The History of the La Salle Club

One of the vital forces behind the athletic program at Christian Brothers High School is the La Salle Club. This organization, started in 1939, was the brainchild of Brother Eugene Ward, former principal, teacher, and coach. With the approval of Brother Cyril, then principal, and Brother Bertram, vice-principal, the La Salle Club became an active fund-raising organization for athletics. Its early fund-raisers included the Annual Duck Stew, Boxer's Night, Soccer Night, Baseball Night and the La Salle Club Frolic.

Several years ago the club became inactive when it was decided that its function should be replaced by other support groups. The La Salle Club Baseball Hall of Fame

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Dinner was the only event that continued on and it has run for 50 consecutive years.

In 1995, Ray Clemons, former head football coach and athletic director at CBS (1948-1956), recognized the need to revitalize the organization. Through his leadership and with the assistance of Ron Limeberger, Chado Vaszquez, Mike Clemons, Jim Westlake and others the La Salle Club reorganized and again became a force, funding special projects such as a new state of the art weight room, renovation of the junior varsity girls softball diamond, two electronic scoreboards, a portable outdoor scoreboard, wrestling mats, a scorers table, and baseball field improvements, to name a few.

Our present membership, approximately 200, is comprised of men and women from the community who contribute their time and resources to assist in achieving the goals of the athletic program. Our funds are raised through memberships, the Baseball Hall of Fame Dinner, the Coaches and Officials Hall of Fame Dinner and donations.

Current club officers are: Chado Vasquez, President; Jim Westlake, Vice Jean Lanel
President; Ron Limeburger, Treasurer; Anna-Lea Caudwell, Secretary; Gene Lynch, Membership Chairman; Jim McNamara, Baseball Hall of Fame Dinner Chairman, and Jack Witry, Moderator, CHAIR MAH, COACHES & OFFICIALS HALLOF GAME DINNIER.

MANY

of the La Salle Club

by Jim Westlake '51

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Anyone who is interested in supporting excellence in the Christian Brothers High School athletic programs is urged to join. Please call Chado Vasquez at 392-5446, Ron Limeberger at 391-5708 or Gene Lynch at 421-4549 for membership applications.

Can You Hear Me Now?

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WHAT AREAS OR PROGRAMS IN THE SCHOOL NEED THE PRINCIPAL'S ATTENTION?

You can imagine the kind of laundry list I was given for areas that need my attention. I suspect that most of the list can be summarized in a few words: listen, communicate, develop relationships, express gratitude, and support teachers. Is that not what all of us want and expect in our working environments?

I have visited each of our class-rooms on several occasions during the first quarter. I have visited a lot of classes in my career as a supervisor, department chair, and even as part of an accrediting team. I watch the kids mostly during those lessons. Professor Lynn M. Hoffman in a recent edition of *Education Week* writes: "What are adolescents seeking to accomplish in high school? My research tells me that they are primarily engaged in the work of growing up. They value experiences that encourage and support their

efforts to be involved, to get along with everyone, and to develop independence." When I visit classes now, I leave with two questions to answer: "What did we learn today?" and "How did we learn it?" That's all part of my listening.

Which brings me to some prickly questions for all of us about listening: Are we listening to our kids or are we just "hearing" what they have to say? Do we love them enough to listen to them-their thoughts, hopes, fears, and desires? Do we love them enough to risk offering counterpoints to what they have to say? Do we love them enough to set reasonable expectations, limits, and consequences? Do we love them enough to talk frankly about drugs, alcohol, sexuality, and sexual activity? Do we love them enough to insist by our word, deed, and example that we are their parents and teachers? Do we love them enough to say "no" to them?

Take a look at their music. Take a look at the media. Take a look at their relationships. Look at how they dress, speak, and act. Somebody's got their attention.

Chairman of the Board

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sen for our students. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the alumni, parents and friends who pledged the \$7.5 million raised to build the new building. However, stay tuned, the best is still to come!

We expect to announce by the end of this school year the beginning of a feasibility study to fund our next project. While the details are still being finalized, under consideration are a new gym/athletics complex, a theater and an expanded cafeteria. We will need you all as we complete the transformation of our campus and update our facilities to new first class levels.

Christian Brothers is a *very* special place. For over 125 years it has flourished in Sacramento because it is so special. Generation after generation of this city's families send their sons, and now daughters, to our school because it is different than the others. It is an intangible. It is a spirit. It is a tradition. It is getting better every day. Stay close, we need you. •