



Dominican Sisters VISION OF HOPE

visionofhope.org

Winter 2021

Vision of Hope Expands Outreach to Include Parents and Families

One of the most important and essential ingredients for every thriving Catholic school is the parent community. Without parent support, engagement, and participation, a school cannot flourish. Yet with increasing demands on principals and teachers, it can be difficult for school leaders, especially those serving under-resourced communities, to prioritize parent outreach and engagement.



Danny Diaz
Program Manager
Parent Leadership &
Family Engagement

Though we have always recognized strong relationships with parents and families as both a priority and an asset of our school communities, **research indicates that family participation in education is twice as predictive of student academic success as socioeconomic status.**

One of our primary partners for this initiative is the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation in Southern California, which recently awarded Vision of Hope a two-year grant to fund a significant portion of the program for our five schools in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

We are deeply grateful for their support, generosity and belief in our mission.

While this program is beginning with our schools in Los Angeles, we hope to expand this to the Bay Area in the next

Continued on back page

Our Schools Today . . .

Los Angeles Schools

St. Frances X. Cabrini

Students in TK-2nd grade returned November 30 to their classrooms with desks equipped with protective shields. Distance learning continues for other grades.



Sacred Heart

Sacred Heart awaits final approval from the county to begin welcoming TK-2nd grade students back on campus for hybrid learning, hopefully in March. Until then, distance learning continues for all grades.

Santa Teresita, St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Michael's

Distance learning continues in these schools as teachers and parents dialogue about possible reopening in the Spring.

Bay Area Schools

St. Anthony-Immaculate Conception

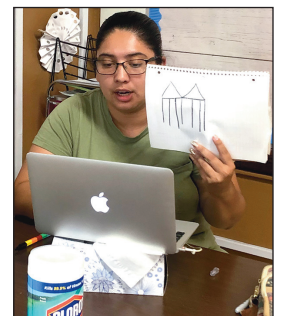
Teachers are currently providing hyflex instruction with some students in grades K-8 in person and other students at home receiving the same instruction in real time.

St. Elizabeth

Distance learning continues. Teachers are preparing to possibly have classes back in person in late February.

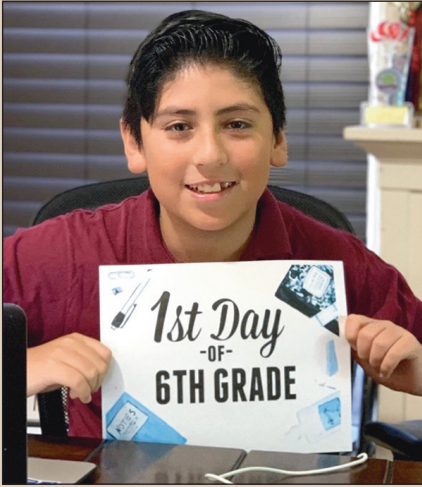
St. James

Grades K-5 are in a hyflex model with teachers and some students in the classroom and other students joining class from home. Grades 6-8 will be added in February.



Join us in praying for our schools and their families as they continue to face the challenges of this pandemic.

Vision of Hope Book of Dreams



Our parents make significant sacrifices to pay tuition, but their contributions do not cover all costs, and each school has needs beyond what parents can afford to pay. "Wish lists" in the annual Book of Dreams offer donors the opportunity to address specific needs of our schools.

Your gift to the Book of Dreams is an investment whose return will be measured by students who graduate from high school and college to pursue meaningful careers and become our leaders of tomorrow.

The complete 2021 Book of Dreams and an online donation form are on our website.

www.visionofhope.org/giving/#book

Sacred Heart School

Macbook Pro computers for teachers (10) \$1,200/each
 Portable hand washing stations (5) \$100/each
 Hands-free sanitizing dispensers (12) \$25/each

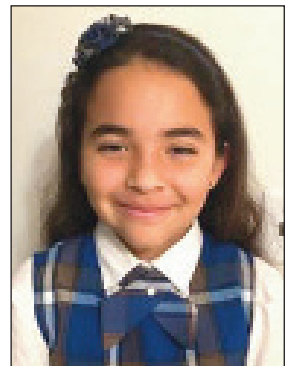
I have attended Sacred Heart since kindergarten and have been inspired by the kindness shown by those who support our school. Their example has helped me realize my ability to help others through small acts of kindness. I believe "what goes around, comes around." Thank you Vision of Hope, Book of Dreams for helping to inspire kindness.
 Paulina Perea, 6th grade



Santa Teresita School

Math/Science/ELA/Religion textbooks.....\$1,500/classroom
 Desk shields \$500/classroom
 School supplies\$100/child

I like our teachers because they are so nice and helpful; some of them make us laugh a lot. Our school helps out the poor with canned food during the holidays, and it has taught me to appreciate everything I have. Thanks to generous donors, the school also helps families that are in need. I want to say thank you for all the support you give to our school to make it better.
 Alma Gamboa, 5th grade



St. Frances X. Cabrini School

Science lab equipment for grades 1-8.....\$3,000
 Twist flexible digital microscope (2) \$350/each
 Education Through Music Los Angeles (K-8) \$75/student

Thank you for helping St. Frances X. Cabrini School! I am happy to be in school with my teacher and my friends.

Kevin Marisal,
 Kindergarten



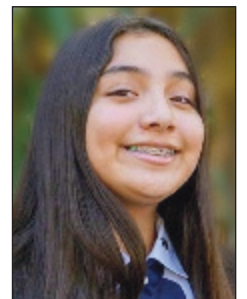
St. Ignatius of Loyola School

Generation Genius K-8 Science Program.....\$1,000
 Educational online programs..... \$200/month
 Tech fee \$50/student

St. Ignatius of Loyola School is truly grateful for the gifts you have made to our school. These gifts have been so helpful, and we cannot thank you enough. Because of you, St. Ignatius is able to continue giving us a great education.

May God Bless you!

Kaeley Adldana, 8th grade



St. Michael's School

Headsets/speakers for teachers\$1,200
 Classroom set novels..... \$500/class set
 Tech fee \$40/student

Thank you so much for your support! TK Science class

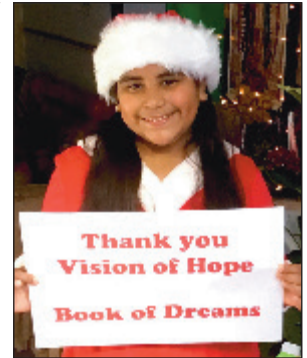


St. Anthony-Immaculate Conception School

iPads for students.....\$300/each
 Magnetic handwriting paper\$31
 Phonetic reading blocks\$25

Thank you Vision of Hope Book of Dreams for supporting our 1:1 iPad program, and helping our families purchase school uniforms.

Alisson Barrera, 3rd grade



St. Elizabeth Elementary School

Electrostatic sprayer to disinfect school building.....\$2,500
 Virtual art program \$500
 Hand sanitizer stands (10)..... \$150/each

I truly appreciate the kindness of all the donors who provide support to students like myself so that I can receive a quality Catholic education.

St. Elizabeth is a wonderful school where I have learned many skills that will help me in high school next year and throughout my life.

Eugenio Ivan Barrales, 8th grade

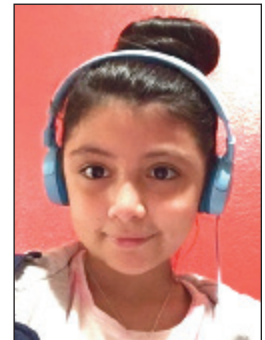


St. James School

Liturgy worship aids and prayer books \$500/year
 One year of music education \$200/student
 Annual online learning platform subscription .. \$40/student

I am thankful for my third grade teacher. I am also thankful for my dog, Smokey, my toys and my future.

Ashley Franco, 3rd grade

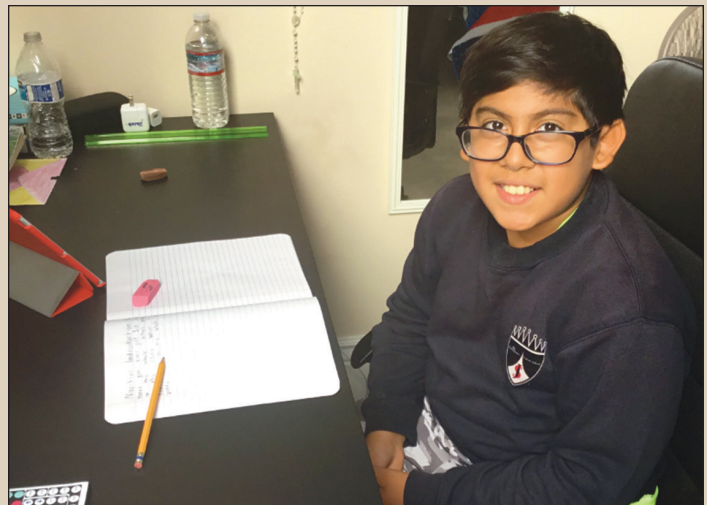


Book of Dreams Tuition Assistance Options

If you would like to support tuition assistance at any one of our schools, we recommend you consider the following amounts based on the average tuition charged for all eight schools:

- \$4,000 covers a full year of tuition
- \$2,000 covers a semester of tuition
- \$1,000 covers one quarter of tuition
- \$400 supports a month of tuition

You may designate your gift to a specific school or you may give to the Vision of Hope Tuition Assistance Fund, which provides tuition support for all eight schools.



www.visionofhope.org/giving/#book



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Parent Leadership, Family Engagement

school year. We see this program as a lasting hallmark for Vision of Hope, representing an investment in the future of our schools and the mission of the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose.

Leading this effort is Danny Diaz, who was recently hired as Vision of Hope's Program Manager for Parent Leadership and Engagement. In this role, Danny will work closely with the principals and pastors of each school to develop and implement the program, and work with parent leaders who have a shared interest in seeing their school grow and improve. Danny will also be working with Sister Georgette Coloumbe, O.P. to establish a team of Dominican sisters to work more closely with each Vision of Hope school on faith formation and support the principal in nurturing the Dominican charism more deeply.

Born in El Salvador, Danny Diaz was ten years old when his family emigrated to the United States and settled in Los Angeles.

"My mom instilled in me the value of education," Danny says. "I worked hard to graduate from high school with honors and pursue college; however, I wasn't awarded any scholarships due to my immigration status, so I worked and studied full-time."

Through personal experience and his professional life, Danny has seen that parental involvement leads to student success.

"I want to model the positive influence my mom had on me for our Vision of Hope students."

Danny's extensive experience in Catholic education has prepared him for this role, having worked as a Consultant for five Catholic schools in the Los Angeles area and as a Family Engagement Liaison for the Catholic Schools Collaborative (CSC) supporting multi-school efforts to deliver workshops in the areas of academics, technology, parent engagement, and socio-emotional support. Danny shares his vision for the coming year, "My strategy is to customize the program by prioritizing needs and cultivating relationships with parents so that they can use their voice to support and advocate for their children and their school community."

Prior to his work with CSC, Danny devoted five years to St. Aloysius Catholic School in Los Angeles as the Director of Marketing and Development. His wife, Mariana, teaches 5th grade at St. Aloysius and leads its middle school STEM program, and their children, Thiago, 2, and Cecilia, 5, attend preschool and TK there.
