



St. Benedict
CLASSICAL ACADEMY



A Message From the Headmaster

It is my great joy and privilege to be Headmaster of St. Benedict Classical Academy. I moved my family all the way from Mobile, Alabama to New England to take on this role because I believe that SBCA truly is a school like no other.

At SBCA, our beautiful Catholic faith and extensive, virtue-based character development program are woven intricately into a rich, time-tested classical curriculum, allowing us to build in our young scholars the foundation they need to succeed not only in the classroom and eventually the workforce but in their lives, in their relationship with their fellow man, as citizens and, one hopes, as future saints in Heaven. Our students need SBCA, and I believe our world needs SBCA students.

Since taking the helm, I have focused on innovating new ways to advance our mission and to continue the work of making SBCA the strongest and most vibrant classical Catholic school in the region. Through our distinctive program of study, our students are exposed to the good, the true, and the beautiful each day. From our school-wide, weekly study and practice of specific virtues, the institution of our school motto and model for behavior, “The St. Benedict Way,” to the academic study of science, history and religion, our students learn the beauty and truth of God’s benevolent design in each class, across the disciplines. Fine art adorns the walls of the SBCA schoolhouse, great literature is read in the classrooms, ancient Gregorian hymns are chanted in music class, kindness is shown from one student to the next, focus and diligence are modeled by extraordinary teachers, and faith is sewn into our young scholars’ hearts. There is no moment in the day, no mundane duty or lesson unworthy of being made into an opportunity to further our singular mission: to form our children into the scholars of academia and saints of Heaven.

I warmly welcome you to take a closer look at St. Benedict Classical Academy and discover all that your family- and our society- stands to gain from this noble school’s continued success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Boren". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Jay Boren, Headmaster



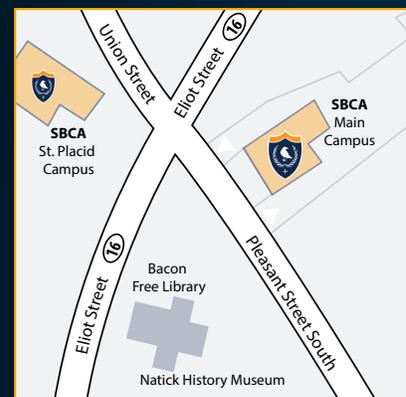
A Distinctive Light

St. Benedict Classical Academy is a school unlike any other. In the crowded landscape of independent schools in Greater Boston, SBCA shines a bright, distinctive light. Catholic, classical and character-focused, we prepare our students not only for success in the next chapter of their academic careers; far more importantly, we work alongside their parents to help lay the foundation for our students to lead lives of virtue and greatness, lives that will positively impact and transform the world. By interweaving rigorous, rich academics with virtue-based character education and Catholic religious formation, our students come to understand education for what it truly is: a noble, joy-filled pursuit, worthy of their dedication and focus.

St. Benedict Classical Academy

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1816



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“By steeping students in the works of the great intellectual, moral, and artistic leaders in world history, they have models to emulate: models of fine reasoning and writing but also of fine character. This is precisely what young children need today.”

-Dr. Sandra Stotsky, Emeritus Professor of Education,
University of Arkansas

Our Mission & Vision

Our Mission

St. Benedict Classical Academy strives to cultivate intellectual and moral virtue in pursuit of academic excellence. We seek to provide each student with a foundation for life, rooted in strong intellect, heart and character, formed in a joyful and faithful Catholic environment.

Our students matriculate on to the very best schools in the region. Included among them are:

Catholic Memorial School

Montrose School

Newton Country Day School

St. Sebastian's School

Ursuline Academy

Xaverian Brothers High School

Our Academic Vision

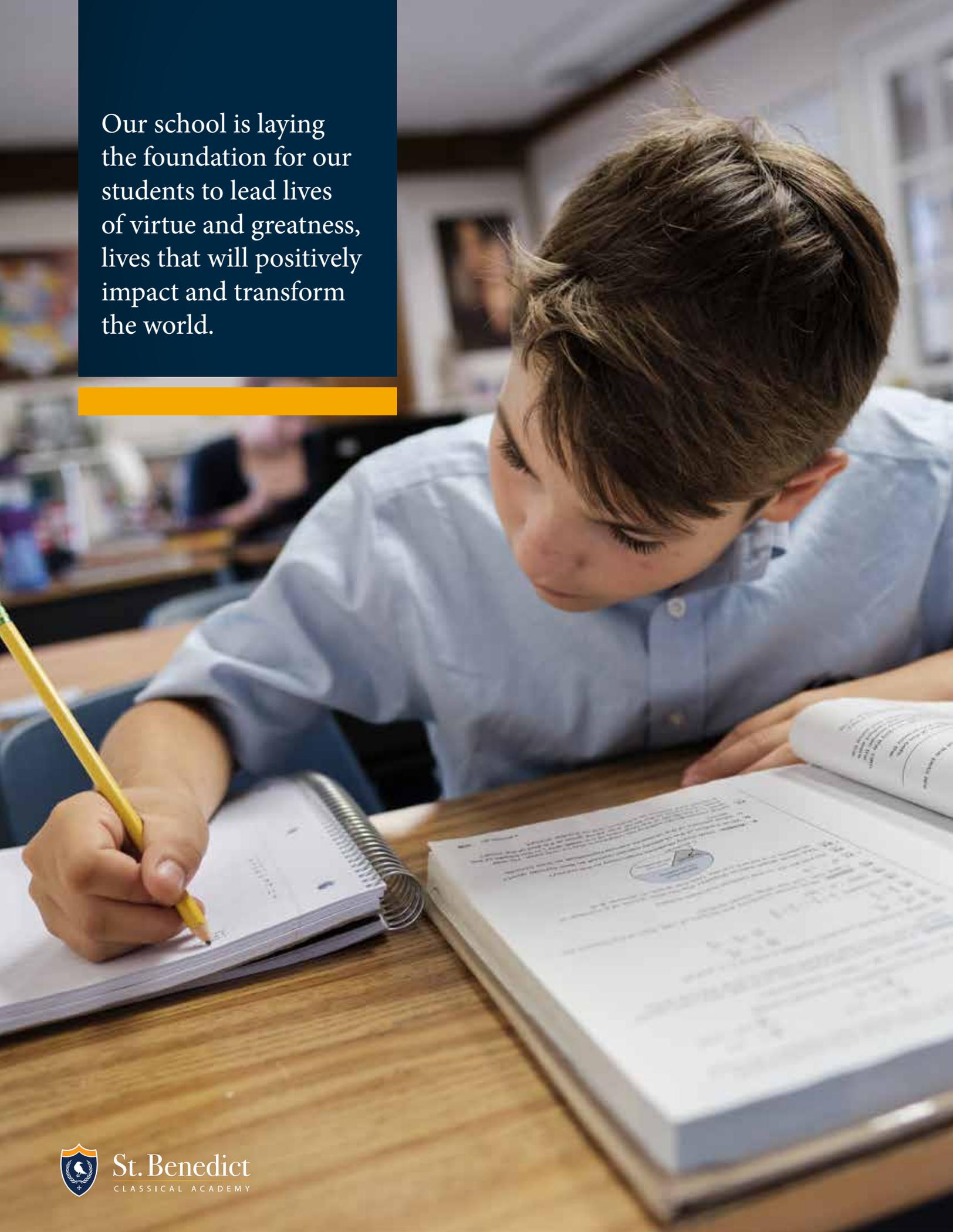
Our curriculum is inspired by the classical model which, while academically robust, tailors subject matter to each child's natural cognitive development. Instruction begins in the younger grades with strong emphasis on developing mastery over skills in the core subject areas of reading, writing, grammar and math while building a broader framework of knowledge in history, literature, language and science. Students in the older grades build on this foundation as they learn to analyze, question and think critically about

topics studied. This progression from learning facts to developing the ability to think analytically, combined with the integrated study of classical subjects, provides young children with the tools to think for themselves and to become independent, lifelong learners.

In uniting the Catholic Faith with a classical curriculum, and integrating into the life of the school the virtues first learned in the family, our students gain not only knowledge, but an appreciation of education as a noble pursuit.



Our school is laying the foundation for our students to lead lives of virtue and greatness, lives that will positively impact and transform the world.





St. Benedict Classical Academy offers a distinctive, classical education that seeks to help children grow in intellectual and moral virtue.

The Classical Difference

At every level of instruction there is an interweaving and integration of material. An interdisciplinary curriculum approach is constantly carried over to reinforce learning. During our Ancient civilizations course of study, for example, geography examines the ancient maps of the time; religion incorporates our Faith and Life Series through readings about Joseph in Egypt; the virtue of diligence may be introduced while the students examine the building



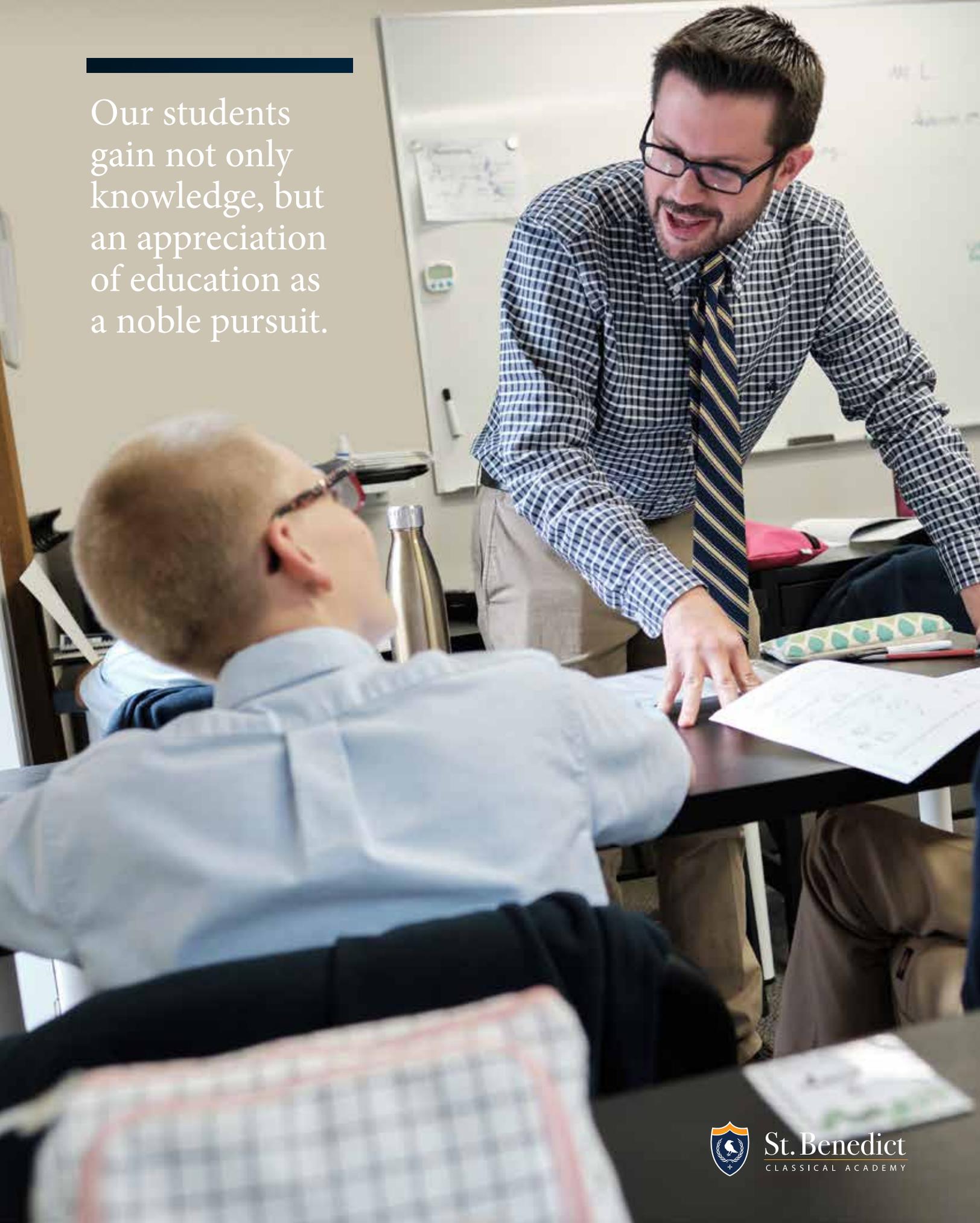
of the pyramids; history explores art and the complementary study of hieroglyphics; science examines rocks and rock formation; mathematics focuses on the structure of the polyhedron itself. Students guided in this assimilated framework learn fast the beauty, grandeur, glory, order, connectedness and symmetry of the world around them.

This is only one example of a course of study and how the integrated curriculum is experienced.



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RELIGION

The practice of the faith is woven through the life of the school with daily Morning Prayer, the Angelus at noon, weekly Mass celebrations, virtue talks, music classes, and community outreach and service projects.

The teachings and beauty of the Catholic faith are not only subjects of academic study in each grade, but are integrated into all of what we do at St. Benedict Classical Academy, providing unity and cohesiveness to the curriculum.

Students learn of the gift of the Scriptures through select copywork and memorization of psalms and verses. They explore the treasures of Christian culture, art, architecture, music, and literature.

MATH

The Saxon Math curriculum has attracted national and international attention because of its consistent track records of success.

All grades at St. Benedict study a level up in Saxon Math. Saxon Math, often referred to as the “Gold Standard” in math, is well known for its spiral method, which enables students to solidify their grasp of math facts in the younger grades. Singapore Math’s widely reputed modeling methods allow older students to learn increasingly abstract mathematical concepts with greater ease.





VIRTUE-BASED CHARACTER EDUCATION

At St. Benedict Classical Academy, education empowers students to be the best they can be, the people God designed them to be. Students can truly only excel intellectually if they have learned and put into practice the human virtues that enable them to develop strong moral character—an internal compass that guides them to use their intellectual gifts for the common good. Growth in human virtue alongside instruction and practice of the faith leads to the development of faithful, responsible, considerate and committed people.

Each month at St. Benedict Classical Academy, a set of virtues is promoted in the curriculum and practiced in our school setting and at home. The virtues are first defined and explored, and then integrated into the curriculum through stories, history, poetry and literature.



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“I love SBCA because of the great community that has been established here. Since I started, I have been amazed by the beautiful Catholic culture that is fostered at SBCA. I love that I am able to share and help that continue to grow as a teacher.”

-Finlay Cushen

FOSS SCIENCE

The FOSS Program is built upon firsthand exploration of phenomena, using classroom-proven theories and practices to engage students. With a student-first approach to teaching, students become active investigators in science instead of passive spectators. It is known that the best way for students to appreciate the scientific enterprise, learn important scientific and engineering concepts, and develop the ability to think well is to actively participate in scientific practices through their own investigations and analyses. The FOSS Program was created specifically to provide students with meaningful experiences by engaging in active participation in scientific exploration. Through their studies and hands-on experimentation, students come to appreciate science and to discover the beauty and intricacy of God’s created world.

ART

The study of art should encourage hands-on participation and inquiry into the lives and works of the great masters of art.

The study of art will naturally complement the study of history, language arts and religion, exposing students to the variety of ways people have expressed themselves throughout history.

LATIN

Exposure to Latin begins in Pre-Kindergarten at SBCA, as Latin phrases adorn our walls and are often recited or referenced during the weekly celebration of Holy Masses and other gatherings. The academic study of Latin begins in Grade 3, when every student begins to learn the language in greater depth. Study of grammar, vocabulary, and usage of this beautiful and ancient language begins in Grade 5. The study of Latin not only allows our students to become versed in a language so important to Church history; it enriches their study of English itself and sets an excellent foundation for the study of foreign languages in their secondary school years.



Faith & Virtue

St. Benedict Classical Academy offers a distinctive, classical education that seeks to help children grow in intellectual and moral virtue, all while experiencing the joy of learning in a Christ-centered community, rooted in the beauty and riches of the Catholic faith. The practice of the faith will be woven through the life of the school, including:

Daily Morning Prayer

Angelus

Daily Act of Contrition

Monthly Adoration and
Confession

Religion Class

Celebration of Weekly Mass and
Holy Days of Obligation

Virtue-Based Character
Education

Service Projects and
Community Outreach



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“Having Mass every Tuesday and having our own chapel [is my favorite thing about SBCA] because it is such a privilege to have extra time to spend with God besides Sundays.”

-Bernadette ('19)

Our Catholic Identity

Founded out of a fervent love for Christ and his Church, the board of trustees, administration, faculty and staff embrace the vision of St. Benedict Classical Academy's founders to be a great Catholic school. Thus, faithfully instructing and modeling the teachings of the Catholic Church is the essential focus of St. Benedict Classical Academy. It was with great joy in April of 2015 that Cardinal Sean O'Malley, O.F.M., Cap., Archbishop of Boston, decreed that St. Benedict Classical Academy might be recognized as an independent Catholic school. As a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Boston, we believe that our faithful teaching of the Catholic faith is an inherent part of our mission and reason for our very existence. The practice of the Catholic faith, as handed down by the Magisterium and articulated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, is integral to all we do at St. Benedict Classical Academy.

From morning prayer to end of the day examination of conscience, school-wide saint studies to community service projects, weekly Mass to monthly time for adoration and confession, visits from priests and religious to days of recollection, daily religion classes to celebrating liturgical seasons, St. Benedict Classical Academy strives to cultivate a love for the faith each and every day. Inspired by our classical pedagogy, it is an essential part of our mission to integrate the faith into all subject areas, allowing students to discover how faith and reason complement and elevate one another.

Catholic Education Honor Roll

St. Benedict Classical Academy has received recognition from the Cardinal Newman Society as a Catholic Education Honor Roll School. The Cardinal Newman Society began recognizing Catholic high schools and colleges in 2004 as a resource for those looking for authentically Catholic schools with a rigorous academic program. St. Benedict Classical Academy is among one of the very first elementary schools in the country to have received this honor. A thorough internal and external review of our program was necessary to receive this recognition and the title speaks to the character of the school's Board of Trustees, staff, and, most importantly, of the students and families at St. Benedict Classical Academy.

Principles of Catholic Education

Principles of Catholic Identity in Education articulates elements the Church expects to find in all Catholic schools and which distinguish them from other schools. The principles are derived from Church documents related to education, including the documents of Vatican II, documents from the Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education, and the writings of various Popes. The five principles are:

- Inspired by Divine Mission
- Models Christian Communion
- Encounters Christ in Prayer, Scripture, and Sacraments
- Integrally Forms the Human Person
- Imparts a Christian Understanding of the World

Each principle includes a summary which is comprehensive, yet concise, and reflects the language found in the Church documents.



Culture & Community

“St. Benedict’s isn’t just a place where you can receive a great education, it’s also a place where you can make wonderful friends.” (Benedict ‘21)



“When you have a good thing going, word travels fast. A classical curriculum has always been at the heart of what our family seeks in education. Before St. Benedict Classical Academy, we homeschooled our children, but when we learned of the school, the decision to allow our children the opportunity for an authentically Catholic, classic liberal arts program was an easy one. St. Benedict Classical Academy is the only elementary school in the entire state founded in this mold.

My family feels extremely blessed to be part of a community with parents who are invested in their children’s education, faculty who respect and value the dignity of every student, and where the Catholic faith is robustly alive. The addition of a new chapel, along with weekly Holy Mass, opportunities for eucharistic adoration, and confession coupled with a pursuit for academic excellence, sets SBCA apart from other schools. We have been so pleased with the addition of classes, such as speech and debate, and the after-school enrichment programs, particularly drama and flag football, in which our children have excitedly participated.

I absolutely love St. Benedict Classical Academy. My husband and I have endured the challenges of commuting from Weymouth with six kids in tow because we know, with confidence, that we’re bringing our kids to a unique school that is unsurpassed in its mission to form hearts and minds in the Catholic tradition. Besides the impressive curriculum and the incredible character formation for our children, the holistic approach to education is unsurpassed. Where else can students develop an appreciation for art, literature, and philosophy while absorbing all they need to outperform their peers in standardized testing? When children remain eager to go to school and complain about days off, you know there is something special. At SBCA, the “specialness” of school keeps the awe in learning and that’s something you can’t just find anywhere--it’s why we’re happy to drive the distance we do.”

-Mary & Victor Pap, Parents of Isabella (‘18), Victor (‘20), Julius (‘22), Eloisa (‘24), and Philip Pap (‘26)

“We are blessed to have found a school where our children will learn to recognize authentic truth, appreciate natural beauty, explore the development of Western Civilization through art, history and culture and, ultimately, where they will leave prepared to succeed in today’s complex world. Simply put, there’s no place like SBCA and our only regret is that we didn’t find it sooner! There’s no better feeling than listening to our kids discuss the highlights of weekly Mass, share stories of their new favorite saints and debate which army was toughest: the Romans, the Greeks, or the good old Minuteman. They are engaged in their learning in a way their peers at other schools simply aren’t, all thanks to the excellent curriculum and passionate dedication of the teachers to the mission of SBCA. I could go on and on, but suffice it to say, SBCA has exceeded every expectation.”

-Katie & Matthew Murphy, Parents of Brian (‘21), Paul (‘24), Julia (‘25), and Anna Kate Murphy (‘28)



Lighting the Way Forward



It is an exciting time to be a part of St. Benedict Classical Academy. Our school has identified itself as a distinctive and bright beacon in the greater Boston educational landscape and enrollment has been steadily increasing each year. In the brief period of time since our founding, we have gained over 100 students, received formal recognition through the National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools (NAPCIS), gained official Catholic status through the Archdiocese of Boston, and received recognition from the Cardinal Newman Society as a Catholic Education Honor Roll School.

Additionally, in March of 2019, we were blessed to be able to purchase the Winona Farm property as the future permanent home of SBCA. Though much work awaits us as we engage in the fundraising process to build our new school building, we are filled with excitement and hope as we look forward to the bright future in store for SBCA.

As we strive to grow our program and to ultimately establish a new home, we rely on the generous contributions of those who share in our vision. By making a gift to St. Benedict Classical Academy you are helping to form the next generation of great thinkers, doers, makers, and leaders. Students who are ready, willing, and able to commit their God-given talents and abilities to serve their fellow man.

To learn more about ways to support St. Benedict Classical Academy visit us at stbca.org/support-sbca/

Admissions

Next Steps:

1. Complete the Online Application:

Please complete the online application prior to your scheduled school visit. Access our online application through our admission/enrollment platform, Blackbaud, at <https://stbenedictelementary.myschoolapp.com/app#login/apply>

2. Complete the Online Financial Aid Application (if applicable):

If you are interested in applying for tuition assistance, complete the online financial aid application at <https://smartaidforparents.com#/login> using the school code: 14332

3. Schedule Your School Visit:

Prospective parents and students are asked to complete a school visit as part of the admission process. For more information or to schedule a visit, please contact our Director of Admissions, Sarah Barry, at sbarry@stbca.org or 508-650-1900.

Contact

Headmaster

Jay Boren (jboren@stbca.org)

Director of Admissions & Advancement

Sarah Barry (sbarry@stbca.org)

Assistant Director of Admissions

Gabrielle Morris (gmorris@stbca.org)

General Inquiries

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A Word From the President of the Board of Trustees

“Simply put, SBCA exists to guide and direct our children toward excellence, excellence in academics and excellence of character. These twin goals of an SBCA education aim to produce graduates who will be the outstanding leaders the world of tomorrow

desperately needs. We believe elementary education should be greater than a collection of social experiments or a factory for cubicle bound automatons. As a technology executive at a startup, I have decades of evidence that the classical approach to education produces the type of imaginative innovators and critical thinkers with strong academic fundamentals who will thrive in the knowledge-based work of the future.

SBCA aims to be the bellows for natural curiosity... transforming it into a lifetime love of learning. We aim to help our students recognize beauty and goodness by exposing them to it and drawing attention to it. SBCA faculty and parents aim to share and pass down our own love for God and the Catholic faith with our students.

As a parent of both graduates of SBCA and of current students, I am a witness to the grand effect that SBCA has had on my own children and our family. While our children are, like all of us, works in progress, they are actually making progress. Among other areas, we've taken particular note of accelerated growth in knowledge, self-discipline, charity, humility, and perseverance.

How refreshing to see the children at SBCA afforded special attention for both their unique academic and character strengths as well as assistance in overcoming their individual weaknesses. How amazing to see these children being transformed day by day into people who gradually think more of others than of themselves. How hope-giving to share with our children a passion for civilization's foundations, discovering together what lessons from the past we might apply to improve our world today. How joy-filled our mealtime is when our children share through recitation treasured poems. How gratifying to see our graduates go on to the region's top college preparatory schools and excel as full flourishing human beings beyond the confines of SBCA. How inspirational to have a community of students, parents, faculty and staff-- all pilgrims --fumbling our way, humbly, together towards greater love for God and our neighbors.

If you would like to be a part of the amazing things that are happening at SBCA, contact us to see for yourself.”

- Dan Bachiochi, President of the Board of Trustees



St. Benedict Classical Academy

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