

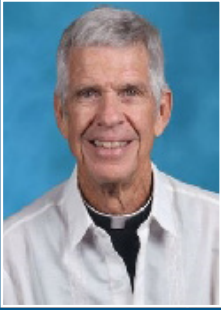


Verbum Dei High School
The Jesuit Work Study College Prep in Los Angeles

Annual Report 2020-2021



“A Year of Resilience”



*Rev. Stephen A. Privett, S.J.
President*

Henry David Thoreau's observation, "it's not what you look at that matters, but what you see" is an apt precautionary note for one viewing Verbum Dei High School's annual report. As you look at the pictures and read the text, take the time to pause, step back and "see" the generosity of spirit and genuine concern for our boys and the future of our planet that motivates the individuals who are featured in this report. See the realization of the dictum of St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, that "love shows itself more in deeds than in words." See the eager faces of our students and their families whose promising future—and that of our society-- so many of you are investing in. See the corporate partners who play a key role in the education we offer and have supported Verbum Dei through the vagaries of a workplace adversely affected by the Pandemic. If you are a recipient of this report, you are a member of the Verbum Dei Community; be sure to see a reflection of yourself and your heartfelt support for the "Watt's miracle" offering a traditional Jesuit education that blends a solid college prep curriculum and faith formation with corporate work experience to young men of color.

We want you to view this annual publication less as a "report" on accomplishments for the past year and more as a grateful celebration of the goodness, generosity and affirmation of life that fuels Verbum Dei. We want you to take a good look and "see" that without your support Verbum Dei could not "prepare young men of color to graduate from college as men-with-and-for others who serve their communities and pursue a more just and humane world for all" (Mission Statement).

And, because of your overwhelming belief in our mission, we made significant progress against a key financial strategic priority of funding a risk appropriate operating reserve approximating six to twelve months of our operating budget". As of June 30, 2021, the Verbum Dei board of directors designated \$3.3MM, to a Board Designated Operating Reserve; \$1.5MM to a Board Designated Working Capital Reserve and the establishment of a Physical Plant Replacement, Reserve & Special Maintenance (PPRRSM) with a current balance of \$116k. Collectively these board designated reserves represent 8.5 months of our operating budget.

Thank you, and I pray that you "see" how grateful the entire Verbum Dei community is for you and your support of our work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steph A. Privett, SJ". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Stephen A. Privett, SJ
President

Our Mission:

Verbum Dei is a Jesuit Catholic, Cristo Rey high school that offers young men from supportive families of limited resources a college prep curriculum, corporate work experience, and faith formation that prepare them to graduate from college as men-with-and-for-others who serve their communities and pursue a more just and humane world for all.



Joe Viola

When reflecting on the past year, it would be impossible to imagine where Verbum Dei High School would be without the support of so many throughout the community. From the resilience of the faculty, staff and students to the incredible support by our corporate sponsors and donors, each Verbum Dei stakeholder has truly exemplified the paramount objective of Jesuit education: “being men and women for others.” Despite the headwinds we faced, the entire Verbum Dei community never lost focus on our mission, which is to provide each student with a rigorous college prep curriculum and work experience through the Corporate Work Study Program.

The positive contributions from so many, individually and collectively, fortified our future as we were able to materially fund our board designated reserves. From remote learning arrangements to vacant offices and a virtual President’s Gala, there was no aspect of life at Verbum Dei left untouched by the global pandemic. Notwithstanding these challenges, Verbum Dei persevered in so many impressive ways but perhaps nothing highlights success better than the Class of 2021 maintaining a 100% graduation and acceptance rate to a variety of esteemed colleges and universities.

While the challenges over the past two years have left an indelible mark on the Verbum Dei community, confronting those challenges head-on provided an opportunity to reflect, to reassess priorities and to double down on the importance of our mission so the challenges our world faces tomorrow can be solved by the future leaders we are educating and mentoring today.

Thank you for all you do to support Verbum Dei High School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JV', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joe Viola

Profile of the Verbum Dei Graduate at Graduation

Open to Growth * Intellectually Motivated * Spiritual * Loving *
Committed to Doing Justice * Work Experienced

Statement of Activities

VERBUM DEI HIGH SCHOOL
July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Revenues:

Tuition/fees	\$423,421
Grant from Catholic Education Foundation	\$412,379
Contributions	\$8,320,429
Payroll Forgiveness & EANS	\$641,586
Other income	\$696,861
	<u>\$10,494,676</u>

Expenses:

Education/instruction	\$2,369,185
Administration	\$1,143,482
Facilities, maintenance and depreciation	\$883,818
Student activities and support services	\$462,268
CWSP	\$545,269
	<u>\$5,404,022</u>

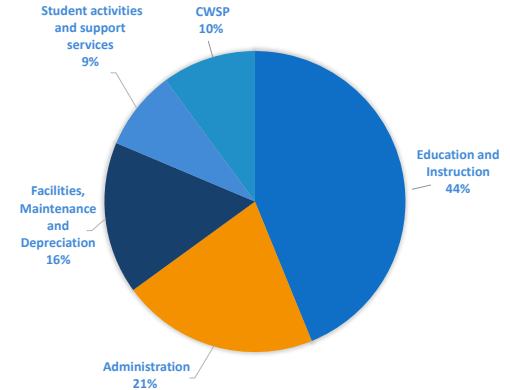
Contributions:

	Total
Individual gifts	\$5,048,884
Corporate gifts	\$561,386
Foundation grants	\$1,949,149
Religious	\$214,270
Events	\$546,740
	<u>\$8,320,429</u>

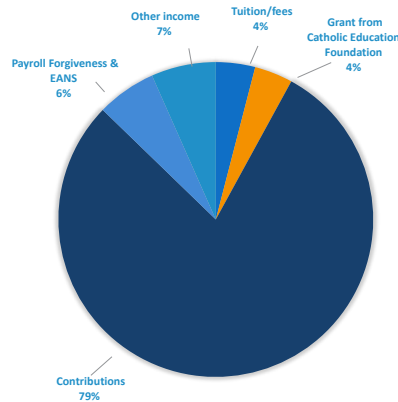
Cash Balances:

PPRRSM	\$116,000
Working Capital Reserve	\$1,500,000
Board Designated Reserve	\$3,300,000
Restricted Cash	\$835,149
Board Designated LT Investment	\$450,000
Deferred Revenue	\$37,244
Unrestricted Cash	\$2,599,638
	<u>\$8,838,031</u>

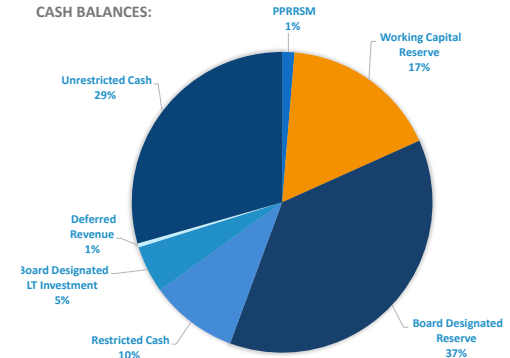
2020-2021 EXPENSES:



2020-2021 REVENUES:



CASH BALANCES:



This has proven to be a remarkable year and we are so proud of the strides our gentlemen have made academically, professionally, and spiritually. The community, staff, faculty, volunteers, students, and parents really stepped up to the plate for the 2020-2021 academic year and will leave an indelible mark of resilience. Yet, as you well know, Verbum Dei High School would not be where it is today without the caring, concern and support of donors like you.

Success Despite Remote Learning

Notwithstanding the challenges put forth to the gentlemen of Verbum Dei this past year student GPA's were above average with 93% achieving over a 2.0 during remote learning. Despite remote learning we were able to hold drive by award ceremonies to honor these successes and held graduation on campus in June to celebrate the resilient class of 2021.



President's Gala

On March 11th, Verbum Dei hosted its first-ever virtual President's Gala in support of our Resilience Fund— funds for the CWSP revenue lost because of the pandemic, for required PPE's, and for additional scholarship support for our families. With over 200 logins and many of those having multiple guests watching from each device we had to over 600 individuals tune in and raised over \$400,000! The highlight of the night was Board member Dr. Frank Luntz's live Q&A with a few seniors and alumni. They spoke about the challenges of living through a pandemic and social injustice while still doing well in school and adjusting to remote learning.



Commitment Day

On May 19th we held our annual Commitment Day Celebration virtually. The students were able to get creative and announce where they were furthering their education while also thanking their parents, teachers, Adopt-A-Student parents, Corporate Work Study supervisors and anyone who aided them in reaching their goals.

The Class of 2021 got into more prestigious universities than ever before and had more scholarship offers than ever before despite the previous 15 months of remote learning and the challenges that lay in applying during a virtual year. We had many students choosing between schools that they never would have dreamed about attending. Amid their quest to become men for others they had to finish their high school careers showing a resilience they did not know they had. With the world changing around them the still had a college acceptance rate of 100%.

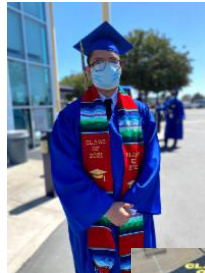


Class of 2021 College Acceptances

Anderson University
Arcadia University
Arizona State University-Tempe
Boston College
Bowling Green State University-Main Campus
Bucknell University
California Baptist University
California College of the Arts
California Lutheran University
California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo
California State Polytechnic University-Pomona
California State University-Bakersfield
California State University-Channel Islands
California State University-Chico
California State University-Dominguez Hills
California State University-East Bay
California State University-Fresno
California State University-Fullerton
California State University-Long Beach
California State University-Los Angeles
California State University-Northridge
California State University-Sacramento
California State University-San Bernardino
California State University-Stanislaus
Cerritos College
Champlain College
Chapman University
Clemson University
Cleveland State University
College of the Holy Cross
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Concordia University-Irvine
Connecticut College
DePaul University
Drexel University
Earlham College
East Los Angeles College
El Camino Community College District
Fisher College
Fresno Pacific University
George Fox University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Georgia State University
Gonzaga University
Grand Canyon University-Traditional Campus
Hawaii Pacific University
Howard University

Humboldt State University
Kansas State University
Kennebec Valley Community College
La Sierra University
Los Angeles Southwest College
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Lycoming College
Marist College
Marquette University
Marymount California University
Maryville University of Saint Louis
Menlo College
Michigan State University
Morehouse College
North Carolina A & T State University
Northern Arizona University
Ohio University-Main Campus
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art and Design
Pace University
Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus
Pepperdine University
Pomona College
Purdue University-Main Campus
Regis University
Sacramento City College
Saint Johns University
Saint Louis University
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Santa Monica College
Seattle University
Southern Utah University
Southwestern Adventist University
St John's University-New York
Syracuse University
Texas Christian University
The University of Arizona
The University of Texas at San Antonio
Universal Technical Institute
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Davis
University of California-Irvine
University of California-Los Angeles

University of California-Merced
University of California-Riverside
University of California-San Diego
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of California-Santa Cruz
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of La Verne
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
University of Nevada-Las Vegas
University of New Haven
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Redlands
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of the Pacific
University of the West
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Walla Walla University
Washington Adventist University
West Virginia University
Whittier College
Woodbury University



Board Members

Verbum Dei High School - Advisory Board 2020-2021

Mr. Joe Viola (Chair)
COO
Crescent Capital

Mr. Jamal Adams
Teacher
Loyola High School

Rev. Stephen Barber, S.J.
Minister
Loyola Jesuit Community

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SMOOTHER

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Vice President
Kearns and Associates

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Founder & President
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President
Verbum Dei High School

Mr. David Seidner
Principal
Cardinal Development Company

Mr. Bill Slocum
Vice President for Mission Advancement
Loyola High School

Verbum Dei is as strong as we are today due to two members of our community that we lost and were honored at our Annual President's Gala. With Scholarships created in their names, they are still supporting VDHS with their legacies.

Richard Wellington "Jack" Lasater II

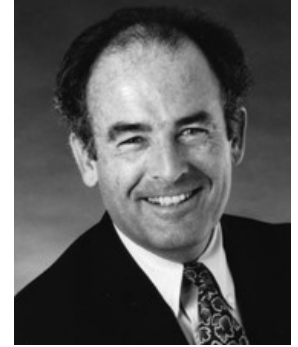
For the past 15 years, Foley and Lardner, where Jack was a partner, has provided student internships for over 50 motivated young men. Jack took special pleasure in mentoring Verbum Dei students. He was their champion and helped them grow from timid freshmen to confident college-bound graduates. Until recently, he attended every Verbum Dei graduation and treated students to an annual "end of year lunch" at the California Club to talk about colleges. He also helped some of the students apply to Stanford University.



Jack lived his life as a "man for others." He was a quiet champion for many people who are better in their station in life because they met him. Jack's death is a loss for the Verbum Dei family, but his generous spirit will always be remembered and continue to have a lasting impact on the school through The Jack Lasater Scholarship Fund.

Gary Philips

For nearly 15 years, Gary was in support of Verbum Dei High School personally and through his firm, Phillips & Associates. In fact, were it not for Gary's advice, Verbum Dei very likely would have closed without his vital tutelage on how to safely navigate cutting \$1,000,000 out of a \$4,000,000 budget during a very trying time while keeping the school open and functioning. Further, Gary went out of his way to help develop the Mission Advancement Office through his time, talents, and finances. He specifically mentored members of the Mission Advancement Office for over ten years helping them grow to raise the largest funds in school history while maintaining some of the highest donor retention rates in the industry.



Gary exemplified a "man with and for others" to all he met. He always made himself available to the staff with a warm smile and a kind word at Verbum Dei and many, many other organizations all across Los Angeles and Orange County. The phrase, "Let's ask Gary," has been uttered in many a Development Office all across Southern California and it truly saddens us all that we can no longer. Yet, by his example, Verbum Dei High School will continue the spirit of his support by helping Verbum Dei students through The Gary Philips Scholarship Fund.



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LEAVE YOUR MARK

by joining Verbum Dei's
Simeon-Leverhant Legacy Society

Your legacy is important. That's why you take time to plan and provide for the people and causes that mean the most to you. If you've included Verbum Dei in your will, trust, or other planned gift, please let us know. We want to honor you with membership in our legacy society, and more importantly, we want to make sure you're thanked today and your legacy is honored tomorrow.



For additional information on Planned Giving please contact Paul Hosch at 323-564-6651 ext. 5100 or visit: www.verbumdeilegacy.us