



# Alumni NEWS



## Learning to Navigate Unprecedented Times

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### Summer 2020

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# From the Principal



## What We Learned from COVID-19 Disruption:

This global pandemic forced the entire world to experience some form of uncertainty and learn new ways to exist. I'm so proud of how everyone at St. Anthony High School has handled this difficult time. If we look to find a silver lining in this situation, we could say that we have all been pushed out of our comfort zone in one way or another. From my vantage point as a father and high school principal, I've observed the following over the past 10 weeks.

- We learned that our teachers, students, and parents adapted to remote learning better-than-expected.
- Many families were fortunate to re-discover the value of family time with game nights or family meals.
- As a nation, we participated in a global effort to self-sacrifice and shelter in place to help protect the vulnerable and at-risk population.
- Adults and kids alike have a greater appreciation for face-to-face communication and personal connections.
- We are learning to have peace with what we cannot change.

The last one is tough for all of us but particularly now for our senior students. It is certainly disappointing that they have missed creating those final school-day memories with friends, participating in springtime sports, and dealing with the uncertainty of a final graduation ceremony as well. Each student seems to be handling things with the grace and dignity of a St. Anthony High School graduate. Thank you for making us all so proud.

### Serenity Prayer:

*O God and Heavenly Father, Grant to us the serenity of mind to accept that which cannot be changed; courage to change that which can be changed, and wisdom to know the one from the other, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

Sincerely in Christ,  
**Greg Fearday,**  
Principal

## Campus Ministry Team Creates Virtual Activities for Students

During this challenging stay-at-home time, one of our campus ministers, Mrs. Katalyn Bourgeois, wanted to provide some fun activities for our students. The idea was to organize quick and fun activities for students to complete themselves, or with their siblings. We wanted to remind them that one can create positive moments from this. Most importantly, we wanted to affirm that despite all of this unknown, God will prevail! Enjoy some of these fun activity photos!



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Send us your updates to: [Alumni@StAnthony.com](mailto:Alumni@StAnthony.com) or  
**St. Anthony Development Office • PO Box 764 • Effingham, IL 62401**

# The Catholic Education Advantage!

How are we making a difference in the live of students?

An important mission for St. Anthony of Padua Parish is Catholic Education and Formation. At St. Anthony High School, we strive to help our students achieve both academic success, and cultivate the skills for long-term success in life. These skills include instilling a love of the Catholic faith and community service, and teaching moral values and strong work habits.

We believe our students are well-prepared for their next level of education, or to tackle the workforce with a strong educational foundation. Our students are blessed to have faith in the classroom every day. In addition to our academic offerings, students also have the opportunity for technical, healthcare, and business skill training through programs such as CTEC, Health Occupations, and CEO. We are proud to partner with community programs and offer such a variety of educational opportunities for our students.

While Catholic formation is our focus, St. Anthony High School also has a long history of academic success. For our 2019 graduates, their average ACT score was 25.5, versus a national average of 20.7 and a statewide average of 24.3. The college acceptance rate was 89.3%. Of those students who matriculated to college, 31% selected a two-year college, and 63% entered a four-year college.

The top three schools of attendance for the Class of 2019 included:

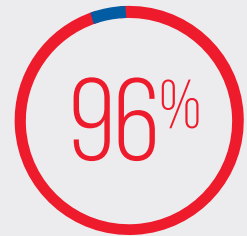
- Lake Land College (10 Students)
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (5 Students)
- Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville (5 Students)

In fact, of the students who chose to attend Lake Land College, 40% received Lake Land's Presidential Scholarship covering two years of full tuition. In total, the cash value of scholarships accepted by 2019 graduates was over \$500,000. Additionally, these same graduates earned approximately 312 college course credit hours through dual credit courses and AP test scores, saving close to \$185,000 in college tuition.

Each year our students continue to be blessed by developing and utilizing the abundant gifts upon which they were bestowed! We are so proud of them and grateful for the opportunity to help them grow closer to God. None of this is possible without the prayers, volunteerism, and financial support from our parishioners and alumni.

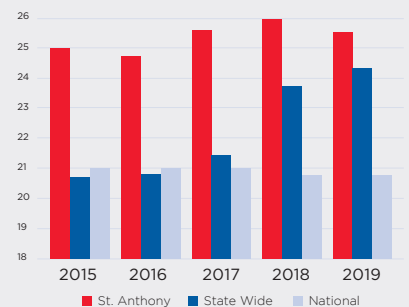
Thank you for all of your support in helping us provide the ongoing excellence of a Catholic Education advantage at St. Anthony High School!

*\*Data references SAHS graduating class of 2019.*



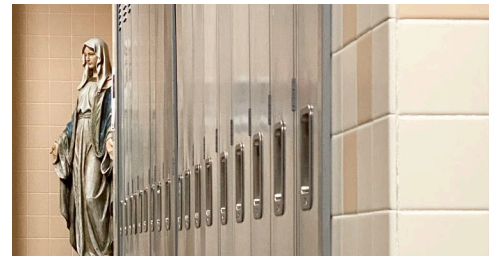
of graduates last year were  
**COLLEGE-BOUND**

Our average ACT scores are  
**CONSISTENTLY HIGHER**  
than state & national averages



2019 graduates accepted over

**\$500,000**  
IN SCHOLARSHIPS



## Cover Story

# Learning to Navigate Unprecedented Times

The global pandemic of COVID-19 has disrupted our lives in countless ways. Our classrooms, hallways, and MPR were all empty and dark. Our sports and spring extra-curricular activities were taken away from us. Despite all of the changes and disappointments, our commitment to education - Catholic Education - did not change. It was encouraging to see all of the students, teachers and students step up to the challenge. Even with the social distancing challenges, everyone made the best of the situation.

### Remote Learning:

Effective mid-March, the State of Illinois suspended in-person education. Educators across most of the United States were forced to adapt their curriculum to remote learning. Educators also had little time to figure out how to teach to a computer screen and keep everyone engaged. Despite the expected ups and downs, it was a pleasant surprise at how well everyone adapted. It is truly amazing how quickly everyone settled into things and how technology platforms like Zoom helped to make things easier. We have always believed that technology played an essential role in education. Now, our experience with e-learning confirmed this even more.

## NEW GRADING PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19

GRADES ARE TYPICALLY CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

40% QUARTER 3  
40% QUARTER 4  
20% SEMESTER EXAM

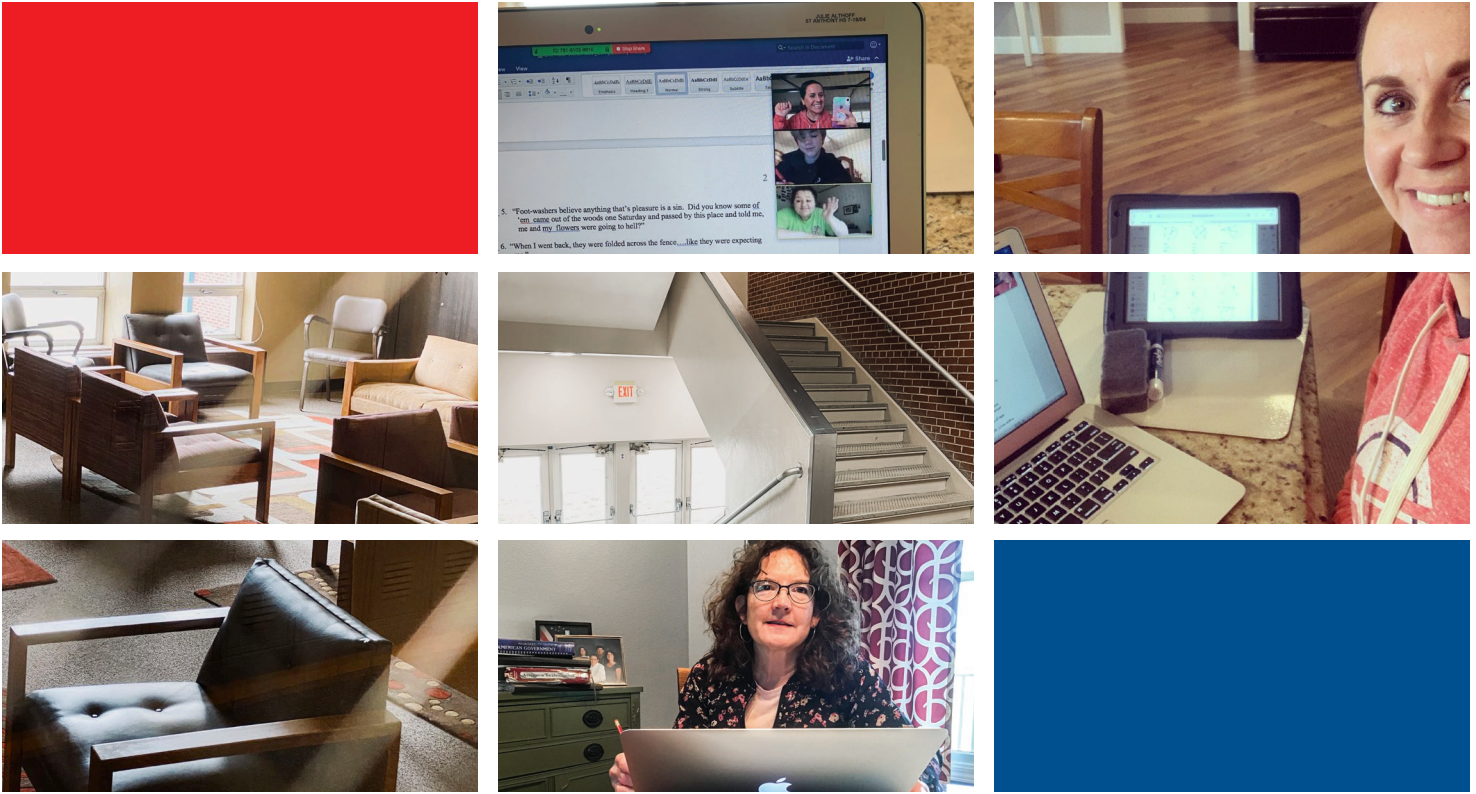
THIS SEMESTER WE HAVE CHANGED TO:

67% QUARTER 3  
33% QUARTER 4

Cumulative exams are not mandatory for all courses; however, some teachers have opted to give them, in which case the exams will be calculated as part of the 4th quarter grade.

Students will be given an option to appeal their semester grades should they fall two or more steps lower than their quarter 3 grade.





**Here is what some of our teachers had to say about their experiences with e-learning:**

"I was really impressed with the ability of the teachers & students to quickly adapt to a whole new format for learning. Students remained engaged with learning the curriculum needed for future success in their chosen path. Learning new content is never easy and everyone made the best of the situation!"

**- Principal Greg Fearday**

"My teaching changed significantly during the stay-at-home. Early on, I decided that this unprecedented situation would change my expectations of my students. While I still expected assignments to be completed and videos to be watched, I allowed students more flexibility. Instead of having daily videos, I opted to share teaching videos twice a week so students could have time to watch them and take notes. I did not require them to log on and be "live" for these videos. My pre-recorded videos could be accessed anywhere with internet, and did not need to be downloaded to be viewed. Also, I gave more time than usual to complete assignments and tests. All of these changes had the goal of easing stress so that students would not feel pinched for time. While we did not cover the same amount of information as we would have in class, I am pleased with our pace during the time of e-learning."

**- Mr. Matthew Green, Theology**

"My favorite and most valuable thing I did was to simply ask students to write about how they were doing spiritually, emotionally, physically, and mentally. I shared my own experience with them just to show that it is okay to struggle and it is okay to have good days. It was very eye opening to hear what they had to say about this crazy time. Many had struggled at the beginning but then had sweet stories of extra time spent with siblings home from college or board games every night with their parents—time and memories that they would not have had without this new normal. It was nice to see them look at this from a mature and positive standpoint."

**- Mrs. Ashley Jansen, English**

# Fr. Mark Makes the Polar Plunge for St. Anthony Schools



During quarantine, Fr. Mark issued his own version of the Ice Bucket Challenge on Facebook - For every \$500 donated to our Annual Fund, Fr. Allen would pour one gallon of ice cold water over Fr. Mark's head! If the goal of 10 gallons (\$5000) was reached, Fr. Mark promised to do a polar plunge and jump into an ice cold lake!



In the end, the St. Anthony social media community rallied together and raised more than \$7500 for the Annual Fund! Thanks to all of the generous donations, Fr. Mark executed the Polar Plunge beautifully.

**Today's** gift will make a difference **Tomorrow**

**100% of your donation stays with St. Anthony Schools and helps:**

- Keep Tuition Affordable
- Retain Quality Teachers
- Decrease our Deficit
- Ongoing Improvements

*and more!*



**Donate online at:**  
[stanthony.com/annualfund](https://stanthony.com/annualfund)

Contact Carrie Koenig, Director of Operations, at (217) 347-7129 or [ckoenig@stanthony.com](mailto:ckoenig@stanthony.com) to discuss other ways you can make a difference in the life of a St. Anthony student.



# Alumni Updates

## In Memoriam

### Maureen (Imming) Broeker ('55)

passed away December 10, 2019

### Kathleen (Dust) Barr ('71)

passed away February 15, 2020

### Arthur Ruesken ('41)

passed away March 6, 2020

### Phyllis (Sur) Utz ('57)

passed away March 11, 2020

*Saint Anthony*

# PARISH PICNIC

## Saturday & Sunday

## Aug 8th-9th



# Hall of Fame

Due to Covid-19, the honoring of St. Anthony's **2019 Hall of Fame Inductees** and the presentation of the 2019 Booster Club Member of the Year has been postponed until next year at the 2021 Spring Gala. For more information visit our website at: [StAnthony.com/HallofFame](http://StAnthony.com/HallofFame)



## 2019 Hall of Fame Inductees



### Alumni

Frank Kabbes



### Faculty

Patti Devall



### Friends

Hugh and Mary  
McHugh Family



### Athlete or Teams

2001 and 2002 Men's Golf Teams



### Booster Club Members of the Year

Grant & Molly Bushue  
and Caleb Mette



Press On to the Goal Philippians 3:14

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23rd ANNUAL  
ST. ANTHONY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
**CORVETTE  
RAFFLE**



# WIN



# & CHOOSE

grand prize choices include:

**2021 CORVETTE**

- Coupe or Convertible or
- MSRP \$83,000

**\$65,000  
CASH**



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