tuition assistance and are awarded to students based on need. Many families have chosen to establish a scholarship in their family name or in memory of a loved one.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

"I have three kids already graduated from SM and have seen how SM prepared them for college and the job world. SM gave them opportunities and the tools to succeed personally and professionally. Our dedication to SM by volunteering or giving back financially gives us a feeling of pride, community and an investment in the future of our children."

RIMA & FRED TARAZI
CHRISTIANA '17, CHADI '18, RAMI '21, CHARLIE '27

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

BUSINESS ALLIANCE PROGRAM

Our Eagle Corporate Giving Program is a year-round advertising initiative designed to provide your business with true marketing value while providing critical funding to help sustain Santa Margarita Catholic High School's student programs. Participating partners (some listed below) benefit from:

- **Increased multichannel marketing presence** among the over 1,700 current families and nearly 14,000 alumni.
- **Prominent signage and presence** at the 250+ events hosted on campus every year with reach and exposure to thousands of visitors year-round, including digital signage at home football games.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities or to learn more about the Business Alliance Program at Santa Margarita, please contact the Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation at **advancement@smeaglefoundation.org** or **949-766-6080**.







COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

WAYS TO GIVE

GIFTS OF CASH

Most donors find that a personal check is the easiest and most efficient way to make a gift. Check donations are fully tax-deductible and immediately go to work where the funds are allocated.

CORPORATE MATCHING

Many employers offer a matching gift program to encourage support of nonprofit organizations. Matching gifts can double an employee's contribution, doubling the impact of the gift.

CREDIT CARDS

Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted for gifts.

GIFTS-IN-KIND

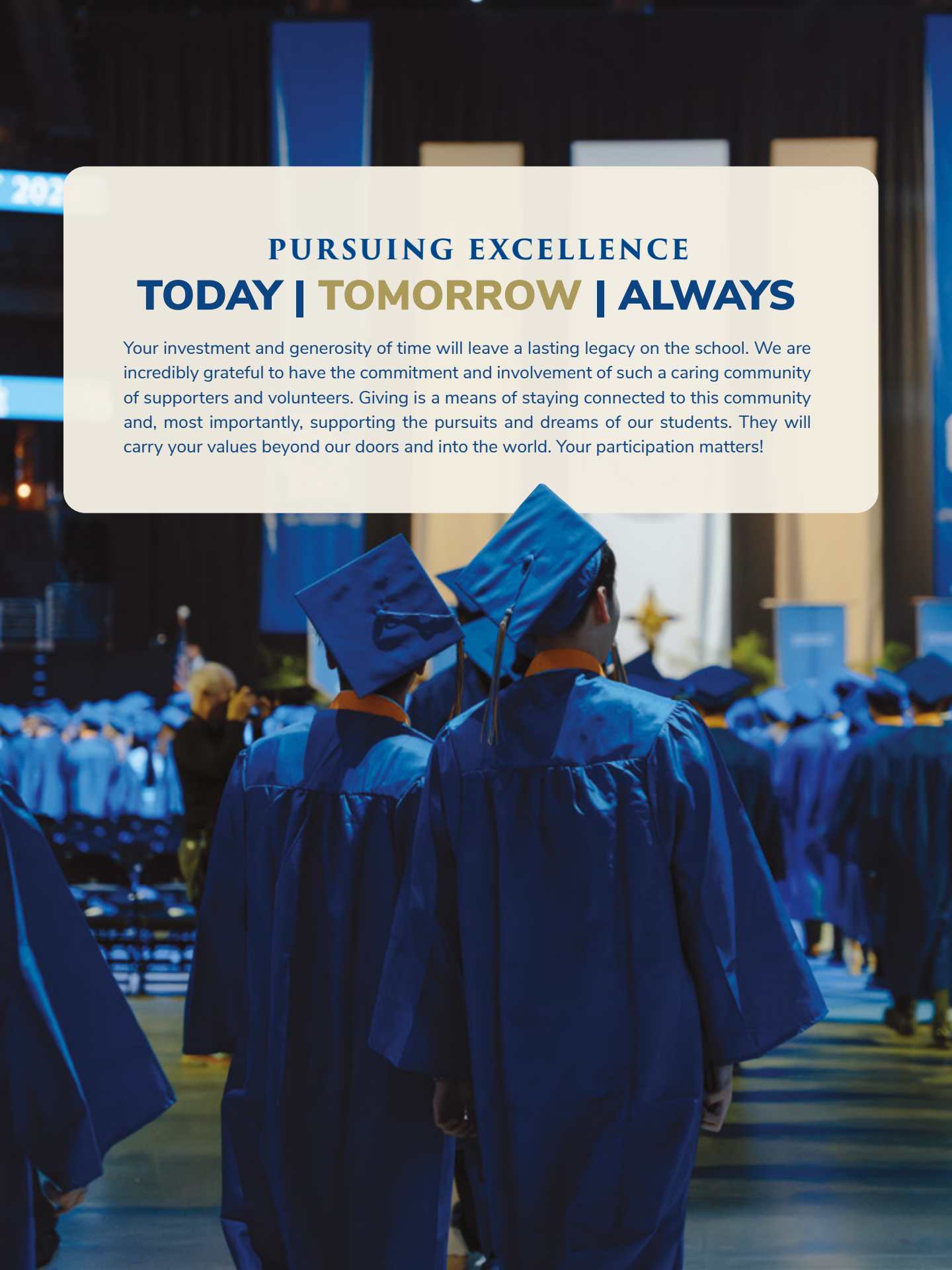
We welcome donations in good condition, including technology, equipment, furniture, and other classroom and school-related items. If in-kind gifts are of immediate use to the school in fulfilling its educational mission, donors may deduct the full fair market value of items as determined by record of purchase or appraisal.

APPRECIATED STOCKS AND SECURITIES

Gifts in the form of stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares that have appreciated in value can provide tax advantages. Donors can receive an income tax deduction equal to the fair market value of the securities as well as reduce or eliminate capital gains taxes on the increased value of their holdings.

ELECTRONIC TRANSFER

A simple way to make monthly or quarterly payments on a pledge gift is through an electronic transfer linked to your credit card and timed at your request.



PURSUING EXCELLENCE

TODAY | TOMORROW | ALWAYS

Your investment and generosity of time will leave a lasting legacy on the school. We are incredibly grateful to have the commitment and involvement of such a caring community of supporters and volunteers. Giving is a means of staying connected to this community and, most importantly, supporting the pursuits and dreams of our students. They will carry your values beyond our doors and into the world. Your participation matters!



Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation

A Foundation for Santa Margarita Catholic High School

For more information, please contact the
Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation Office

ONLINE: www.smeaglefoundation.org | **PHONE:** 949.766.6080

EMAIL: advancement@smeaglefoundation.org

MAIL: Santa Margarita Eagle Foundation
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Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688