

# Episcopal



FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

October 27, 2016

## Annual Report for Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Diocese of Louisiana,

We had a flood! There is no other way to begin this annual report.

The flood hurt us, but it did not change us. The strength and beauty of our extended school and Episcopal Church community came to the forefront even before the rains stopped, however. The offered hand of support from St. Martin, Christ Episcopal, St. James, St. Luke's and Trinity was felt and appreciated. Thanks to the efforts of many, Episcopal School of Baton Rouge was able to start school with a minimal delay of six days. It is with great pleasure that I report to you that our insurance was adequate, thanks to work supervised by our Board of Trustees five years ago. We are grateful.

The principal damage was to athletic facilities; both of our gyms were flooded for two-to-three days. The two classroom buildings with slight flooding have been returned to service. We expect the gyms to be useable again by the end of November and February, respectively.

Our enrollment remains unaltered due to the flood. We stand today at 970 students in Pre-K3 through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Our fall open houses reflect an increased interest in admissions for the 17-18 school year. In short, there is no evidence of harm to our momentum from the flood, evil as it was to Baton Rouge and to our campus!

Accreditation visits from SAES and SAIS will take place jointly in February 2017. The faculty and administrators have been busily preparing the required information for the important February visit.

In the face of the pervasive harm to so many in Baton Rouge, we are putting aside the capital campaign which was in the "silent phase" before the flood. In lieu of a broad capital campaign, we are seeking (and we will continue to seek) contributions from donors we know to be capable of making contributions even after the flood. We are

hopeful of breaking ground in May on the Academic Commons building designed for innovative learning in the sciences, mathematics, and entrepreneurship.

I have saved the best for last, however. Near the end of November the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, the heart of our school, will be re-opened after several months of renovation. The renovations remain true to the original Chapel design and will facilitate an even deeper level of Episcopal Identity for us. God willing, Lessons and Carols, December 6, will be the first formal use of the renovated Chapel. Please join us.

We continue to flourish as a part of the Diocese. We are grateful for the interest of the Diocese in our "Mission and Ministry," and look forward to beginning another successful school year before the Convention meets again. This time, we would like to "x" the flood!

In the Bonds of Christ's Love,



Hugh M. McIntosh

Head of School