



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is it necessary to expand and renovate St. Joseph High School?

St. Joseph, a superior Catholic high school, has cultivated scholarship, developed discipline and nurtured spiritual growth for over 140 years. Our sole focus is to educate and form young men and women as faith-filled, service-oriented, Christian leaders with the highest-caliber college preparatory instruction, curriculum and co/extracurricular activities on an historic, meticulously-maintained campus featuring invigorating learning environments and state-of-the-art technology.

Space constraints and aging facilities impede our fulfillment of our school mission. There has been an increase in enrollment resulting in many teachers sharing instructional space, and/or floating from classroom to classroom. Classrooms are filled to capacity. In addition to space limitations, the current condition and quality of the existing classrooms is an issue. The school lacks language labs, and the applied science labs are not consistent with a strong program designed for today's college-bound students.

Currently, there are some classrooms with no computer access and many with limited technology. In addition, high tech presentation of class material cannot be accommodated throughout the school.

An amazing 80% of the current 410 students enrolled participate in at least one team sport. Unfortunately, the "new" gym was designed to accommodate 220 students and the 'old' gym, while still used as a practice facility, is something of a relic with limited functionality.

The current space for theater, music, choral and journalism is inadequate, and does not allow for additional offerings or innovative curriculum. Currently, the 'new' gym, built in 1983 and used for several purposes including weekly Mass, is inadequate for the number of students

enrolled and not conducive to religious rites and celebrations, parent meetings, and other assemblies.

What is the plan for expansion and enhancements of St. Joseph High School?

Existing classrooms within St. Joseph need to be improved and renovated to better utilize current space as well as improve cost and energy efficiency. Computer and internet connectivity in every lab will allow faculty and students to remain up to date with professional development and research opportunities, and encourage consultation with local and global experts.

Updated computer technology will be added to the campus so that students can access high-quality computers throughout the day. The availability of these computers (laptop and desktop) will allow greater connectivity between work done at school and at home. Wireless connectivity will be added throughout St. Joseph, allowing students and faculty to operate laptops anywhere on campus.

A new Multi-Purpose Building will allow for several activities to occur simultaneously and provides the space needed for additional classrooms, and, specifically, enhanced offerings in the fine arts program. The additional space will ease classroom crowding and facilitate scheduling challenges associated with multiple co/extracurricular offerings. This facility will also provide a spacious and appropriate venue for all-school Masses, assemblies, parent meetings, Graduation, Homecoming and other activities. The proposed multi-purpose facility will contain additional classroom space, a large multi-purpose room for fine arts programs, and additional gym space.

Will tuition go up as a result of these renovations and enhancements?

The increased operating costs of the new facilities will be offset with an endowment earmarked for this purpose. This will ensure that the families of current and future students of St. Joseph High School will not have to shoulder above average tuition increases.

What was the process that determined that St. Joseph needed a Capital Campaign?

St. Joseph High school is experiencing record high enrollment and is consequently faced with many challenges that limit our ability to maintain and grow academic excellence. In preparation for the future and in response to these immediate challenges, St. Joseph began to explore, identify, and prioritize the most pressing needs of the school community through a Needs Assessment process. This Needs Assessment process solicited feedback from parents, alumni, staff/faculty and students.

Following the Needs Assessment, a Planning Study was conducted by Mission Advancement Partners (MAP) to assess the feasibility of successfully conducting a capital campaign to raise \$11 million for St. Joseph High School.

To implement the study, the MAP team conducted a total of 55 confidential interviews in November 2008. MAP conducted 50 face-to-face interviews and 5 interviews by telephone. Study participants were selected collaboratively by members of SJHS staff and administration

along with MAP representatives, and are individuals whose participation would be critical to the success of the proposed campaign.

Who is conducting this campaign?

St. Joseph's Board of Directors is behind this campaign 100% and ready to assume the roles asked of them. Along with the Board, your Advancement staff and Administration staff will play an active role in stewarding donors and keeping all of you abreast of our progress. In addition, professional campaign counsel from Mission Advancement Partners will work with St. Joseph High School throughout the duration of campaign.

What is the campaign goal?

We launched an initial silent phase beginning February of 2009 and we are currently in the public stage of the campaign. The preliminary campaign goal is \$6.5M.

What is the timeframe of the campaign?

The capital campaign began in February 2009 and we hope to reach our goal by Homecoming 2011.

Who will be asked to contribute to this capital campaign?

Every member of the St. Joseph High School family-staff, faculty, Board, parents, grandparents and alumni, as well as the Victoria community, will be given the opportunity to participate in this capital campaign. Everyone will be given the opportunity to be part of building the legacy for St. Joseph High School.

How are we being asked to contribute to this campaign?

Everyone will be asked to consider making a three-to-five year pledge.

Is my pledge legally binding?

A pledge is a moral rather than a legal obligation. It is hoped that you would continue payments on your pledge. Timely progress of the building project depends upon your commitment to the project and fulfilled pledges.

Are Commemorative Naming Opportunities available?

Yes. A list of Commemorative Naming Opportunities will be available. Suggested prices are based on their uniqueness or particular location in the new areas of the school, not on actual cost. These Naming Opportunities provide the donor with the opportunity to have his or her name, the name of a loved one, permanently identified with that of the new St. Joseph High School.

How will gifts and pledges to the Capital Campaign be collected?

Pledge commitments will be made to the St. Joseph High School. The school will send acknowledgement letters for all pledges, handle all bookkeeping, mail pledge statements and prepare annual tax statements for the three-to-five year pledge redemption period.

If someone has additional questions about St. Joseph's Capital Campaign, whom should they contact?

All questions regarding the campaign should be directed to Anna Holladay, Director of Advancement, *St. Joseph High School* at **361.573.2446**.

Is my contribution tax-deductible?

Yes. All contributions are tax deductible in accordance with federal law. You will receive appropriate substantiation for your contribution. Please consult with your personal tax advisor.