



BISHOP STANG HIGH SCHOOL

OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT

A Nationally Recognized School of Excellence

February 6, 2025

Families of the Class of 2029,

Welcome to Bishop Stang High School and our community that we often refer to as Spartan Village! We are thrilled you are giving strong consideration to joining us. Please see the information below that was sent to all of our current families regarding tuition for the 2025-26 school year. Please contact the school business office with any questions.

Now that semester one exams have wrapped up, Bishop Stang High School is halfway through its' sixty-sixth year. The positive impact the school has on the students in the classrooms, hallways, and performance areas continues to be life-lasting. As we begin the new semester there are a few developments to inform you of:

- I am pleased to report that our applications for the incoming Class of 2029 are strong and in line with last year's numbers, even with the smaller pool of students available compared to last year.
- In an effort to be more responsive to the needs of our families, we are finalizing plans to create a transportation route from Taunton (through Lakeville, East Freetown, Acushnet, and possibly North New Bedford). Additionally, we have plans to expand the "Cape Bus" towards South Carver. These are initially being planned as morning routes. We will continue to run both the morning and afternoon routes for the Tiverton/Fall River and are considering adding a stop in Portsmouth.
- After the 172 members of the Class of 2024 earned over 31 million dollars in college scholarships last year, this year's Class of 2025 are seeking to make a run at that number. Thus far, 127 members of the Class of 2025 - out of 138 - have sent 985 applications to 216 colleges. That is 92% of the class. The other 11 students are either enlisting in the military, working, or submitting an application to a community college at some point. It is comforting to know 100% are working on a solid plan and have options! Students have already been accepted to Brown, Fordham, and as far away as Arizona State.

Work continues on the creation of our new five-year strategic plan. A list of priorities and strategies will be laid out at a workshop the weekend of February 28th involving the school administrative team, domain chairs, and the Board of Trustees. Thank you to so many who provided valuable feedback through our surveys and listening sessions. This entire process has emphasized not only the strength of our community but also the work we need to accomplish to sustain the momentum.

That being said, there is still much to accomplish and the Board of Trustees is assisting me in being attentive to two areas critical to our long-term success.

Educator Retention

Critical to the successes listed above are the teachers who make it happen on a daily basis. We have an extraordinarily dedicated group of educators who unfortunately are among the lowest paid in their craft across the state of Massachusetts. The Board finance committee is working on a long-term strategy for how we may begin to close the gap in this area. Stability and low turnover are key to sustaining a strong culture of learning, and we will continue to work toward appropriate and competitive wages for our educators.

Facilities

Capital projects - Now that the furnace reconstruction is nearly finished, we are turning our attention to planning for a significant renovation of our windows starting with the south side academic wing. We are also slowly moving our dream along for the *Fourth Floor Spartan Innovation Hub*. A request for proposal has been sent to four firms to provide an idea of the price for such a project. A significant fundraising plan will have to take place for us to realize these goals.

Operational Projects - While the above projects have an eye toward the future we must respond urgently to pressing needs such as our bathrooms, student performance areas (music room), and safety/security - even improving directional signage in our parking lots. There are many day-to-day needs that we are planning for in next year's budget.

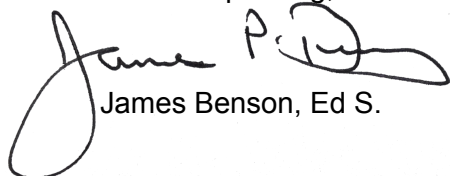
Our students deserve a campus that they are proud of and please be assured we are working to address these needs one by one.

Tuition for School year 2025-26

To take steps to address the above priorities, the Board of Trustees has approved the school's recommendation to increase the tuition to \$13,900 for the school year, which is far less than the projected cost per student which is approximately \$18,000. We rely on fundraising and other sources of income to cover this gap. This necessary increase in tuition allows us to tend to teacher wages and to continue executing the priorities listed above.

We trust in the decisions of each family and will continue in our steadfast efforts to prove that the investment in your child's education is well worth it. When you observe the smiles that we experience on a daily basis in an environment inspired by our mission, or watch a student demonstrate growth by overcoming an obstacle, it is quite evident that your decision to send your child to Bishop Stang will reap dividends for years to come.

For Bishop Stang,



James Benson, Ed S.