



Inspiring Achievement; Instilling Faith

Dear families and friends of SAA,

On July 7, 2021 we lost a good friend, Dave Gray. Dave was instrumental to the founding of St. Ann's Academy in 2012. He has served faithfully on the Board of Directors since then, most recently as SAA's Treasurer. Dave's mantra was that we needed to provide our teachers with the tools they needed to do their job well and to make sure the kids' instructional materials were second to none. The SAA kids were always his first priority.

Besides ensuring the necessary resources were available, he managed the school budget so that our financial situation strengthened each year he served. As important, he constantly encouraged us to share all the good things happening at school on social media and in our community. Please read our Vision/Mission on the right. Whether it was morning prayers, the Pledge of Allegiance, field trips, service projects, or First Friday Mass, we are committed to providing individualized instruction, day after day, in a nurturing environment. Dave was a man of strong faith in God. Even so, he understood that faith needs to be backed up by action. God worked *through* Dave.



Although we will miss Dave and his many talents, we all should understand that when SAA was founded, the organization was established to function independently of any one individual. The Board of Directors will continue to work as a team despite the loss of a key player.

Some reasons why we remain confident about the future are:

- ✓ We have established effective policies and procedures that assure a good academic program.
- ✓ Enrollment is up year over year, possibly because of our responsible handling of the Covid situation. Sixty-one students are registered for next year.
- ✓ As we start our 10<sup>th</sup> year, SAA is expected to be evaluated and granted an Absolute Charter from the NY Education Dept.
- ✓ *Dave Gray's Legacy Fund* has been initiated for donations that will have a lasting impact on the school. As part of SAA's long-term strategy, earlier this year, an Endowment Fund for SAA was established. These steps will ensure the longevity of St. Ann's Academy.
- ✓ On 7/13/21, the NY Secretary of State notified SAA that we have been selected to receive \$423,750 for the development of a STEM Academy in Hornell. We are grateful for the state's confidence in SAA.

I firmly believe that we owe it to Dave to look forward, not back. Let's work with his level of determination to ensure a nurturing environment for Hornell-area kids and teach them about Christ along with their school work.

On behalf of the Board,

Jerome S. O'Connor, President

St. Ann's Academy Board of Directors [jerome.oconnor@SAAcademy.org](mailto:jerome.oconnor@SAAcademy.org) (607) 725-0442

[www.SAAcademy.org](http://www.SAAcademy.org) (607) 281-1010 41 Genesee Street, P.O. 446, Hornell, NY 14843

Board of Directors: Jerome O'Connor, President; Hector Hoyos, Vice-President; Chris Brewer, Treasurer; Sister Dolores Ann Stein, Secretary; Grant LaFrance

---

---

**Our Vision:**

St. Ann's Academy inspires achievement and instills faith in its students and others who support its mission.

We manage our resources well so a quality education is affordable to all families in the area who want their children to have a faith-based education that can provide a sound emotional and spiritual foundation for life.

**Mission:**

St. Ann's Academy exists to provide a Catholic education in the Hornell area so that our children can learn in an environment that enables them to become well-grounded spiritually and exceptional academically.

---

---

*St. Ann's Academy admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.*

---

---