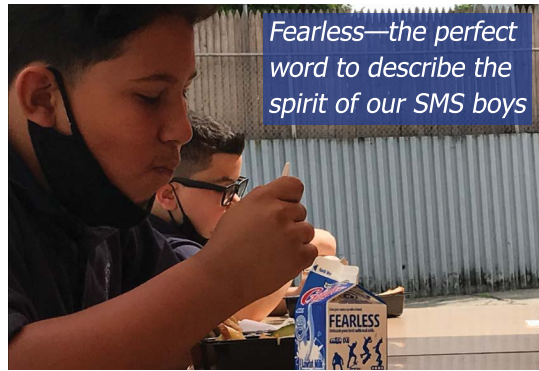


San Miguel School of PROVIDENCE

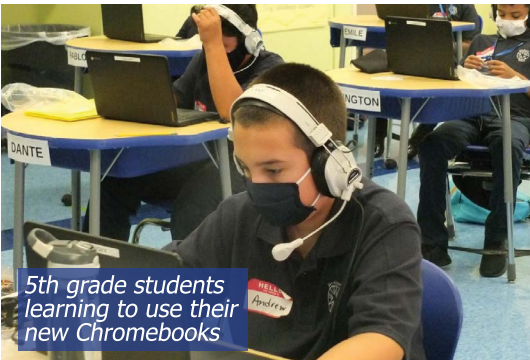


The Boys Are Back!

With equal parts nerves and excitement, the boys and their teachers returned to Branch Ave this month for the first time since March 13. Staggering the start to allow our newest students to have the school to themselves for a day on September 14, the school was full with students in all grades by Thursday, September 17. The building was abuzz with their energy once again. They were so excited to see one another and their teachers. The students responded really well to the new safety rules, which



infection rates, testing capabilities, and in the end, the sheer amount of space we are blessed with on Branch Ave. Thanks to the space in our building, combined with newly created outdoor classroom spaces, we felt we could ensure safe distances for in-person learning. Teachers and students alike were beyond excited to see each other, and our new 5th graders are already feeling at home. With safety and flexibility as guiding habits of mind this year, we are optimistic that the simple act of being together will help us build community and get back to learning. The future may be full of challenges, but we will face them together—students, families, staff and board. Let the classes begin!



include morning intake checks, mask wearing, social distancing and contact only with those in their 'stable group'. Their teachers were able to introduce them to the new classroom set ups and protocols as well. On Friday, September 18, faculty took the day to review the week and tweak any procedures and protocols from week one. How did we get here? Informed by weekly calls with other heads of school and principals as well as RIDE and RIDOH this summer, we designed our back to school plan taking into account

Summer Fun in the Sun!

Although this summer looked vastly different than the action-packed days that we're used to—many of our boys were still able to enjoy the sunshine! Unfortunately, we weren't able to run our annual Camp Miguel and Readiness Camp programs but thanks to the generosity of donors, a handful of students were able to participate in other local summer camps.



Miguel Men were offered a variety of program options to choose from. The Moses Brown School provided a handful



of students with a wide range of sports programming, which included soccer, tennis, and track and field. A few other students had the chance to enhance their footwork skills at the Rhode

Island Stingray Soccer Camp, while another explored the world of design, printing, and engineering at St. Andrew's Robotics Camp (shown left). The Providence Country Day Summer Camp (shown above) was the perfect fit for those who had the desire to focus on more than one activity—between arts and crafts, various hands-on activities, and exploring nature, there was surely never a dull moment!

students responded with one simple answer—a response that perhaps up until now has been taken for granted —**"being outside with friends."** Just the opportunity to be outdoors, enjoying the summer months with the people they enjoy most by their side, was enough for these Miguel Men to be happy. One mother added, "After my son completed his first week of camp, he happily asked to go again—he loved it!" We echo the words of one of our students —"Thank you! Thank you! I can't express how very thankful I am." We, too, are so thankful to all those who contributed to our students' happiness this summer.

When asked about their favorite part of summer camp, there were a variety of exciting answers from "making pottery" and "cooking" to "competing in the high jump and long jump." But the majority of

Founders Legacy Society

Corner: *Highlighting long-time supporters, Frank and Nancy Sullivan*

In the summer of 1993, before San Miguel School opened, Frank Sullivan walked through the doors on Carter Street in the West End of Providence. There, he met Br. Lawrence Goyette, FSC, for the very first time. As Frank describes the meeting, they sat at desks built for primary-grade students and talked about the plans for opening the new school for young boys from Greater Providence. Frank, a graduate of La Salle Academy, has always been inspired by the Lasallian mission and the belief that education can change the trajectory of a person's life. "The charisma of St. John

Baptiste de La Salle started over 350 years ago and is still relevant today," Frank states—one of the main reasons he got involved with the school.



Frank and Nancy Sullivan

In the early years, Frank worked tirelessly to engage donors, foundations and recruit board members. He actively planned fundraisers, networking events, and bolstered donations to the school. He is credited with drafting the first fundraising letter and providing Brother Lawrence with connections in the community to promote the new school. Additionally, Frank and his wife Nancy would open their home at Christmastime each year to welcome staff, board members and potential new donors. It was a grass-roots effort in those formative years that connected the San Miguel mission to many of our donors today. Frank and Nancy's warmth and generosity was infectious and inspired many other like-minded individuals to join in their support of the school. Over the years, Frank and Nancy have remained connected to the school. Frank continues to work on the annual



Frank and Nancy with a group of San Miguel boys at their annual pool party!

gala committee and was instrumental in the 25th Anniversary Celebration. Frank has said that Br. Lawrence had a crystal ball because he could see the future. Frank, too, saw the future back in 1993 and he and Nancy continue to see the future today. Frank and Nancy have named San Miguel School in their estate plans confident that the San Miguel School Mission will continue for many years to come. We are so very grateful for their dedication to our mission. Thank you, Frank and Nancy—we couldn't do it without you! For more information on the Founders Legacy Society, please contact Marybeth Campellone at 401-467-977 x135 or mcampellone@sanmiguelprov.org.

Graduation Goes Virtual

On the evening of Monday, June 8th, the San Miguel School community (virtually) joined together to celebrate the many accomplishments of the Class of 2020. Since maximum occupancy was no longer a factor, the graduation commencement (for the first time ever) was able to be witnessed by all San Miguel students, families, graduates, mentors, donors, staff members, and friends. This would not have been possible without the hard work and forethought of Technology Specialist, Ted MacDonald, Academic Dean, Carol Soltys, and Dean of Students, Taysha Paulo, who meticulously went through the ceremony step-by-step to ensure tradition was upheld and not a single moment missed. Thanks to the masterful skill of Ted MacDonald, the joy and love from our most celebrated night of the year translated through digital format for all to enjoy. Don't worry—it's not too late to celebrate! If you happened to miss this year's graduation, you can access the recording at the link below: <https://youtu.be/oX8cwrznqcs>.



Congratulations to the San Miguel School Class of 2020. Good luck in high school!

Aavin A.

Davies Career and Technical High School, '24

Anderson B.

St. Patrick Academy, '24

Christopher M.

St. Patrick Academy, '24

Brandon G.

The Met, '24

Giovanni S.

La Salle Academy, '24

Juelz L.

Davies Career and Technical High School, '24

Carlos M.

La Salle Academy, '24

Chris B.

Saint Raphael Academy, '24

Ramesses B.

La Salle Academy, '24

Jeremy T.

Providence Career and Technical Academy, '24

Jose B.

La Salle Academy, '24

Josmar D.

La Salle Academy, '24

Kizayah C.

Davies Career and Technical High School, '24

Venance S.

La Salle Academy, '24

Nadim R.

Classical High School, '24

Celebrating Miguel Men from the Class of 2016

Congratulations to the San Miguel Class of 2016 on their graduation from high school! We wish each one of these Miguel Men the very best of luck as they begin their college journeys.



Tommy B.
La Salle Academy, '20
Providence College, '24



Edwin C.
Saint Raphael Academy, '20
Roger Williams University, '24



Richard D.
Saint Raphael Academy, '20
Johnson & Wales University, '24



Roberto D.
NEL/CPS Career Academy, '20
Community College of RI, '22



Andrew F.
La Salle Academy, '20
University of Rhode Island, '24



Chris H.
La Salle Academy, '20
University of Rhode Island, '24



Omar L.
Valley Forge Military, '20
National Guard/CCRI, '24



Hansel M.
La Salle Academy, '20
St. John's University, '24



Nasavell M.
Saint Raphael Academy, '20
Iona College, '24



Joelante M.
Blackstone Valley Prep, '20
Quinnipiac University, '24



Marcos P.
La Salle Academy, '20
University of Rhode Island, '24



Angel S.
La Salle Academy, '20
Rhode Island College, '24



Malachi W.
Paul Cuffee School, '20
Community College of RI, '22



Darius W.
Blackstone Valley Prep, '20
University of Rhode Island, '24



Thao Pao Y.
La Salle Academy, '20
Community College of RI, '22

Board of Directors Welcomes Familiar Faces

One of San Miguel's greatest strengths is its board of directors, and what school is lucky enough to have a board chair come out of retirement to lead the board twice? We were, thanks to Paul Mahoney who has served as board chair for the past two years (following his three year stint from 2005 to 2008). For those of you who know Paul, it will come as no surprise that his leadership was characterized by collaboration, humor, humility, and a deep commitment to the boys' experience. Please join us in thanking Paul for his remarkable service to our school.



Dennis Leamy Jr.

Succeeding Paul is Dennis Leamy Jr, Innovation Manager at Amica and longtime board member, mentor, and volunteer at the school. Known in the community as someone who cares deeply about meeting the needs of all Rhode Islanders, Dennis will lead with humility

and a steadfast commitment to faith and service. As we embark on a historic year ahead (a pandemic and the school's first campaign), we know we are in good hands with Dennis at the helm, supported by Paul and so many others who serve the mission so generously.



Mike Nerbonne

Additionally, San Miguel is thrilled to welcome Mr. Michael Nerbonne, Assistant Head of School at St. Sebastian's School in Needham, MA, to the Board of Directors. Mike, a longtime supporter of San Miguel, brings to the board deep and extensive experience in school leadership and single-sex education. Among other things, he has been instrumental in the St. Seb's Backpack Program, providing backpacks full of school supplies to each and every Miguel Man every fall. Mike's membership on our board further strengthens the important bonds between St. Sebastian's School and San Miguel, two schools that share a deep commitment to all-boys, faith-based education.

Back(pack) to School!

Speaking of the St. Sebastian's Backpack Program, on Monday, August 31, Mike Nerbonne and the program's new coordinator, Jen Walsh and her two sons (both St. Seb's students), rolled up to Branch Ave with 64 shiny backpacks full of school supplies for the boys to start the year! As if there wasn't already enough enthusiasm about coming back to school, the boys will be thrilled to see this welcome image of normalcy as well! San Miguel would like to give a special shout out to Marybeth Persons for her incredible leadership of this important program over the past several years, as well as the generous support of Cathy Daniels, another St. Seb's mom. On behalf of the boys, thank you, St. Sebastian's community!



Living Lasallian

On June 25th, the Lasallian Association of Colleges and Universities (LACU) hosted a panel discussion titled "Responding to Racism; A Lasallian Dialogue". Attended virtually by more than 1600 people from 34 countries, the dialogue was moderated by Brother Ernest Miller, FSC of La Salle University and Frances Sweeney, PhD of St. Mary's College of California. Panelists focused on two questions "As Lasallians, what is our role in working towards transformational justice for all?" and "As Lasallian educators, how do we take care of our students at this time of unrest?" Brother Ernest encouraged us to "take inventory of yourself" and think about what we can do today in our lives and in our schools to work towards a more just society for all, for this is what we as Lasallians are called to do.

Responding to Racism: A Lasallian Dialogue can still be viewed at <https://youtu.be/XabjRfQYvxo>.



We want to thank Paul for his leadership of the PC Mentor program and for his generous donation. Lucky for us, Paul is employed locally and has accepted our invitation to join our Development Committee. Welcome (back!), Paul, and thank you for all you have done for the boys!

This past summer, motivated by the protests happening around the world after the death of George Floyd, Coke Whitworth (*shown below*), photography teacher at Tabor Academy and friend of Mel Bride, decided he wanted to do something in support of racial, social, and educational justice. An avid biker, he decided to ride across Massachusetts, from the NY border to Provincetown, a six-day, 300 mile journey. Coke wanted his ride to benefit organizations working toward social and educational justice, and picked San Miguel. "The more I learned about San Miguel, it's mission and the work it does in the community, the more I knew I wanted to contribute to that work in whatever way I could."



Coke has already raised over \$1,000 for the school! If you would like to say "thank you" to Coke and support the students of San Miguel, please go visit his GoFundMe

page at: www.gofundme.com/f/gofundme-comfride-for-racial-equity-and-justice2 and make your gift today.

If you want to jump on your bike, or commit to that hike you have always wanted to do, while supporting San Miguel, give us a call and we can help you set up your GoFundMe page!

Thank you, Paul and Coke!

Run, Bike, Walk, Hike!

Have you ever wanted to raise money for San Miguel, but didn't really know how to ask your friends for support? With GoFundMe, you can raise money from family and friends while you do what you love—run, bike, walk, hike, whatever you want! Need some inspiration?

Last spring as Paul Kelley (*shown above*) contemplated his graduation from Providence College, he was reminded that one of the things he would miss most was his connection to San Miguel through our San Miguel-PC Mentor program. Paul was introduced to this program in his freshman year, and the time he spent forming relationships with San Miguel students quickly became one of his favorite and most meaningful aspects of his college experience. Paul led the program in his senior year, and as he was preparing his successor to lead the program this year, he realized that he also wanted to leave a personal mark on the program that had so impacted his life.

Having always wanted to run a half-marathon, Paul decided to sign up for the Providence race and raise money for San Miguel. Sadly, the event was cancelled due to the pandemic, but Paul still ran his 13.1 miles for San Miguel because he believes, "Education is an extremely important aspect of life that everyone deserves to have. I've been blessed with the opportunity to pursue my own education and I want to use the platform that I have built to help others pursue theirs." Raising close to \$600, Paul claims that for all that he has given to San Miguel, he feels strongly that he has received even more from the boys in return.

What Are Some Other Ways to Give During this Time?

Make a gift to the **San Miguel Annual Fund**

Ask about becoming a **Student Sponsor**

Join our **Planned Giving Society**

Have a **birthday or anniversary** coming up? Ask friends and family to give a gift that keeps on giving by making a donation in your honor!

Send us a video with a message for the boys that we can share at **Morning Assembly**

Follow us on **Facebook and Instagram**, share posts and invite others to follow us

Sign up for **AmazonSmile** and designate San Miguel as the beneficiary

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