



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Panda Press Weekly

August 25, 2021

THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

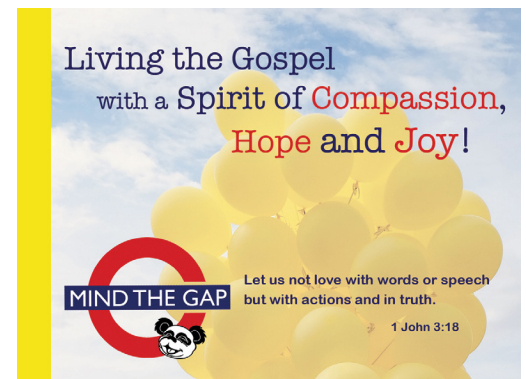
As we begin week two of the school year, it is quite clear how relevant this year's theme, *Living the Gospel with a Spirit of Compassion, Hope and Joy*, is to our community. Each and every day I witness God's goodness on our campus and I see compassion, hope and joy in our students, faculty and staff members. When I came to NDA six years ago I was amazed by the kindness and Christianity of the NDA community and that is something I never want to take for granted. The Catholic culture of our school is so clearly prevalent and alive, and I hope you, as parents, are aware of the exceptional environment in which your daughters are learning.

After reviewing the data surrounding the COVID-19 situation in our region this week with our COVID-19 team, we have decided that it is in the best interest of our community to continue to require masks for anyone inside of our school building. Students have asked when the mask requirement will end and quite honestly, I cannot answer that question. There are many factors which go into that decision and many of them are currently unknown. I can assure our students and parents that our COVID-19 team will continue to reevaluate the situation and review the most up-to-date data each week with a focus on bringing as much normalcy as possible to our school day. I would also like to remind our families of something in the **COVID-19 Return to School Requirements from the Diocese of Covington: The Diocese of Covington schools will not require students to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Families are encouraged to explore this option for their eligible children and get the vaccine if it meets your family's needs.**

On behalf of our faculty and staff, please accept my gratitude to you for your support as we continue to navigate some challenging times and for sending your daughters to NDA. We are blessed to have each and every one of them as part of our community and look forward to blessed and productive school year.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Have a great day and make good choices!

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Dear Notre Dame Academy community,

On behalf of the Presidential Search Committee, we would like to provide you with a brief update on the search process.

As noted in earlier communications, our search professionals from Educational Directions, Mathew Heersche and Risa Oganessoff Heersche, have been recruiting and evaluating candidates over the last several months. They are in the process of finalizing their work with candidates and preparing files for the Search Committee. In general, the candidates have a broad range of experience and the pool includes both sitting presidents/heads as well as those with significant senior administration experience. In terms of geography, the candidates come from different places throughout the entire country.

As a reminder, it is from this group of top candidates that the Search Committee will select the five to seven individuals to be interviewed as semi-finalists. This group will be interviewed by the committee only. It is important to note that candidates are promised confidentiality throughout the search process to the end of the semi-finalist stage. This is consistent with best practices and important for the candidates because of the potential repercussions for them if their present school community knew of their interest while both Notre Dame Academy and the candidates are still in discernment.

After the semi-finalist interviews, finalists are selected by the Search Committee and their names will be announced in an appropriate way to the entire school community. Each finalist will spend time on campus to help them get a sense of our community. These visits are scheduled for early fall 2021 (more detailed information and schedules will be provided prior to these visits).

As a reminder, after the Search Committee has completed its evaluation of all of the data gathered (including deep reference and background checking) and deliberates, it will be presenting its recommendation to the Board of Trustees for its review and final decision. Once this is complete, the Board will make an announcement regarding the new President as soon as possible.

Our search calendar calls for the identification of the next President to be completed this fall. The chosen individual would begin work in July 2021. There will be a variety of opportunities for the new President to meet with members of our community as part of the overall process and to ensure a smooth transition for our new leader.

On behalf of the Board, we thank you in advance for your commitment and support of Notre Dame Academy.

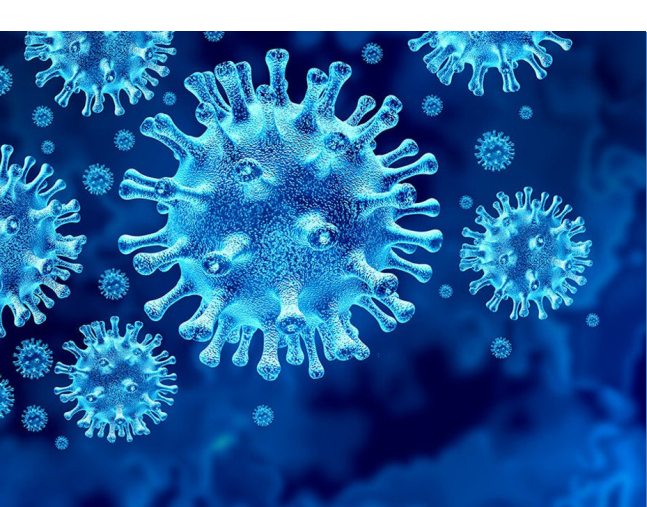
Sincerely,



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



WEEKLY UPDATE

COVID-19

As of today, Wednesday, August 25, we have had 2 reported cases of members of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week. We have 2 additional members of our community who are currently in quarantine due to a reported exposure to COVID-19.

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.

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

DAILY PERSONAL ASSESMENT

Please remember to do your daily personal assessment each day before coming to school:

1. Has the student been tested and tested positive for the virus that causes COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
2. Does the student have a temperature of 100.4 or greater, as measured by a reliable and accurate home thermometer?
3. Does the student have any COVID-19 related symptoms, including persistent non-allergy related cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain not attributable to recent activity, sore throat, new rash, GI symptoms (i.e., vomiting or diarrhea), or loss of taste or smell?
4. Has anyone in the student's household been diagnosed with, or showing symptoms of COVID-19?
5. Has anyone in the student's household been in recent close contact (i.e. past 48 hours) with anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 who has tested positive, not been tested, or is waiting for test results?
6. Has the student traveled outside the country or to any high-risk locations in the last 14 days or been in close contact with someone who has traveled to high-risk locations in the past 14 days?

If the answer is "yes" to any of the foregoing questions, the student is not permitted to attend school or any school-related activity, and the student's parents or guardian must contact the school office immediately.



PARENT RESOURCE

COVID-19 INFORMATION

There are many important resources for parents and students on NDA's COVID-19 Information page on the website [HERE](#).

- Pandas Return to Campus Plan
- Information from the Nurse's Office
- Daily Personal Assessment questions
- COVID-19 Vaccine information
- Diocesan communications

Student Life

ATTENTION STUDENTS

GRADE LEVEL MEETINGS

Sophomores and Freshmen have their Admin meeting this week. Topics to be covered include:

- Attendance Policy
- Exam Exemption Policy
- COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies
- Quarantine Procedures
- Grade Level Events



CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

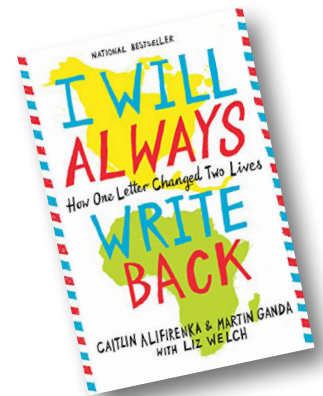
This Friday our school community will gather for our opening Mass. An adjusted schedule has been shared with all students.



2021-22

COMMON READER

This year's Common Reader Day is coming up on September 8. We look forward to discussing *I Will Always Write Back* by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda.



VIRTUAL

PARENT MINI-NIGHT

This year's Parent Mini-Night will be conducted virtually using Flipgrid as we did last year. This is a precautionary measure but also follows a year when we successfully hosted a virtual mini-night using Flipgrid. We will follow up with more information in the coming weeks.

PLEASE NOTE

HAWAIIAN MIXER

Hey Pandas! Don't miss this year's Hawaiian Mixer this Friday, August 27 from 8-10 p.m. on the soccer field. The cost is \$5 and all are invited!



**JOIN STUDENT COUNCIL FOR THE
HAWAIIAN MIXER THIS FRIDAY,
AUGUST 27TH!**

**A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS
WILL GO TO HURRICANE RELIEF IN
HAITI*

WHERE? ON THE SOCCER FIELD!
WHEN? THIS FRIDAY!
WHAT TIME? 8-10 PM!
HOW MUCH? 5 DOLLARS!
**WHO CAN COME? ANYONE CAN COME,
EVEN IF THEY GO TO A
DIFFERENT SCHOOL!**

QUESTIONS? EMAIL
STUCO@NDAPANDAS.ORG OR
SEE MRS. WAGNER IN ROOM
301!

ALOHA



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Bambootique

PANDA PRIDE

DON'T FORGET ABOUT SPIRIT WEAR

The Bambootique is the perfect place to get all your NDA gear and accessories to show your Panda Pride! The store has items for current pandas, and parents as well. You can shop online [HERE](#).

SAFETY FIRST

PARKING LOT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

To ensure the safety and well-being of our students and the children from St. Julie Learning Center, parents and students must understand the parking lot policies and procedures at Notre Dame Academy. Please review our parking lot policies and procedures below:

1. Please be cautious of students walking to and from the parking lot to the school entrance. Students should be crossing at crosswalks.

2. When picking up your daughter after school, please park in an empty numbered spot and advise your daughter to meet you at the car. There is also a row of spots at the front of the parking lot where parents can park in at the end of the day.

IMPORTANT NOTE: WHEN PARKING, PLEASE BACK INTO YOUR PARKING SPOT TO PROVIDE ADDED SAFETY TO OUR STUDENTS.

3. For safety purposes and as advised by the Park Hills Fire Department, it is important to keep the parking lot aisles and all fire lanes clear. **PLEASE DO NOT** line up for afternoon pick up in the aisles of the parking lot or in fire lanes. All cars picking up after school **MUST** be either parked in a spot or lined up on the Hilton Drive hill.

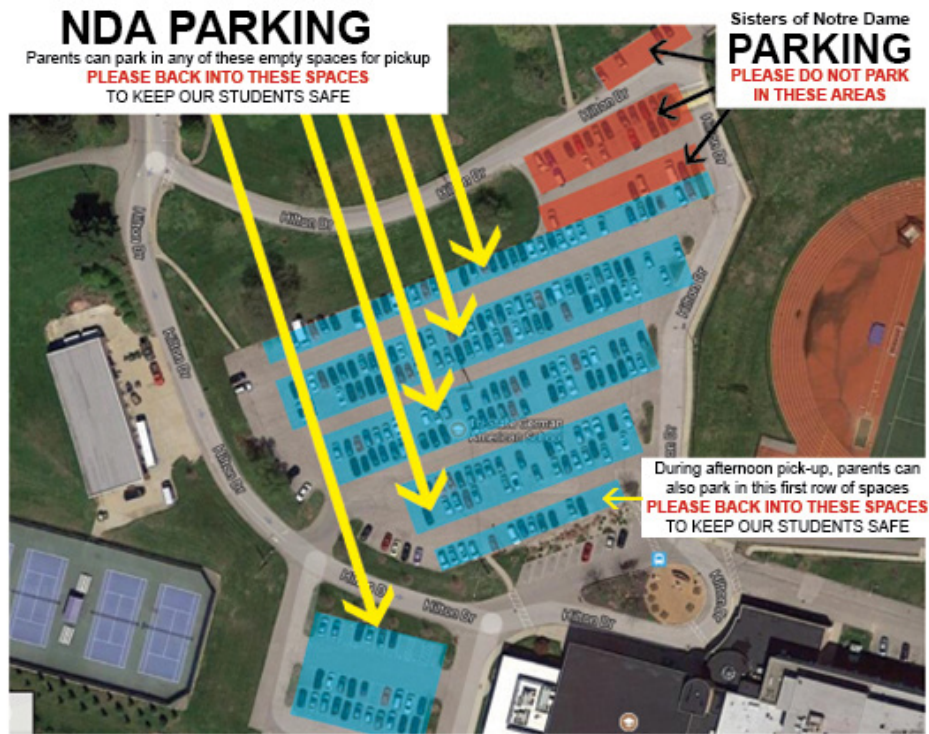
4. The back of our parking lot is shared with the Sisters of Notre Dame and Julie Learning Center. Signs have been installed and the spaces left unnumbered for the parking that is needed for the Sisters that live at St. Joseph Heights, their employees and the spaces needed for parents to pick up their children from Julie Learning Center. There is a shift change that takes place at 3:00 p.m. for the workers at the Heights. The Julie Learning Center has pickup that begins at approximately the same time as our dismissal.

5. Students who drive to school need to purchase a parking permit at a cost of \$25.00 for the year. All parked cars must show a parking permit for the current year. Students are to park on the main lot in the student parking area in their designated spot. A car parked on the lot without a permit or in a reserved area will result in a violation. A car parked in a fire lane is subject to police citation and may be towed at the owner's expense.

6. **PLEASE SEE THE PICTURE ABOVE** to see available parking for afternoon pick-up.

We certainly understand that the parking lot can be a frustration at times. We have worked with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 6 to look at solutions. They have added additional time to our light to help with our traffic flow at the end of the day.

Thanks for your help in this matter and for keeping the Notre Dame Academy campus safe for not only our students but for the children from St. Julie Learning Center and people at St. Joseph Heights.



PANDA PRIME TIME

Yesterday our seniors and juniors had their first Panda Prime Time of the school year and soon our sophomores and freshmen will have Panda Prime Time too. Below is the info graphic which lays out the guidelines during this time. Pandas, please keep in mind that physical distancing and other COVID-19 mitigation strategies remain in place for this time period.

PANDA PRIME TIME

Panda Prime Time | pandə prīm tīm |
noun

a flexible time period built into the school day giving students opportunities for enrichment, support, collaboration and the personal learning.

AVERAGE WEEK

Monday	Homeroom
Tuesday	PANDA PRIME TIME
Wednesday	Delayed Start
Thursday	PANDA PRIME TIME
Friday	Homeroom



During PANDA PRIME TIME PLEASE:

- Meet with a teacher for extra help
- Make up a test
- Work on a group project
- Talk to a counselor
- Work on homework
- Academic enrichment

PANDA PRIME TIME PLACES:

Auditorium

Cafeteria

Soccer Bleachers - JR & SR

Marian Circle - FR & SO

Chapel

Classrooms with teachers

CLC - JR & SR

Mentor Center 112 - Opening Soon

Theatre

PPT PLACES NOISE LEVELS:

Regular Talking Permitted

Minimal Talking Permitted

NO Talking Permitted

DAILY SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Regular Schedule (R)

(47 Minute classes, 30 minute lunches)

8:00	-	8:47	1st Class
8:51	-	9:38	2nd Class
9:42	-	10:29	3rd Class
10:33	-	11:03	First Lunch
11:07	-	11:54	4th Class
10:33	-	11:20	4th Class
11:24	-	11:54	Second Lunch
11:58	-	12:45	5th Class
12:49	-	1:19	HR PANDA PRIME TIME
1:23	-	2:10	6th Class
2:14	-	3:01	7th Class

Wednesday

Delayed Schedule (D)

(43 Minute classes, 30 minute lunches)

9:00	-	9:43	1st Class
9:47	-	10:30	2nd Class
10:34	-	11:17	3rd Class
11:21	-	11:51	First Lunch
11:55	-	12:38	4th Class
11:21	-	12:04	4th Class
12:08	-	12:38	Second Lunch
12:42	-	1:27	5th Class
1:31	-	2:14	6th Class
2:18	-	3:01	7th Class



HUNGRY?

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.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



GOOD NEWS! BOWLING

Bowling is back at NDA! Come find out more or just come to bowl with friends at one of the NDA open bowls. These are free for NDA students so come on out and see what it's all about. (Bowling season starts in October and runs through the winter with a couple practices each week.)



ATTENTION PANDA FANS!

CATCH YOUR PANDAS ON LIVE STREAM

All NDA home events in the gym and on the turf will be streamed for all levels. You can buy a year pass, which may end up being a better deal, depending on how many games you want to stream, sports over the course of the year, etc. If an away team is also using the NFHS network then the subscription will cover those games as well. It will also cover KHSAA state championship games!

<https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/schools/notre-dame-academy-park-hills-ky>

Reminder: All tickets to NDA athletic events are now electronic. Check out info on the website here: <https://www.ndapandas.org/athletics/fan-zone>

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



VALUABLE SUPPORT

ATTENTION FRESHMEN PARENTS

Next Monday, August 30, the freshmen will be taking the Terrace Metrics, Inc. assessment during homeroom time to examine their social/emotional strengths and needs. While not a diagnostic tool, this survey will allow us to gauge their needs and provide valuable support and interventions as needed. As a parent you will receive a results report of your daughter's survey the week of the August 30. For this survey we will only be looking at the following resilience indicators: global satisfaction, grit, hope, leadership, personal standards, positive school experience, and resiliency. The data gathered via Terrace Metrics is kept strictly confidential and only those on the counseling team and administration will have access to the data from the school. If you do NOT want your freshman daughter to participate please inform [Mrs. Grayson](#) via email.

PLEASE NOTE



RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

NDA PARENT TOOLBOX

NDA's counselors have put together some very useful tools for our parents [HERE](#).

MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE EASY

DRUG FREE CLUBS OF AMERICA

Applications for Notre Dame Academy's Drug Free Club are available online [HERE](#) or through paper applications available at school. Contact Mrs. Hildreth with any questions.



PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

NDA COLLEGE VISIT SCHEDULE

These are College Visits specifically for NDA students/families. The visits are in the hallway outside the cafeteria. All students are welcome to visit the reps.



September

Tuesday, September 7 - Hanover College
Kelsey Johnson, Admissions Rep
johnsonke@hanover.edu

Monday, September 13, University of Alabama Huntsville
Allie Eason,
ame0017@uah.edu

Wednesday, September 15, University of Tampa
Faith Sanders
fsanders@ut.edu

Tuesday, September 21, University of Louisville
Whitney Burress
whitney.burress@louisville.edu

Monday, September 27, Ohio Northern University
Wada Rhoades
a-rhoades@onu.edu



2021

AUTUMN GALA

Save the date! This year's Autumn Gala is scheduled for October 16, 2021!

Please consider becoming a Notre Dame Academy Gala Event Sponsor. Cash donations to the Autumn Gala make a tremendous impact on the overall success of our vital fundraising event. Please see the [following link](#) for sponsorship levels.

In addition to the auction items available at the Autumn Gala, the **Panda Payout Raffle** will help provide a large source of revenue for our event. This year the raffle breakdown is: NDA will receive 55% of revenue collected, the first place winner will receive 40% and the second place winner will receive 5%. The cost for the Panda Payout Raffle ticket is \$20 and the winners will be chosen on October 16!

Click [Here](#) to Purchase Tickets

NOMINATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 24

WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

If you know someone who would make a good candidate for the Women Making A Difference award, please nominate them by clicking [HERE](#). All nominations must be received no later than September 24 in order to be considered.

Be sure to mark your calendar now for the 2022 Women Making A Difference awards luncheon on **Thursday, March 3, 2022**. Any questions regarding the luncheon may be directed to Nancy Goeke at goeken@ndapandas.org or 859.292.1851.





Visit [Blau Mechanical](#)

The origin of Blau Mechanical, Inc. dates back to 1941 when Nick Blau began Nick Blau Heating on Scott Street, Covington, KY. In 1966 Nick Blau incorporated the firm in Kentucky and changed its name to Nick Blau Heating, Inc. In 1974 the firm was sold to Vicente Salazar. In 1978 the firm's name was changed to Blau Heating, Inc. In 1987, once again, the corporate name changed to its present form to better represent the changing and expanding scope of activities in which Blau Mechanical, Inc. has become involved. In October, 1996 Blau Mechanical moved to our new facility located at 1532 Russell Street.



SHARING OUR Community News

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

- St. Joseph Heights Work Study Positions available for Students
- Seeking Lower Tuition Payments?

Important dates

August 24-26

Fall Play Auditions

August 26

Mass in the Chapel 7:20 a.m.

August 27

Opening School Mass

Student Council Mixer 8:00 p.m.

September 3

Picture Day

September 6

No School - Labor Day

September 8

Common Reader Day

September 10

Club Orientation