



CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY

850 Newman Springs Road • Lincroft, NJ 07738-1698

Dear Class of 2022 Family,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our CBA community and to what I know will be an amazing school year! I hope that each of you has had a great summer filled with fun and relaxation. To help get the Class of 2022 off to a great start, it is my pleasure to invite the members of the freshmen class to attend one of our *Tips for Success at the Academy* seminar days. The seminar will be offered on Tuesday, August 28th and Thursday, August 30th from 9:15AM – 12:15PM. The seminar is optional, but I hope that many of the students will take advantage of it!

As the school year begins there are many activities to introduce your son to the traditions of CBA, as well as help him prepare for the start of his important journey. The first of these events are the **Heath Freshmen Run** and **Oath Day** on **Thursday, September 13, 2018**. Oath Day is an opportunity for our freshmen to learn more about the Academy Oath and by the program's end recite the oath before the school community. The day includes a keynote speaker, breakout sessions and a school wide assembly at which the freshmen sign their class copy of the oath. Later that same day the class of 2022 will participate in the Heath Freshmen Run. The Freshmen Run has been a tradition at Christian Brothers Academy for more than fifty years. In addition to the run there will be some friendly class competition among the freshmen homerooms. Freshmen should be in regular school dress code but have their gym clothes and sneakers with them for the run.

Another important event is the **Freshmen Retreat** which will take place on **Wednesday, October 10, 2018**. The retreat program consists of presentations about the unique LaSallian nature of CBA, a prayer service, reflections, games and activities. Spiritual development through the retreat program is an integral part of your son's CBA education and attendance and is, therefore, mandatory. Also note that **Freshmen Parent Night/Back to School Night** is **Thursday, September 13** and **Freshmen Parent Guidance Night** is **Thursday October 4, 2018**.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to encourage you to urge your son to get involved in the many extracurricular and co-curricular activities offered at CBA. Our many clubs and activities allow students to take their learning beyond the classroom and to nurture passions outside of the realm of the academic curriculum. From competitive activities such as our science, math and academic teams, to spiritual activities such as our worship ministries, to cultural activities such as our world language and culture clubs, CBA's extracurricular activities provide a unique opportunity to nourish the whole person--mind, body and spirit.

CBA currently offers a myriad of unique clubs and activities that vary across a wide range of academic fields and interest areas. Students will be able to provide service to CBA and the wider community through organizations such as SADD and LaSallian Youth. This year is the 300th anniversary of Saint John Baptist de La Salle's entry into eternal life and we are celebrating the impact of the mission he started. It is our hope that students will be inspired to participate in the range of opportunities being offered to serve including several overnight service immersion trips.

In addition to service organizations, there are several groups which provide opportunities to participate in competitive activities such the Chess Team, Model United Nations and Mock Trial. CBA also offers a full range of performing arts activities including theater, the pipes and drums, and the music program. All in all, I encourage each and every member of the Class of 2022 to be adventurous and to take a step outside of his

comfort zone. Our wide range of activities will allow each student to expand his interests and develop lifelong hobbies and passions. Further, if students have an interest or hobby which is not currently covered by one of our many clubs; students are encouraged to start a new one!

It is my hope that your son will immerse himself in the day to day life of the CBA community where we are more than just students and teachers but a community that grows and develops each and every day.

However your son chooses to become involved, I ask that he remain committed to his chosen activities. Participation in the life of our community outside of the classroom helps to foster leadership skills and the confidence necessary for success in the modern world. More importantly, these out of classroom experiences develop lifelong bonds that are the true hallmark of the academy experience—bonds which will last long beyond his four short years at academy. If you have any concerns or questions about your son's transition to high school or his level of involvement in campus life please contact me. I am happy to assist your son as he adjusts to high school.

Parental support of student involvement is a vital part of our success; a success which allows for a richer learning and developmental experience for all members of our community. If you have any interests or passions that you would like to share with our community I would love to hear from you. It is wonderful when parents can share their career experiences or other interests with our students.

Another way for both parents and students to get involved is to act as a host family for students from Hakodate LaSalle High School which will be visiting from December 7-15, 2018. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students from two LaSallian schools to share experiences and learn from each other. We are hoping each host family will be able to accommodate two boys (but if not we can make it work with just one). The travel company requires that each guest student has his own bed but not his own room. The guests will spend the weekend with the CBA family participating in the normal activities with no special plans required. Each day the guest students will accompany the CBA students to school and shadow them throughout the school day and attend after school activities as well. We are planning a variety of events throughout the week that both CBA students and guest students can attend. On Wednesday the guest students will come to school but will attend a sightseeing day and need to be picked up by the host family at around 6pm. On Saturday morning the host family will drop the guest students back at CBA for their departure. If you have any questions or are able to act as a host family please contact me.

I look forward to working with you and your son as he begins his journey at CBA and wish him much success!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maureen Szablewski".

Maureen Szablewski
Dean of Campus Life