



## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Greetings parents!

Happy New Year! I hope your Christmas Season was filled with much joy and relaxation and that the New Year promises many blessings for you and your family.

As we begin the second half of our school year, there is much happening at NDA in several areas. The scheduling process for the 2013-14 academic year will begin with parents' meetings in January. They are as follows;

Class of 2014	1/15 7:00 p.m.
Class of 2015	1/17 7:00 p.m.
Class of 2016	1/23 7:00 p.m.



All meetings are held in the Auditorium and we encourage you to attend with your daughter to hear more about the process, course options and standardized test results (PLAN and PSAT for Sophomores and PSAT for Juniors).

As you may know, we have been undergoing a self-study process in preparation for our reaccreditation by AdvancEd, the national accrediting agency that includes the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (CASI). Accreditation is a voluntary process to promote quality assurance and continuous improvement in our school. This process takes place every five years with our last reaccreditation in 2008. On February 20-21, a team of educators representing AdvancEd will conduct a site visit at NDA. At that time, they will meet with various constituents, visit classrooms and review the self-study and multiple supporting documents. This site visit will provide valuable input to our strategic planning process currently underway as well.

For the last several months, we have been working on the Strategic Plan for NDA. The five year plan titled "Building Confidence, Celebrating Excellence and Enabling a Future without Boundaries" will be available at our website in the next few weeks. We have identified five strategic goals and over the next three months will identify the action plans to meet those goals. Please watch for further information.

Our second quarter ends on Wednesday, January 9. The third quarter begins on January 10. This will also mark the end of any first semester (1/2 credit courses). Those taking second semester (1/2 credit) courses will be starting a new class on January 10.

Finally, this Friday we will hold our annual **Silver Bells Dance** sponsored by the sophomore class. Students purchased tickets prior to Christmas Break. It is a fun-filled evening for sophomores through seniors.

Typically, students dress up for this dance and have been informed that anyone who is not dressed appropriately will not be admitted to the dance. Dresses should be of an appropriate length and provide adequate coverage of legs, stomach, chest, and back areas. Extremely tight dresses like tube dresses are not permitted. Students who choose to wear tights should make sure these are covered with an appropriate length tunic or dress. If you and your daughter are not sure about the choice of attire, feel free to email a picture to Assistant Principal Mrs. Grayson ([graysona@ndapandas.org](mailto:graysona@ndapandas.org)) and she will provide her feedback. Our dress code reinforces what is appropriate for a social function at a Catholic school and demonstrates respect for self and others. We appreciate your support of this policy.

May you know God's goodness each day,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Laura A. Koehl". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Dr.", "Laura", and "Koehl" being capitalized and prominent.

Dr. Laura Koehl

**NOTRE DAME ACADEMY,**  
a Catholic high school dedicated to Mary  
and committed to academic excellence,  
exists to educate young women to  
make a difference in the world.

