



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

*Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World*

# Panda Press Weekly

January 19, 2022

THE *nda* LIFE

## Dear Parents,

On Monday, we had the day off school in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. I hope you and your family took the time to celebrate Dr. King's life and his example. We talk a great deal about 21st Century educating at NDA. There are many facets of 21st Century learning, one being the education of students to work effectively in a diverse and multicultural society. In order to be effective leaders and to promote justice for everyone in our society, students need to understand and appreciate the world's wide range of people and cultures.

On Friday, we will focus on respecting life for all, from conception to natural death. We will have a prayer service with the NDA community on Friday morning to pray for the protection of all human life. We will also pray for those members of our school community who will be traveling to the March for Life in Washington D.C.

In accordance with the recently updated [Diocesan COVID-19 Return to School Requirements 2021-22 School Year](#), beginning next Monday, January 24, we may return to a recommended mask policy when the following requirements are met:

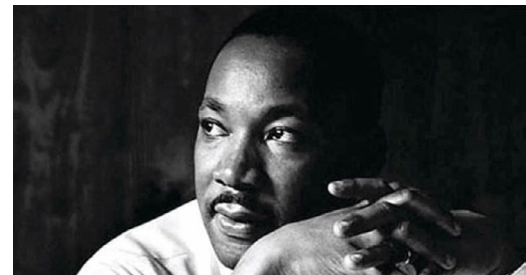
- we have 5 or less cases of COVID-19 at NDA, and
- cases are declining

As you can see below in our weekly COVID-19 update, we have had 15 new reported cases of members of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week at NDA and we have had 4 additional members of our community who are currently in quarantine due to a reported exposure to COVID-19. **THEREFORE, masks will continue to be required at NDA from January 20-26.** We will continue to monitor and report weekly cases of COVID-19 at NDA on Wednesdays in the Panda Press Weekly. The mask protocol for the 7 days following (Thursday - Wednesday) will be announced each week based on the number of new cases we have each week. As stated above, if we have 5 or less cases and cases are declining, we will return to a recommended mask policy. We truly appreciate your support in our COVID-19 protocols at NDA. Our success throughout these past two challenging years is a direct result of our community working together to keep each other safe and healthy.

At Notre Dame Academy, we strive to be a community enriched by our differences. By expanding our students' knowledge and understanding of the diversity in our world, we encourage an awareness of the global community. Thanks for your continued support of our mission. Please know that we are grateful to partner with you in this important work.

In Notre Dame,

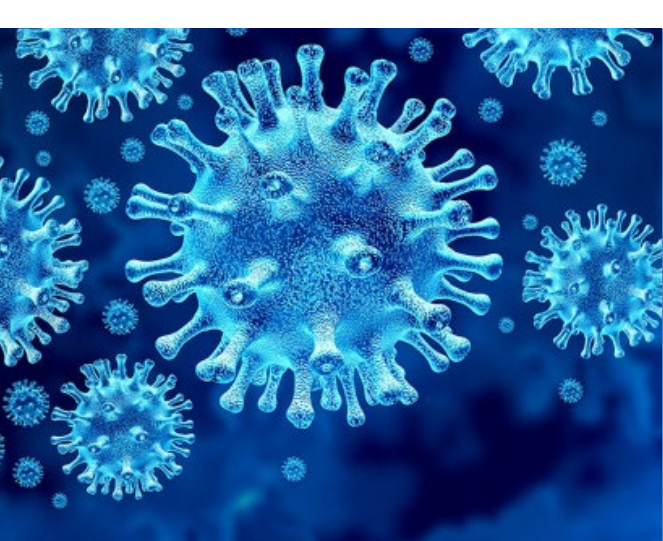
Mr. Jack VonHandorf



The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**Have a great day and make good choices!**



## WEEKLY UPDATE

### COVID-19

As of today, Wednesday, January 19, we have had 15 new reported cases of members of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week. We have had 4 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 one of our school nurses, Tina Sizemore, RN. or Melanie Martin, RN., at 859.292.1843 | [ndanurse@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndanurse@ndapandas.org)

## FROM THE SCHOOL NURSES

# IMPORTANT MASK AND BOOSTER INFORMATION

Dear Parents,

You have probably heard in the news or from your pediatrician that the FDA and CDC now recommend **booster shots** of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 12 through 15 in addition to recommending boosters for those 16 and older. The reason that teens should get a booster shot is because while the vaccines currently available have been providing strong protection against serious illness, a booster dose “reminds” your immune system of what the COVID-19 virus looks like. It also protects you against new strains of the virus. Booster shots also help decrease the chance you could spread COVID-19 to someone else.

**Please note:** students who received the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine should get a booster at least 6 months after the second dose. You can view the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 vaccine booster shots on the CDC's website [HERE](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/pdf/covid19-12-15-21.pdf). Please keep our office informed of information regarding your daughter receiving a COVID-19 vaccine and/or booster shot.

**Masks** have also been a hot topic in the news this week. You can read a summary of the latest masking changes on the CDC website [HERE](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s0914-mask.html). Basically the CDC reminds us that any mask is better than no mask and they continue to recommend that people wear the most protective mask they can that fits well and that they will wear consistently. NDA has provided KN95 masks to faculty and staff to provide them with the best level of protection during the spread of the Omicron variant.

Also, every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 **free at-home COVID-19 tests**. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. We encourage you to take full advantage of this free offer for your convenience and personal home use. You can order your free at-home COVID-19 tests [HERE](https://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dlpi/nCoV/COVID-19-tests-at-home/).

Finally, please keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues involving your daughter and/or your family. If you have any health related questions or concerns, please contact one of us at 859.292.1843 or [ndanurse@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndanurse@ndapandas.org).

Thanks to our entire community working together these past two years, NDA has been very successful in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 on our campus and keeping our students safe and healthy while engaged in in-person learning!

Tina Sizemore, RN.

NDA School Nurse

[ndanurse@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndanurse@ndapandas.org)

Melanie Martin, RN.

NDA School Nurse

[ndanurse@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndanurse@ndapandas.org)



# Student Life



## ALL ARE WELCOME MORNING MASS

This week we will celebrate Mass in our beautiful *Mary, Mother of the World* Chapel at 7:20 a.m. tomorrow. All are welcome to join us!

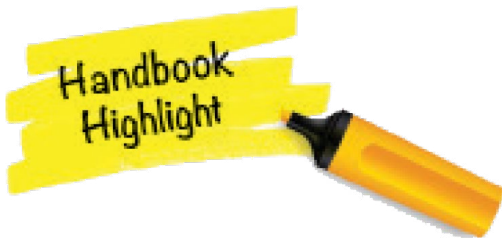


## 2 WORK STUDY POSITIONS AVAILABLE WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

We are moving toward more self-service in the cafeteria as we did prior to COVID-19. Once we have the necessary personnel to staff the cafeteria, we will be adding the salad bar and the use of trays back into our lunchtime routine.

**If you are interested in working in NDA's dish room through our Work Study Program, (M,T,H,F: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | W: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.) please contact our cafeteria manager at [ndahr@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndahr@ndapandas.org). You can find NDA's lunch menu [HERE](#). Please note: the menu is subject to change as there are many shortages in the food industry.**

**PARENTS, please check your daughter's lunch account and to pay overdue balance as soon as possible.**



## GOOD OPTIONS DRESS CODE

The colder temperatures require more layering! Students should take note of warmer uniform options. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the uniform information found on the website.



## SWEET DEAL BAMBOOTIQUE SPIRIT WEAR SHOP

Don't miss the Deal of the Week at the Bambootique: Buy \$30.00 from the spirit shop, received free hot chocolate bomb. Shop online for this sweet deal [HERE](#).



IT'S SHOW TIME!

## CSW TALENT SHOW

Our annual Talent Show is coming up on February 4. Registration forms are due on January 21 and can be found [HERE](#). Some ideas of talents to share include...

- Singing
- Dancing
- Playing an instrument
- Performing a monologue or a skit
- Juggling
- Comedy Act
- ...and so many more!

We are looking forward to seeing the many talents of our Pandas!



DON'T FORGET TO ORDER

## YEARBOOKS ON SALE!

The 2022 NDA Yearbook, *Make it Count*, is available for pre-order at [jostens.com](http://jostens.com) (pick up link if available). The book will cover the entire year through graduation and will arrive in the fall of 2022.

The 2021 NDA Yearbook, *Together*, is still available in limited quantities in the school office. Books are \$70; please make checks payable to NDA.

KENTUCKY

## ED CHOICE

Last Thursday, EdChoice Kentucky joined Senator Ralph Alvarado and Representative Josh Calloway in Frankfort as they announced new legislation to expand school choice options in Kentucky.

The new bills would help more families take part in Kentucky's expansive educational choice program. They would allow students in every county in the Commonwealth to use scholarship funds to cover tuition at a nonpublic school. The bills also increase the income eligibility, giving more families access to much-needed education dollars. And, if family demand exceed the current cap at \$25 million, the bills would automatically increase the ceiling so more families could move their students to the head of the class.

If you are a supporter of educational choice options in Kentucky and you support SB 50 and HB 305 you can contact your legislator [HERE](#).



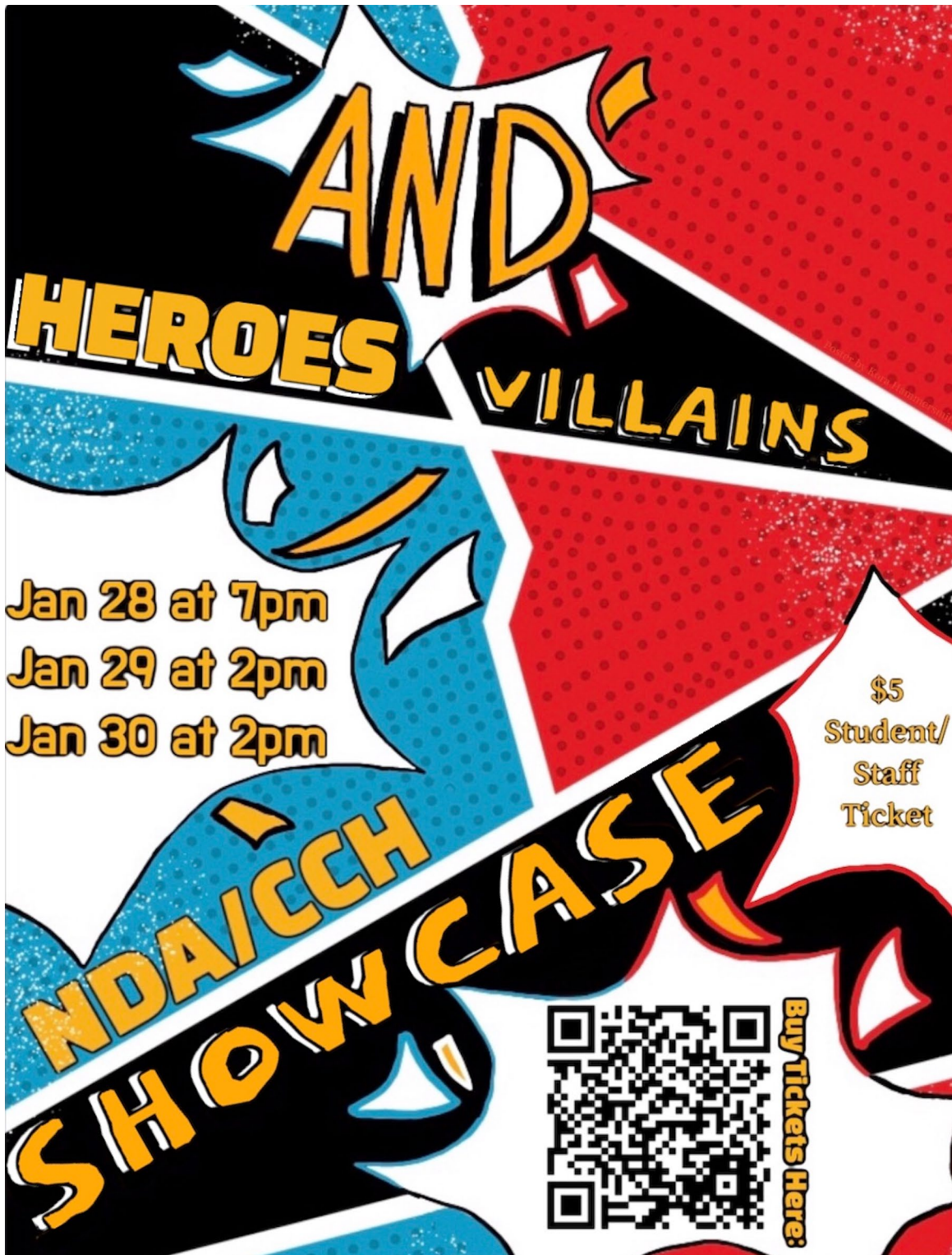
GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY

## BUY TICKETS FOR THE HEROES & VILLAINS SHOWCASE

Come and see NDA & CCH Theatre Department's performance of the **Heroes & Villains Showcase** January 28 at 7 p.m., January 29 at 2 p.m., and January 30 at 2 p.m.! Purchase your tickets [here](#) or at the door for a \$5 student ticket.

This performance will include some of your favorite songs about heroes from Hercules' *Zero to Hero*, *Mulan's I'll Make a Man Out of You*, to The Greatest Showman's *A Million Dreams*. Or if villainy is more your taste, please enjoy The Little Mermaid's *Poor Unfortunate Souls*, The Lorax's *How Bad Can I Be*, and Taylor Swift's *Look What You Made Me Do*. With special performances by NDA's Honor Choir, Dance Pandas, and the Faculty Band included in the show.

Please contact Miss Smith at [smithja@ndapandas.org](mailto:smithja@ndapandas.org) with any questions.





[REGISTER TODAY](#)

## FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE

Pandas, do you and your dad love Rock and Roll? Mark your calendars for Friday, February 4 for NDA's Father/Daughter Dance! CLICK [HERE](#) to register by Monday, January 24.

Seniors create your father/daughters posters by February 4! Turn them into the front office to be displayed at the dance.

If you are an NDA basketball player and are unable to make it to your assigned session, please register for the session you are able to attend and alert Mrs. Pohlman ([ocean1313@yahoo.com](mailto:ocean1313@yahoo.com)) to this accommodation.

*Food, Fun, DJ, Dancing.  
Photos, Prizes (masks required)*

**I LOVE**  
**ROCK AND ROLL**  
**NDA FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE 2022**

**DATE:** Friday, February 4, 2022

**TIME:** 6:30 - 8:00 pm Seniors, Juniors  
8:30 - 10:00 pm Sophomores, Freshmen

**PLACE:** Receptions Event Center  
1379 Donaldson Highway, Erlanger, KY 41018

**RSVP:** by Monday, January 24, 2022  
[www.NDApandas.org](http://www.NDApandas.org)

**COST:** \$25 per person

**QUESTIONS:** Crystal Pohlman 859-468-7110

# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

APPLY TODAY

## COACHING POSITIONS AT NDA



### **Varsity Volleyball Coach**

Notre Dame Academy is looking for a Varsity Volleyball Coach for the 2022 Fall season. This position will oversee the program and report directly to the Athletic Director. Experience at the high school level is desired. All coaches must go through KHSAA and Diocese onboarding and training once hired. Please send a letter of interest and resume to [ndahr@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndahr@ndapandas.org) Notre Dame Academy is a Catholic all girls high school sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame.



### **Varsity Cross Country Coach**

Notre Dame Academy is looking for a Varsity Cross Country Coach for the 2022 Fall season. This position will oversee the program and report directly to the Athletic Director. Experience at the high school level is desired. All coaches must go through KHSAA and Diocese onboarding and training once hired. Please send a letter of interest and resume to [ndahr@ndapandas.org](mailto:ndahr@ndapandas.org) Notre Dame Academy is a Catholic all girls high school sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame.



RIGHT ON TARGET!

## NDA PANDA ARCHERY



On January 15, the Archery Pandas competed in the Northern Kentucky Athletic Conference Tournament at Boone County High School. The team shot 2978 which included 72 tens. 7 Archers shot a personal season high score - Megan Paolucci by 3, Chloe Dunham by 26, Jamie Collins by 9, Morgan Russell by 17, Kate Slocum by 1, Annalise Neurohr by 16 and Alex Gardner by 5. The Pandas were led by Megan Paolucci at 269, Keira Schneider at 265, Chloe Dunham at 256, Kaitlyn Eberhart at 253 and Natalie Lovell at 252. The Archery Pandas are taking a well deserved weekend off and will next shoot on January 29 at the Twenhofel Tournament. ARCHERY PANDAS ROCK!

*Pictures: 1. Morgan, Emma, MCAT, 2. Megan A. and Lauren. 3. Kaitlyn and Chloe, 4. Alex, 5. Didi, 6. Keira, Kate and Candace, 7. Lea and Mack, 8. Annalise, Alexis, Anna, Natalie, Megan P. Jamie 9. Jamie and Melisa*



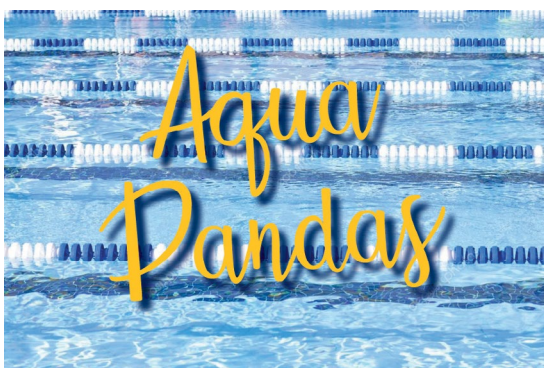




## SHOWING SUPPORT

# BASKETBALL PANDAS RALLY FOR ONE OF THEIR OWN

Our Basketball Pandas are coming together in support of senior player Jillian MacKnight who recently tore her ACL. The team had shirts made to support #23 during her recovery. "This is what teamwork is all about," said NDA Athletic Director Myanna Webster. "Jillian will be missed on the court this season but she's still an important part of this team and her fellow Panda players want to make sure she knows that."



## SWIM SEASON

# AQUA PANDA NEWS

The Aqua Pandas have been very busy with practices and meets during the month of January. Freshmen Regionals are at the end of the month and Regionals are in early February. The team competed in two meets over the past week:

### **Tri-Meet with Lafayette HS and Lexington Catholic HS...**

On Thursday 1/13, the swim team traveled to Asbury University after school to compete in a tri-meet vs. Lafayette HS and Lexington Catholic HS. These are two of the top teams not only in Lexington, but in the state. The team

came up short, losing to both teams, but there were many good swims. Elizabeth Smith (3rd in 500 freestyle) provided the lone top 3 finish in the individual events. Top 3 relays included Payton Hatfield, Smith, Sammie Poulos, and Mary Reynolds (3rd in 200 medley relay) and Hatfield, Andi Carothers, Smith, and Poulos (2nd in 400 freestyle relay). Overall, the team recorded "best times" in 20 individual events (of a possible 32) and for 8 relay splits.

### **Rock The Block...**

On Saturday 1/15, the team traveled to the University of Louisville to compete in Rock The Block, hosted by Trinity HS. The team finished 9th out of the 20 teams competing. Top 16 finishers in the individual events included Sydney Dierig (6th in 1 meter diving), Sammie Poulos (14th in 50 butterfly), Mary Reynolds (9th in 1 meter diving), and Elizabeth Smith (5th in 100 individual medley). Top 16 relays were Payton Hatfield, Smith, Poulos, and Andi Carothers (8th in 200 medley relay); Megan McKeown, Sophia Helson, Abby Hay, and Annie Dierker (14th in 100 freestyle relay); Poulos, Smith, A. Carothers, and Hatfield (6th in 200 freestyle relay); and Grace Summe, Lindsey Carothers, Ali Wells, and Abby Otto (14th in 200 freestyle relay). Overall, the team recorded "best times" in 20 individual events (of a possible 28) and for 10 relay splits.

This weekend, the swim team travels to Union College in Barbourville, KY to compete in the SHDHS Winter Invite, hosted by St. Henry District HS. This meet features 17 high schools, mostly from Northern Kentucky, including top rivals Ryle, Dixie Heights, and St. Henry. Good luck AquaPandas!

# COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



## ACT PREP

### JUNIOR ACT

The in-school ACT for our juniors will be On March 8. All juniors will be registered through the school for this test. This year, we are happy to announce our partnership with a Kentucky-based tutoring and test prep company Free Test Prep Online (FTPO) and its founder Timothy Ward. Mr. Ward is a Virtus certified 2009 graduate of the University of Notre Dame, and in 2021, he ran a free ACT program for Covington Latin School. This year, he has expanded the program to include all the schools in the Covington Diocese. As part of our partnership with FTPO, Mr. Ward will be hosting a free webinar– How to Raise Your Child's Worst ACT Subject Score by 8 Points for FREE– for all our parents on Wednesday, January 26, at 7 PM ET. The 30-minute webinar will give you simple, free, and low cost strategies to help your student prepare for the ACT (the next ACT is coming up early March!) Mr. Ward will also be announcing another free program exclusive to the schools in the Covington Diocese. We are very excited to be able to provide our community with these resources, and you won't want to miss this webinar! Please register for the webinar at <http://freetestpreponline.com/parents>

## MORE ACT PREP

### TORCH PREP BOOT CAMP

The deadline for NDA's Boot Camp through Torch Prep is January 24. You can sign up online [HERE](#).

**torchprep**  
PARTNERS WITH  
**NOTRE DAME ACADEMY**  
TO PROVIDE NORTHERN KY'S PREMIER  
ACT TEST PREP  
**SIGN UP HERE**  
torchprep.com | info@torchprep.com | 888.382.8174  
Thursdays 6pm-9pm 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24 & Saturdays 10am-2pm 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26  
LOCATION: Notre Dame Academy  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1/24/22

## GSA APPLICATION PROCESS

### CINDERELLA'S CLOSET

While Prom is still months away, there is a fast approaching, wonderful opportunity, for those who may qualify, in the form of an organization called Cinderella's Closet. Cinderella's Closet is a group that provides free prom dresses and accessories to those who may have financial need. Cinderella's Closet has had to close the last couple of years, so they are very excited to be back open this year. However, they will have more limited appointments due to the changes they will need to implement for Covid. The weekend they will be open this year is March 18-19 2022. If you would be interested in having your junior or senior daughter participate, please reach out counselor Erin Maggard at [maggarde@ndapandas.org](mailto:maggarde@ndapandas.org). She is working to generate a list of interested students in order to be ready to register them as soon as the portal is opened. All registrations must take place via the school counselor.





# ADVANCING OUR MISSION



## PRIORITY APPLICATION PERIOD

### DO YOU KNOW A YOUNG WOMAN WHO COULD BENEFIT FROM AN NDA EDUCATION?

**The NDA Freshman Priority Application period is from January 3, 2022 – February 11, 2022.** If you have an 8th grade daughter who is interested in applying as an incoming freshman for the 2022-2023 school year, you can find our Application for Admission [HERE](#).

Students who apply for admission during the Priority Application Period have a better chance of receiving seats in high-demand classes

such as Art I and some foreign language classes. Students who apply during this period are included in a drawing for a free iPad or a \$500 tuition voucher. Incoming freshmen who are eligible for academic scholarships must apply for admission by the priority deadline in order to confirm receipt of their scholarship.

## #SUPPORTING OUR PANDAS

### HAVE YOU HELPED FILL THE GAP?

**Please join us in our mission to educate young women to make a difference in the world by prayerfully considering a donation to the 2021-22 Notre Dame Academy Annual Fund. [CLICK HERE](#) to donate online.**

Your gift will help “fill the gap” and ensure access to a Catholic education at NDA by directly supporting our students. Thank you in advance for your continued support of Notre Dame Academy!

**\$2420**



[Seven Hills Women's Health Centers](#), a physician owned medical practice, is the leader in women's health care in the tri-state area. Our providers offer compassionate and comprehensive women's health care for women of all ages. With 12 physicians, 2 midwives and 2 nurse practitioners serving the Northern Kentucky community across three convenient office locations, our care is easily accessible. Visit us at [womenshealthcenters.com](http://womenshealthcenters.com) to find a provider near you. We're proud to support the Notre Dame Academy. Several of our physicians and their daughters are part of the NDA family!

Dr. Emily Woeste, 1994  
Dr. Meredith Donnelly, 1995  
Jeanne Setters, APRN, 1982  
Liz Kirkwood Adair, 1998  
Rachel Kirkwood, 2002  
Kelsey Darpel, 2011  
Kendall Darpel, 2014

Emma Jacobs, 2014  
Emily Jackson, 2016  
Caroline Jackson, 2018  
Paige Donnelly, 2022  
Addy Woeste, 2022  
Ava Jacobs, 2023  
Kimberly Woeste, 2024



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

- Positions Available at Catholic Schools in the DOC
- St. Joseph Heights Work Study Positions available for Students
- Seeking Lower Tuition Payments?

## Important dates

January 20	Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m.
	Seniors return from retreat
January 21	Prayer for Penance Prayer Service
January 22	JR retreat
January 28-30	Showcase
January 31	Catholic Schools Week begins
	CSW Mass
February 2	Diocesan Mass
	NDA vs. CCH volleyball game
February 4	Mid-quarter
	Talent Show
	Father/Daughter Dance
February 21	NO SCHOOL: President's Day
February 22	Senior Retreat #3