

July 2014

Dear Parents, Alumni, and Friends of St. Dunstan School,

Welcome to St. Dunstan Catholic School. On August 26, 2014, St. Dunstan Catholic School will commence our 62nd school year serving families in San Mateo County and the wider Bay Area. We are a K-8 elementary school under the Archdiocese of San Francisco. We are the most ethnically diverse Catholic elementary school in the county with a proud past and a promising future.

I have been principal here since 2005. I am proud of our many accomplishments, particularly of our successful graduates who grace the secondary schools of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, the private schools of San Francisco and San Mateo counties, and the public schools of Millbrae. Our professional and experienced faculty and staff are the backbone of our school. In partnership with parents, they have provided excellence in Catholic education and service to mid-peninsula families and surrounding communities.

What do we offer?

- ✓ Comprehensive Curricular and Extra Curricular Program
- ✓ Fully Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Western Associations of Catholic Schools
- ✓ Full Day Kindergarten
- ✓ On staff: Reading Specialist, School Counselor, Resource Teacher
- ✓ Spanish (K-8)
- ✓ After School Chinese Culture and Mandarin Program
- ✓ Strong Standardized Test Score
- ✓ Musical Theater Program (K-8)
- ✓ Fully equipped Technology Lab and Science Lab
- ✓ Strong Acceptance Rate in Area Catholic and Private Secondary Schools
- ✓ Strong emphasis on prayer, service, and moral development
- ✓ Before and After School Extended Care
- ✓ Solid Athletic Program (K-8) in Baseball, Basketball, Volleyball and Track
- ✓ Innovative Athletic Intramural Program for Grades K-3
- ✓ Active Parent Organizations: Advisory Board, Athletic Board, Room Parent Association, Men's Club, Lady Knights Mother's Club, Mother TERESA Service Committee
- ✓ Curriculum Support and Enrichment Programs: Accelerated Reading and Math Program, Art-in-Action
- ✓ Student Online Journal
- ✓ After School Programs: Chess Club, Mandarin Class, Instrumental Music Program, and Ecology Club.

If you are alumni of our school, I ask that you link on to the [alumni menu](#) and register your name, so that we can communicate with you. If you are new to our website and school, I warmly welcome you to our school. Please [contact us](#), sign up

for a principal-led school tour, and join us at our open house scheduled for Sunday, January 25, 2015 starting at 11:00 am. Applications are accepted throughout the year. You can download information from the website. Traditionally, applications for the 2015-16 school year begin in early January. Kindergarten testing occurs in early February and testing for grades 1-7 applicants in early March. Please review the contents of our website or for further information, call our school directly. Our warm and friendly office staff will respond to your inquiries. Normal office hours are 8:00am to 4:00pm. Summer hours are shorted but the office is open each day starting at 9:00am.

As I write this welcome letter, in June of 2014, I want to share some successes of our graduates. Paulina Campos (Class of 2010) graduated in the top three of her class at Mercy High School in Burlingame and will attend Stanford University in the fall. A current honor student and incoming senior at Junipero Serra High School, Isaiah Salinda, (Class of 2011) is a top-flight golfer in Northern California. Stefan Salem (Class of 2011), the student body president during his 8th grade at St. Dunstan, has been elected student body president at Drew College Preparatory in San Francisco. Stefan's sister Victoria, a 2014 graduate of St. Dunstan and a sophomore at Drew Prep, is an outstanding and state ranked gymnast. She has been accepted into a UC Berkeley competitive gymnastics program. Last spring, Camille Chan (Class of 2011) was honored for her work with children during her junior year at Mills High School and is teaching a writing workshop for children this summer entitled the *Power Of Words*. Camille's honor was for earning third place in the *FHA-Hero State Conference Child Development Competitive Recognition Event* in San Diego.

Taylor Shannon, (Class of 2006) and Mercy High Burlingame graduate (class of 2010), graduated with honors this spring from CA State San Luis Obispo with a degree in Physics. She will be working in the private sector on satellite technology. Luigi Lorenzo (Class of 2008) is enrolled at the United States Air Force Academy. Our graduates succeed artistically. After a successful stage and musical experience at Mills High School, Nathaniel Welch (Class of 2008), is playing drums in the orchestra at the world famous Musical Beach Blanket Babylon at the Fugazi Theatre in San Francisco. Numerous graduates are active in secondary school musical and theatre programs.

Another graduate, while in college, discerned a divine calling to join a religious order. Rachael Vogl (Class of 1999) and Notre Dame High School (Class of 2003) while attending Stony Brook University (NY) began a novitiate process leading her to take her final vows in April 2014 with the Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart. She is now Sister Gabrielle Vogl, SDSH. It all started here and of course, with her wonderful supportive family. Not all our families are Catholic, or Christian, as reflective in our diverse student body. Indeed, St. Dunstan has a Non-discrimination Policy. (see below). But **all** our families recognize the value of a faith based education and the moral values it entails.

As you can see, our graduates succeed not only on the secondary level, but also at the university level, enrolling in major universities in California and around the country. You cannot build a house from the top down. You must start at the foundational level. St. Dunstan School builds a solid foundation for its students. St. Dunstan School is a launching pad for success.

Moreover, we have a proven track record for both educational success **and** success in life. Many Bay Area private and public organizations have St. Dunstan graduates in leadership positions serving in schools, hospitals, tech firms, police and fire departments and public offices.

The St. Dunstan exceptional acceptance rate for secondary schools is reflected in the school's the class of 2014. They will be attending the following schools: Nueva High School, Saint Ignatius College Prep, Archbishop Riordan High School, Sacred Heart-Cathedral Prep, Drew Preparatory, Junipero Serra High School, Notre Dame High School and Mercy High School (Burlingame). We also have recent graduates enrolled at Woodside Priory, Crystal Springs, Lick Wilmerding High School, as well as the schools mentioned formerly. Public schools our graduates attend include Mills High School, Capuchino High School, Burlingame High School and San Mateo High School, among other area secondary schools.

If you like what you read here and wish to visit, apply, and enroll at St. Dunstan Catholic School, please contact us via our website related links, by calling (650) 697-8119 or emailing the principal: principal.stdunstan@gmail.com. We are open all year with limited office hours during the summer months. I look forward to meeting and welcoming you to St. Dunstan Catholic School, the school of choice for families living in the Mid-San Mateo County Peninsula region and surrounding communities. We are conveniently located between 101 and 280, right off of El Camino Real in beautiful Millbrae, CA. What are YOU waiting for? Come see for yourself.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bruce Colville, Principal

St. Dunstan Non-Discrimination Policy:

St. Dunstan School, mindful of our mission to be witnesses to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded to or made available to students at St. Dunstan. St. Dunstan Catholic School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color and national and/or ethnic origin, age, sex or disability in the administration of educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school administered programs.