

Build the Future (BTF) Strategic Plan Update: St. Dominic Savio Catholic High School

This highlights updates from our last plan summary in September. We are designing a new template to reflect targeted goals and progress that extend into a five-year look, and beyond. This new template will be shared with the school community in May 2026. We are thankful and blessed by the faculty, staff, students, parents, and supporters of our school who provide prayers, time, talents, and support each year.

Governance Structure and Leadership

Objective: Strengthen leadership, governance, and collaboration.

- Clarify leadership roles and responsibilities.

The position of Coordinator of Catholic Mission, Identity and Culture was filled in January by Deacon Rudy Villareal. He is working part-time for the remainder of the school year.

- Ensure Board compliance and full participation.

With the departure of Fr. Tom, his position on the Board will be vacant until the Bishop appoints his replacement. We thank Fr. Tom for his 4 ½ years of service to our school. With the addition of Deacon Rudy to our school staff, his Board position is now open. We filled one of our open positions with Mr. Brenden Morris. He started his term in December 2025, and we have 2 open positions to be filled. They can be parents or non-parents.

- Activate Board Advisory Committees.

The Facilities and Grounds, Advancement, Academic Excellence, and Communications committees were expanded this Fall. Each meet on a quarterly basis.

- Explore collaboration with Holy Family Catholic School.

The performing arts, choral music, and athletic department collaboration initiatives are in place and will continue for the 2026-2027 school year. Reviewing options for a combined facilities and grounds department, shared financial forecasting tools, advancement department reorganization and communications department reorganization for the 2026-2027 school year.

There will be a combined review and strategic planning meeting with the Holy Family Board in June 2026.

- With the appointment of our new Bishop, a meeting to present our school profile, share our current and future story, and answer any of his questions is to be scheduled, per his availability.

Financial Management & Sustainability

Objective: Ensure long-term financial health and transparency.

- Develop a five-year budget forecast.

The goal of a five-year financial budgeting tool has been met. This assists with the monitoring of current year and long-range needs and forecasts, starting with the 2026-2027 budget. Both HFCS and Savio are using this tool within the finance committee.

- The State Educational Savings Accounts (ESA) was renamed the Texas Education Freedom Accounts (TEFA).

Both school enrollment directors have collaborated on the promotion of the TEFA program to our current families and new applicants. This new initiative is designed to support families needing assistance to attend private, or in our case, Catholic schools.

Advancement and Fund Development

Objective: Strengthen advancement strategy and donor engagement.

- “The Gratitude Report” for 2024-2025 was shared in the Fall. The annual report for this year will be updated and shared at the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year.
- “Week of Giving” was implemented in the Fall. This was the second year of this strategy, and it met and exceeded the targeted goal for the annual fund for the first time in four years.
- The Advancement Committee began in the Fall and meets on a quarterly basis. This committee’s work focuses on reviewing and supporting the annual advancement plan, providing support for identified fundraisers, and providing feedback to the Advancement Office and President.
- The “Ways to Give” portfolio was completed to provide clarity to those interested in general, targeted, and legacy gifts to the school. It is used for individual donor discussions.

Catholic Mission, Identity, and Culture

Objective: Deepen Catholic identity and community connection.

- Engage Mission and Identity Committee.

The Committee has been established and scheduled for quarterly meetings. Fr. Tom's position will be filled after the announcement and assignment of his replacement for the parish.

- Create a written identity, mission and culture plan.

The plan from the 2024-2025 school year was developed and implemented in the Fall.

- Strengthen partnerships with the Diocese of Austin and the Dominican Sisters.
- We are in year two of the collaborative agreement with St. Vincent de Paul and Holy Family to provide priests on the school campus. We will meet with the new Pastor in the future to discuss the continuation of this agreement.
- A Student Participation Survey will be offered again to our students this year. Results will be reviewed and communicated with our committees, the Board, and school community.

Academic Excellence

Objective: Improve instructional quality and student outcomes.

- The Academic Excellence Committee has been established. It has scheduled quarterly meetings. The focus of this committee is to review current program offerings, results, and provide feedback to school administration. Additionally, the committee is working on identifying long-term needs and opportunities to address growing enrollment and opportunities.

- Track student success metrics.

Student participation in AP classes, National Merit exams, and other academic activities are monitored and shared with faculty, staff, and parents each year.

- Student Tutoring and Support Program.

Student-led tutoring support is offered through the Savio National Honor Society members.

The Intervention Support and Case Management position works in collaboration with school administration, faculty, staff, parents, and students. A new student support plan document has been implemented. A monitoring, management, and communication of student progress program will be implemented in 2026-2027.

- AI and “Smart Families” collaboration with Holy Family.

The faculty and staff attended the first Smart Families training on August 6, 2025. Parent sessions have been promoted throughout the year and collaboration with Holy Family has provided a comprehensive view to support families, faculty and staff in addressing screen time issues.

The school implemented a “no cell phone” policy during the school day this year.

- Update instructional technology plan.

Student interns have worked in collaboration with the Director of Technology to provide support to students, faculty, and staff throughout the year.

The school-issued laptop program is expanding for the 2026-2027 school year.

Student Activities and Programs

Objective: Expand student enrichment through programs and innovation.

- Monitor athletic participation, programs and resources.

The Director of Athletics for Grades 5 – 12 and Assistant are developing protocols for consistency across all sports. A coaching handbook will be in place for 2026-2027.

Student requirements for participation have been communicated to parents with timelines and deadlines.

Collaboration with Holy Family has increased with meetings and planning with their AD.

Planning meetings for the lighting project and upgraded strength and condition room are ongoing.

Facilities, Grounds & Beautification

Objective: Modernize and expand campus infrastructure.

- Review and update Facilities Committee membership.

The Facilities and Grounds Committee was expanded and meets quarterly.

The “Reserve Audit” of the campus facilities and grounds was completed in the Fall and is being reviewed by the facilities and finance committees. Projected needs in maintenance, repairs, and replacement will be inserted into the five-year financial forecast tool.

- Begin long-range planning for classroom and parking lot needs.

A “Strategic Enrollment and Market Outlook” report was completed and shared with the Board in November 2025. This report is being used with the long-range financial tool, reserve audit report and enrollment data trends to develop plans for future capital campaigns. Primary needs, at this time, are the athletic complex, additional classroom spaces for enrollment and program needs, and parking.

Communications and Marketing

Objective: Elevate communications strategy, support, and school visibility.

- “Gratitude Report” published and sent in the Fall. Will go out in the Fall each year.
- Quarterly magazines sent out as scheduled.
- Communication Committee established in the Fall. Quarterly and “as needed” meetings held. Focus of this committee is to provide feedback to Communications Department and assist with branding and outreach initiatives.