



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Dear Parents,

We are quickly approaching the end of the 2021-22 academic year and I cannot begin to tell you how proud I am of the way our students have handled the challenges of COVID-19 this school year. In August, I asked everyone in our NDA community to focus on our theme of *Uniting Humankind as Reflections of God's Love*. I also asked that our students, faculty and staff be flexible, adaptable and creative. I am very grateful to our community for taking my requests so seriously. Everyone has stepped up in their own way and their unselfish approach this school year has made a huge difference and resulted in much success.

On the following page you will find a letter from our Board of Directors announcing some important news regarding our search for a new school president. As you will read in the letter, I have agreed to serve as interim president for the upcoming academic year until a new president is named. Please note that I will continue to serve as principal of Notre Dame Academy throughout this time as well. While the prospect of filling both of these two positions at the same time may seem like a formidable task, I am confident that it is possible with the strong and collaborative community we have at NDA. Our faculty and staff are incredibly dedicated to our school and our administrative leadership team operates very effectively. With the support of the NDA community, I am confident that together we can be successful in fulfilling our mission until a new school president is named.

As you will also read in the letter below, the search firm that our Board of Directors has engaged to help us in our presidential search will be on campus next week to interview members of all of our stakeholder groups, including parents. **You are invited to participate in an input session with the presidential search firm on Monday, May 3 at 4:00 p.m. or on Tuesday, May 4 at 8:00 a.m. in the NDA theatre. If you are interested in attending one of these parent information sessions, please contact Mrs. Leanne Kirn at kirnl@ndapandas.org.**

I have some very good news to share with you today. Two of our faculty members, Mr. Ron Greife and Mr. Tom Richmond, will be receiving SND Network Awards later this school year. Mr. Greife will be receiving the Bernard Overberg "Teacher of Teachers" Award and Mr. Richmond will be receiving the Gospel Witness Award. Both of these educators are very deserving of these prestigious awards. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Greife and Mr. Richmond.

As parents, you are a very important part of our NDA community. I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank you for your support of our mission at NDA. We are very grateful for your commitment to our school and truly appreciate the opportunity to partner with you in your daughter's Catholic education.

Have a great week!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



A letter from the NDA Board of Directors...

April 28, 2021

Dear parents,

With the recent announcement of NDA President Dr. Laura Koehl's new role as Executive Director of the Sisters of Notre Dame National Sponsorship and Network Office, Notre Dame Academy's Board of Directors has begun the process of searching for NDA's next president. In order to provide adequate time for a successful search, NDA's Board of Directors has made the decision to move forward with an interim president for the 2021-22 school year. The Board of Directors is happy to announce that NDA's current principal, Mr. Jack VonHandorf, has graciously agreed to serve as interim president for the upcoming academic year. The Sisters of Notre Dame have approved his appointment which will be effective August 15, 2021. We have every confidence that Mr. VonHandorf, along with NDA's administrative leadership team, will effectively manage operations at Notre Dame Academy until a new president is named.

The Board of Directors is immediately moving forward with the search for a permanent president of NDA who will assume the position of president sometime prior to July 2022. We recognize that the selection of the new president is one of the most important responsibilities of the Board of Directors. We realize that, in order to continue the outstanding work that Dr. Koehl has accomplished, we will need to search for an exceptional individual who is passionate about our mission and shares a love for our students.

The first action in the process was to identify and engage a search firm to assist us in this all-important task. We have selected Educational Directions of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, as our partner. Educational Directions was founded in 1987 and is a highly respected national firm. The search will be led by Mathew Heersche and Risa Oganessoff Heersche. Mr. Heersche and Mrs. Oganessoff Heersche are both leaders in Catholic education and as search professionals they bring deep experience, expertise and enthusiasm to our presidential search process. In addition, they have assisted a number of Sisters of Notre Dame educational institutions in the search for new leadership and are very familiar with the Sisters' charism, governance and leadership structures.

The Notre Dame Academy Board of Directors has established a President Search Committee composed of representation from the Sisters of Notre Dame, NDA Board of Directors, faculty, staff and administration. Additionally, the Board of Directors has invited Mr. Heersche and Mrs. Oganessoff Heersche to visit Notre Dame Academy the first week in May to interview members of all stakeholder groups within the school (students, faculty/staff, parents, administrators, alumnae, board members).

Parents are invited to participate in an input session with the presidential search firm on Monday, May 3 at 4:00 p.m. or on Tuesday, May 4 at 8:00 a.m. in the NDA theatre. If you are interested in attending one of these parent information sessions, please contact Mrs. Leanne Kirn at kirnl@ndapandas.org.

We look forward to the search process and will keep all members of our school community informed as to its progress via regular updates and all information pertaining to the search will be posted on the president search page on our website.

Sincerely,



Amy Quinn Dye
Notre Dame Academy Board Chair
Presidential Search Committee Member



Jeanne-Marie Tapke
Notre Dame Academy Board Member
Chair of the Presidential Search Committee

NDA COVID-19 INFORMATION

Learn More >>

NDA COVID-19 INFORMATION ◀

REMEMBER, the [NDA COVID-19 Information page](#) on the website has many important resources for parents and students.

FROM THE
SCHOOL
NURSE



IMPORTANT COVID-19 UPDATED PROTOCOLS: ◀

With the increase in COVID-19 vaccinations and the decline in the number of COVID-19 cases, we are able to update a few of our COVID-19 protocols:

- We will no longer be conducting temperature checks for students, staff or visitors upon entry into school or athletic events or using our COVID-19 Symptom Checker.
- Moving forward, those who have been fully vaccinated do not need to follow NDA's travel quarantine requirements. Fully vaccinated means two weeks after the final dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Please continue to keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues involving your family. In the event that someone in your household is being tested for COVID-19 or your daughter is exposed to or tests positive for COVID-19, please contact our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN. at 859.292.1843 or sizemoret@ndapandas.org or Mrs. McLeod in the front office 859.292.1821 or mcleods@ndapandas.org.

COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols

- Symptom Screenings & Health Precautions
- Contact Tracing
- Cleaning and Sanitizing our Campus
- Hand Sanitizing
- Masks
- Social Distancing
- Safety Barriers



Together we can Make a Difference!

As of today, Wednesday, April 27, we have had 0 reported cases of a member of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week. We still have a few students who have reported that they have been exposed to COVID-19 or they have traveled by public transportation within the last 10 days. As per our requirements, those students are following the quarantine guidelines in our [COVID-19 Response Chart](#).

We have consulted with the Diocese of Covington about these recent exposure cases and we thank the families involved for reporting this information and helping to keep our school community safe.

As we move forward, please keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues involving your family. In the event that someone in your household is being tested for COVID-19 or your daughter is exposed to or tests positive for COVID-19, please contact our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN., at 859.292.1843 or sizemoret@ndapandas.org.

STUDENT LIFE



PANDA PROWL ADJUSTED SCHEDULE ◀

On Friday, students will take part in the Panda Prowl 5K! Students need to report to their homerooms by 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 30 and school will dismiss at 11:30 a.m. on this day.

JOIN US FOR BENEFIT NIGHT AT SKYLINE TONIGHT! ◀

Notre Dame Academy is partnering with St. Ursula Academy in Cincinnati to raise money for Leukemia research at Children's hospital. Typically funds are raised through the annual Orange and White flag football game, but this year, Skyline is helping us combine forces for good. Let Skyline provide your dinner tonight! Bring [this ticket](#) to Skyline Chili at 1730 Dixie Highway on Wednesday, April 28, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. and 10% of the night's sales will be given to Notre Dame Academy and then turned over to Children's Hospital for Leukemia research.

Please Note...

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING ◀

The Diocese of Covington is committed to creating and building safe environments in its schools and parishes. Tomorrow, Thursday, April 29, all Notre Dame Academy students will attend a safety presentation facilitated by Julie Feinauer, School Counselor at St. Henry District High School. Mrs. Feinauer will be speaking to our students about her experiences and how to be safe and aware in your environment. She will touch upon how to identify abuse of all types.

All students will participate in this program unless Notre Dame Academy receives written notification from a parent or guardian indicating that permission is not granted for his or her daughter to participate. To opt out of the Safe Environment Training, please provide written notification by the end of the day today and to the attention of Mrs. Amber Grayson, Assistant Principal.

OUT OF UNIFORM DAY: THURSDAY, MAY 6 TO SUPPORT SND 4TH OF JULY FESTIVAL ◀

Sr. Paul Ann and Sr. Mary Rachel are hosting an out of uniform day next Thursday, May 6, for any student who purchases a \$5 raffle ticket for the Sisters of Notre Dame July 4 Festival!

The raffle is part of the Sisters of Notre Dame Fourth of July Festival that the Sisters have been holding annually since 1922. It is a day they celebrate with their friends and families while supporting SND ministries near and far. Due to the continued worldwide COVID-19 outbreak, the Sisters have made the decision not to host an in-person Festival on July 4, 2021 therefore, the raffle is a very important part of the success of this year's festival.

For just \$5 per ticket, we can help the Sisters reach their goal of \$100,000, get an out of uniform day and a chance to win \$5,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000. Student will have the opportunity to purchase a raffle ticket as they enter school next Thursday. Parents can purchase additional raffle tickets from the school office.



ATTENTION SENIORS!



SENIOR SEMI-FORMAL EVENT ◀

On Friday, Seniors will gather at Music Hall where they will celebrate the members of the graduating class surrounded by greenery and the beauty of Music Hall's Box Office Ballroom. The event will include dinner, music, lights, a faculty band performance and a game show-style presentation of senior superlatives. Doors open for the event at 8:00 p.m., and all students must arrive by 8:30 p.m. for the onset of dinner service. Seniors can leave as early as 10:30 p.m. as the event concludes at 11:00 p.m.

A huge thank you to the Publications Class, Student Council and the other members of the planning committee for their work planning an enjoyable event for the Class of 2021.

NDA AND CCH PROM AT PAUL BROWN STADIUM ◀

Registration closes this Friday!



PROM 2021

Friday, May 14, 2021

Paul Brown Stadium

\$50 per ticket

8:00 pm – 11:00 pm (must arrive by 8:30 pm)

There will be NO early dismissals - Dinner and parking are included

Entertainment TBD

Register online

between 4/12/2021 and 4/30/2021

Only CCH and NDA seniors are permitted to attend

Register at www.covcath.org/prom

Seating will be reserved online at the time of ticket purchase



IMPORTANT GRADUATION INFORMATION ◀

Senior Graduation Celebration Supply Website

You can find everything you need to show your Panda pride for graduation on NDA's Senior graduation celebration supply website [HERE](#). This website will be active through May 3. All orders will be delivered to the school office for pick up the week of May 17.

Graduation Event Information

Further information regarding graduation and senior events will be posted on our website [HERE](#) as the information becomes available. Also, you can find the Senior Event Information [HERE](#).



PANDAS QUALIFY FOR THE FBLA NATIONAL COMPETITION! ◀

While the Future Business Leaders of America State Competition was once again virtual this year, the success of our Pandas remained the same. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the FBLA State Conference, usually held at Louisville's Galt House Hotel, was once again moved online.

The following students placed in the top four of their respective events and will be moving on to the National Conference, which was originally scheduled to be in Anaheim, California, June 29th – July 2nd, but has now also moved online.

- **Noelle Cottingham & Isabelle Cottingham** – 1st Place – International Business
- **Molly Hayduk** – 2nd Place – Management Decision Making
- **Liz Duffy & Nicolette Cottingham** – 2nd Place - Entrepreneurship
- **Dinithi Fernando** – 3rd Place – Social Media Strategies
- **Clara Heberling** – 3rd Place – Business Law

Freshman, **Gabrielle White** placed 5th in the Introduction to Financial Math event, narrowly missing out on the National competition.

Sisters, **Isabella and Noelle Cottingham** placed 1st in the State Conference in their event, making it their third year in a row qualifying for the National Competition, a feat that no other Panda has accomplished before.

And we would also like to express a big congratulations to the following FBLA members, **Cathrine Ghazala, Sara Nageleisen, Maddie Thomas, Kaitlyn Eberhart, Caroline Joyce, Ellie Joyce, Lexi Foust, and Anna Neubacher** on a fabulous year as well.



WELCOME TO NDA EDGAR! ◀

Thanks to Edgar the service dog for stopping by NDA recently to greet our students! We will see you again soon Edgar!



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Bambootique

BAMBOOTIQUE NEWS ◀

Check out the Deal of the Week - NDA Bomber Jacket - regularly: \$60 - this week's sale price: \$10. Shop now at NDA's [online Bambootique](#).

PANDA PROWL ◀

At NDA, the student fundraiser allows students to develop a culture of philanthropy. Our students learn the importance of a Catholic education and supporting their school. Please encourage your daughter to share the [Panda Prowl Link](#) with family and friends and to go the extra mile! Together we can make a difference.

So far 30% of our students have raised just over

\$20,000

and we are halfway to our goal!!

Come On PaNDAs
We can do this!!

NOTRE DAME
5K ACADEMY
PANDA PROWL

TURN IN
Day
TOMORROW!!!!

We are getting close-only

3

more turn in days remain!

YEARBOOK NEWS! ◀

2020: Distribution of the 2020 NDA yearbook, Women With a Vision, began Monday in homerooms and will continue Friday. If you are a remote learner, you may pick up your copy when you return to campus. 2020 graduates' books were mailed to their home addresses. If you did not buy your copy yet, we have some for sale on a first-come, first-served basis. Please email Mr. Glynn (glynnr@ndapandas.org) for more information.

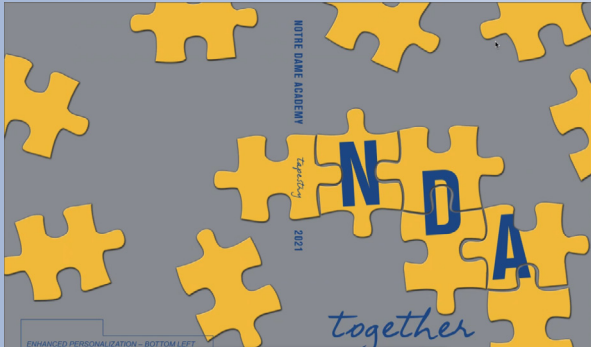
2021: The 2021 book, Together, is on sale now at jostens.com through May 15. Books are \$70 and will be ready for fall delivery.

SENIOR RECOGNITION ADS! ◀

Don't forget to buy your yearbook! Yearbooks on sale through May 28 [HERE](#).

Senior parents: You're understandably proud of your daughter? Why not say it with a yearbook recognition ad? They're available in a variety of sizes starting at just \$45. You get to choose the photos and words you want, and making them is quick, easy and fun! Getting started is as simple as following this link:

https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/ybAdDesigner/1069982/-/20210223041611680102/CATALOG_SHOP/



Notre Dame Academy has
for everyone this summer!

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES AT NDA ◀

NDA has all sorts of Summer Enrichment Opportunities in Art, Band, Theatre and Athletics! Check out all of the awesome classes offered this summer at NDA! You can find further information and registration forms online [HERE](#) and you can find Athletic Summer Camp information below:

ORDER LUNCH FOR NEXT WEEK! ◀

Click [HERE](#) for the lunch order form for next week.

This form serves as a head count for our cafeteria staff. **Please indicate which days you would like to purchase lunch next week.** Payment will be due upon pick up in the cafeteria and using your ID card barcode and will be charged to your NDA lunch account through [PayPams](#).

Orders for next week are due by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 16.

IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR PARENTS ◀

Attention Parents - Please check on your daughter's lunch account balance - we currently have many overdue accounts. You can check your daughter's account here: [PayPams](#).



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

**VOTE!
VOTE!
VOTE!**

KHSAA COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY FORM ◀

All students who test positive for COVID-19 must be cleared for progression back to activity by an approved health care provider (MD/DO) and **MUST** complete the [KHSAA COVID-19 Return to Play Form](#) before returning to participation in a physical education class or sports at NDA.

VOTE TODAY! ◀

NDA's tennis team and several of our athletes are up for NKY Athlete of the Week awards. You can vote [HERE](#).

Tennis - Team of the week
Martine Hue - Tennis
Josie Lawrie - Softball
Lainy Kruger - Swimming

SUMMER CAMPS

			
Archery - 6/7 - 6/9 grades 4th- 9th	Basketball - 6/14 - 6/17 grades 3rd - 9th	Cross Country - 6/7 - 6/10 grades 1st - 9th	Soccer - 6/15 - 6/17 grades 1st- 5th
\$75	\$95	\$65	\$65
Soccer - 6/22 - 6/24 grades 6th - 9th	Tennis - 6/14 - 6/17 grades 4th - 9th	Volleyball - 7/13 - 7/15 grades 3rd -4th	Volleyball - 7/13 - 7/16 grades 5th -9th
\$65	\$105	\$65	\$95

Registration Now Open





REGISTRATION NOW OPEN ◀

Registration is now open for all of NDA's Summer Athletic Camps! You can register online [HERE](#).

LIFE SIZE CUTOUTS

This life size cutout of your student athlete is a great way to honor our Panda athletes!

Use it at Senior nights, graduation parties and more!



Order by May 13th and you can get your cutout by May 28th for any summer graduation parties!

LIFE SIZE PANDA CUTOUTS! ◀

Get a life size cutout of your student for \$150 NDA golf outing sponsorship. It's a great way to honor your Panda athletes!

Use it at Senior nights, graduation parties and more! Order by May 13 and you can get your cutout by May 28 for any summer graduation parties!

To order your cutout today, head to [NDA's website](#) and download the sponsorship form at the bottom of the page. Fill it out and send it in to the front office. Someone will reach out to get the picture for the cutout!



BASS FISHING NEWS ◀

The anglers finished their season and careers this past weekend at the KHSAA Region 2 Championship. They had a great day on the water in their final tournament of the year, just 2 fish short of qualifying for State!

Four years ago, Hannah Ransom and Kiersten Haas took a chance on a sport they knew nothing about. They were two girls against the world in a sport that's 93% made up of boys but that didn't stop these Pandas. Along the way they had fun, caught some fish and became 'social media' famous. But competitive Bass Fishing isn't a fun day in the sun at the lake, it's a unique competitive challenge. The weather is extreme to say the least - rain, cold, wind, waves - and you have to persevere through all of it. The fish are wary and hard to catch. Kentucky lakes are highly pressured and you absolutely have to work for them. You can fish for 6 hours and have nothing to show for it but freezing hands and freezing feet. But you have to keep going, because that next cast may win the tourney. That level of dedication takes a lot of mental and physical toughness, and a huge work ethic, something the girls will carry with them into whatever comes next.



SOPHOMORE SWIMMER TAKES STATE! ◀

Congratulations to the swim & dive team for their performance at the diving and swimming State meets.

Sophomore diver Chelsea Collins (pictured here with her coach, Katie McGonigal) came in 24th in the State last Thursday in Versailles, KY. This was her second year qualifying for States in diving.

The swimmers competed on Saturday in Barboursville, KY at Union College. **Sophomore Lainy Kruger broke the school record and came in 2nd in the state in the 100 freestyle, with a time of 49.67 seconds. Lainey also won the 100 breaststroke, making that her first state title.** Sophomore Riley Quinn came in 8th in the state for the 200 Individual Medley and 18th in the 100 breaststroke. The 200 Medley Relay came in 14th in the state and the 400 free relay came in 16th. Both of these relays consisted of freshman Sammie Poulos and sophomores Riley Quinn, Sophie Anderson and Lainy Kruger.

Great job, Aqua Pandas!



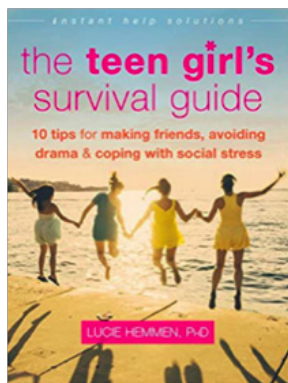
COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS ◀

NDA PARENT TOOLBOX

The Teen Girl's Survival Survival Guide: 10 Tips for Making Friends, Avoiding Drama, and Coping with Social Stress, by Lucy Hemmen



For teen girls, pressures and stressors come from every direction. Having good, healthy relationships with friends you can count on makes all the difference. This guide offers ten tips that guide toward creating and maintaining the social life they want. This guide also includes stories from older teen girls who have recently been there—and have plenty to say about it.



2021 KENTUCKY GIRLS STATE PROGRAM ◀

The 2021 Kentucky Girls State Program is open to current Juniors and Seniors with an interest in Political Science, Government, or History. This Virtual Session will take place June 6-11 and provide young women with the opportunity to learn about government by establishing a mock government. Each attendee is assigned a mythical city, a political party, runs for elected offices, and gains a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives to pass legislation. Contact a School Counselor for more information. Deadline for registration is May 15. Click [HERE](#) for forms and information.



APRIL IS CELEBRATE DIVERSITY MONTH! ◀

NDA's Pandaversity Club has posted a large **World Map** in the 1st floor hallway to recognize and celebrate the diversity of our NDA community. There are small **Panda stickers** for everyone to place stickers on the map to show where you and/or your family are from! We thought it would be interesting to see everyone's geographic origins, as well as promote a deeper understanding and appreciation of each other!



JUST 165 MORE! ◀

Thank you very much to those of you who have already subscribed to our YouTube channel to help us reach 1000 subscribers! In order to live stream with a mobile device on YouTube, our channel needs to have at least 1000 subscribers. Currently we have 835. We are so close! Once we have 1000 subscribers, we will be able to share Masses, athletics events and more with our NDA community. If you haven't already subscribed, please do so at the link below. If you have already subscribed, please share the link with a friend or family member. **PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#) to subscribe to NDA's YouTube channel today.**

Alumnae Storyboard

ALUMNAE STORYBOARD ◀

The Alumnae Storyboard is a feature which captures the everyday happenings of our alumnae. Each story is posted in the main hallway just outside the cafeteria so that you can see how our alumnae are truly continuing to make a difference in the world. The Storyboard serves as a source of inspiration and motivation just for you! You can access the Alumnae Storyboard [HERE](#).



2021 AUTUMN GALA ◀

Save the date! This year's Autumn Gala is scheduled for October 16, 2021. If you are interested in serving on the Executive Planning Committee for the 2021 Autumn Gala, please contact Nancy Goeke at goeken@ndapandas.org or 859.292.1851.



[River Metals Recycling](#) (RMR) is the largest scrap recycler in Kentucky and in the greater Cincinnati/NKY region, with nine locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. River Metals Recycling gladly pays you to recycle your scrap metal. Bring in your old cars or trucks, appliances, cast iron, aluminum, copper, brass, and electronic scrap to RMR's Newport, Kentucky recycling facility and get cash on the spot, fast! We are open to the public 6 days a week at 1220 Licking Pike. Check us out at RMRecycling.com or call us at 859-331-CASH. Join area businesses and your neighbors, and recycle with us!



COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

You can find a complete list of community news [HERE](#).

- Youth Day Rosary and Mass
- Music and Cross-Curricular Summer Workshops & Course Offerings for Immanuel School of Music
- Seeking Lower Tuition Payments?
- Help Wanted
- Cafeteria Staff Needed

▶ Important dates

April 30	Panda Prowl (no classes today) SR Semi-Formal Event at Music Hall
May 2	Band concert in Gym 2-3
May 3	AP Exams begin May Crowning
May 9	Mother's Day
May 10	Textiles quilt show in the evening
May 11	Senior Academic Signing (Students in Theatre/Live-stream)
May 13	Faculty Send Off
May 14	HR Elections
May 18	Academic Awards
May 19	Senior Luncheon/Senior Send off
May 20	Senior Exams begin
May 24	Exams begins
May 27	Cleaning Day Baccalaureate Mass
May 28	SR Awards at Receptions Graduation at NKYCC