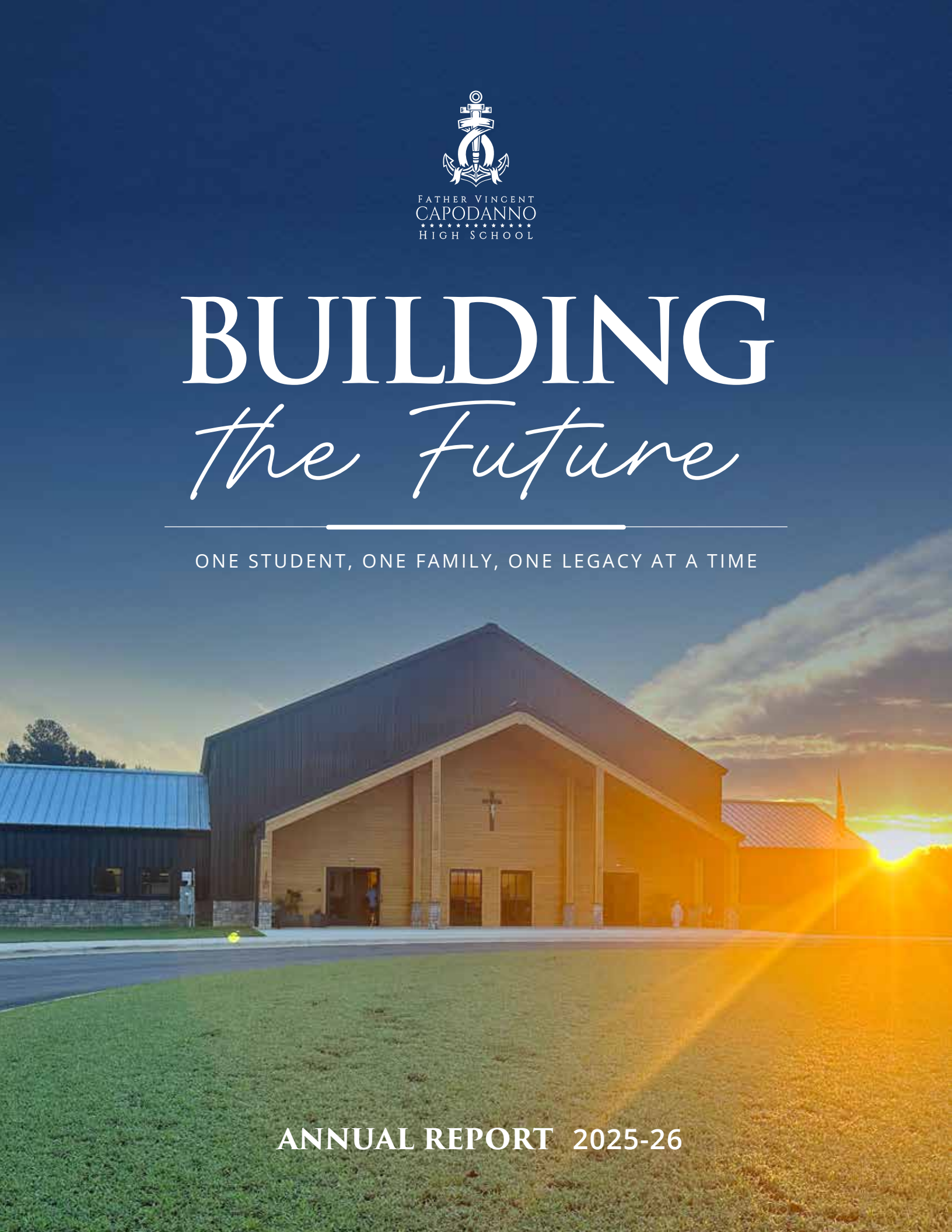
FATHER VINCENT
CAPODANNO
HIGH SCHOOL

BUILDING *the Future*

ONE STUDENT, ONE FAMILY, ONE LEGACY AT A TIME



ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

FROM A CORN FIELD
to a growing legacy!

APRIL 2022

PURCHASED 18 ACRE CORN FIELD

MAY 2025

GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

AUGUST 2025

SITE WORK

OCTOBER 2025

BEAMS ERECTED

MAY 2026

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

AUGUST 2026

READY FOR STUDENTS

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. Psalm 127:1

DEAR FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

St. Augustine, in meditating on Psalm 127 states, "Now all of us make an effort, all of us work, all of us struggle to build; and before us, others worked and struggled and built. **But if the Lord does not build the house, in vain do the builders labor.**" This reflection was especially meaningful to us in 2026 as we finished construction on our permanent school building.

A short review of our history reveals the wonder of God's providence. Ten years ago, Fr. Vincent Capodanno High School was just an idea. Four years later, we celebrated our first graduation class. Four years ago, we bought an 18-acre corn field and dreamed of moving our mission there. Three years ago, we started an annual fund to fuel our educational model. With your support, we broke ground on a new school in 2025---and in May of 2026, we opened the doors and moved in! This year we will seed our endowment so future Grunts can continue to build.

As we look to the future of a rapidly-changing world, our ***Building Resilient Leaders strategic plan*** will guide us on the path to continue arming students with the clarity and courage to pursue God's purpose for their lives: heaven, character and vocation. Thank you for your continued support of Fr. Vincent Capodanno High School; we could not fulfill our mission without your prayers and support.

"Pray as if everything depended on God, work as if everything depended on you."
~St. Augustine

J Skillman

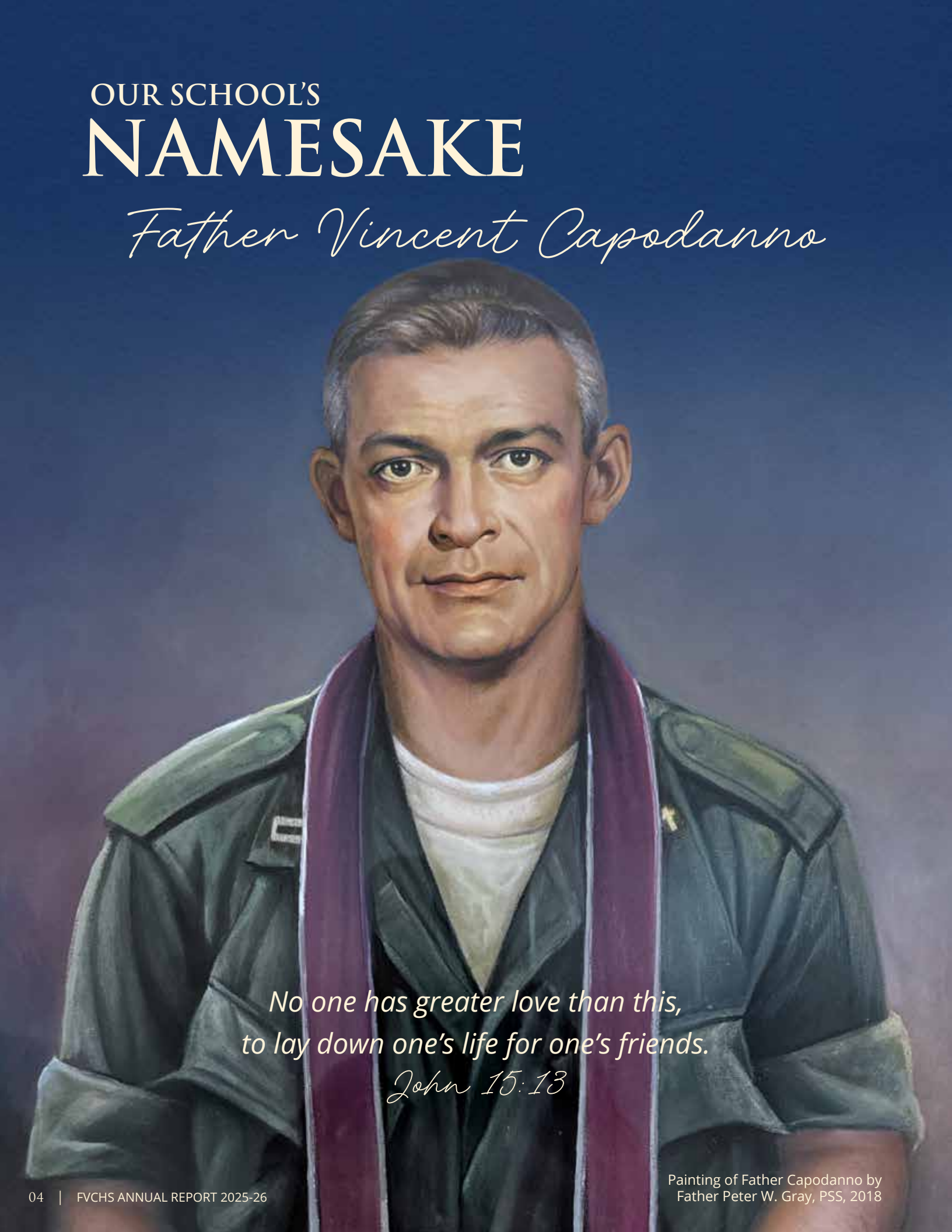
Joe Skillman, Principal

Mike Erwin

Mike Erwin, President of the Board

OUR SCHOOL'S NAMESAKE

Father Vincent Capodanno



No one has greater love than this,
to lay down one's life for one's friends.
John 15:13

Painting of Father Capodanno by
Father Peter W. Gray, PSS, 2018

His legacy lives on in our mission.

Father Vincent Capodanno courageously chose a life of service. With clarity and conviction, he answered God's call to the priesthood and dedicated his life to serving others. After ministering as a missionary in Taiwan, he volunteered to serve U.S. Marines during the Vietnam War, providing spiritual guidance.

On September 4, 1967, while ministering to wounded Marines during intense combat, Father Capodanno repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire to aid others. He ultimately gave his life while serving the men entrusted to his care.

For his extraordinary courage and selfless sacrifice, Father Capodanno was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. In 2006, the Catholic Church declared him a Servant of God, formally opening his Cause for Canonization.

Father Capodanno's life exemplified faith in action, servant leadership, resilience, and unwavering dedication to God's purpose. His example continues to inspire our students to live with courage, serve others selflessly, and pursue lives of meaning and virtue.

As Grunts, we strive to follow his example by becoming resilient leaders armed with the clarity and courage to pursue God's purpose for our lives.

THE CAPODANNO EXPERIENCE

Service

3000+
SERVICE HOURS

"Service is an opportunity to build stories and serve people in need."

~Sarah Raetz

Character

ROOTED IN VIRTUE

"Building true character is not shown during successes, but rather in how I respond to adversity."

~Aubrey Lott

Order

WEEKLY
MASS & PRAYER

"God is always first; and trusting in His plan for our lives is crucial to an ordered Christ-like life. Striving to live out a life of virtue is the key to a life well lived."

~Henry DeBruhl

Developing resilient leaders armed with the clarity and courage to pursue God's purpose for their lives.

Leadership

6

CREDITS OF LEADERSHIP
REQUIRED FOR 4 YEARS

"I've learned that "Real leadership is getting the job done while taking care of your team. It is serving both the job at hand and the people doing it."

~Jonah Marsh

Academics

100%

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE
FOR CLASS OF '25

"Academics push me to grow in knowledge so that I can achieve the goals I've set and pursue the calling God has for me."

~Salem Capps

Resiliency

4

YEARS
OF RESILIENCY DEVELOPMENT

"Resiliency can be understood as a mixture of optimism, perseverance, and intelligence. We got to learn about and practice resiliency especially as Juniors and I'm grateful for it."

~Roman Waldo

ONCE A GRUNT

Always a Grunt!

Our Alumni carry the values of Capodanno with them – into college, into their careers, and into the world. They are servant leaders, faithful, and make a difference.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Class of 2022

ANDREW MARSH
Virginia Tech '26
Army 2LT

Andrew Marsh was a standout student and athlete with two athletic records still standing. He attended Virginia Tech on an Army ROTC scholarship and graduated in 2026. He received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and is currently completing initial training as an Engineer Officer.

Class of 2023

JULIA GRAVES
SCC Nursing '26
UNC Children's Hospital Nurse

Julia Graves brought joy to the Capodanno campus daily through classes, service, and athletics. She pursued her childhood dream of healthcare and graduated from Sandhills Community College in 2026 as a Pediatric Respiratory Therapist. She accepted a job at UNC Children's Hospital and is actively involved in young adult Catholic groups.

Class of 2024

LIEM NGUYEN
SCC Automotive '27
Toyota Technician

Liem Nguyen gained clarity and realized his purpose while attending Capodanno. After he graduated, he attended Sandhills Community College where he is nearly complete with their automotive program. He has already been hired as a technician at the Toyota dealership and still dreams of working in the auto racing industry.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

38
GRADUATED

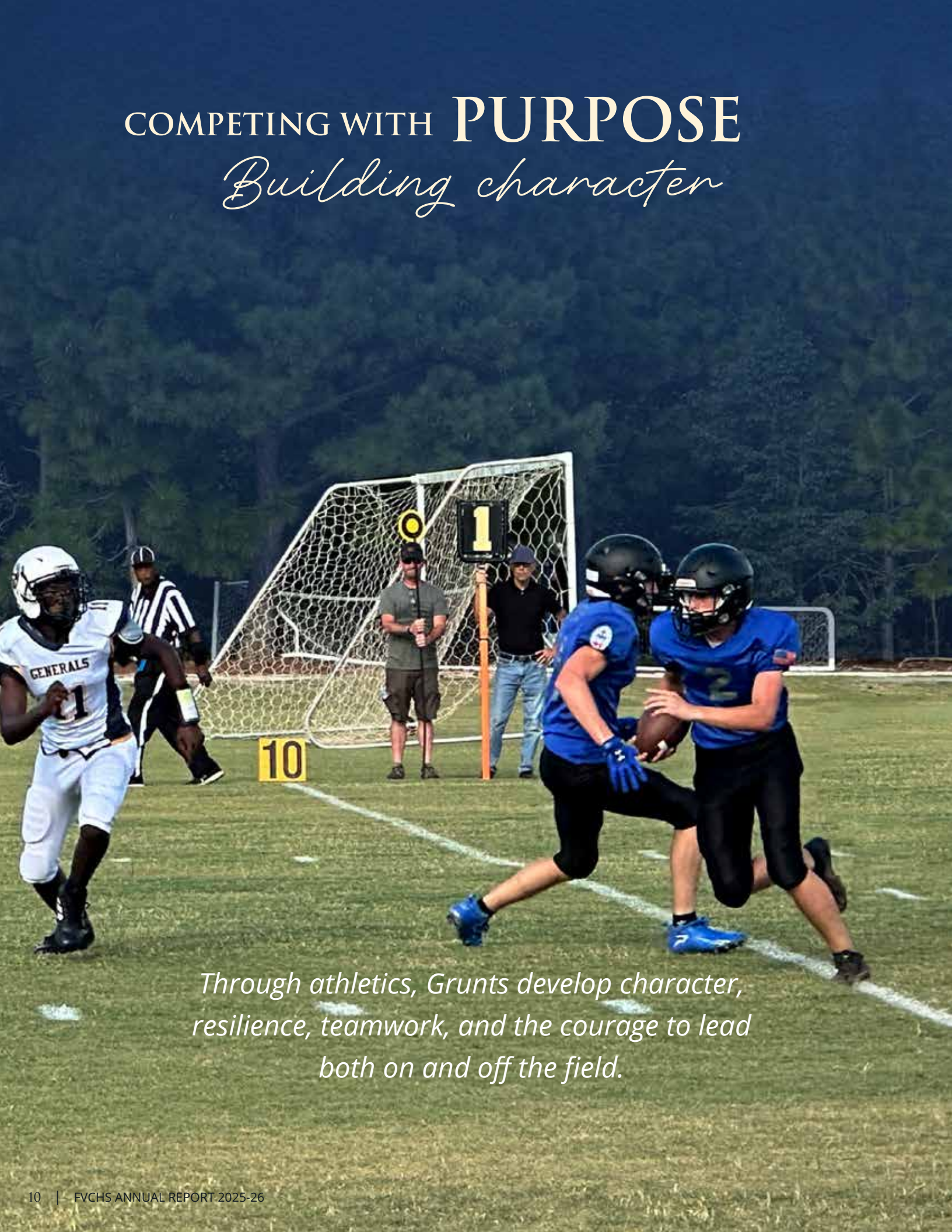
32
ATTENDED COLLEGE

6
IN THE WORKFORCE

ALL!
MAKING AN IMPACT IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

COMPETING WITH PURPOSE

Building character



Through athletics, Grunts develop character, resilience, teamwork, and the courage to lead both on and off the field.

FALL SPORTS

Football

Since 2021, Grunts competed in the fast paced, open field 8-Man football. Together with other private high schools, the Grunts built a competitive conference in central North Carolina. Former high school and college football head coach, Coach Bob Curtin, has grown the team into a year-round program. Way to go Grunt Nation!

Girls Volleyball

Father Capodanno's girls' volleyball program is a strong, established program built on hard work, dedication, and success. The Lady Grunts are three-time defending C-4 Conference champions, having captured consecutive titles in 2023, 2024, and 2025. They are the hallmark of character and leadership through athletics.

Cross Country

Grunt Cross Country (XC) started a strong fourth season with offseason summer fun runs and an overnight XC Camp. Capodanno offers competitive Boys and Girls XC for local runners. Last year was the first year that Grunt runners earned top prizes and stood on the podium. Way to work Grunt XC!

Shooting

The Grunts started a competitive Shooting Team in 2025 and by the end of the year one Grunt was a NC State Champ and another Grunt was runner-up.. This unique program is built on discipline, focus, responsibility, and respect, offering students the opportunity to develop skills on the ranges. The team competed in local, regional, and state level clay trap, archery, and long rifle competitions.

COMPETING WITH PURPOSE

Building character

WINTER/SPRING SPORTS

Boys Basketball

One of the first sports started at Capodanno was Boys basketball and last year was our seventh season. Last year was about building the program and establishing player leadership to play a role in the season. The Grunt boys finished strong and are postured to remain a successful team where character, skill, and leadership emerge through athletics.

Girls Basketball

Girls basketball is one of our longest running sports at Capodanno and remains a touchstone for character and leadership development. The Lady Grunts committed to a season of hard work and growth, while also bringing the joy of competition.

Track

The Grunts established a robust Track & Field program with a strong showing, multiple school records, and dozens of PRs in running, jumping, and throwing events last year. Through hard work, grit, joy, teamwork, and rich character, the Grunts have quickly come a long way in this respectable co-ed program.

Girls Soccer

At the request of athletes and parents, with a nudge from the community, Capodanno established a girls' soccer team. The Grunts launched their soccer program and built a strong foundation through determination, teamwork, and a shared love of the game. Through hard work, resilience, and a positive spirit, the athletes set a tone for what promises to be a thriving program for years to come.

BUILDING *the Future*

With Phase One complete, we are preparing for the next stage of campus development to better serve current and future Grunts.

CURRENT BUILDING = 100 STUDENTS
FUTURE CAMPUS = 200 STUDENTS

Capodanno High School, started in 2017 by a handful of devoted pioneers, is well into forming young men and women of our community. What started with a fresh idea on learning and four students, has grown into a school with a robust educational curriculum, an increasingly competitive athletics program, and over 60 students. Our mission, to develop resilient leaders armed with the clarity and courage to pursue God's purpose for their lives, is irreversible with 38 alumni. With God in control, we've outgrown our leased facility and completed Phase I of our new campus and building. On the land purchased outright in 2022, we built and moved into the new Father Vincent Capodanno High School with classes started there on campus in August 2026. This is designed as a campus plan with phases of development, and earned the municipal approvals to keep building. We are excited to occupy the new school and undertake campus expansions including a gymnasium, athletic facilities, and academic wings.

Completed
MAIN BUILDING

ACADEMIC WINGS
$3M

TRACK
$700K

GYMNASIUM
$3.5M

BLEACHERS
$300K

ATHLETIC FIELD
$1M

Our **VISION.**
Our **FUTURE.**

NEEDED TO COMPLETE
OUR CAMPUS VISION

$8.5M

1
2
3
4
5
6

SUPPORTING THE MISSION

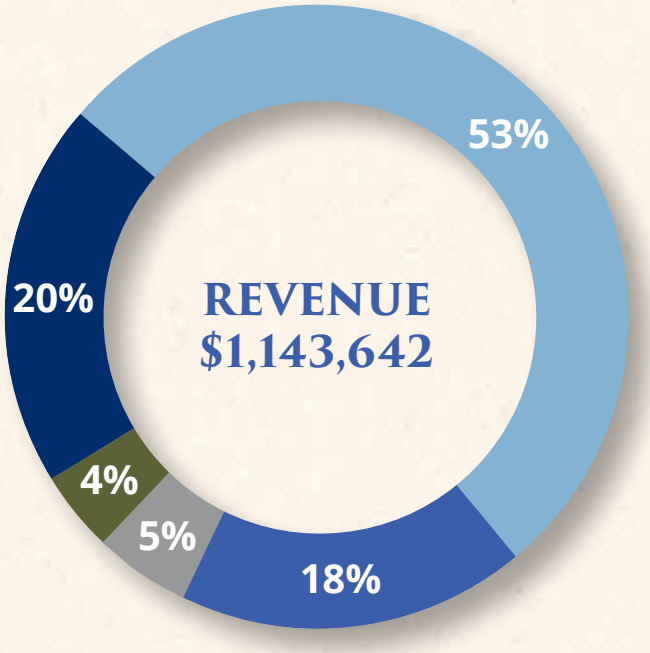
Funding our Future!

We invest our resources in educating, equipping, and developing our Grunts for the future.

Financial View

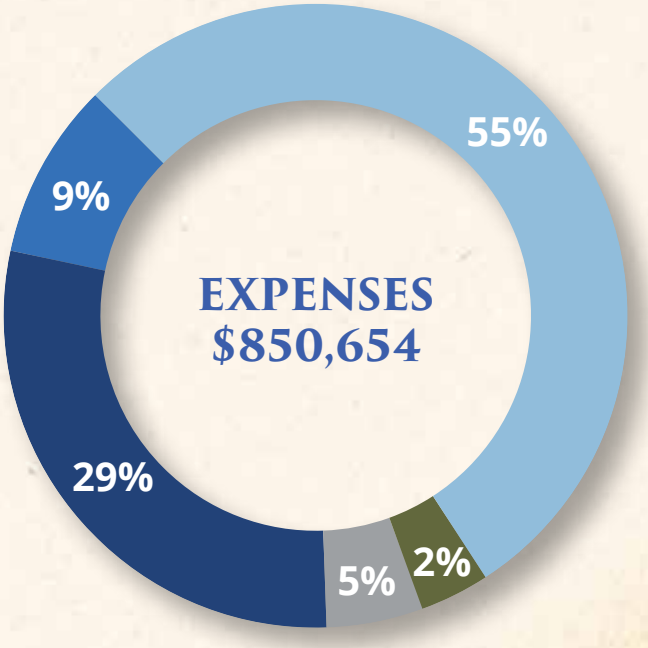
OPERATING REVENUE

Tuition & Scholarships	
Tuition	$250,504
Opportunity Scholarship	$318,264
Other Scholarships	$34,643
Cash Donations	$230,807
Athletics	
Concessions	$2,176
Admissions	$8,148
Athletic Fees	$23,843
Camp	$900
Clay Flurry	$8,831
Other Income	
Merchandise	$6,448
PTO	$5,897
Miscellaenous	$11,425
Interest	$4,326
Sales Tax	$27,232
Special Events	
Night of Courage	$200,762
Oktoberfest	$9,432
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	**$1,143,638**



OPERATING EXPENSES

Salaries & Benefits	$464,119
Operations	
Maintenance	$3,983
Supplies	$41,227
Administrative	$169,279
Transportation	$21,801
Insurance	$12,798
Athletics	
Supplies	$9,940
Transportation	$163
Coaching Stipend	$2,000
Facility/Ref Fees/Ins. Rentals	$6,495
Fundraising	$43,428
New Building	$75,416
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	**$850,649**



SUSTAINING THE MISSION

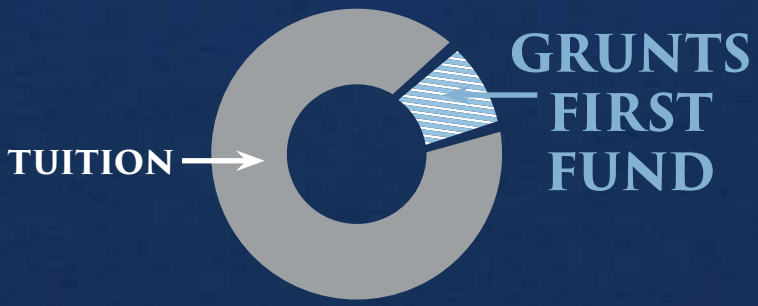
Starting an Endowment!

Gifts from bequests or trusts ensure the future of our school, support our mission, and help reinforce a lasting legacy of excellence for today's students and generations to come. Planned Giving is open to anybody and gifts of all sizes are accepted. Build your legacy through Father Capodanno High School and change a young person's life forever.

Contact Joshe Raetz,
josh.raetz@capodannohigh.org for
more information on giving options.

GRUNTS FIRST FUND

Keeping tuition affordable creates a yearly gap between revenue and expenses. The annual fund - ***Grunts First Fund*** - is our primary method to close this gap. This fiscal year we raised $95,000 dollars or $1,532 per enrolled student through the generosity of staff, parents, grandparents and donors to sustain an impactful educational experience.



GIVE NOW TO BUILD THE FUTURE.

Thank You
TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS

Our community partners generously support our mission, and we encourage our Grunt families and friends to return that support by choosing their businesses.

Carolina Cinemas SANDHILLS TEN

FIRST FLIGHT™ FINANCIAL ADVISORS

MID-STATE FURNITURE

Village Pine Venue

Pinehurst Area Realty

REVERIE HILL FARM Est. 2020

stubby k studio

CAMERON TEAM REAL ESTATE

Brooklyn Pickle

Cactus Creek Gourmet Coffee

DeWitt's Outdoor Sports, LLC shoot4fun.com

Amanda Meigs

Reverie COCKTAILS

RAIL HOUSE BREWERY

BUILDING
the Future

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. ~Psalm 127:1

Thank You for Building With Us!

www.capodannohigh.org | 910-245-2246 | 155 White Rock Rd., Vass, NC 28394

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