



Welcome to the 2025-26 School Year





Mission Prayer

Good and Gracious God, help us to grow as a community centered in Jesus Christ, witnessing to your goodness.

May we like Mary, grow in the spirit of the Gospel, in love and respect for all, and in service of one another. Help us to strive for excellence in all we teach and do, so that your kingdom may come on earth and we can truly make a difference in our world. Amen



Welcome from the President





Welcome to the Panda Family!

- Lauren Hitron, President
- Cliff Ludwig, CFO
- Beth Averbeck, Senior Accountant
- Stacey Turner, Assistant Principal
- Mary Beth Bement, Faculty - English
- Abby Brueggemeyer, Faculty - History
- Eva Jones, Faculty - Faculty- Spanish
- Angela Lucarelli, Faculty - French
- Laura Schneider, Faculty - Math and Academic Enhancement
- Holly Spritzky, Faculty - Academic Enhancement
- Peyton Leonard, Theatre Director
- Jodie Rigney, School Resource Officer



Our Mission

*Notre Dame Academy,
a Catholic School
dedicated to Mary
and committed to
academic excellence,
exists to educate
young women
to make a difference
in our world.*





Our Vision

*Transformative women
leaders embracing
God's goodness
in the world.*





SND USA

- SND sponsorship and heritage
- The new SND USA leadership model continues to advance and support the mission and Catholic identity of NDA through the National Sponsorship and Network Office programs and services.
- National network of SND schools
- Our SND sponsors promote strategic best practices for financial independence to ensure the sustainability of our school as an SND sponsored ministry.





Walk Humbly. Serve Boldly. Shine with Grace.

SISTERS IN MISSION:

Walk Humbly.

Serve Boldly.

Shine with Grace.



Walk Humbly, Serve Boldly, Shine with Grace

SND Third Educational Principle: The Notre Dame Educator as Gospel Witness

- We follow Jesus, our Master Teacher, and give witness to his spirit of compassion, hope and joy, especially to those who experience poverty in its various forms.
- We nurture the Notre Dame Charism, spirit and mission among ourselves as educators and among all with whom we work.
- We reverence Mary, the Woman of Hope, who made visible the glad tidings of the Gospel.
- We share the rich spiritual and educational heritage of the Sisters of Notre Dame by using opportunities for ongoing formation and professional growth.
- We promote collaborative programs and processes that assure the continuity of the excellence of Notre Dame education through our commitment, competence and dedication.



2025-26 School Goals

- Deepen Notre Dame Academy's Catholic Identity by fostering a faith-filled environment rooted in the mission and charism of the Sisters of Notre Dame, inspiring students, faculty, and staff to walk humbly, serve boldly, and shine with grace.
- Embody and Promote the Values of the Sisters of Notre Dame by encouraging all community members to live out the SND Educational Principles through prayer, service, and authentic relationships.
- Strengthen Student Belonging and Sisterhood by enhancing our Family System and creating meaningful opportunities for connection across all grade levels and backgrounds.
- Implement Proficiency Scales Schoolwide by refining curriculum alignment with essential content, equipping faculty teams to collaboratively use proficiency scales, and supporting differentiated instruction that meets the needs of all learners.
- Cultivate Collaborative Partnerships with students, parents, faculty, alumnae, and community stakeholders to support student growth, strengthen school culture, and ensure a vibrant and mission-driven educational experience.



Academic Excellence

- Academic Administrative Team
- Professional Learning Community
 - Focus on student learning
 - All decisions
 - Collaborative culture
 - Wednesday mornings
 - Driven by results
 - Panda Prime Time



Family System

- Established in 2022-23
- Four families
- Six homerooms in each family
- Students meet in homerooms about 2 times/week
- The family system creates a more inclusive environment, promotes sisterhood and provides additional leadership opportunities for students.



Family System



Families are represented by Patron Saints:

- St. Rose of Lima
- St. Hildegard of Bingen
- St. Joan of Arc
- St. Gemma Galgani



Family System

Family Litany

Christ, have mercy...Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy...Lord, have mercy.

Christ, hear us....Christ, graciously hear us.

Mary, Mother of God... Pray for us.

Mary, Mother of the World... Pray for us.

St. Julie Billiart...Pray for us.

St. Gemma Galgani...Pray for us

St. Rose of Lima... Pray for us

St. Hildegard of Bingen...Pray for us.

St. Joan of Arc...Pray for us.

St. Francis Xavier Cabrini....Pray for us

All Sisters of Notre Dame... Pray for us.

All holy Women and Men...Pray for us.



Campus Ministry and Service

Retreats

- All retreats will be during the school day
- Dates listed on the calendar
 - Freshman - November
 - Sophomore - February 2 at St. Barbara's
 - Junior - Pilgrimage Retreat September 15, 16 and 17 (students will be assigned one of these days to attend)
 - Senior - October, January, and February, 3-day retreats
- Information will be presented to students as we near the actual retreat date

Liturgies

- Communal prayer and all should be in attendance



Campus Ministry and Service

Service Requirements

- Detailed explanations will be given in religion classes and can be found on the website and student Padlet
- MobileServe App for tracking: Need to log at the agency
- Opportunities announced through the Campus Ministry Office
- Blue - Service at non profits such as: schools, parishes, civic non-profits, animal shelters
- Gold - Service at Non-profits that serve the poor, vulnerable, marginalized



Student Services



Chrissy Monohan
FR/SO/JR
Academic Counselor



Erin Stanley
SR/College
Academic Counselor



Erin Maggard
Personal Counselor



Marie Slone
Personal Counselor



Janice Schmidt
Records Secretary



Maria Graziani
Interventionist



Laura Schneider
Interventionist



Holly Spritzkey
Interventionist



Tina Sizemore RN
School Nurse



Julie Neubacher RN
School Nurse



Edgar Neubacher
Therapy Dog



Student Services

Academic Growth

- Student class schedules have been shared on Powerschool
 - E-mail counselors@ndapandas.org with schedule issues
 - Schedule changes may only occur through the first two weeks of school
- Assist students with navigating through challenging classes, and help them develop skills to respectfully advocate for themselves
- Conduct and assist with standardized testing (CERT, PSAT, ACT)



Student Services

Social/Emotional Wellness

- School-wide initiatives to address holistic student wellness (Green Dot, Drug Free Club of America, HOPE Squad).
- Curricular and co-curricular programming are embedded to support students' emotional and social learning and health. Classes on relevant SEL topics are provided throughout the year.
- Provide support through various small groups and one-on-one counseling.

College/Career Readiness

- SCOIR platform is utilized for each grade level to explore college and career pathways.
- YouScience assessment helps student discover aptitude and career interests
- College Application Workshops: every senior will have started one application before their first day of school!
 - Family Meetings are optional



Notre Dame
Academy has a
school uniform
that consists of:



PANDA-PERFECT Style Standards

For the Sisterhood of the Gray Skirts!



Lanyard: Must be worn at all times



**Polo Shirt: White or light blue banded
NDA polo shirt**



**Sweater/Sweatshirt: Navy blue NDA pullover
sweater, cardigan, vest, crewneck sweatshirt
or fleece**



**Skirt: Gray uniform skirt, zipped and buttoned,
no higher than mid-thigh**



**Leggings: White, gray, black, or navy blue solid-
colored, close fitting and tapered at the ankle**



**Shoes: Appropriate, closed-toed shoes with
a back**



**Positive Attitude:
Wear your smile with confidence!**

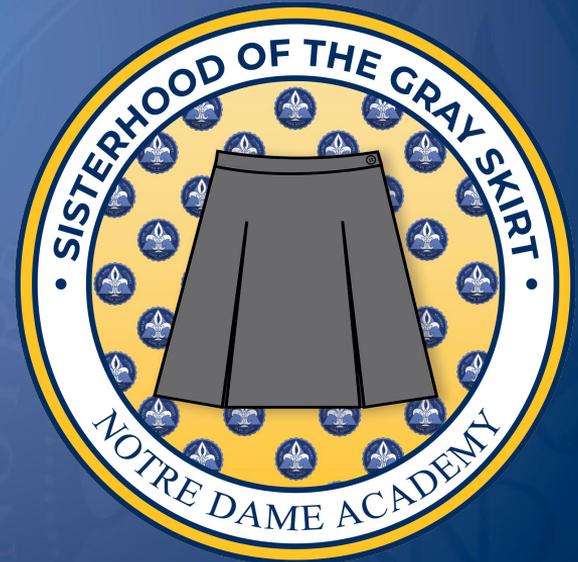
*Accountability is your responsibility.
Own your actions and lead by example.*





Uniform Policy/Procedure for Accountability

- Uniform Warning – a written notice/email notification given to the student for not following dress code. **Three warnings will constitute a violation.**





Communication

- FinalForms - Updates needed
- Emergency Notification System: PowerSchool School Messenger
- Panda Press Weekly
- Padlet
- Email
- Attendance@ndapandas.org
- PowerSchool - updated grades
- Website (current student portal - [**Home » Current Students**](#))

Online Calendar - [**Home » Calendar**](#)



Back to School Information

Grade Level Information

[Home](#) » [Current Students](#) » [Student Life](#) » [Grade Level Information](#)





Cell Phone (PMD) Policy

Protocol:

From the first bell of the day starting at 8:00 a.m. until the last bell at 2:59 p.m., PMDs are to be turned off and stored in a student's backpack, bag or purse. **PMDs are to be out of sight and off.**

Any student found with their PMD out / in sight or on during the day without Main Office or Counseling Office permission will have the PMD confiscated by any school adult and turned over to Administration. The student may retrieve the phone at the end of the school day from the Main Office.

Non-Compliance:

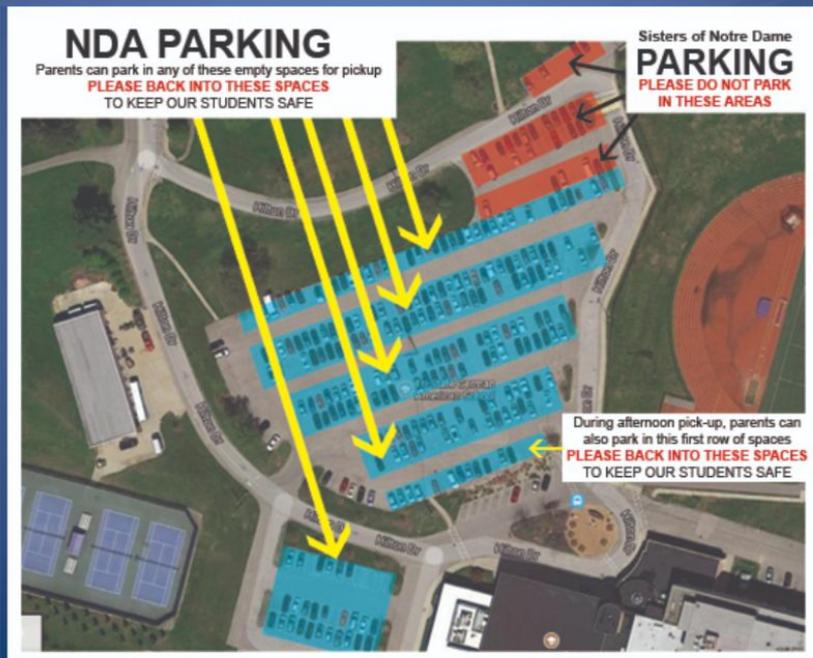
If a PMD is confiscated in violation of the policy's protocol, a student's management of the PMD would be altered pending administrative review of overall behavior history.

- 1st time: PMD will be turned into the office upon arrival at school every day for one week.
- 2nd time: PMD will be turned into the office upon arrival at school every day for one month.
- 3rd time: PMD will be turned into the office upon arrival at school every day for a semester and Saturday School will be assigned.
- 4th time: PMD will be turned into the office upon arrival at school every day indefinitely; a disciplinary and mental health plan will be discussed which could include in or out of school suspension and discussion of professional help to address the issue.



Dismissal Procedure

Staggered dismissal + Parking zones + Carpools + Traffic Light





Panda Parent Club



RE-BRANDED!

Notre Dame Academy's **PANDA Parent Club**

The **Panda Parent Club (PPC)** is Notre Dame Academy's parent engagement initiative—and it's growing! Whether you're looking to lend a hand, make new friends, or help shape beloved NDA traditions, PPC is your place to get involved!

This year's PPC will include:

Volunteer Opportunities: Cafeteria, Bambootique, event support, and more

Grade-Level Sponsored Events

Key Event Planning: Mother/Daughter, Father/Daughter, After Prom Socials

Quarterly Speakers & Parent Programs

First PPC Meeting of 2025–2026

TOMORROW! August 7 | Parent Night

Come meet other parents and learn how you can get involved!

Watch for more information in upcoming editions of
the PaNDA Press!



Advancing Our Mission

Your financial and volunteer support are vital to advancing the mission of Notre Dame Academy.

- Annual Fund
 - We aim to ensure that an NDA education is available to any young woman who aspires to join our community of learners.
 - The Annual Fund subsidizes tuition income to meet our operating needs and supports our tuition assistance program.
 - The Annual Fund bridges the “Gap”
- Corporate Sponsored Events
 - Light the Night - October 4, 2025
 - Women Making a Difference - March 2026
 - Annual Golf Outing - June 5, 2026





THANK YOU FOR BEING
OUR PARTNERS IN THE
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
FAITH COMMUNITY!