

Dear Panda Families,

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to a close; it seems to have come and gone so quickly, as it does every year. The end of summer can bring about sadness, but in the education world, it symbolizes new and fresh beginnings along with excitement. We are anticipating an incredible year with your daughters and we are so excited to welcome all of our students back to campus when school begins on Tuesday, August 12—less than two weeks away! The energy is building here at NDA, and we can't wait to see the halls filled with your daughters' smiles once again.

Before we dive into the new school year, we hope every parent will join us for our **Parent Information Night on Thursday, August 7**. This evening is an incredible opportunity to connect with our NDA community. The event will begin with a Meet and Greet from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m., where you can enjoy light appetizers and take time to connect with our new president, Lauren Hitron, the new assistant principal, Stacey Turner, and me.

Following that, we will host the Parent Information Session from 6:15 to 7 p.m., where you'll hear about our goals for the year, receive important policy updates, be introduced to new faces, and hear about our rebranded Panda Parent Club (our version of a PTO). If you are a freshman parent, we invite you to stay from 7 to 8 p.m. for our Freshman Gift Gathering Party, a fun way to meet other new families and support NDA!

A special thank-you to the parents who met with me this week to offer thoughtful input as we finalize our updated cell phone policy. Your voices and partnership are helping shape a learning environment that puts student focus and well-being first.

Please be sure to read this week's entire Panda Press Weekly, as it contains very important back-to-school information to help your daughter start the year strong. Next week's Panda Press Weekly will highlight a few key changes at NDA, include key information, and will welcome our new faculty and staff.

Thank you for entrusting us with the privilege of walking alongside your daughters on this exciting journey. We're ready for a fantastic school year and can't wait to celebrate the start of it together!

As I will tell your incredible young ladies time and time again: Walk in Faith!

Mrs. Him Timmerdia

Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding '97





Dear NDA Families,

Welcome to Notre Dame Academy! It is truly an honor to begin my first year as President, and I am so excited to embark on this journey with you. Alongside our leadership team, dedicated faculty and staff, I look forward to walking with you during your daughter's high school years. Thank you for placing your trust in NDA as we help your daughter grow into a confident, compassionate woman who will make a meaningful impact on the world.

As we begin the school year, I encourage you to stay connected through the Panda Press Weekly, which is full of news, updates and helpful reminders. There are so many ways to get involved at NDA, from school events to volunteer opportunities, and the strength of our community truly comes from the participation of families like yours.

Like many of you, I am also new to NDA. What drew me here was the school's deep-rooted commitment to educating young women in a Catholic, academically rigorous environment. Since arriving, I have experienced firsthand the warmth, spirit and purpose that define this remarkable school. NDA is indeed a school devoted to Mary, inspiring young women to lead lives of purpose and goodness.

I am grateful to work alongside our new principal, Mrs. Timmerding, who brings both instructional leadership and a deep alignment with our Catholic values. Together, along with our exceptional Leadership team, faculty and staff, we are here to support you every step of the way.

Thank you for choosing Notre Dame Academy and Catholic education for your daughter. I look forward to getting to know you and your family in the year ahead.

Go Pandas!

In Notre Dame,

Lauren Hitron

President, Notre Dame Academy

James Histon

Student Life

JOIN US Thursday, August 7

Meet and Greet 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Parent Information Session 6:15-7:00 p.m.

Freshman Gift Gathering Party 7:00-8:00 p.m.

JOIN US THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

We hope you'll join us for Notre Dame Academy's Parent Information Night on Thursday, August 7. This annual gathering is a wonderful way to connect with other parents, meet new faculty and staff, and learn more about the year ahead.

Unlike past years, we will host just one session for parents of students in all grade levels. The evening will begin with a **Meet and Greet from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.**, featuring light appetizers and the chance to connect with our new president.

The Parent Information Session will follow from 6:15 to 7 p.m., where we will highlight goals for the year, review key policies and share important updates about the upcoming school year.

Finally, from 7 to 8 p.m., freshman parents are invited to stay for our Freshman Gift Gathering Party—a fun opportunity to meet other new families while supporting NDA!

We look forward to seeing you there and starting the year together as a united NDA community.

NDA INTRODUCES PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

A SHARED COMMITMENT TO MISSION, PARTNERSHIP AND RESPECT

As we begin a new school year, Notre Dame Academy is introducing a Parent Code of Conduct designed to strengthen the vital partnership between home and school. Rooted in our mission to educate young women to make a difference in the world, the Code outlines shared expectations, clear communication practices and a collaborative approach to supporting our students.

The Code highlights NDA's commitment to treating every student with respect and care, while also asking parents and guardians to uphold values and boundaries that foster a safe, mission-centered community. It includes steps for problem solving, guidelines for athletics and activities, and a shared language for navigating challenges with grace and integrity.

Parents will sign the Parent Code of Conduct through Final Forms as part of the back-to-school process. By working together, we can ensure that every Panda thrives academically, spiritually and personally.

We are grateful for your continued trust and support as we form young women of faith, character and leadership.





NEW CELL PHONE POLICY

TO BE SHARED AT PARENT NIGHT

Notre Dame Academy is finalizing updates to its cell phone policy, which will be introduced at Parent Information Night on Thursday, August 7. This important initiative is rooted in our mission to create an environment that prioritizes student focus, wellness, and formation.

This past school year, we shared insights from *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt—a powerful exploration of how smartphones and social media affect student mental health. Haidt's message was clear: reducing students' screen time is critical to their emotional well-being and academic success.

Currently, NDA's policy requires students to keep phones off and put away from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., but we recognize that enforcement can be inconsistent and that a more structured approach is needed. This summer, we invited parents, faculty, and staff to two roundtable sessions to offer feedback and explore solutions. We are deeply grateful to all who contributed to these thoughtful conversations.

The updated policy will be presented next week, and we look forward to working together to ensure it is implemented with care, consistency, and the shared goal of helping students thrive—both in the classroom and beyond.

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

UNIFORMS FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

Approved Uniform pieces are listed below as stated in our Student/Parent Handbook:

Notre Dame Academy has a school uniform that consists of:

- a gray uniform skirt or uniform slacks (the skirt or pants must be the proper size and length, be zipped and buttoned, hemmed appropriately and free of stains, rips, and/or holes). Students are required to obtain a new skirt or pants if it no longer zips, has tears, holes, or stains. Please note: Skirt should extend below student's fingertips when arms are fully extended at one's side.
- a white or light blue banded Notre Dame Academy polo shirt
- solid white, gray, black or navy blue socks
- appropriate shoes that have a back to them
- name tag/lanyard

Optional items that may be purchased and worn with the uniform include:

- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy pullover sweater
- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy cardigan sweater
- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy sweater vest
- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy sweatshirt (available for purchase through Schoolbelles and NDA's Bambootique)
- a navy blue Notre Dame Academy fleece
- a navy blue blazer with NDA's emblem for special occasions such as Mass, award ceremonies, etc.
- gray, black, or navy blue leggings that are close fitting and tapered at the ankle
- black dress slacks for designated events



If you need to purchase new uniform pieces for next school year, visit Schoolbelles' website at http://www.school-belles.com/myschool/M37/s1935 to purchase.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FINALFORMS ACCOUNTS

FinalForms Updates Needed for the 25-26 School Year

Notre Dame Academy partners with FinalForms, an online forms and data management service which allows you to complete and sign forms for your daughter(s) online. FinalForms saves data from year-to-year, meaning you will never need to enter the same information twice! You may review your data at any time throughout the year to verify that it is current. All parents and students are expected to use FinalForms and complete their updates for next year by July 5, 2025 (if participating in athletics) or by the first day of school. FinalForms is active now and if support is needed, please contact the school or office.

Students who want to participate in athletics must upload a valid, signed KH-SAA physical form in Final Forms before participating in any athletic activities, including conditioning workouts, open gyms and tryouts for all sports. The KHSAA physical form can be found HERE. If you do not have a FinalForms account, please create one account at:

https://notredameacademy-ky.finalforms.com

and follow the prompts to create the parent account, begin your daughter's account and sign your forms. Your daughter's NDA gmail must be used when setting up her account. Once the parent/guardian creates the account, the student will be prompted in her NDA email to submit her forms. Please note: if you have already turned in your daughter's immunization record, you do not need to upload it separately. School personnel will upload it for you.

If a NDA student is struggling to login, click on the button "Login with Google." The username and password should then be recognized.

If you already have an account for a current NDA student and need to add another daughter: Login to your account and click MY STUDENTS to add another student to your account and make any updates for your returning student. Make sure you are updating information for the 25-26 school year. If you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Lisa Timmerding at timmerding@ndapandas.org.



You won't want to miss next week's Panda Press Weekly! We'll be sharing important updates on new policies and introducing our amazing faculty and staff.





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 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!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS FROM THE MATH DEPARTMENT

NUMWORKS CALCULATOR REQUIRED FOR 2025–2026 MATH COURSES

Dear NDA Community,

In wrapping up the current 2024-2025 school year, the math department at Notre Dame Academy has also been reviewing our students' supplies list in preparation for next school year. You may recall that we highly encouraged the purchase of a NumWorks calculator in early August of last year, and we have found this device to be extremely beneficial for our students and their learning. With that being said, we wanted to communicate as early as possible to our families that **all** students will be expected to have a NumWorks calculator for their math classes in the 2025-2026 academic year.

For those who may be unfamiliar with NumWorks, it is a more modern and intuitive graphing calculator developed in collaboration with teachers and designed with today's students in mind. Inspired by the electronic devices that students use daily, this calculator's app-based design empowers them to explore and discover mathematics on their own. NDA's math department believes that equipping our students with this device will allow us to make math education accessible and approachable for all students.

The NumWorks graphing calculator is included on the list of permitted calculators for all College Board tests (PSAT, SAT, and AP) and it also meets the requirements for the ACT calculator policy. You can read more about exam compliance at https://www.numworks.com/calculator/exams/.

The NumWorks graphing calculator (intended to replace the TI-84) costs \$99, but there is also a FREE app version of the calculator for all phones, iPads, and laptops. The NDA math department was able to generate a discount code for any NDA students interested in purchasing this calculator at a discounted rate. More information about the NumWorks graphing calculator can be found at https://www.numworks.com/. We encourage you or your daughter to explore this option in preparation for the upcoming academic year.

Below is a 10% discount link that allows you to purchase a NumWorks graphing calculator for \$89.99 instead of the typical retail price of \$99.99. Please note that this link will expire on July 31st. All calculators purchased through this discount link will be shipped directly to school where students will receive their new calculators in their math classes.

https://my.numworks.com/group_orders/xb4ew3

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. We hope everyone has a wonderful, relaxing summer!

Thank you,
Leslie Litmer
NDA Math Department Chair
litmerl@ndapandas.org

PLEASE NOTE:

2023 - 2024 YEARBOOK UPDATE

The 2023-2024 yearbooks are due to be finalized and delivered shortly after we return to school in August. We will provide more information once we know of an exact date. Please accept our apologies for the delay. There were some issues with printing which were out of our control.

Thank you for understanding!

SENIOR PORTRAIT TIME! SCHEDULE EARLY AND SAVE

PRESTIGE PORTRAITS NOW BOOKING FOR CLASS OF 2026

Parents of seniors: Prestige Portraits in Crestview Hills is again NDA's photographer for official senior portraits. Please try to schedule a portrait session with them at your earliest convenience; we would like to have the entire senior class photographed by October.

Seniors will be photographed in the traditional black drape, which the studio will provide, for the official portrait. Families may choose additional outfits/poses if they like

To schedule your session or for more information, vist:

https://local.prestigeportraits.com/ky/crestview-hills/536-centre-view-blvd-.html

or call 513-772-2110. Prestige offers photo support 10-6 Monday through Thursday and 10-2 on Fridays, and is closed weekends.

START EARLY SAVE BIG!!

All students MUST come to Prestige Portraits for the yearbook photo.

ONE STOP!! Everything you need and anything you want your senior portraits to be all in one location. Our indoor/outdoor studio adds up to an AWESOME experience.

The Essential Session Only \$30 \$10 June \$15 July \$20 August

Don't wait! Limited appointments available first come first served. Essential Session includes
Yearbook requirement PLUS
2 more outfits of your choice:
Casual, Formal, Sports,
Indoor or Outdoor
all in one stop!

Need more outfits? No problem, upgrade to the

Most Popular Session for \$10 more or Ultimate Session for \$20 more

Schedule ASAP to get the BEST DEAL!

Prestige Portraits 536 Centre View Blvd Crestview Hills, KY 41017 Building #20

SCHEDULE NOW!

prestigeportraits.com/studio (859) 578-0110 #2 #1



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Requirements

Drape

Deadline

photographed by October 9, 2025

Drapes provided by studio. Pearls available if needed.

Schedule NOW! -limited appointments available

Click
Book Appointment
Search
Kentucky





Important Dates for 2025-26!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2025-26 CALENDAR NEWS

The academic calendar for next year is being finalized and will be shared with the departments this week. The academic calendar for next year is being finalized and will be shared with the departments this week. The "No School" calendar is located in the blue table below. If you have specific questions, feel free to contact the office staff.

2025 - 2026 - Summer Dates / Back to School Dates

Week of July 28 - iPad Orientation for Incoming Freshmen

August 4 (morning) - Freshmen Bridge

August 5 (morning) - Freshmen Bridge

August 6 (morning) - Freshmen Bridge

August 7 (morning) - Freshmen Bridge

August 7 (evening) - Parent Information Night (all grade levels)

August 8 (9-12:00) - Freshmen Orientation

NEW EVENT! SAVE THE DATE!

Class of 2029 PaNDAs! Mark your calendar for the afternoon of Friday, August 8 for the Class of 2029 PaNDA FunFest! This event (that is just for our incoming freshmen) will begin immediately after Freshman Orientation and will start with lunch (provided by NDA), followed by an afternoon of fun, games, and entertainment! This will be a GREAT chance to get to know your classmates better and celebrate the Class of 2029! More details will follow as we finalize the schedule this summer. Stay tuned!

August 12 First Day of School

January 5 School Resumes (after Christmas)

April 13 School Resumes (after Spring Break)

May 22 Last Day of School

May 22 Graduation

No School Dates 2025-2026

No School Dates 2025-2026

August 15 Feast of Assumption

September 1 Labor Day

October 9 PD Day - PD for Faculty

October 10 PD Day

November 26 PD Day

November 27 Thanksgiving Break

November 28 Thanksgiving Break

December 8 Immaculate Conception

December 22 Christmas Break

January 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 16 Presidents' Day

March 13 PD Day

April 2 - April 12 Easter Break



ATTENTION JUNIORS AND SENIORS

PARKING PASSES

A Cognito form will be sent to students in August to purchase their parking pass for the 2024-25 school year. Parking passes are \$50 for the year. Each student purchasing a pass will be required to upload a photo of a valid driver's license before submitting the form.

Parking pass emails will be sent as follows:

Seniors: Monday, August 4, at 9 a.m.

Juniors: Tuesday, August 5, at 9 a.m.

Sophomores and freshmen: Wednesday, August 6, at 9 a.m.

A carpooling form will also be sent on Thursday, August 7. Please complete and sign this form if your daughter will be leaving with a junior or senior. We dismiss students by grade level for efficiency and safety, so this form allows us to permit your daughter to leave before her grade level if needed.

Please direct any questions about parking regulations to the school office.



SING WITH THE PANDATONES

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Are you interested in joining choir at Notre Dame Academy? All students are invited to join the Panda Tones!

All returning and new members should attend the choir's brief informational meeting on Tuesday, August 20, in the choral room at 3:00 after announcements. We will discuss class expectations, songs, and important dates.

Please email Mrs. Chandler (<u>chandlerk@ndapandas.org</u>) if you have additional questions.







REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! ANNUAL SKI TRIP



Registration is now open for NDA's 5th Annual Ski Trip to Winter Park, Colorado (January 15-19)! Fill out the form **HERE** to save your spot!! Registration is first come, first serve and will be open until August 30th or until all spots have been filled. The trip will be chaperoned by NDA faculty and staff. Email Ms. Dooling at **doolingm@ndapandas.org** with any questions.





LIGHT THE NIGHT FOR NDA!

SAVE THE DATE

Save the Date! Notre Dame Academy's Light the Night for NDA is set for October 4 from 6 p.m.–10 p.m. at The Madison Event Center. This unforgettable evening is our largest fundraiser of the year, supporting the students and mission of NDA. Mark your calendars. If you want to get involved or help support please reach out to Myanna Webster at websterm@ndapandas.org or one of our chairs, Tracy Stacy, Laura Mauller or Heather Ramsey.

ATTENTION INCOMING FRESHMAN PARENTS!

FRESHMAN PARENT GIFT GATHERING

Freshman parents, we're rolling out the red carpet for you! After Parent Information Night on Thursday, August 7, please join us for the Freshman Gift Gathering Party from 7 to 8 p.m. This lively event is the perfect way to meet other new families, enjoy refreshments, and learn more about how you can support Notre Dame Academy in the year ahead. It's a fun, relaxed way to start building lasting connections within the NDA community—all while helping to ensure an amazing experience for your daughter and her classmates. We can't wait to welcome you and celebrate this exciting new chapter together!



You're invited to the

Freshmen Parent Gift Gathering Party

08.07.25 | 7:00-8:00 PM | The CLC at Notre Dame Academy (Directly following Parent Night)

All items donated benefit Notre Dame Academy's Fundraiser Light the Night for NDA, Presented by Performance Lexus Northern Kentucky. We would love for freshmen families to bring in gift cards and any of the items below are especially valuable.



Gift cards to local restaurants to be used in auction baskets or gift card pull



Rare bourbon



Entertainment / Sports Tickets



Contribute to larger gift card raffle with a cash / Venmo donation

SOPHOMORE, JUNIOR, & SENIOR PARENT GIFT GATHERING

Sophomore, junior, and senior parents are invited to the Gift Gathering Party on Thursday, August 28, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Performance Lexus (709 Wright's Summit Parkway, Fort Wright).

This fun and casual evening is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other NDA families while supporting our school community. Bring along a gift card, rare bourbon, entertainment or sports tickets, or make a cash/Venmo donation to help build amazing auction baskets and prizes for our upcoming events.

Your generosity makes a big difference, and we can't wait to enjoy a great night together with refreshments, laughter, and Panda spirit!



You're invited to the

Sophomore, Junior, & Senior Parent Gift Gathering Party

08.28.25 | 6:30-8:00 PM | Performance Lexus 709 Wright's Summit Pkwy, Fort Wright, KY 41011



Gift cards to local restaurants to be used in auction baskets or gift card pull



Rare bourbon



Entertainment / Sports Tickets



Contribute to larger gift card raffle with a cash / Venmo donation

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FALL SPORTS!

GET READY TO CHEER ON PANDA SOCCER AND VOLLEYBALL

It's game time, Pandas! Our Soccer and Volleyball teams are gearing up for exciting fall seasons, and we can't wait to see our community fill the stands in support of our student-athletes.

Now is the time to mark your calendars with all of the big match-ups! You'll find the full schedules below, so you won't miss a moment of the action. Both teams have been working hard all summer, and we're looking forward to seeing their dedication, teamwork, and Panda pride shine on the field and the court.

Bring your energy, wear your blue and gold, and join us in cheering on our Pandas all season long!

Go Pandas!



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE 2025

Date:	Opponent:	Location:	Time:
8/13	Mount Notre Dame (Scrimmage)	MND	5:00 - 8:00
8/18	Conner	Conner	5:00/6:00/7:00
8/20	Highlands	NDA	5:00/6:00/7:00
8/23	JV/FR-Round Robin	Ryle	TBD
8/25	JV/FR-St. Henry	NDA	5:30/6:30
8/26	Cooper	Cooper	5:00/6:00/7:00
8/28-8/30	V-Nike Tournament of Champions	Gainesville,FL	TBD
9/3	Mercy	NDA	5:30/6:30/7:30
9/4	St. Ur sula	St. Ursula	4:30/5:30/6:30
9/6	Roger Bacon	NDA	10:00/11:00/12:00
9/9	Sim on Kenton	Simon Kenton	5:00/6:00/7:00
9/10	Sacred Heart	Sacred Heart	5:30/6:30/7:30
9/16	Dixie Heights	Dixie Heights	5:00/6:00/7:00
9/17	Beechwood	Beechwood	5:00/6:00/7:00
9/20	FR-LIVT Tournament	Louisville, KY	TBD
9/23	Holy Cross	Holy Cross	5:30/6:30/7:30
9/24	V-Campbell County	NDA	6:00
9/25	North Oldham	NDA	5:30/6:30/7:30
9/29	CHCA	CHCA	5:00/6:00/7:00
10/1	Holmes	TBD	TBD
10/2	V-Marist KENTUS	Marist	6:00 (Central Time
10/3-10/4	V-ASICS Challenge	Chicago, IL	TBD
10/8	Ryle (Senior Night)	NDA	5:00/6:00/7:00
10/9	Ur suline Academy	Ursuline	5:00/6:00/7:00
10/11	St. Henry–Playing for a Purpose	TMU	4:30/6:00/7:30
10/14	Assumption	Assumption	5:30/6:30/7:30
10/18	JV-LIVT	Louisville, KY	TBD

Important dates

July 28 - August 1 iPad Orientation for incoming Freshmen

August 4 College Application Workshop (3:30 - 5:00)

August 5 College Application Workshop (9-12)

August 7 College Application Workshop (3:15-4:30 p.m.)

Meet and Greet with President and Principal

Parent Welcome Back Night for all grade levels

Light the Night for NDA Freshmen Gift Gathering Party

August 8 Freshmen Orientation

August 12 First Day of School

August 14 College Application Workshop (3:15-4:30 p.m.)

August 14 Opening School Mass

August 15 No School - Feast of the Assumption

August 14 College Application Workshop (7:30-8:45))

August 21 Alumnae Rosary

August 28 Light the Night for NDA Sophomore - Senior Gift Gathering Party

September 1 No School - Labor Day

September 4 Picture Day

September 9, 11 Feeder School Shadow Day

September 17 Donor Scholarship Breakfast

September 18 Alumnae Rosary

September 23, 15 Feeder School Shadow Day