

Saint Joseph

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Patricia Pacheco and today I will be speaking on behalf of all St. Joseph Alumni. I am very grateful to have had the pleasure of receiving the educational benefits of St. Joseph's programs. The computer, English as a second language (ESL), and citizenship classes have been invaluable to the students.

Let's imagine an elderly couple, 87 and 80 years old, learning How to navigate the world with emerging technologies, like E-mail, for the first time. They must coordinate the bus schedule, walk, and other transportation options in order to take advantage of this educational opportunity:

How about a mother who must learn how to open a digital file while their son is at school and cannot help her?

Or a young adult who is learning to use Microsoft programs to be more competitive in the labor market.

These are just a few of the examples I wanted to share with you so that you can see the impact that your contributions have on our success.

During the pandemic, computer literacy was an essential skill for many. Your investments in our education have been especially meaningful.

In addition to technology, the ESL classes have helped us form a foundation of communication and understanding in our communities. These skills are also critical for employment opportunities and the citizenship examination. As a result of your support, we have seen so many cheerful smiles on the faces of those whose immigration status will no longer be an obstacle to their dreams. We hope to not only grow as people, but also to be able to give back a little of what we have received from this country that has given us so much. Everyone has a role, and if we all contribute, step by step, we will achieve a brighter future for ourselves, our children, and our world. It will not be easy, but it will be worth it.

ALEX BOLANOS COMPUTER TEACHER

Alex is a wonderful teacher. He is dedicated to his students, he has a lot of patience, and he is always making sure that we are doing our best. Technology is advancing very fast but Alex encourages us to keep learning more and more every day so that we can better communicate in this world that keeps changing. Pretty soon, technology will be the only language that we can use to do many things.

HARRY KENT ENGLISH TEACHER

Harry is a very special person. He is always encouraging his students to pay attention to the news, reports, culture, sports, and even the world of Hollywood stars. He pushes us to learn

about what is happening in our world because current events help us practice our reading and writing skills. By improving our English skills, I know that we will also be able to improve our lives.

Thank you, Alex and Harry. Without your help and support, I would not be here, shining so brightly in front of all of these people. I am so grateful to have both of you and I know that you will continue to inspire many more students in the future!

THE SKY IS NOT THE LIMIT, WHY NOT GO BEYOND ON IT!!!