



March 17, 2020

Dear Friend of De La Salle,

We at De La Salle are working hard to address the unprecedented and uncertain situation we all face with the coronavirus pandemic. The health of our students, graduates, their families, staff, volunteers and visitors is our first concern. Therefore:

- In accordance with regional governmental decisions for all schools made yesterday, La Salle Middle School will be closed from Wednesday, March 18, until Monday, April 6, after which time the situation will be assessed. Our STAR Lunch scheduled for Friday, March 20, is cancelled.
- Our **Catch-A-Rising Star Gala** scheduled for April 25 is postponed. We are working to reschedule our event and will keep everyone informed as soon as we know how plans will work out.
- With all schools closed until at least April 6, our scheduled programming and activities are suspended.
- **De La Salle's offices will remain open, and our operations will continue during this period of school closures and restriction, barring any additional obligatory closings.**
- We are discussing emergency initiatives that may be needed to assist our students and graduates and their families with issues caused by this crisis and its confusion. The situations of many people in our service community already place them at greater risk because of economic and other conditions. We must be there for them when others aren't. We will keep you informed of these crisis-related activities.

With this situation in mind, **please consider making a contribution to De La Salle to assist in these initiatives and to sustain our organization for when our regular programming resumes.** Even greater demands will be presenting themselves to make up for missed time. Our eighth graders will still need to be ready for their graduations and start of high school, our high schoolers will still need tuition assistance and our programs to prepare them for their college ACT tests and college placement, and our college students will need to manage the stresses of making up coursework missed amid family concerns.

The loss of our Gala will have an enormous impact on our revenue and capacity to fulfill our work and commitments. At this time of tremendous upset, *please* remember our mission, and continue to support it and the 425 kids and their families we serve.

Your contributions may be sent by mail to our address shown or by clicking the Donate button here to make a gift online. Please help. Any questions can be addressed to Keith Murray, Director of Advancement, at [kmurray@delasallestl.org](mailto:kmurray@delasallestl.org). We shall be providing updated information through special messages and on our website at [www.delasallestl.org](http://www.delasallestl.org).

Thank you and keep well.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Muriel Smith".

Muriel Smith , Executive Director