



# ELIZABETH SETON HIGH SCHOOL

5715 Emerson Street Bladensburg, MD 20710

August 24, 2016

Greetings Parents,

Can you feel it? The excitement builds as the 2016-2017 school year at Elizabeth Seton begins. We are kicking off a year filled with endless possibilities as Seton continues its tradition of educating our girls and developing leaders. There is much that goes into making Seton special and as the year begins we would like to honor the Daughters of Charity who founded the school and have been a driving force behind its success. The celebration is also an opportunity to thank them for yet another generous donation gift in the form of a matching gift to the Scholarship fund. The fundraising challenge for this will wrap up at the Celebration of the Daughters of Charity taking place, here at Seton on Wednesday, Sept 14, 2016 at 6PM. As one of the honorary chairs, I invite each of you to attend and celebrate with us.

For those who have not yet met me, I am the mother of Joelle Everett, a member of the class of 2017. My husband and I have watched her grow and blossom over the past few years in this tight knit and supportive Seton community. Allow me to take you on a quick trip down our memory lane. We think back to the open house we attended while she was still in middle school. We were all struck by how passionate the tour guides were about their school and the many things that Seton had to offer. We remember vividly how excited and enthusiastic she was when we picked her up from her shadow day. She could not contain herself. She loved the atmosphere and was impressed by the quality of discussion in each class she visited and how much the teachers seemed to care about the students. When her acceptance came there was no question that she was Seton bound. We remember dropping her off on that first day in her brand new uniform...she got out of the car tentatively and waved and walked hesitantly into the school. During the first few days there were a few tears as she learned to navigate the hallways and juggle the mountain of books in her locker and the even bigger mountain of assignments from her classes. It seemed like we blinked, three years has passed, and that shy little girl has been transformed. She is now a proud member of this year's senior class. Her academic experience in the Engineering Program has been phenomenal. She has been involved in all aspects of the school from being a student Ambassador to participating in student government to being a member of the dance team. She took a trip to Peru with Seton students and faculty and had an opportunity to do a summer internship at Whiting Turner. Her service hours have involved volunteering with homeless families. All of these

experiences have contributed to her developing as a “Seton girl”. What is a Seton Girl? That is a brand our girls wear well...young women who are intelligent, self-assured, caring, passionate, leaders and change agents. Parents, take your own trip down memory lane and think about ways that your daughters have grown and benefited from her Seton experiences. For parents of the class of 2020...know that sky is the limit on what your daughters will achieve here.

That is precisely what the Daughters of Charity had in mind when they founded Elizabeth Seton in 1959. The school’s vision is, “The young women of Elizabeth Seton High School will become more confident, creative and compassionate. Their love for God and others will empower them to lead, to collaborate, and to serve in the spirit of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Vincent de Paul, and St. Louise de Marillac.” The Daughters of Charity are also professional educators who have been steadfast in creating an educational program with high academic standards. Their mission has been to provide a strong quality Catholic education. Elizabeth Seton has been selected as one of the nation’s exemplary private schools by the Council for American Private Education, and has been recognized by The Washington Post as one of the top thirty local high schools. The academic offerings continue to expand and challenge the students who leave for college well rounded and well prepared.

The commitment of the Daughters of Charity to Elizabeth Seton High School lies not only in implementing a firm mission for the school, but also in providing funding. In the last eight years, the Daughters of Charity have blessed the school with over \$3 million dollars in addition to the in-kind services of the sisters. It is clear that they are as committed to the girls as you are and we therefore have much for which to be thankful and about which to rejoice.

The Daughters of Charity have done much for our school. So come out and join us for this special event and bring your daughters too. Not only will this be a fun evening, but it will be a great opportunity for the students to meet and thank the Sisters in person. The event is coming up soon so purchase your tickets today. If you are not able to attend in person, do send your best wishes and use the link to make a donation. This is a celebration that everyone can take a part in. Your ticket/donation will help us make the match and give tribute to the Daughters of Charity thereby ensuring that Elizabeth Seton High School continues to transform the lives of the girls entrusted to it.

With warm regards,

*Nina F. Miles Everett, MD*

Nina F. Miles Everett, MD

Honorary Chair