

# Fusion - Transfer Student Orientation Group

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JJI Cohort IV  
Capstone Project



# The Origin

Faculty members started a conversation about how different students assimilated to CBA. We looked at how different grades adjusted to the school based on when they enrolled (new in 7th grade, during hybrid, transfer). In the past we had tried to pair students and do a buddy system which was usually unsuccessful. At that point we started to look at what we as a community can do to make their first few weeks at CBA successful and will assist in retention.



# Our Initiative



Gather feedback from transfer students to help us come up with new better ways to make everyone's experience one that makes them feel like CBA is home.



# Our Goal

Our mission is to provide an environment where everyone feels welcomed, accepted, and valued, where they can connect with others, and build meaningful relationships to allow them to learn, grow, and thrive together. Our goal is to create a group which fosters this sense where each and every child we welcome to CBA feels that they belong to our community.



*“One of the biggest surprises in this research was learning that fitting in and belonging are not the same thing. In fact, fitting in is one of the greatest barriers to belonging. Fitting in is about assessing a situation and becoming who you need to be in order to be accepted. Belonging, on the other hand, doesn’t require us to change who we are; it requires us to be who we are.”*

*- brene brown*

*Presentations*



# Our Team - 2023



“Be warm-hearted to everyone,  
speaking to others in a gentle and  
respectful way.”

St. John Baptiste de la Salle



*representations*



# Pre-Welcome Party

The idea behind the pre-welcome party was to first welcome our transfers in a family-like atmosphere where the goal was simply to have fun, get to know each other with no pressure or expectations.



## FUSION

**“The merging of diverse, distinct elements into a unified whole to create a positive energy”**

**~Merriam Webster's Dictionary**

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# The Details

June 20, 2023

6-7:30pm

CBA Lower Field

Pizza, Chips, Cookies, Drinks

Lawn Games, Music, Hang out and get to know your new classmates

# The Preparation and Planning





# The First Event





**LET'S  
GO!**





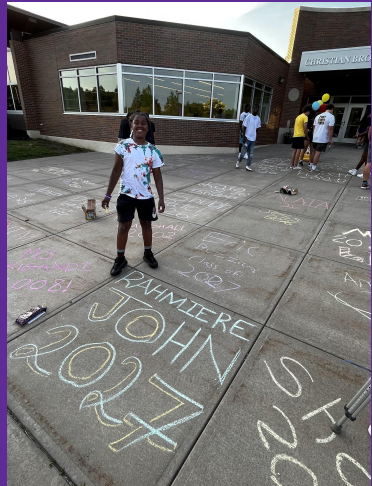
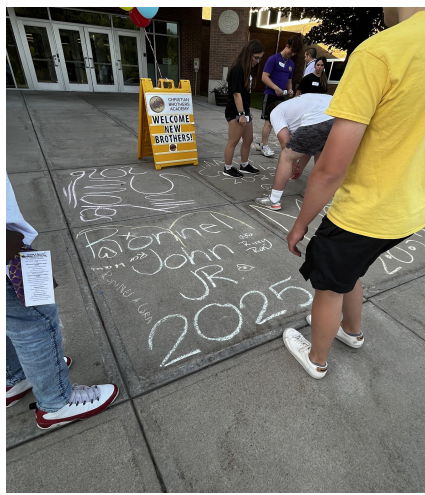
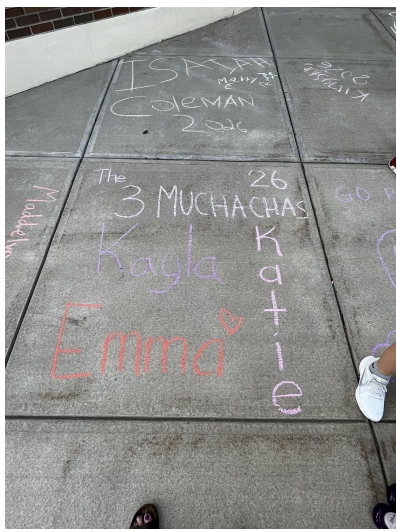
ReADY.  
SET. GO







**"For where two or three are gathered together  
in my name, I am there among them."  
Matthew 18:20**



# Make Your Mark At CBA

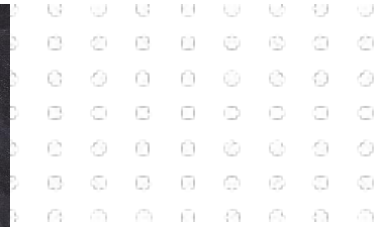
Sign the Sidewalk with your name and graduation year to show you are now a part of the CBA Family



# Our New Family

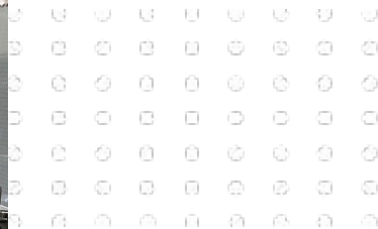


# Fall Orientation





# Meeting and Planning Committee

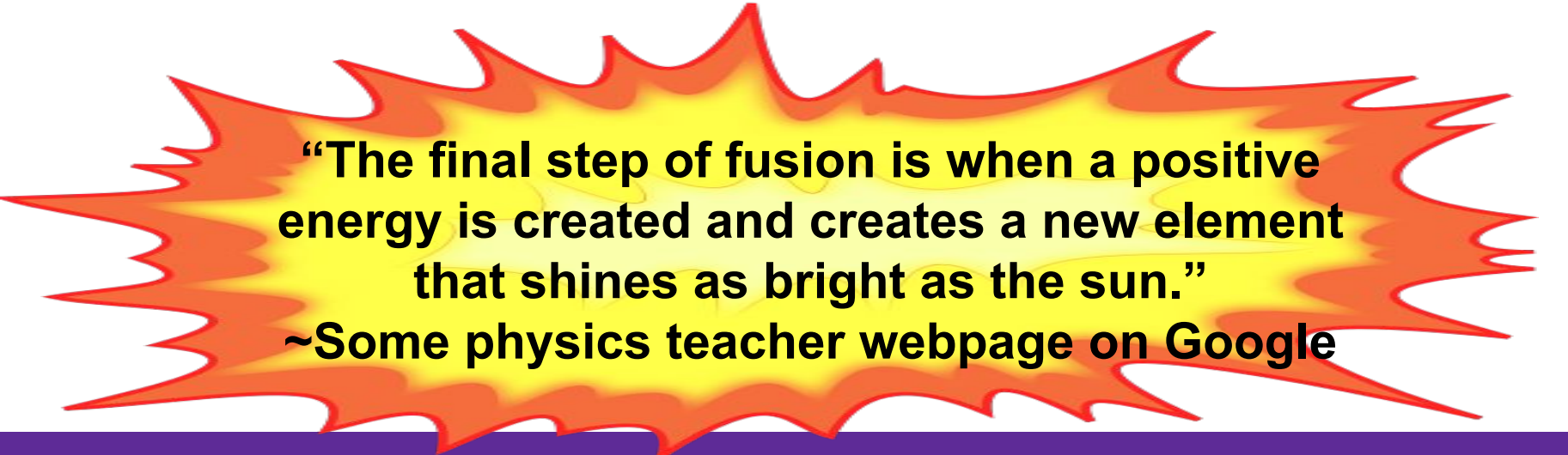




Summer Group Work



“What other place has so many kids willing to give up their summer to come help new students they’ve never met?”



**“The final step of fusion is when a positive energy is created and creates a new element that shines as bright as the sun.”  
~Some physics teacher webpage on Google**

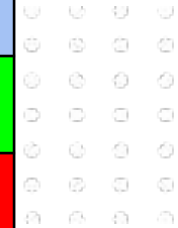
September 7

8:00am-12:00pm

Welcome to the first day of school!!!!!!

# Schedule

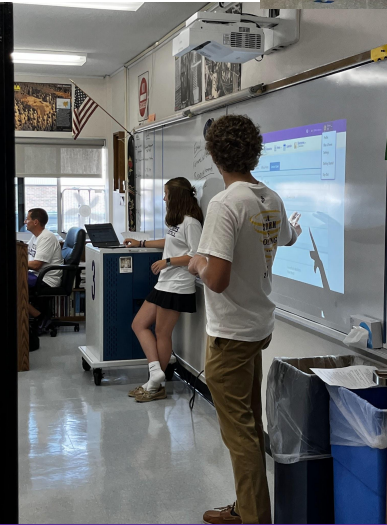
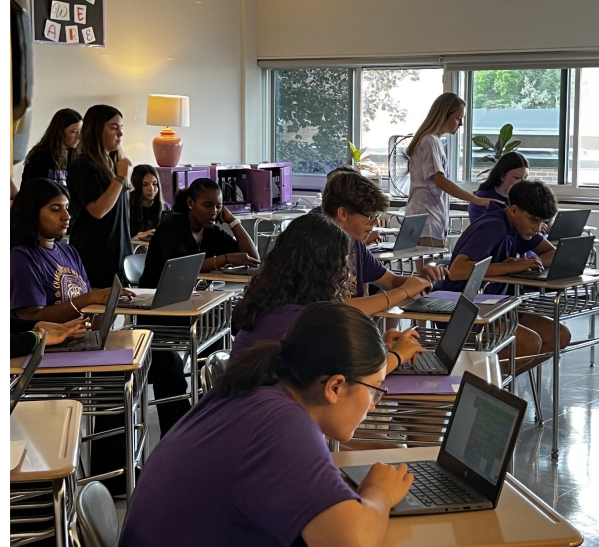
8:00-8:30 Dining Center	Welcome Prayer (Mrs. Major, Drew, Madi) Introductions - Mr. Marshall Ms. Brigandi Mrs. Pledger Mrs Dowd, 9th and 10 grade teachers
8:30-8:45 Dining Center	What it means to be LaSallian presentation Kate, Harriet
8:45-9:15 Building tour	Schedule Walk 1 fusion leader; 2 students
9:15-9:20	Finish schedule walk Gather in gym/Color code schedules
9:20-9:30	Mass Expectations -gym set up, seating, behavior, communion vs non communion Kayla, Aubrey
9:30-11:30	myCBA 3 classrooms (10s, 2 9s), instructions, myCba scavenger hunt, google forms, submission, quiz, discussion board
11:30-12	Lunch line practice Go through line, discuss lunch options, snack Riley, Hunter





## What It Means to be LaSallian

By: Kate Radford and Harriet Dweh



myCBA Presentation  
By: Emma Hill and Sully Moles  
Katie Pledger and Emmy McCartney  
Madi Cecelia and Ronnel John





## Lunch Details and Final Thoughts

By: Riley Clemmons-Butanko and Hunter Payne





BOYS TRACK 2001  
GIRLS SWIMMING 2001  
GIRLS CHEERLEADING 2002  
BOYS GOLF 2002

BOYS TRACK 2003  
GIRLS SWIMMING 2003  
GIRLS TENNIS 2003  
BOYS BASKETBALL 2004

BOYS GYMNASTICS 2005  
GIRLS SOCCER 2005  
GIRLS SWIMMING 2005  
GIRLS BASKETBALL 2006

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK 2007  
GIRLS GOLF 2007  
BOYS LACROSSE 2007  
BOYS TENNIS 2007

BOYS BASKETBALL 2009  
GIRLS INDOOR TRACK 2009  
BOYS TENNIS 2009  
GIRLS TRACK 2009

GIRLS TRACK 2009  
GIRLS TENNIS 2009  
BOYS INDOOR TRACK 2009  
GIRLS LACROSSE 2009  
GIRLS SOFTBALL 2009

# SECTION III CHAMPIONS



# FUSION 2023



# The End Results - Students

Students survey asked about the usefulness of the program and the success of the program.

We also asked specifically about:

- my CBA
- Schedule walk
- Comfort level in the school
- Helpful in finding friends



Feedback - 93% gave strong, positive feedback:

\*CBA did a good job introducing me to their school life and their expectations and I had no problem when school started because of this program.

\*I feel like it was very well put together and it is very helpful to new transfers coming in to CBA

\*I don't have any suggestions. I like what you did, and I think that you should continue what you're doing.

# Open House Helpers

Transfer students volunteering at our annual Open House



# The End Results - Teachers

## Faculty Feedback:

\*Hi Gretchen,

I, 100%, think that this program has made a difference. Their comfort level with each other from day 1 was noticeable. In my class, which has a large number of transfers, they all seem very willing to talk to and interact with each other much more than years past. Even students who at first glance you would think do not have much in common are chatting comfortably. I also feel this year that they were able to "hit the ground running" much more than years past. They are definitely more comfortable with the day to day and I had no students that were having trouble with myCBA at all.

\*My experience with them has been positive and it seems like they are well acclimated. Each of them seems to be very grateful to be here at CBA. Having a day for each of them to be here and learn specifics before the whole student population is back seems to have been positive for them.

\*I personally think that the transfer orientation program is a huge success. In PE I see my 11 new transfer students feeling much more acclimated than in previous years. I am a huge advocate for the program to run annually. It is very much needed to keep them here and to have them feel that they are a Brother!



*To touch the hearts of your pupils  
and to inspire them with the  
Christian spirit is the greatest  
miracle you can perform."*

Saint John Baptist de La Salle

# What We Learned

- 1. The best friendships happen organically
- 2. Pizza and ice cream > talking about education
- 3. A little helping hand and friendly goes a long way, especially when it comes to new learning platforms and academic success
- 4. No matter how awesome you think your students are, they are even better than that!



# From the student perspective.....



**Grade 10:**  
**Emmy McCartney**  
**Adele Sommer**  
**Riley**  
**Clemmons-Butanko**



**Grade 11:**  
**Amir Butler**  
**Madi Cecelia**

# Going Forward

- As we move into preparing for next school year, we will hand off the project to Brittany Brigandi, Dean of 9th and 10th grade and Alli Scullion, Guidance Counselor for 9th and 10th grade.
- The Planning Team has been put in place and will work with them to prepare the next group of FUSION students.
- Brittany and Alli will secure dates for events as well as start asking students to join for the next group.
- Dave and I will be available to help but this becomes a school program versus a JJI project

