

# Questions and Answers Concerning Expansion and Capital Campaign

## The Expansion and Short Term Plan

1. **I hear there is a very large freshman class---how big is it?** We won't know final numbers until later this spring but the incoming freshman class will likely be around 180. Our total school population for school year 2009–2010 will be around 500.
2. **What is the vision for the size of the school?** The school was designed for 800 to be built in two phases. We are now looking at completing the second phase of classroom space.
3. **Won't the expansion of the school have an impact on the quality of education?** Absolutely Not! The growth we are looking at is a continuation of the growth we have experienced since opening. To minimize impact we will add temporary classroom space, maintain the current student to teacher ratios, add additional staff, look at current and additional programs that continue the small community experience of Guerin Catholic.
4. **How does the increase in students impact tuition and fee levels?** Tuition does not cover the cost to educate a student. As student numbers increase and there is a slight decrease in the gap between tuition level and cost to educate each student. Fees are based on direct costs associated with each student.
5. **Where will you put additional students?** We have both a temporary and permanent plan. To accommodate additional students we will add up to 10 temporary classrooms in two phases over the next two years. This is based on current projection of students. To provide a permanent solution we will complete the additional classroom wing.
6. **How many classes will my student have in a temporary classroom?** Not all students will have classes in temporary classrooms and no student will be in temporary classrooms all day. An individual department or two will utilize temporary classrooms, thus minimizing any individual student's attendance in a temporary classroom. The choice of department and teachers will depend on subject matter and needs of the curriculum (no science or art classes in temporary classrooms). Which students will have classes in the temporary classrooms depends on their schedule.
7. **How many years will students attend class in temporary classrooms?** Our plan is to utilize temporary classrooms through the 2012 – 2013 school year.
8. **Do you plan on maintaining a "closed" campus with the temporary classrooms in place?** Yes. We are considering several options, including fencing around the buildings. The classrooms will be locked at all times and will be part of the main building communication system.
9. **Are you planning to lease or purchase the temporary classrooms? If we purchase are we planning on selling them when they are no longer needed?** We are planning to lease the temporary classrooms. They will return to the lease company when we are finished.

10. **With the new addition, do you see an opportunity to expand the curriculum?** The addition of facilities and the expansion of curriculum do not necessarily go hand in hand, but adequate space will certainly be a factor if and when we decide that there is a need to add courses. The Curriculum Committee regularly reviews our curriculum and makes decisions to expand based on student needs, staffing and budget, and fit within our trimester schedule. Because we require eight credits of Theology and we also have a number of students engaged in the IB curriculum, for many students there is not much room for additional course offerings. But the committee will continue to assess curricular needs. For instance, we will be looking to add an additional foreign language in 2010-2011.
11. **With the demand for a Guerin Catholic education being so high, what criteria will be used for priority placement?** Incoming freshman student applications will be accepted based on the following criteria: First priority – legacy, sibling and employee children. Second priority – children of families who are registered parishioners of Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana parishes or non-Catholic children enrolled in a Diocese of Lafayette grade school. Third priority – children of Catholics from outside the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana. This applies to applications received by the date of the first deadline.
12. **What other facilities need to be expanded in order to accommodate the increase in students?** One major addition will be finishing our parking lot. We will also add equipment to the kitchen and cafeteria serving lines. The cafeteria will also need additional tables. There will be additional student lockers and technology equipment to handle greater volume.
13. **Are we ever going to build an auditorium, practice gymnasium or tennis courts?** All of these are part of the master plan and eventual campus facilities. The tennis courts are in the design phase. While the initial fundraising has begun, there is not yet a timeline for construction of the tennis courts. The tennis court project is separate from the Opening Doors Campaign.
14. **Why is this campaign needed now?** The demand for enrollment is very strong and we have been blessed with a very nice, (but not quite finished) facility. Building the 2<sup>nd</sup> academic wing will essentially double our academic space, allowing us to fulfill the original scope of Guerin Catholic, 800 students.
15. **With expanding student body will Guerin Catholic be hiring?** Yes. We will be adding faculty and staff each year based on the number of students actually enrolled.
16. **How do I learn about job openings and to who do I submit my resume?** Job openings will be posted in Guerin Updates and professional web sites depending upon the position. Resumes for all faculty and school related positions should be sent to Rick Wagner, principal. Resumes for other positions may be sent to Sandi Regan, Assistant to the Vice President.
17. **Will you be increasing financial aid?** We dedicate 10% of our overall gross tuition dollars to needs-based tuition assistance. The number dollars increases proportionately as student revenue grows.

### **Opening the Doors Campaign Nuts & Bolts**

1. **Why is there a prayer component to the Campaign?** St. Theodore Guerin High School has become the successful and special school that it is due to God's grace. Our School has been abundantly blessed and we know that it is only through God's help – Divine Providence – that we will be able to achieve the goals of this campaign. Thus, we are asking all in our community to commit to extra prayer seeking God's guidance and help in the Opening Doors Campaign.
2. **What is the goal of the capital campaign?** \$10 Million
3. **How is the \$10 million allocated?** Approximately \$7 million for the new academic wing, \$1.5 million for tuition assistance, \$600,000 for new parking, \$350,000 for temporary classrooms (this includes set-up, take down, equipment such as computer projectors, et.), \$450,000 for capital equipment in new wing (desks, lab equipment, faculty computers, smart boards, etc.), \$100,000 for campaign related costs.
4. **What is the campaign timetable?** The 3-year campaign will run to June 30, 2012.
5. **What will the campaign funds allow the school to accomplish?** The funds raised will further the mission of St. Theodore Guerin and allow growth. The funds will be allocated for temporary expansion costs related to the temporary classrooms and additional support equipment necessary to an increased enrollment (desks, smart boards, lockers, cafeteria tables, food service equipment). It will allow for expansion of the parking lot. It will allow for construction of the new academic wing. Finally, some money (approx. \$1.5 million) will be directed toward tuition assistance.
6. **Why does \$1.5 million of the Capital Campaign go toward tuition assistance? Isn't there another campaign for that?** Making Guerin Catholic accessible to middle and lower income families who demonstrate a financial need is part of our mission as a Diocesan Catholic High School. Each year we have committed the fund raising dollars from the Golf Outing and the Guerin Gala to help fund tuition assistance. These efforts have only covered 30% to 40% of the needs-based financial tuition assistance. With a larger student body the need for tuition assistance is also growing. Finally, some donors may wish to direct their gifts to this part of the campaign.
7. **How much has been raised so far?** We have received some lead gifts and pledges thus far. We will be providing periodic updates of our success.
8. **How is the Capital Campaign different from The Annual Fund and other fund raising events?** The Opening Doors Campaign will provide for school expansion. The Annual Fund provides funds to bridge the gap between tuition and fees and the actual cost to educate a student. Other events have a particular purpose, for example the Guerin Gala is for tuition assistance.
9. **Why can't we simply raise tuition to cover expansion costs?** For many families providing the financial resources for our current tuition is a stretch. To cover all these costs would mean significantly raising tuition and would make our school financially inaccessible to many families and at a competitive disadvantage as compared with other Catholic high schools.

- 10. At what point do we begin to implement expansion?** The implementation of the expansion will happen over time in three major steps. This is timed to coincide with dollars received and with the growing demand of the school. The steps are: Step 1 – 2009 – Phase I of temporary classrooms and additional equipment. Parking lot if cash is available. Step 2 – 2010 – Phase II of temporary classrooms, additional equipment and new academic wing design phase. Step 3 – 2011 – Construction of new academic wing. We will be evaluating these steps and making adjustments as needed in response to student population and donations received.
- 11. Once construction of the new academic wing starts, how long is it projected to take?** The design phase is 6 to 8 months. Construction is 12 to 14 months.
- 12. Must the payment be spread out between the 3 years?** Payments are your discretion. You may pay one-time or in installments.
- 13. Will new families of incoming classes be asked to make a pledge to the Capital Campaign?** A broad range of groups will be invited to participate in the Opening Doors Campaign. Each incoming class will be made aware of, and afforded an opportunity to participate in, the Opening Doors campaign as they become involved in the Guerin Catholic community.
- 14. My family receives financial aid, what other ways can I get involved in the campaign?** We would appreciate help in any way. Even small gifts help us to reach our goal. If you are not able to make a financial gift, please consider inviting support from others like extended family. Everyone can participate through a commitment to prayer.
- 15. Given the economic challenges so many people face is this the time for Guerin Catholic to begin a capital campaign?** This is a challenging time for many people. Others are doing better. We feel this is an important time to begin the Opening Doors Campaign for several reasons. 1) There is an urgent need to provide additional classroom space at Guerin Catholic. 2) We have some generous lead gifts with which to launch the campaign. 3) While the economy is currently in recession we trust that it will improve over the three-year period of this campaign.
- 16. How will we ensure that money received through donations from foundations and corporations will not come from institutions that are in conflict with our Catholic Teaching and beliefs?** It is very difficult to know all the activities of any corporation. Corporations or foundations that take a public stand against the Church or whose mission is in conflict with the Catholic generally do not give to Catholic institutions. If we are aware of any donations coming from these institutions we will not accept them.
- 17. What role does the diocese play in the capital campaign?** Bishop William L. Higi, head of the St. Theodore Guerin High School Board of Directors, is the Opening Doors Campaign Honorary Committee chairman. The campaign has been approved by the School's Board of Directors, and the Diocese of Lafayette is providing assistance in fund raising.

18. **I've heard the Bishop Higi is retiring---how will this affect the school?** As a diocesan high school, St. Theodore Guerin will fall under the authority of Bishop Higi's successor. We don't anticipate any significant changes.
19. **Is our gift tax deductible?** Yes, to the extent allowed by law.
20. **Are there naming opportunities available?** Yes. There are naming opportunities for classrooms, dedicated art space and science labs. We will also be creating a donor recognition walkway as part of the courtyard between the academic wings. The Development office staff has additional information.
21. **What if we cannot pledge a large gift this year because we don't know what our situation will be in 12 or 24 months?** Prayerfully consider what you can pledge and know that you can make another gift or pledge later in the three-year campaign.
22. **What happens if I make a pledge that I am unable to fulfill? Or if I make a pledge, and am able to give more?** We are asking everyone to prayerfully make a pledge. We trust that God will provide the resources for our donors to fulfill their pledges. If your situation changes once you have made a pledge, please contact the Development Office.
23. **If I donate to the Opening Doors Campaign, will my grade-school aged child be assured admission to Guerin Catholic when the time comes?** As a diocesan high school we have open enrollment and give priority to both students who are members of diocesan parishes and those whose families are part of the Guerin Catholic community. An investment in Guerin Catholic by a grade-school family, either through donation of time or financial resources, while it does not guarantee enrollment for a student, does provide one way of becoming part of the Guerin Catholic community.
24. **Can I donate stocks, property or other assets?** Yes, you may donate appreciated stock by a direct transfer and avoid capital gains taxes. You should check with your financial advisor for the direct impact on your financial situation. You may also donate from your IRA account without incurring the early withdrawal penalty. Please check with the Development office for other options.
25. **What is the status of the debt that Guerin Catholic incurred when initially building the school?** Guerin Catholic initially borrowed \$16 million to build the school. The school is current with their payments associated with this debt and has made principal payments to-date reducing the balance by \$230,000.
26. **Will Guerin Catholic assume debt to break ground on the expansion project?** Given our financial situation, we will not break ground until we are confident that we have secured the necessary gifts and pledges. We may consider various financing options when we reach that point.
27. **Will the 1.5 million in tuition assistance be placed in an endowment fund so that the principal remains intact and tuition assistance is paid from investment income?** While we do have a small endowment and would like to add to this we are in immediate need to provide tuition assistance. If

a donor wishes to direct their gift to our tuition assistance endowment we are able to honor that request.