



Fall 2014

## Sharing Our School Facts

As we enter the 2014-2015 Academic Year, the Board of Directors is pleased to share with you some interesting facts about Sierra Lutheran High School.

**Student Body:** This year, we have a student body of 112 students with 41 Freshmen, 31 Sophomores, 23 Juniors and 17 Seniors. That is an increase of 14 students.

### Ratios:

Student / Teacher Ratio 12:1

Average Students / Class 14.2

2013 Graduation Rate: 100%

2013 College Matriculation Rate: 95%

**Board Governance:** The Board of Directors for Sierra Lutheran High School includes pastors, teachers, professionals and parents representing Carson City & Douglas County and six local churches.

**Teaching Administration and Faculty:** Sierra Lutheran's 16 member staff is dedicated to providing a Christian environment that encourages and nurtures academic excellence and growth in Christ. The staff consists of eight full-time teachers, three part-time teachers, four administrative staff personnel and one administrator. The academic degrees held by the staff include four post-graduate degrees.

### Avg. SAT & ACT compared to national scores:

#### SAT Scores - from the College Board organization

Year	Verbal		Math		Writing		Total	
	SLHS	National	SLHS	National	SLHS	National	SLHS	National
2013	581	496	533	514	562	488	1677	1498

#### ACT Scores - from the ACT organization

Year	English			Math			Reading			Science		
	SLHS	NV	Natl.	SLHS	NV	Natl.	SLHS	NV	Natl.	SLHS	NV	Natl.
2013	24.3	20.4	20.4	23.4	21.3	21.0	25.4	22.0	21.2	22.4	21.0	20.8

**Colleges to which SLHS graduates matriculate:** Since inception, Sierra Lutheran graduates have matriculated to almost 70 different colleges and universities around the country. Many choose Christian colleges such as a Concordia University, Point Loma, or Biola. Some have chosen UNR, and still others have chosen to attend Boston University, Colorado School of Mines, UCSD, or Pepperdine. This list is certainly not comprehensive but offers a representative sample of where our graduates matriculate. (A full list is available on line at slhs.com or in the office.)

## Activities

Sierra Lutheran students have the opportunity to supplement their education, expand their horizons, and develop their talents and skills in a variety of activities. Those include the National Honor Society, Student Government, Academic Olympics, Theater, Choir, Technology Club, Praise Band, and Sea Cadets. In addition, students may compete in Volleyball, girls and boys Cross Country, Football, girls and boys Basketball, Cheerleading, girls and boys Track and Field, Baseball and Golf.

### 2013 Sports and Activities Highlights -

**Academic Olympics** - Regional Champions in 2013,

The team has never missed the state tournament

**Cross Country** - Boys State Runner-up in 2013

**Boys Basketball** - Regional Qualifier (top 4 in region) in 2013 and 2014

**Track and Field** - Boys & Girls Regional and State Champions in 2014,

Boys State Runner-up

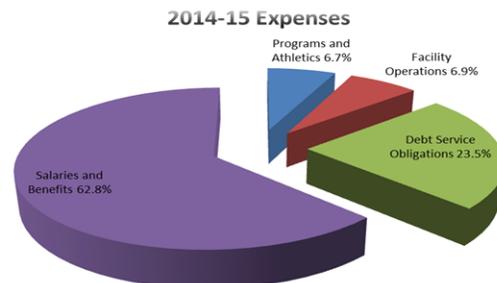
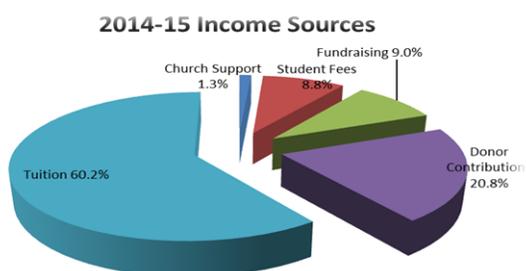
**Boys Golf** - Academic State Champions

## The Operations of Sierra Lutheran High School

The leadership at Sierra Lutheran High School is excited to commence its 13th academic year. We are still a young, growing school and our leadership works hard to keep your tuition as low as possible, but that is largely accomplished through fundraising and the support of our ever-generous donors. As the size and needs of our school grow, we are constantly looking for ways to provide for our students without raising tuition.

### General Budget information

- The annual operating budget for SLHS is approximately \$1.13 million;
- Based on the budget, the total funds needed to educate each student is \$10,100;
- On average, tuition and fees received from full pay students is \$8,600 per student, per year;
- The “gap” between full pay tuition/fees and the funds needed to educate each student is about \$1,500;
- Additionally, SLHS believes that the grace of the body of Christ should extend to any student who desires to attend Sierra Lutheran High School. In that regard, SLHS has budgeted \$125,000 in tuition assistance, which reduces the amount that some students pay but opens the school to more students desiring a Christian education and enhances the school’s diverse and growing student body.
- We offer synoptic charts showing the breakdown of our income and expenses:



# Opportunities to help with Fundraising and Giving

One of the key points that we desire to share is that every student at SLHS is receiving some benefit from our donors. Without our generous donors, this amazing school would simply not exist as it does. And, as we grow, the gap between revenue and expenses also grows. The reality is that Christian Education in Northern Nevada exists because donors believe that children need a place to be educated in a Christ-centered environment where academic and student standards are high. We are hoping that you might help us find donors or assist us with your time, talents, or treasure. Below, we have outlined some requests, information and opportunities that might help you in assisting us provide the great education that your children receive!

## 1. Filling the Budget Gap:

Each year at Sierra Lutheran High School we face a significant budget gap (the difference between tuition/fees received and total expenditures). Each year we are blessed with volunteers and donors and that gap is filled. Our funds come from the following sources:

- a. Fundraising events and activities – The major 2014-15 school fundraising events are:
  - i. Gifts of Grace Dinner & Auction – March 7, 2015
  - ii. Golf Tournament – June 6, 2015
- b. Alumni Association – Is being launched in 2014 to reach our 134 alumni. Activities for the Association will begin shortly after the Christmas Holiday.
- c. Donations and gifts – Cash, in-kind or planned gifts are always welcome. Many donors have pledged monthly contributions. Others provide one-time gifts.
- d. Thrivent – Thrivent is an organization that has several programs which allow its members (typically members of an LCMS church) to appoint SLHS as a beneficiary of gifts or matching grants. These opportunities often come at no cost to the member.
- e. SCRIP, Work/Study, & PIP Hours
- f. Recruitment of new students to SLHS; as more new students attend, SLHS becomes more financially independent.

Note: There are many other fundraisers that relate to specific sports or programs. While incredibly important to the school, these funds do not directly help fill our gap.

## 2. How our families help:

This year, we are asking families help fill the budget gap between the funds needed to educate each student and the amount received from tuition/fees. While donations are always appreciated and encouraged, there are many activities and events that require no out-of-pocket giving, but still make a big difference to the SLHS bottom line. Some giving opportunities are to:

- Obtain donation items or sponsors for the Dinner/Auction (March) and Golf Classic (June);
- Sell Dollars for Scholars Tickets (part of the Dinner/Auction);
- Buy or sell tickets to the Dinner/Auction;
- Play in or recruit players for the Golf Classic;
- You, your friends and family can purchase SCRIP gift cards for your normal monthly expenses and support SLHS at no additional cost to you (ShopWithScip.com);
- Ask your employer if it offers donation matches and notify it of your gifts;
- Invite a friend or family member with a heart for education to make a donation (or let us know or introduce them to Pastor Clausen or a Board member); and,
- Other opportunities offered throughout the year and offered in the Principal's Blast.

**3. PIP (Parents In Partnership) Opportunities:** For those of you who have committed to Work/Study and PIP, we thank you. This commitment of your time reduces the funds needed to operate the school and keeps our parents involved in SLHS! To help budget hours, this year we are asking parents to identify the areas where they would like to offer their hours. This will help us reach out for some of the projects/committees that require larger time commitments. Often, if you commit to one of the following events/committees, you will invest enough time that it will satisfy your annual PIP commitment of 20 hours per student.

- Grading, classroom, and other daily support
- Sporting - assistant coach, scorekeeping, etc.
- Snack Bar/Boosters
- Dinner Auction Committee
- Golf Tournament Committee
- Development of Alumni Program
- Events - on site for event
- Weekend work days around the school
- Miscellaneous opportunities offered in the Principal's Blast
- If you absolutely cannot participate in the school activities, you may pay \$300 per student in lieu of PIP participation.

We look forward to working with you and our community to give our children a Christ-centered, college preparatory education! For more information, clarification of any information provided or to get involved please contact a board member or administrator.

Thank you for sending your sons and daughter to SLHS!

The Board of Directors  
Sierra Lutheran High School