



St. Augustine Academy

130 South Wells Road • Ventura • California • 93004
805-672-0411 • e-mail office@SaintAugustineAcademy.com
www.SaintAugustineAcademy.com

Board of Directors

Board President
Robert R. Orellana, Esq.

Vice President
Thomas Q. Ellis

Secretary
Annie Devericks

Treasurer
Jeff Schuberg

Members
Carlos Gutierrez
Matthew Klinefelter
Jonathan Monnereau

Academy President
Michael J. Van Hecke, M.Ed.

Headmaster
Timothy C. Moore, M.A.

Directress of Lower School
Jessie Van Hecke, AMI

Board of Advisors

Mr. Nicholas J. Healy, Jr.
President
Newman College Ireland

Dr. Michael F. McLean Ph.D.
President Emeritus
Thomas Aquinas College

Mr. James Stenson
Educator and Author

In Memoriam
Mr. Roy S. Rohter, S.F.O.
† 2018
Co-founder
St. Augustine Academy

October 16, 2026

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Dear Families,

Included in today's Blue Envelope is a parent/teacher conference request form for grades 5-12. This is an opportunity to hear from the teachers about how your students have been performing and how they can improve. If you don't get a chance to talk to teachers very often, please consider signing up for a conference, even if you are happy with your student's grades.

Many parents sometimes forget the value of asking the teacher a simple question, "How can my child improve?" Or, even better, "What needs to improve in my child?" These questions leave the parent in an incredibly vulnerable state, much like an examination of conscience. However, they are good to ask.

The answer to the question will look different depending on the kid. This is one of the advantages of sending your child to a small school. The teachers know the students very personally. They will be able to tailor the answer to the individual student.

An 'A' student might get a shocking answer. "He is quite bright, but he doesn't engage with the material at all. This is leading to him not forming fully thought-out theses and is stunting his growth." A 'C' student may get surprisingly good remarks about their work ethic but obviously is still lacking in the academics; teachers can give out excellent advice in this realm as well.

I remember my first year at St. Augustine Academy. The parents of one of the absolutely top students in my class signed up for a conference. This student was one of the top 5% of students I have ever taught in my life. Nevertheless, her parents wanted to hear what I and the other teachers had to say about her. We only had small ways in which she could improve. Things like, 'She should focus a little more on enjoying the material, rather than stressing about it' or 'Having a little more patience for 'So and So' would help the class.' Then her parents did something else I had never seen- they asked how she was doing socially and what she could do to improve in that manner. It became very obvious to me why this young woman was so far above many of the other students I had taught.

These questions are intimidating though! The questions can require a humble ear. The teachers spend a lot of time with the students and know their strengths and weaknesses in their classroom. It's important to listen to what the teachers have to say and their impressions with the understanding that they are trying to do what is best. Also remember that the teachers don't know your children as well as you do. They rely on your feedback as well to provide what is best for your student.

St. Augustine Academy is a family school. We purposely limit class sizes so that all of the teachers can know all of the students. They know their struggles, their habits, and their virtues. parent/teacher conferences are a great opportunity to take advantage of the 'family' nature of the school.

God Bless, Timothy Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES- Conferences will be held on October 30th! I will be sending out a request form for 5th-12th grade conferences today. This is an opportunity to hear from the teachers about your student and how they have been performing and how they can improve. If you don't get a chance to talk to teachers very often, please consider signing up for a conference, even if you are happy with your student's grades.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE- From Mrs. Seeley: Please join the pro-life club outside Planned Parenthood from 3:15 to 4:00 pm on Mondays. It's SAA's 40 Days for Life time slot until Nov. 1. If you're a mom with a babe-in-arms, we're hoping to get moms and babies out to the sidewalk this year in a beautiful pro-life statement, so please consider joining us! Please see Winston Seeley for questions or info at 805-396-3766.

CALENDAR UPDATE- The High School Winter Play- *The Importance of Being Earnest*- is now slated for Friday, December 4 at 5 pm at St. Thomas Aquinas Hall in Ojai. Note: This is not the college, but the parish in Ojai.

UPCOMING SPORTS GAMES

High School Baseball-

Sunday, Oct 18 @ Oxnard High- 2pm

Middle School Boy's Flag Football-

Mon, Oct 19 vs Ventura Christian (Time and Location TBD), Wed, Oct 21 vs OLG at OLA, 3:30 pm

Middle School Girl's Volleyball-

Tues, Oct 20 @ Santa Clara- 3:30 pm, Thursday, Oct 22 @ Home vs Santa Clara- 3:30 pm

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct 16- End of 1st Quarter

Oct 21- Christendom College visits at Lunch

Oct 23- Report Cards

Oct 25- Oktoberfest (see flyer)

Oct 26- No School- Teacher In-Service

Oct 30- SAA All Saints Day Celebration! Early Dismissal @ 12 pm

Oct 30- 5-12 Parent Teacher Conferences

ORA PRO NOBIS – *We continue to keep all our friends and family in our prayers! For the repose of the soul of David Schulz, Teresa Woodward, and Paul Scamperle. For a successful and joy-filled school year at St. Augustine Academy. For the health of Elizabeth Galloway, Sister Francis Mary, Fr. Paul Donlan, Kevin Kolbeck, and Linda Kern. For a special intention. We pray for our Pope, our Archbishop, all of our priests and religious, and we pray especially for each other!*

