



St. Francis de Sales High School

Sales Talk

October 2018

Why Journalism Matters

By Mr. Sanchez

"The less you know, the more you believe."

Whether writing for a high school paper or the New York Times, journalists have a immeasurable and invaluable responsibility to the readers they serve: to inform them.

True freedom of thought and action is contingent on having unfettered access to the facts, to the truth, and that is what journalists ideally provide.

In this sense, newspapers serve as the eyes and ears of the people, so that they may have a more informed and therefore a more effective voice.

There is many ways to change the world, but to paraphrase a famous quote—journalism may be the best short term weapon for doing so.

Biggest Freshman Class in Years

By Paola Serrano



There were two women working diligently in the office. Both discussing marketing strategies for the school. In the background there was the sound of the speedy clicking of keyboard keys that registered their ideas. It is the office of Mrs. Ramirez, Director of Community Relations.

Mrs. Ramirez has been marketing and recruiting students for St. Francis de Sales since 2014. This year, the enrollment for the Freshman Class is on the rise. When asked, "how does last year's freshman class compare to this year's class?" Mrs. Ramirez replied, "I believe last year was the smallest freshman class we've had. In this past year alone we have grown considerably. This is actually the largest freshman class we've had in awhile,"

Mrs. Ramirez continued to explain that this year's freshman class has 33 students, the largest in five years. As a point of comparison, the Freshman class last year had only 20 students.

In terms of to what she attributes this welcomed spike, Mrs. Ramirez replied, "It's been a combination of the same people being in the same positions for the past four years. As you know, Mr. Sanchez and I are primarily the ones who go out and talk to students during school visits and high school fairs. Having people see the same face shows them that our school has structure and stability."

Mrs. Ramirez is a very busy individual, always looking for ways to attract new students. When asked what she feels are

the biggest challenges when it comes to recruiting new students, she replied, "There are so many different factors that come into play when a young teenager is deciding where to go to high school. In the past, our only competition was other catholic high schools but now we compete with charter schools, magnet schools, selective enrollment schools, and public schools that have recreated their image, just to name a few. Having that many choices presented to a student doesn't give catholic schools the same amount of attention that they used to."

According to Mrs. Ramirez it is the faculty and staff that make the greatest effort in to making the school a better place. She credits their effort to making SFDS students with their high school choice.

What's Inside

IMPORTANT DATES

VB-Senior Night/Pink	10/16
Open House	10/20
Picture Re-take	10/24
ACT	10/27
No School-All Saints	11/1
Parents Club Meeting	11/8
Thanksgiving Break	11/22-23

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See Who's New At SFDS

By Roman Perez

Interviews:

During the first week of October, I set out to interview the four new staff members at St. Francis de Sales HS: Mr. Santaquilani, Mrs. Reyes, Mrs. Hahn, and Mr. Siegel. They each bring interesting stories with respect to their youth, past work experiences, and hobbies. Read on to learn more about our new staff!



Mr. Santaquilani: Latin and Human Anthropology Teacher, Room 107

Mr. Santaquilani was born in France and then later moved to Gary, Indiana where his mother was from. He was raised in Gary and Crown Point, Indiana, and attended Andrean High School and Merrillville High School. After graduating high school, Mr. Santaquilani went to Indiana University where he received a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Classical Studies (the study of Latin and classical Greek language, history, and literature). Mr. Santaquilani also holds a Master's of General Humanities from the University of Chicago. He started his teaching career in 1997 and has taught high school and college students, substituted in elementary and middle schools, and tutored students in humanity fields such as art, history, or civilization.

Aside from his professional life, Mr. Santaquilani also has some interesting hobbies. His main hobby involves classic sculpting with clay or woodworking. Currently, he is working on a project for a client

that he expects done soon. Mr. Santaquilani is also a handyman at his home, a carpenter of sorts, as he feels it's important to know how to fix things because it saves money. Mr. Santaquilani also likes to read classical studies and likes to run a few miles early in the mornings. His favorite book is "Aeneid" by Virgil, a Roman poet, because he has learned so much about Rome in that book.

Some more interesting facts about Mr. Santaquilani:

What scares him?: The future
Favorite holiday?: Christmas
Favorite subject to teach?: Latin

Favorite color?: Maroon (Go UChicago!)

Mrs. Reyes: Registrar and Transportation Director, Main Office

Mrs. Reyes was born and raised in Chicago's North Side neighborhood before she moved to the South Side at around 7 years old. She attended St. Francis de Sales Grammar School (what?! Yes, we had a grammar school before) and then went on to attend Mother McAuley High School. After graduating high school, Mrs. Reyes went to Central States Ser to work in the field of clerical work. She started her work in higher education 17 years ago, working at Chicago State University (CSU) for 13 ½ years and the School for the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) for 2 ½ years. Her favorite place (so far) was at Chicago State University because she was helping out the neighborhood, her neighborhood, and she was making a difference. She has also volunteered at DeLaSalle

Institute.

Outside her professional life, Mrs. Reyes enjoys time with her family. The Reyes family likes to be active by doing some of the following: Zumba, bike-riding, dancing, fishing, hiking. Mrs. Reyes likes the outdoors, and takes advantage of Eggers Grove that's nearby for lots of activities. (Speaking of, Trunk-or-Treat is October 28 at Eggers Grove!). Aside from outdoors stuff, she also likes to experiment with new foods. To me, experimenting with new foods is fun. Maybe you'll find something you like, or maybe you learn what to avoid. It's a win-win situation (except for your wallet).

Something Mrs. Reyes likes about St. Francis is the fact that it's close to home. One reason Mrs. Reyes misses CSU is because she felt like she was helping out the neighborhood and its people. However, she gets a similar feeling being here at St. Francis and helping us out in the East Side. She works to better the neighborhood and immerses herself with the neighborhood and its activities. The Labor Day Parade, for one, is something she has now watched as a child and participated in as an adult.

To Mrs. Reyes, Chicago just brings a history of, well, history. Something happened somewhere in this city, and that just amazes her. Chicago, starting off as just grass and mud, is now skyscrapers and Lake Shore Drive; Where the steel mills once were in the South Side is now the new US Route 41 extension; Where Midway Plaisance is was the World's Fair in 1893.

The South Side, as well, is full of history that Mrs. Reyes shared with me. When she arrived to the South Side, her dad was recently laid off by the steel mills as the steel mills started to close. Before, South Chicago had it all: stores, restaurants, halls, dances, parades, etc.... What was left after the Steel Mills closed was deteriorated grounds where there was no access to the public before Steelworkers Park came to be. Buildings were left deserted and cold, and South Chicago became a vacant area as more business left, as did the people. While Mrs. Reyes witnessed all this, she feels that our community will flourish yet again.

Being from the community, Mrs. Reyes also fondly remembers many memories related to SFDS, including the annual carnivals as well as dances, and is excited to be a part of creating memories for a new generation of local youth!

But Nothing can be done without effort and hard work, and hopefully Mrs. Reyes stays around at St. Francis to see that upwards change. Don't you all think we need a carnival again? Like guys, we can have bouncy houses for all! Ain't that a crazy thought?

Some more interesting facts about Mrs. Reyes:

What scares her?: Bugs Favorite holiday?: 4th of July

Favorite color?: Purple

Sports?: Chicago Cubs (Northsiders)

Favorite books?: "Joy in the Morning" by Betty Smith because it speaks to her as a mother

"Like Water for Chocolate" by Isabel Allende because it speaks to her roots

Mrs. Hahn: Honors Mathematics and Pre-Calculus/Calculus Teacher, Room 205

Mrs. Hahn was born and raised in the outskirts of Westville, Indiana on a farm until around 10 years old when she moved to La Porte, Indiana. She attended a Lutheran elementary school, graduated, and then attended La Porte High School. Throughout her high school years, Mrs. Hahn had a newspaper route to deliver newspapers once a week and got a job in a catering service. After graduating high school, Mrs. Hahn attended Valparaiso University where she received a Bachelor's degree and minored in Mathematics Teaching to teach students. She started her teaching career in 1980 and has taught at 2 elementary schools: St. Luke for 21 years and St. Phillip for 17 years. So far, Mrs. Hahn has taught every grade level from Pre-K to 12th Grade.

Aside from teaching, Mrs. Hahn also likes to read many books. Her and her husband like to read books so much that they have an entire library in their basement. Aside from reading, Mrs. Hahn used to needle work like embroidery and also yard work. Now, most of her time is dedicated to teaching because of the amount of grading it requires! However, Mrs. Hahn enjoys the students at St. Francis de Sales, and it makes it worthwhile for her long commute and dedicated timing to see

students learning and appreciating her teaching and all she does.

An outstanding opportunity Mrs. Hahn had in high school was that she went to Krefeld, Germany through an honors program as a scholar through Indiana University. She was 1 of 4 students from La Porte High School chosen to go, and was required to speak German the entire time!

Mrs. Hahn met her husband in a church. He was studying to become a lawyer and to pass the Bar exam. Long beautiful story short, they've been married for 32 years and have 2 wonderful children, a son and daughter, both of which have college degrees and are working.

Mrs. Hahn didn't know much about the East Side before St. Francis, but did know about our southern neighbor, Hegewisch, because of the Metra South Shore Line.

Mrs. Hahn however is very familiar and fond of Chicago. Mrs. Hahn enjoys the museums and the different activities Chicago hosts, like the fireworks for 4th of July and the Taste of Chicago. One thing she and her husband do is become a member of a museum or institution for the summer and explore their attractions. This year, Mrs. Hahn plans to be a member of the Chicago Botanic Garden.

To end our interview, I asked Mrs. Hahn what her number one goal was with her students. She stated that with Algebra she was trying to boost up their test scores by familiarizing them with test questions and scenarios.

See Who's New At SFDS

Some more interesting facts about Mrs. Hahn:

What scares her?: Her husband's driving

Favorite holiday?: Christmas

Favorite color?: Blue

Favorite Movie: Sound of Music

Favorite subject to teach?: Middle School Science because she struggled to understand before but can help others understand now

Mr. Siegel: Academic Dean and College Counselor, Room 203 (AD's Office)

Mr. Siegel was born and raised in Wilmette, IL, where his mother still resides. He attended New Trier High School where he was on the Varsity Tennis team. Initially, although interested in the sport, Mr. Siegel struggled to practice because of a lack of equipment. One day however, the varsity coach showed up with a laundry bag full of 100 tennis balls so Mr. Siegel could practice better and with that gift, he got to play varsity tennis in high school and in college.

After graduating high school, Mr. Siegel went to Northwestern University and received a Bachelor's degree in English. He then went on to receive a Master's degree in General Education from National Louis University and is currently completing a second Master's degree in Leadership and Administration from DePaul University. Mr. Siegel hopes to get a PhD in Education to pursue ways to excite the

classroom environment.

Before St. Francis de Sales, Mr. Siegel worked for major video game studios in designing. Some of the studios he worked for were: Lucasfilm (Star Wars), Disney, Time-Warner (Batman), 21st Century Fox (The Simpsons), Nickelodeon, Sony Pictures. He also worked for children TV shows for networks such as WGN TV, PBS TV, and WBBM TV. His friends and family of course thought that his television work was cool, but they did tease him about being involved with producing Barney.

Mr Siegel is also a musician. Most of his free time he plays the guitar, which he was playing since 6 years old. He used to teach guitar in high school to get some extra money, and he continues to do so, sometimes as a stress reliever. A favorite artist of his is Jim Croce.

Mr. Siegel admires the fact that the students are so nice here. He feels that the sense of optimism of the students is high because they're imagining they are going to make the world better, which is great! Prior to St. Francis, Mr. Siegel knew very little about the East Side. His grandfather, however, did work nearby in the old Chicago Stockyards so Mr. Siegel was familiar with that. He also knew about the Steel Mills, and hoped that there would've been more of an effort to create employment opportunities for people who lost jobs because of their closings.

Mr. Siegel admires the amount of

culture and diversity in the City of Chicago. He used to live downtown and has a vast knowledge of the area, but wishes to learn more about the surrounding neighborhoods.

As we finished his interview, I asked what his goal is for the high school students. For the freshmen, Mr. Siegel is trying to teach and create a path of learning how to learn. For the sophomores and upperclassmen, Mr. Siegel wants every student to achieve more than they thought possible. He will try to make sure every student feel optimistic about their future choices and careers in college and the workforce.

Some more interesting facts about Mr. Siegel are:

What scares him?: If the Chicago Bears are going to turn into pumpkins since they have their hopes up now

Favorite holiday?: Christmas, as he is expecting good presents this year because he's been good

Favorite color?: White Sox Black

Favorite book: "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee because of the narrator's appreciation for the father's profound look on justice for all people

Favorite movie?: The Little Mermaid because it was the first movie he created a video game for

Get to Know Our Freshmen

By Roman Perez

Freshmen Interviews:



Each edition of Sales Talk will feature interviews with two freshmen students. For this edition I spoke with Erick Lopez and Aiko-Dora. They are two very interesting people who bring unique qualities to St. Francis. Read on to learn more about them!

Aiko-Dora Cuellar

Aiko is relatively new to the East Side, only being here for around 2 years. One of her favorite things about the East Side is that she is near the ice cream shop, La Mi-choacana (let me tell you, bro, buy the torta!) and that she has her friends nearby to hang out with. Previously, she lived in the South Deering neighborhood and graduated from Sacred Heart school. Aiko is also familiar with Chicago's downtown area, and admires the beautiful city.

The major difference from Sacred Heart to St. Francis, for her, is of the bigger environment, the bigger school, but at least she comes from there with 2 fellow class-

mates. Aiko likes the teachers and people at St. Francis de Sales, and finds the place to be good (so far). Guys, that's like the majority of interviewees that like the students and teachers, keep it up guys! Aiko also likes to draw and play keyboard in her spare time, so if you're a musician or a drawer go talk to her. Common interest is the basis of a good friendship people.

Interesting facts about Aiko:

What scares Aiko?: Spiders

Favorite holiday?: Halloween

Favorite subject in school?: Digital Photography

Favorite color?: Red

iPhone or Android?: iPhone

Favorite book/movie?: Manga/Animes

Erick-Lopez

Erick is also relatively new to the East Side, only being here for around



2.5 years. Erick graduated from Our Lady of Guadalupe school in South Chicago, which is also where he previously lived. One major difference from OLG to St. Francis is the gymnasium. The gym is bigger from OLG, and he is glad about that. Erick also brings a bigger crew to St. Francis, knowing 4 other classmates and also meeting new people here. In his free time, Erick plays video games and does chores like you're usual kid.

Erick likes the people at St. Francis de Sales, finding them funny and amazing. He has also explored the downtown area, and enjoys the city and what it offers. He is fond of the buildings and skyscrapers, as well as the great restaurants and museums in downtown.

Interesting Facts about Erik

Favorite holiday?: Dia de los Muertos!

Favorite color?: Red

iPhone or Android?: Android (!!!)

Favorite book/movie?: Too many to list

Carter V Worth the Wait

By Rashed Marshall



On September 28, Lil Wayne released the long awaited studio album “Tha Carter V”. The album was originally planned to be released in 2013 and 2014. It was held-back due to the complicated feud between Lil Wayne and Cash Money label head, Birdman.

Birdman reportedly violated Lil Wayne’s contract terms regarding the album. Wayne won the lawsuit between them on June 6, 2018. Regarding the arrival of “Tha Carter V”, every song rose up on the Billboard 200 chart. It had the third largest streaming week alongside Drake’s “Scorpion” and Post Malone “Beerbongs & Bentley’s”. I give this masterpiece a 9/10, but in order to know why then you have to sepa-



carter albums. Each song conveying a combination of aggression, sadness, and joyfulness.

traction. Tracks like “Demons” shows that the word demon can have many negative connotations. Lil Wayne uses it to explain the many demons in his life. Going as far to call himself “A demon with demands”, craving women, money, and even his own life. These clever analogies and similes can be founded all throughout the album.

Conclusion

The reason i gave “Tha Carter v” a 9/10 because it shows that after all of these years, it’s still so much to learn about Lil Wayne. A problem with “tha Carter V” is that some songs wasn’t needed on the album. Two songs I thought that wasn’t needed on the album was “famous”

“Lil Wayne shows us that he never lost his creative talent”

rate the album into two categories: production, and lyricism.

Production “Tha Carter V” consisted of household names like Swizz Beatz, Zaytoven, and Mannie Fresh. Swizz Beatz got help from the producer “Avenue” to create the beat for the popularized track “Uproar”. A part of the beat was sampled from the song “Special Delivery” by G-Dep. (It’s highly choreographed music video introduced kids to the Harlem shake dance in the early ‘00s.) The jumpy 808 bass followed by claps and Swizz Beatz adlibs gives off intimidation. Warning Lil Wayne’s enemies to stop playing with him before he cause an “Uproar”. The array of producers gives the album a different mood that can’t be founded in any of the

Lyricism

Lil Wayne shows us that he never lost his creative talent, by giving us a masterpiece. Verses from the song “Mona lisa” are effortlessly woven together to create a story about a deceptive woman who sets her “boyfriend” up for a robbery. “Mona lisa” is just one song out of a number of them that brings aggressive and ferocious rapping to life. Lil Wayne was always known for his witty punchlines and word structures, but he’s on a whole new level. Constructing rhymes, connotations, analogies, and clever similes so smoothly. It is true that most of the tracks are dated, but the material is so smoothly woven that its provenance is never a dis-

These two tracks were good but it didn’t feel like a song, they felt like a interlude. The two tracks felt like songs just to pass the time. Overall, this album was worth the wait.



Photography Club

This school year has seen the return of the SFDS photography club, moderated by Ms. Serrano and Mr. Sanchez, both expert and world renowned— amateur photographers. Twice a month, members are given photography “assignments”— with the first two being “Animal Portraits” and “Seeing Red”.



The Next Challenge

Black and White Photo

Tips:

- Study sample photographs!
- Focus on texture, leading lines and patterns – Without the use of color, it is important to train your eye to see textures, tones, shadows and shapes as the main emphasis of your composition to portray in your image
- If color is critical to the image - to the subject, to the mood or to the composition - then don't try and force that image into black and white!



Fútbols back at De Sales!

By Daniel Reyes



When the Boys soccer team began to gain popularity even after a total exclusion of the sport from the school, I knew there had to be some explanation to it, so I sought out to find the reason why.

Initially going to support the team and our school, I began to speak with the coaches and players and quickly became entangled in the friendly atmosphere that was emitted from them on the bus rides and on the field. Although the team was filled with players who were first time players, there was always someone who was willing to pick up the spirits of their fellow teammates.

I saw this in abundance coming from Senior and co-Captain of the soccer team, Jaden Warner. "I just want us to get together as a team and collectively get better," Jaden said of the team. for

basketball, yet began to fall in love with When asked about the responsibilities of being a co-captain, Jaden responded with, "Making sure the team keeps a level head so there are no outbursts, having the team properly equipped, and also encouraging the team to have fun. The game is really all about fun."

Of course, what would a soccer team be without a proper goalie. Jesus Valdez, Junior, is the goalie for the St. Francis de Sales Pioneers. Although it is his first year playing the



position of goalie, Jesus says, "It's a new experience. I get to make a lot of new friend's here, and that's what it's all about. Coming together with different people."

Both players were asked about expectations for the next school year's soccer team. Of course Jaden will not be participating, but he says, "We need more players. You're gonna play. You aren't just going to sit on the bench."

Although the boy's soccer season ended at 0-11, Coach Matt feels that should be seen within context, "This was not a rebuild. It was a complete build from nothing and we played every game with being down two or three guys on the field."

If you're interested in joining the boys soccer team, make sure to start thinking about it now. Although it is a commitment, it will definitely show just what being a Pioneer is all about.

Above All? Volleyball.

By Rosa Mendoza



It has been an interesting and special season for the Lady Pioneers volleyball team.

For starters, early on, an amazing woman, Coach Flores, stood up and filled a void even though soccer is usually her sport. She helped us condition and had the help of Mrs. Ramos, so we could learn our positions and different ways to move on the court. We were in need of players, but thankfully, one by one, our team began to expand.

On our first bus ride to one of our games, the bus was silent and I tried to play music on my phone, so we could have something to listen to, but that clearly was not loud enough for everyone on the bus to hear. We then

agreed that someone should bring a speaker to our next bus ride. After that, there was no more silent bus rides. When I asked the team about our season, Christina said, "In the bus, we're all be singing and dancing."

After a couple of games, we welcomed our new head coach, Coach Carlos. He came in very open-minded and ready to help us become a stronger team. Coach Carlos made many adjustments and helped us win our first game.

After that, we went on a winning streak. We went into a tournament at Hillcrest High School, a bit nervous and not knowing what to expect. However, we came together, and left with a 3rd place plaque.



Recently, after one of our practices, the entire team went to a funeral home to visit Evie Trudeau's grandfather and give our condolences to Evie and her family. When I asked the team about the season, Evie commented, "When you guys came to support me at my grandpa's funeral. That was something life changing and it really changed how I view others".

No matter the results, I speak for the team when I say we are proud to say, "Pioneers Pioneers Pioneers" every single game, before we go into battle.