

NICKS KIDS



GRADES 4 GOALS TOURNAMENT

Eight years ago, Grades 4 Goals was nothing more than a scrimmage against Verbum Dei. The goal was simple: give our Nicks Kids players a chance to compete against another team and experience something beyond practice.

Since then, that one scrimmage has grown into a fully structured, free tournament that brings together schools from across Watts, Compton, and surrounding communities. What started small has become something that hundreds of students now look forward to every year. Weeks before the tournament, practices pick up, intensity rises, and the talk of “who’s going to win it this year” starts building.

One of the biggest changes we’ve seen over the years is the growth of the girls’ division. What started as a tournament focused primarily on boys now provides meaningful competition for girls from schools across Watts and Compton. The energy, preparation, and commitment they bring to the tournament is no different from anyone else competing for a championship.

This year, the girls’ bracket saw strong competition throughout. Our Nicks Kids girls made a solid run to the semifinals before falling to Bishop Conaty, while Locke High School ultimately took home the championship.

On the boys’ side, Nicks Kids entered as the defending champions and managed to do it again. After a competitive final against first-time participants Devonshire PAL, they secured their third straight Grades 4 Goals title.

What started as a scrimmage against Verbum Dei has turned into a tournament our student-athletes look forward to every year. It gives them a real chance to compete against other schools at no cost, and for many of them it ends up being one of the most meaningful parts of their season.

BOYS BRACKET



Nicks Kids



Grades 4 Goals



Centennial HS



Devonshire PAL



Devonshire PAL 2



Compton Early



Verbum Dei



Verbum Dei 2



Camino Nuevo



Camino Nuevo 2



Equitas Charter

GIRLS BRACKET



Locke HS



Nicks Kids



Bishop Conaty



Cenntenial HS



Camino Nuevo



Equitas Charter





Every tournament, we say the same thing: it feels bigger than before. And every time, it really is. We keep pushing to grow it because we want to give our student-athletes the best possible experience.

This year, we were grateful to welcome the LAFC Foundation, the LAFC Falconers, SouthBay Connects, and Puritan Bakery into the Grades 4 Goals community.

A big thank-you to everyone who made this event possible:

- Rockview for providing milk for all our student-athletes and their families.
- Melissa's Produce for keeping everyone fueled with fresh fruit and healthy snacks.
- Vas Hapsis and Four Star Meat Company for donating burgers and hot dogs for all participants and coaches.
- Rexford Industrial for putting together snack bags filled with encouragement and thoughtful messages that our players really felt and appreciated.
- LAFC Foundation for the gear, the energy, and for being a strong supporter of the tournament. Thank you for bringing Ollie to the event.
- Puritan Bakery for providing buns for the burgers and hot dogs.
- SouthBay Connects, thank you to Eli and the team for consistently believing in our mission and showing up for our student-athletes in a real way.
- FLAG (Foundation for Learning Athletics & Growth), the driving force behind everything we do. Your ongoing support makes it possible to run this tournament, bring soccer to Watts at no cost, and continue expanding what Nicks Kids can offer.

And finally, a heartfelt thank-you to Coach Rosa and Verbum Dei for your continued partnership and belief in our mission. Together, you help make Grades 4 Goals more than a tournament. You help build a community.



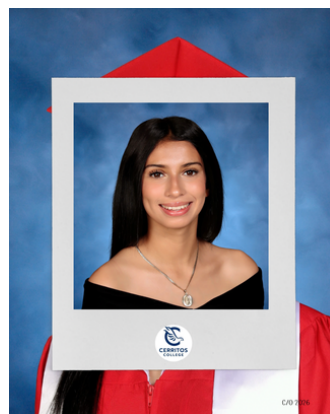
CLASS OF 2026

This year, we are proud to celebrate 8 graduating seniors who have collectively earned 64 college acceptances! Their hard work, dedication and perseverance has opened doors to countless opportunities, allowing each one of them to choose the path that best supports their future goals and career aspirations.

Joseph earned full-ride offers from several colleges and chose to attend Santa Clara University.



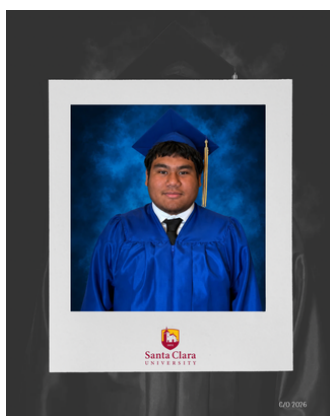
Kathryn
Long Beach City College- Nursing



Dollie
Cerritos College- Speech Therapist



Fernando
Cal State Long Beach- Criminology



Joseph
Santa Clara University- Engineering



Alex
Marist University- Criminology



Nathan
Cal State Los Angeles- Business Accounting



Kevin
San Jacinto Community College



Jim
LATTC



Class of 2026 received 64 college acceptances and more than \$660,000 in grants and scholarships! We would like to acknowledge the schools that this years seniors were accepted into:

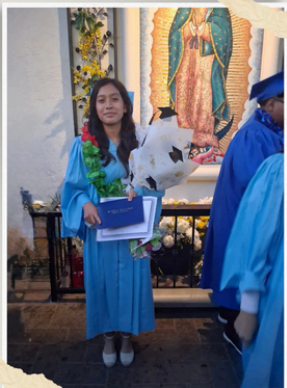
- **American University***
- **Chaminade***
- CSU San Bernardino
- CSU Dominguez Hills x5
- CSU Fullerton x4
- CSU Long Beach x2
- CSU Los Angeles x4
- CSU Poly Pomona
- Grand Canyon University x2
- Gonzaga x2
- **Iona University***
- **Long Island University***
- LMU x2
- **Loyola University Maryland**
- Manhattan University x2
- **Marist University***
- Marquette University* x2
- **NAU(Northern Arizona University)***
- **Providence College***
- Regis University x3
- Saint John's University (Minnesota) x4
- **Saint Joseph's University***
- **Saint Mary's College of California x2**
- **Saint Vincent College***
- Santa Clara University
- **The Catholic University of America***
- UC Davis
- UC Merced x5
- UC Riverside x4
- University of La Verne x2
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California
- University of the Pacific x4

**denotes colleges where the Class of 2026 was accepted for the first time. In previous years, no students were accepted to these schools or they did not apply*

INCOMING FRESHMEN

Thanks to your continued support, these scholars completed their private education at St. Lawrence.

Alejandra is heading to St. Pius X & Axel to Verbum Dei!



WORLD CUP

As part of the 26 Community Champions program, we will have the opportunity to attend a World Cup match. Sixteen of our student-athletes and four coaches will experience this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be part of such an extraordinary event.



STEAM CLUB



Our STEAM Club has been very busy. Students have been building volcanoes, learning how hinges work, creating simple apps with circuit boards, and designing rockets. They are now finalizing boats that they built from scratch. At this stage, they are soldering the circuit boards so the boats can be launched and controlled remotely. Next, they will build the remote controls and connect them to the apps they created. The boats will then be tested at a lake, where students will see which designs and structures hold up best in real conditions.

STEAM Club continues to spark real excitement because students are not just learning concepts, they are applying them in ways that feel real and meaningful. Seeing their ideas become functioning projects keeps them engaged and motivated to keep building.

