



CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY

850 Newman Springs Road • Lincroft, NJ 07738-1698

Dear Member of the Class of 2020 and Family,

Welcome back to what I know will be an amazing senior year! I hope that each of you has had a great summer filled with fun and relaxation and will soon be ready to return to another exciting year. I look forward to working with the members of the class of 2020 to ensure a successful and exciting senior year as the students begin to plan the next phase of their academic careers. As part of the planning please note that the **Senior Parent Guidance Night is on Tuesday, September 10th** at 6:30pm. Parents should mark their calendars for this very important event in which information about the college planning process will be shared.

The **Senior Retreat** is an overnight retreat experience at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch. Spiritual development through the retreat program is an integral part of your son's CBA education and attendance is mandatory. Students have a choice of five retreats with the first choice providing an extra night for those wishing to have the opportunity to participate in a longer more extensive retreat. **Senior Retreats are on September 3-5, October 28-29, November 14-15, November 21-22 and February 20-21.** Seniors have been emailed a link to an online form that will allow them to rank their retreat choices. It can also be downloaded from the CBA website. Retreats will be assigned on a first come, first served basis in the order in which the online retreat forms are received. If no form is submitted a retreat will be assigned randomly. Once retreat lists are finalized no changes will be made except in extenuating circumstances such as student illness. Students have been reminded that when selecting retreats they should choose the retreat that is compatible with academic and extracurricular schedules. Students will be transported by bus to and from the retreat house (returning to school--and eligible for after school activities -- before 2:30pm on the final day). Please **complete the senior retreat permission form** and return it to your homeroom teacher on the first day of school. Further details will be distributed at orientation.

As we return to school, I would like to take the opportunity to encourage seniors to continue to be 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.

I hope that each and every one of you will be adventurous and to take a step outside of your comfort zone this year. Please continue to immerse yourself 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. As seniors, I hope that you will encourage younger students to join your club or activity. However you choose to become involved, I ask that each of you remain committed to your 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 your four short years at academy.

Finally, to our dedicated parents, I ask that you encourage your son to become as fully involved in student life as possible. 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 an interest you would like to share with the student body or you are able to volunteer your time to help with a club or activity I would love to hear from you!

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 6-14th, 2019. 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 thank you all for your continued dedication and support and I look forward to another amazing year at the Academy!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maureen Szablewski". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Maureen Szablewski

Dean of Campus Life