



*An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy*

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ◀

Greetings parents,

It appears Mother Nature had different plans for all of this week. I hope you and your family are safe and warm on these cold and snowy days. As we begin the season of Lent, we had planned to have our Ash Wednesday Liturgy today. Sadly, we were not able to do that and will miss the opportunity to celebrate our first day of Lent as a school community. However, as we continue to celebrate our sisterhood at NDA, we will take opportunities over the next six weeks to pray together that our hearts and minds can be open in a special way to God's presence. In the Campus Ministry announcement below you will see some of what we have planned in the days to come. I hope this is a special time for your family. Please know the NDA community joins you in the spirit of sacrifice and gratitude that defines this season.

A special note of gratitude to all who helped to plan our charity volleyball game during Catholic Schools week. It was an honor for our students to join with students from CCH in presenting a check for \$2,311.07 to the Northern Kentucky Emergency Cold Shelter. It is fitting that as a Catholic school community we share our gifts with those in need, especially the homeless. May we keep this organization in our prayers as they provide the basic need of shelter to so many in our local community. If you would like to provide further assistance, all are welcome to attend the Homeless to Hopeful Fundraiser sponsored by the Cold Shelter and held here at NDA this coming Friday. Please see more details below.

Congratulations to our Aqua Pandas and their coaches for advancing to the State Finals. Several Aqua Pandas set records in the regional meet this past weekend. See more news below. Go Pandas – win state!

Plans are underway for the 2015-16 school year. Course scheduling will begin next week. Details can be found in the Counseling and Student Services section below. We will be sending out dates for the coming school year in next week's Panda Press.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that Mrs. Nancy Goeke will be returning to NDA as a Major Gifts Coordinator in the Advancement Office on a part time basis. Mrs. Goeke is an alumna of NDA and formerly worked as our Development Director from 2002-2011. Please join me welcoming Mrs. Goeke back to NDA!

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl





# Lent

## CAMPUS MINISTRY UPDATE ◀

In religion classes this week, students will be given a purple piece of paper on which they will write their Lenten Challenge this year (what they will be giving up/working on etc. - anonymously). These papers will be displayed in chapel throughout Lent. We will also be taking up a donation for the Diocesan Parish Annual Appeal in religion classes when they review the topic of "Why Tithe?". As a school, we will also participate in the Rice Bowl Project again this year.

If you are looking for a great prayer and reflection tool for this Lenten season, Catholic Relief Services has released very brief little videos answering the question "What is Lent?" You can check them out at this link <http://www.crsricebowl.org/what-is-lent/>.

There will also be many opportunities for Reconciliation for our students, faculty and staff at NDA throughout Lent. Msgr. Cleves will be at NDA for reconciliation every Monday during lunches throughout Lent. There will also be another reconciliation schedule posted in your daughter's religion class.



## INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

In the past few issues of the Panda Press we have featured *The Technology Evolution Series, a Senior Perspective*. Written by some of our NDA seniors, this is a series of descriptions illustrating how technology has changed at Notre Dame Academy during their four years. Here is a quote from Week Six: Cassidy Ryan '15 - "...the iPad quickly developed into an amazing tool for our education. Students would learn new things about the device both in and out of the classroom, and teachers would take risks trying new ways to teach. Mrs.

Goldcamp and Mr. Gray were two of the teachers that first worked to teach in a flipped classroom. They used Camtasia to make videos of material that students could watch for homework as a means of keeping up with the schedule and curriculum guide. Señora Bill used apps my Sophomore year like Toontastic so that students could make interesting cartoons in Spanish as a fun activity that strengthened and enriched their speaking abilities."

Next Tuesday, February 24, NDA will be one of 3 schools in our area offering classroom observations to members of the 2015 Leadership Northern Kentucky class. Members of the class have been invited to observe the use of technology in our classrooms highlighting;

- Role of technology in the classroom
- Collaborative learning projects
- SWAT Team members offering help desk solutions
- Project based education
- Student STEM projects

## STUDENT LIFE

### STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

#### Charity Volleyball Game

Last week, Student Council members from both NDA and CCH presented checks to the Northern Kentucky Emergency Shelter. As a result of the charity volleyball game held during Catholic

Schools Week, the students were able to donate **\$2,311.07** to the shelter. The money will certainly go a long way these cold days of winter, so a huge thank you to all who coordinated, participated and attended the event.



#### Freshmen and Sophomore Winter Dance

This Saturday, NDA and CCH will jointly host the Freshmen and Sophomore Winter Dance in NDA's auditorium between 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. All students must arrive before 8:30 p.m. in order to be admitted into the dance. Freshmen will be selling tickets all week long at \$5 per person, and the last chance to buy will be after school on Friday afternoon.

By purchasing a ticket to the dance, students agree to the policies and procedures as set forth by NDA and CCH. This is a school-sponsored drug free event. Appropriate dress, behavior and dancing are expected. Random breathalyzer tests and purse searches will occur. Students who do not follow the rules will be asked to leave after their parents have been notified.

## POWERSCHOOL UPDATE ◀

### Viewing Cafeteria Balances

You may have noticed a new icon has appeared on your PowerSchool start page called "Balances." When you click that icon, you may now view your cafeteria balance at the top of the page. For your convenience, the lunch balance will be posted weekly and will reflect the balance of your account after lunches are served each Wednesday. Balances for each day and additional lunch information may still be viewed using your Pay Pams account as before.

## AQUA PANDAS TAKE REGION SETTING RECORDS ◀

The NDA swimming team set Five New Regional records this past weekend at Silverlake. They are as follows:

200 Free- Sophie Skinner - also a new NDA Record

100 Breast- Maddy Vonderhaar

200 Medley Relay- Lilly Morgan, Maddy Vonderhaar, Sam Glass & Katie Summe

200 Free Relay- Sophie Skinner, Amanda Smith, Katie Summe, Lilly Morgan - also a new NDA Record

400 Free Relay- Sophie Skinner, Sam Glass, Maddy Vonderhaar, Amanda Smith

In addition to those wins, Amanda Smith won the 100 Back, Katie Summe won the 50 Free, Sophie Skinner won the 100 Free and Maddy Vonderhaar won the 200 IM. NDA qualified 14 swimmers and 3 divers to the State Meet just a week and a half away in Louisville.



## IMPRESSIVE REGIONAL FINISH FOR NDA ARCHERS ◀

Congratulations archers for finishing 5th in the Regional tournament with a new high team score of 3121! Hanna Knaley, Emma Grace Wells, Lily Gamel, Maddie Wermeling, Grace Schmidt, Grace Michels, and Elizabeth Womble shot their best scores of the season. Lauren Reinersman scored the most bullseyes of all, and the top shooters on the team were EmmaGrace Wells, Kimmy Birrer, Lauren Reinersman, Camryn Scaringi (Camryn got 10th place overall), and Erin Kirchner who was 8th place overall. Nice shooting Pandas!



## SUMMER ART INFORMATION ◀

If you are interested in taking the entire Summer Studio Art course for credit, or just parts of the course for enrichment, the information including the registration date, dates of the class, and registration fee, can all be found at this website:

<https://www.ndapandas.org/admissions/summer-enrichment-programs.aspx>

### Summer Junior High Art Camp

This year for the Summer Junior High Art Camp we will be learning the art of Screen Printing. All of the steps from design to surface. There will be 2 sessions:

Session A: June 29th - July 2nd, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Session B: July 27th - July 30th, from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Information for that course can be found at: [Junior High Summer Art Camp](#)

and of course, if you have ANY questions about either course, please feel free to email me at: [eckerlem@ndapandas.org](mailto:eckerlem@ndapandas.org)



## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### Career Fair

Student Services will be hosting a Career Fair for the students on Thursday, March 19 from 8-11 a.m. This is the same day as the *Women Making a Difference* luncheon and the students are being dismissed at 11:00 a.m. We are in need of parents to come and share careers with the students. If you are interested in being a participant, please contact Chrissy Monohan at [monohanc@ndapandas.org](mailto:monohanc@ndapandas.org). Participants will have a table to sit at and students will come to ask questions about the participant's career.

### Scheduling

The students will be able to go onto Powerschool and choose elective courses starting Monday, February 23. The scheduling window will last that entire school week, ending on Friday, February 27. Ms. Burgei and Mrs. Monohan will start to meet with students to review course choices after registration is complete.

Students should use the Class Registration tab in PowerSchool to place course requests for next year. Course recommendations based on the discussions with the teachers will already be listed as requests. Students should use the Class Registration tab to add only their elective requests for next year. Students wishing to change a request for one of the required or department approved course requests already listed need to consult with their respective academic counselor and submit the required course request change form.

### Cinderella's Closet

Prom season is approaching quickly! Sometimes this can be a troubling time as a family tries to cover all the expenses associated with the dance. Cinderella's Closet is an organization that can help. They have thousands of dresses, accessories, and shoes that can be provided at no cost. If this is something that could benefit your junior or senior daughter, please contact the Personal Counselor, Tessa Taylor at [taylor@ndapandas.org](mailto:taylor@ndapandas.org). She can work with your daughter to set up an appointment on March 20 or 21 to pick out her dress. Learn more about the program here: Cinderella's Closet.

## FACING THE FACTS—the RISK of DRUG and ALCOHOL USE AMONG ADOLESCENTS

**Save the date...**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2015**  
**7:00 -8:30 p.m.**  
**NDA Theatre**

Did you know that in 2013, 18% of 10th graders and 23% of 12th graders had used marijuana in the past month? Or that 15% of high school seniors used a prescription drug for non-medical reasons or that was not prescribed to them in the past year? Were you aware that over 6% of 16 and 17-year-olds drove under the influence last year?\* (\*National Institute on Drug Abuse)

Notre Dame Academy invites all parents and concerned adults in our community to attend the Sunday, March 8 evening program: **FACING THE FACTS—the RISK of DRUG and ALCOHOL USE AMONG ADOLESCENTS.**

Ashelle Kruetzkamp, Substance Abuse Nurse Educator with the Emergency Department, St. Elizabeth Healthcare, and Sergeant Michael Knight, with the Fort Wright Police Department, will share information about the current state of adolescent usage in our area.

We hope to have at least one parent of each student join us in this educational effort with the goal of providing the healthiest learning environment for your daughters, our students.

The students will attend a similar program in school on the following Monday, March 9.

**We hope to see you there!**

THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL

# *Women Making A Difference*

## AWARD LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015

RECEPTIONS, 1379 DONALDSON RD., ERLANGER, KY

11:30 A.M. REGISTRATION & NETWORKING

12:00 P.M. LUNCH & AWARDS CEREMONY

HONORING NOTRE DAME ACADEMY ALUMNAE FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS THEY  
HAVE MADE TO THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND BEYOND.



Meghan Scherder Olson '91



Julia B. Meister '87



Wendy Vonderhaar '86

PLEASE JOIN US IN HONORING THESE DESERVING WOMEN. TICKETS ARE \$55 AND CAN BE PURCHASED BY CALLING 859.292.7729.



Tickets Are Now Available!

## “Homeless to Hopeful”

Support the shelter while enjoying a cash bar,  
silent auctions, and raffles!

Auction items include autographed Bengals  
memorabilia, Reds memorabilia & tickets, and  
much more!

Tickets are \$15 for adults; \$5 for students Contact  
Laura at (859) 291-4555  
or [emergencyshelternky.laura@gmail.com](mailto:emergencyshelternky.laura@gmail.com)

Date: February 20th  
Time: 7:00pm - 10:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame Academy Theatre  
1699 Hilton Dr.  
Park Hills, KY 41011

Your support  
is greatly  
appreciated!



## Have you sold your raffle tickets?

Our annual raffle is underway and we ask each family  
to support this effort by buying/selling at least 5 tickets.  
(Students received the tickets during Catholic Schools Week.)

Proceeds from the raffle help bridge the gap be-  
tween tuition and actual cost of education and pro-  
vide tuition assistance to deserving students.

Sr. Paul Ann & Sr. Rachel will be in the foyer every  
morning to collect what the students have sold the  
previous day.

Tickets are only \$10  
for a chance at  
First Prize: \$5000  
Second Prize: \$2500  
Third Prize: \$500

The drawing will be held on February 27 at  
noon.

Call 859.292.7729 with questions.

## NEW NDA FLEECE SWEATSHIRT ◀

The last day to order the new NDA Fleece sweatshirts will be February 28th. Order forms can be found in the school office or in the Bambootique. If you have any questions, please email Aimee Dickhaus at [ddickhaus@yahoo.com](mailto:ddickhaus@yahoo.com).

### ▶ Important dates:

February 11-12	Spring Musical Auditions Annual Appeal Phonathon
February 13	Students may wear red/pink shirts and/or socks for Valentine's Day.
February 16	No School
February 18	Ash Wednesday - Mass 1:30 p.m. Herff Jones in for for Class Rings 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.
February 21	Freshmen/Sophomore Dance with CCH
February 23-27	Students register on PowerSchool
February 27 - March 1	Senior Retreat
February 28	8th Grade Conferences
March 3	Blood Drive
March 4	Seniors attend <i>Little Women</i>
March 6	Sophomore Retreat
March 8	Drug Education Program (Parent Assembly)
March 9	Drug Education Program (Student Assembly)
March 13	No School: Professional Development Day
March 16	Third Quarter Ends
March 17	Senior Mission Retreat Junior ACT Testing
March 18	Winter Sports Award Program
March 19	Career Fair <i>Women Making A Difference Luncheon</i>

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Check out the Community News section of NDA's website for news about...

St. Therese Mother's Club Annual Ladies Spring Social  
Sisters of Notre Dame Women's Weekend Retreat  
2015 Hillenmeyer Lecture  
Northern Kentucky Trap Program

For a complete list of community news [CLICK HERE](#).

