

Lancer LEGEND

THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL
WINTER 2021



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2021-2022

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MISSION STATEMENT

St. Pius X High School is a Catholic community dedicated to the education of the whole person, in an environment where extraordinary care and concern for the individual is ordinary.

VISION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic learning community of St. Pius X High School, strive to maintain recognized excellence in all educational programs for students of all abilities. We strive to impart Christian ethical principles of living to students, preparing them to be productive and contributing members of a global society. We, as members of the St. Pius X High School community, seek to challenge each other individually to become lifelong learners in mind, body, and soul.



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

TO THE LANCER FAMILY,

St. Pius X High School continues to be a center of educational excellence dedicated to meeting the needs of our students in mind, body and spirit. Our continued commitment to serving this mission is evident in not only the academic success of our students, but in the culture and atmosphere of our school. We are rooted in the moral teachings of Catholicism and continue to be an authentically Catholic high school that serves all that choose to attend.

The success of the class of 2021 is evidence of our commitment to academics.

The class average GPA was 3.57 with an average ACT composite score of 22.9, with the top 10% averaging a 31.8, top 25% a 29.7 and the top 50% a 27. We have clearly demonstrated our continued commitment to educating the future leaders of our community.

This year we were blessed with the addition of Fr. Jack Ruzicka. Fr. Ruzicka is a newly ordained priest and an associate pastor at St. Joseph Church in Imperial.

While he may be newly ordained, he preaches with much wisdom, is passionate about the “Truth” and is committed to helping each of us strive to be saints. We continue to be invigorated by the success of our students and the support of our community. We optimistically look forward to continuing to serve our mission and ensure the success of our school.

Yours in Christ.

Jim Lehn, President

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” ~ Galatians 6:9



Business Alliance

Platinum

Mercy Hospital Jefferson
Craig R. Ruble, M.D.
Orthopedic Surgeon
H.W. Herrell Distributing Company
Sheet Metal Contractors, Inc.
Home by SMCI
State Farm Insurance - Sandy Vest
Tim Surdyke's Gold Star Harley and Gold Star Outdoors
Surdyke Motorsports

Silver

Arnold Animal Hospital
Bauman Oil Distributors, Inc.
Dieb Enterprises Inc.
Genuine Appliance & Mattress
Hovis & Associates
US Silica

Gold

All Weather Sewer Service, Inc.
Animal Care Service, Inc.
Carrollton Bank
Compi Distributing, Inc.
Jones Animal Health Clinic
Leftridge Masonry, LLC
Live Stream STL
Sapaugh GM Power
Twin City Toyota

Bronze

Andre's – Oak Valley Golf Course & Resort
Autumn Ridge Residences
Edward Jones - Scott Seek
PawJama Party Kennels
The UPS Store – Festus

Thank you to all of our Business Alliance members. Please patronize these businesses that support our school. If you want to learn more about being a member of our Business Alliance program, please contact: Jim Lehn at (636) 931-7487, ext. 141 or president@stpius.com

Students OF THE MONTH



Jon Halfmann
AUGUST

"Through our caring teachers, considerate coaches, and loving priest, St. Pius X has taught me how to become a better person by treating everyone with respect and dignity. No matter if I succeeded or failed in the classroom or on the field, the faculty and community was always there for me. I can undoubtedly say that St. Pius X has helped me grow into the man that God has called me to be in the past 4 years."



Joseph Lehn
SEPTEMBER

"St. Pius X has helped form me in my faith, academic, and social life. Having a theology class and a chaplain on campus has inspired me to live out my faith in ways for all to see and to delve deeper into what it means to be Catholic. The rigorous academics have challenged me during and after school hours, allowing me to prepare for college and the workforce that I will eventually enter into."



Claire Tilley
OCTOBER

"St. Pius X has shaped my education, beliefs, and social life by encouraging me to step out of my comfort zone and surrounding me with people who do the same. Allowing me to grow and pursue my interests, St. Pius X has prepared me for a future outside of high school."



Sophia Stolzer
NOVEMBER

"My journey at St. Pius X has equipped me with the tools to steadily strengthen my faith and commitment to academics for the rest of my life. St. Pius X is a deeply grounded community-a place where I have formed cherished, lasting relationships."



Hannah Lifka
DECEMBER

"St. Pius X has helped form me into the person I am today because the environment allows me to be myself and gives me the space to learn more about my faith and how to grow my relationship with God."

MEET THE EXCHANGE STUDENTS



Katharina Windhager
Vienna, Austria

What is the biggest difference between

St. Pius X and your school at home?

"The biggest difference between St. Pius X and my school is that teachers are switching rooms and not the students and we don't have lunch hour or a Wellness Center. Teachers tell us our grades just at the end of the semester, so we can't check them the whole time. We don't really have any sport teams, so we also don't have any games."

Carlota Mazirier Gonzalez
Vienna, Austria

What is the biggest difference between

St. Pius X and your school at home?

"One of the biggest differences between St. Pius X and my high school is that teachers care a lot about their students, their problems, and they are interested in their lives. They care about both our studies and our feelings."

WELCOME TO ST. PIUS X, FR. JACK RUZICKA

My name is Fr. Jack Ruzicka and I am the new chaplain of St. Pius X High School. I was ordained a priest on May 29th, 2021. I am assigned as the associate pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Imperial with part-time chaplaincy at St. Pius X.

There is a proud legacy of priests who served at this incredible institution and I am humbled to now follow in their footsteps. We are proud of our Catholic identity and in the spirit of our namesake, Pope Saint Pius X, we endeavor to “restore all things in Christ” by being bold witnesses to the Gospel. Our world today needs the Gospel more than ever.

This school exists for the glory of God and the formation of our students in sanctity. This is a very important work and I am honored to play a small part in it. Let’s continue to pray for one another and for the mission of St. Pius X High School! St. Pius X, pray for us!



CAMPUS MINISTRY

The 2021-2022 school year theme is the motto of Pope St. Pius X, “restore all things in Christ.” After having the worries and unknowns of COVID along with the extra steps for precautions and restrictions of last year, there is definitely a need for restoration. If we want a real, lasting restoration that gives us true, deep peace and joy, it must come from Christ. There can be worldly things that restore us and bring “life” back such as vacations, nights out or in, time with friends, etc but sooner or later the feeling of being worn down, burnt out or tired will return. The goal for this year is to restore ourselves, the students, and St. Pius X High School as a whole back to Christ. He is the one who gives exactly what we need, when we need it, where we need it, and how we need it. When we are continually restoring things in Christ, that is when we will be the most successful, not necessarily in worldly ideals but in what truly matters.



HOMECOMING

Mr. Scott Taylor and Mr. Marty Zielonko were inducted into the St. Pius X Hall of Fame at the Homecoming Football Game on October 17, 2021. Scott and Marty have been friends since the 8th grade when Scott's family moved to Troy, Illinois. While they started out in different friend groups their last two years in high school and their time in college were spent with the same friends. Mr. Zielonko was hired first in 1977 and Mr. Taylor followed a year later in 1978.

Mr. Taylor taught English full-time for 43 years. He was able to bring his passion for film to the school and has been teaching a film appreciation class for 22 years. He coached freshman and JV boys basketball, girls varsity basketball, baseball, and softball. He has supervised the summer work-study crew for 40 years. He has also been a member of the St. Pius X CARE Team and was the head of the Dalton house for 5 years.

Mr. Zielonko taught English and while he is retired, he is in his 37th year of teaching the drug education class here at St. Pius X. He was also the dean of students for many years and the college placement counselor. He is responsible for developing and advancing our 683 College Tour Program.

The St. Pius X community is beyond thankful for their dedication throughout the years and the memories we have shared with them.



GOLF RECAP

The 2021 St. Pius X Golf Tournament was a huge success! The tournament was held on Friday, July 30 at Oak Valley Golf Course in Pevely, MO. We had 53 teams join us that day and brought in over \$43,000 for the school. It was a wonderful day with great weather, good food and even better company.



HOUSE SYSTEM

"The House System has grown the community because the different grade levels are intermixed with each other during homeroom time. I have been able to meet people that I may not have if I was not in the same homeroom with them. I am able to go to upper-classmen if I need help or have a question or just want to talk with them. In many places, I would not be comfortable doing that, but because of the House System as well as other activities I am involved in, I talk with upper-classmen regularly. While this is no longer what we do with homerooms, I personally think that was the most beneficial part of the system. The House System has helped me to grow in my leadership abilities and so much more while at St. Pius X."

Quote from Hannah Lifka '22



8TH GRADE DAY

We were excited to host our normal 8th Grade Day this year after not having it since 2019. It was a great turnout with 94 8th graders on campus. We had students from a 35-mile radius. Our student ambassadors got to lead presentations about St. Pius X School, teach them how to become leaders, and play games and ice breakers for students to get to know one another. We look forward to many of these 8th graders joining us in the Fall of 2022 as Lancers!



APPLY NOW
FOR THE 2022-2023
SCHOOL YEAR



FALL SPORTS RECAP

Cross Country

While 2020 saw a third-place finish at the Class 2 State Meet, it was a rebuilding year for the 2021 XC Lancers. Although there were not enough runners to make an official team, Rachel Eimer and Reagan Edwards both qualified for the State Cross Country Meet as individuals. The athletes who ran this year were amazingly tough. Workouts would include running Buck Knob—taking a quick drink—and running it again! And that toughness showed up in races where several personal bests were achieved throughout the season. The future looks great for our cross country team.

Football

The St. Pius X football team completed their 2021 season with a record of 8 – 3. The Lancers opened their 2021 schedule playing the #1 ranked team in Class 1, the Monroe City Panthers. The Lancers would lose this contest to Monroe City and then go on to win their next seven games in a row outscoring their opponents 198 - 81. The Lancers won their first I-55 Conference title in 20+ years during their seven-game win streak, and once again tied the school record for wins in a season with eight. On the JV level, the Lancers completed a perfect season at 7 – 0. This gave the football program an overall record of 15 – 3.

Softball

The 2021 St. Pius X Softball record was 13-11, which gave us a +2 overall rating. We had many struggles this year, including people moving positions, graduating 4 seniors, and taking on 6 freshmen and 3 new players to the team. We worked together as a team to overcome these difficulties. There were times we would get frustrated with each other, that is to be expected with spending almost every day together for about 3 months. We always made up with each other and brought each other up when we were feeling down. "There is no other group of girls I would have wanted to spend my time with. A big thank you to the 4 seniors who played with us and guided us in their wise ways, no matter if it be softball, being a good sport, or just being a good teammate. I am so excited I get to spend one more year with this group of girls and would not choose a different way to spend my time" said Coach Halley.

Boy's Soccer

The Lancer soccer team currently sits at 17-6 with a district championship going into the finals. The Lancers have found a good blend of rock-solid defending and explosive scoring. The team has shut out 17 teams so far and are averaging 3.5 goals a game. The boys are playing their best soccer of the season taking first in district and taking that momentum into the playoffs - expectations are high.

Girl's Volleyball

The St. Pius X Volleyball team ended our season with a 23-9-4 record. It was a successful season highlighted with winning the Class 4 District 2 Title, a first for the program since we jumped up two classes and now face large school opponents. We had some memorable large school conference wins against Festus and Windsor and two impressive wins against St. Louis powerhouse programs, Lutheran South and Incarnate Word. Senior Kennedy Lane achieved the milestone of 1000 kills, as did Junior Hanna Burch, reaching 1000 assists. Kennedy Lane, Hanna Burch, and Hannah Leftridge were highlighted by national media outlets Prep Dig and Max Preps, which is truly an honor and highlights the success of St. Pius X Volleyball. We have 5 seniors graduating from the program and we honored them at a very special senior night celebration with a conference win over Crystal City. Many of our players received post season honors and recognition, Kennedy Lane, Summer Meyer, Hannah Burch and Hannah Leftridge were All-District and All-Conference selections. "The 2021 Varsity team will be remembered as the first team to capture a Class 4 District title and I am very proud of their hard work and dedication to St. Pius X Volleyball," said Coach Leftridge.

Girl's Tennis

The 2021 Girls Tennis season featured one of the largest varsity teams the program has had in its 10-year history, with 8 players earning a spot on the varsity squad. Led by seniors #1 Sophia Stolzer and #2 Caroline Kurzweil, the team ended the season with a winning record of 11-3, only losing matches to two different schools along the way (twice to North County in the regular season and then to Kennett in the Team Sectionals round). Although it had been 3 years since the Pius girls tennis team had won the District title, this group of 8 was able to defeat their District competitors (Bayless, Notre Dame St. Louis, Lutheran South, and Windsor) to get the trophy back.



MUSIC

This year the band and choir have both been performing at new events. The Concert Band played their first ever football game in almost 30 years! The students had an amazing time playing in the bleachers supporting their classmates on the field, and enjoyed performing with the Lancer Cheer and Dance Team at half-time. The Jazz Band riled up the school for Homecoming during the Pep Assembly with their take of "25 or 6 to 4" originally played by the band Chicago.

The Concert Choir students had the amazing opportunity to sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" at a Cardinal's Game back in September, and they have been actively singing during the school Masses. As always, all 5 ensembles will be performing at the Christmas Concert on December 15th in the gym. Can't wait to see you all there!



ART

Art has had a productive year so far! Currently freshmen are wrapping up learning about the elements of art and are going to move onto a few more open ended projects. Sophomores are using watercolors to paint animals and portraits. Juniors have finished their architectural scale model buildings (as pictured). Now they are moving onto Henry Moore inspired subtractive sculpture using floral foam. Seniors have been working hard to prepare and photograph their pieces to prepare for the spring Fine Arts Show.



BECOME A
LANCER

285 TOTAL
ENROLLMENT

\$500K FINANCIAL AID
& AWARDS
DISTRIBUTED
ANNUALLY

17 AVERAGE
CLASS
SIZE

100% AVERAGE
COLLEGE
ATTENDANCE
RATE

29.7 AVERAGE ACT
SCORE TOP 25%
CLASS OF 2021

683 6 CLASS TRIPS TO
8 DIFFERENT
3 COLLEGES OVER
YEARS

LUNCH
HOUR



St. Pius X
LANCER
for a Day

SPEND A DAY
ATTENDING CLASSES WITH A
CURRENT S1PX STUDENT

MEET OTHER STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

EXPERIENCE OUR LUNCH HOUR AND
HIGH SCHOOL LIFE AT ST. PIUS X FIRST-HAND

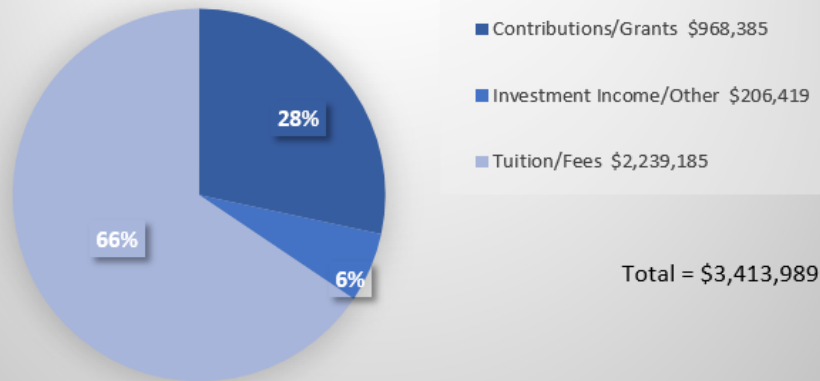
Schedule your visit today!

CONTACT BREANNA EASTER AT (636) 931- 7487 EXT. 117
OR BEASTER@STPIUS.COM

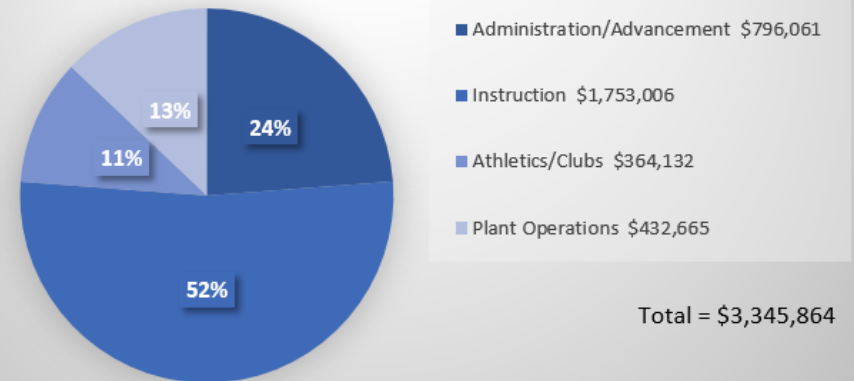


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

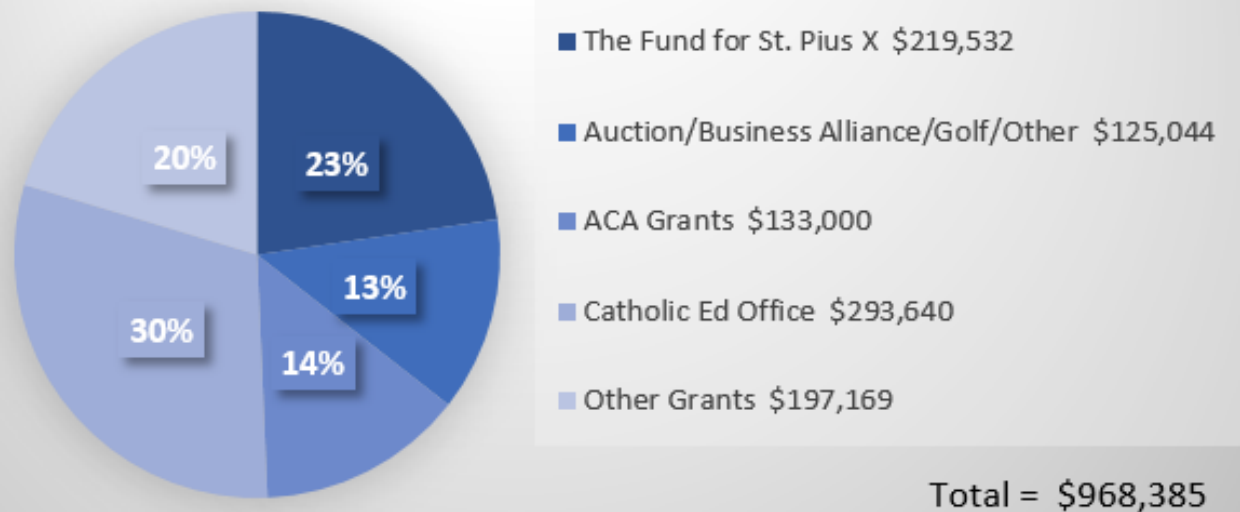
2020-2021 Revenue



2020-2021 Expenses



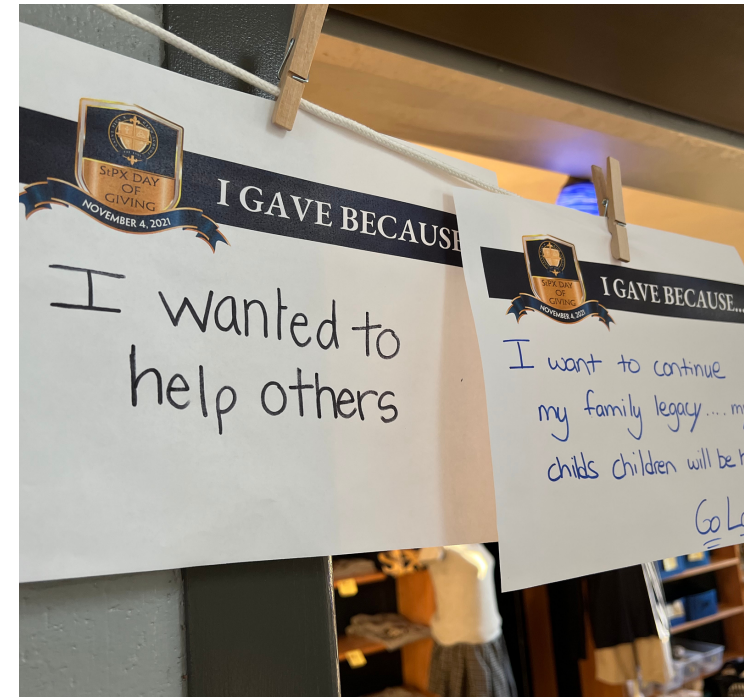
2020-2021 Contributions/Grants



StPX DAY OF GIVING

Alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff, and friends around the world spent 24 extraordinary hours giving back. Together we made a huge difference. The Fund for St. Pius X is well on its way to our fiscal year-end goal. THANK YOU for your generous support of St. Pius X High School's StPX Day of Giving 2021!

TOTAL RAISED: \$117,043.30



St. Pius X High School *Endowment Fund*

The St. Pius X High School Endowment Fund will serve as a long-term "savings account" for need-based scholarships, faculty and student enrichment, and unrestricted funds for the growing needs of our school. St. Pius X partners with the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri to manage funds.

Planned Giving

Planned Giving is for everyone. Anyone – regardless of income or age – can make a planned gift! You can make a tremendous impact on St. Pius X High School, likely at no cost to you during your lifetime.

For additional information please visit www.stpius.com/plannedgiving or contact Jim Lehn, president@stpius.com or (314)608-0669.

A TRIP BACK IN TIME

AN ALUMNI VISIT

**Gloria Park ('79), Kathryn Walterscheid ('79),
Kimberly Walterscheid ('75), and Melaney Walterscheid ('77)**

It was meant to last an hour at the most. We never dreamed it would be six. It felt like two.

Recently, Gloria Park visited the St. Pius X campus with her best friend from the time they met at St. Pius X, Kathryn Walterscheid (1979), and her two sisters, Melaney Walterscheid (1977) and Kimberly Walterscheid (1975), to see the recent updates. It was especially timely since—after more than two years away due to Covid restrictions—Kimberly was in town from her home in Milan, Italy, to visit her family.

When we arrived at St. Pius X, Athletic Director Tilden Watson was onsite; he showed off the new Wellness Center, then still under construction, and shared the plans for the football field and the potential multipurpose soccer, lacrosse, and track field across St. Pius Drive, right in front of the school.

Since the four of us had played the flute in the band, we were eager to visit the stage and music room. While changes had been made to the space, we felt at home. The Walterscheid's played a short flute trio on stage—something that had never occurred before since the three had not attended St. Pius X at the same time. When we looked out the high window over the back of campus, Tilden offered to take us on the roof—this was the first time we'd ever seen the campus from this perspective. Before we left the area, we left a good luck message to all the band and choir students on the music board.

Exiting the stage, we found volleyballs in the hallway to the gym. Melaney and Kimberly grabbed a ball for a quick pickup game just like in the old days. (Don't worry Coach Charboneau; they removed their shoes before walking on the new gym floor.) Next, Melaney started shooting baskets, hitting several, and reminisced about her days on the girl's basketball team.

We visited the art classroom, which was of particular interest to Kimberly. The art space has at least doubled since she was a student, and she was in awe of the offerings available to art students and to art teachers at St Pius X today. She couldn't resist sitting at the teacher's desk, imagining what it would be like to teach in this lovely classroom.

The Biology classroom was a reminder of just how much our teenage selves had needed to learn. Kathryn remembered the first day of Biology class: "Mr. Hepper held up lots of little jars and explained what was in them. One jar held a piece of dinosaur brain suspended in liquid! Well, that's what he told us. Then he laughed at our gullibility. In that class, we learned not to believe that dinosaur brains survived. (I wonder what he thought after watching Jurassic Park.)"

We went on a quest for the Latin classroom where all three Walterscheid sisters spent hours conjugating verbs and translating The Aeneid. We searched for the room with desks on stair-stepped platforms. Mr. Voss had stood on the floor; students with last names starting with A sat on the first tier. Students whose last name started with letters at the end of the alphabet sat in the back, on the highest tier. That row had a good view out the window, but of course, the Walterscheid sisters focused only on Latin studies for those four years sitting next to other students whose name started with "W."



We never found the Latin classroom, but we laughed a lot, remembering the good advice was given to all Latin students: “semper ubi sub ubi” (always wear underwear). We were able to locate the French classroom, where Gloria (called ‘Giselle’ during French class) learned a language that people today actually speak. That room is now the teacher’s lounge, complete with donuts.

Though so much of the school is updated, with impressive improvements to the Religion, Spanish, and science classrooms, we could feel our old St Pius X vibe. Every hallway, every stairwell, and every classroom reminded us of funny stories, good friends, and wise teachers. We re-encountered the students that we used to be and are eager to visit with former classmates. The whole visit was like standing on the roof. We saw familiar places but with a perspective, we never had before.

If you have an interest in coming to campus for an Alumni Visit, please contact Peggy Flanagan at pflanagan@stpius.com. Don’t worry, you won’t have to stay for six hours to have a great visit!

Kimberly Walterscheid (1975) received her B.F.A. from Fontbonne University and her M.A.T. from Webster University. She is a retired art educator.

Melaney Walterscheid (1977) received her Bachelor of Music from Fontbonne University and her Master of Music Education from Webster University. She is currently a music teacher in St. Louis.

Kathryn Walterscheid (1979) received her B.A. in English from Fontbonne University, her M.A. from the University of Missouri–St. Louis, and her Ph.D. from St. Louis University. She recently retired from the University of Missouri–St. Louis, where she taught at the Honors College.

Gloria Park (1979) received her B.A. in Music from Washington University in St. Louis and her MBA in International Business from the Olin Business School at Washington University. She is currently starting a nonprofit.

REUNIONS

30th Class Reunion - Class of 1991
November 27, 2021

6:30pm-10:30pm
St. Pius X High School
1030 St. Pius Drive
Festus, MO 63028

50th Class Reunion - Class of 1972 & 1973
September 24, 2022

Oak Valley Golf Course
1230 Abby Lane
Pevely, MO 63070
*Additional details to come for
weekend events

**QUESTIONS: CONTACT PEGGY FLANAGAN, ALUMNI COORDINATOR AT
PFLANAGAN@STPIUS.COM OR (636) 931-7487 EXT. 106**





St. Pius X High School

1030 St. Pius Drive

Festus, MO 63028

www.stpius.com



CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL
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Restare
ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

Save the Date

Legacy Gala Dinner Auction

Saturday, April 2, 2022
1030 St. Pius Drive Festus, MO 63028