



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Educating Women to Make a Difference in the World

Panda Press Weekly

August 16, 2023

THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year at Notre Dame Academy! As we begin our 118th year of educating young women to make a difference in the world, I would like to extend a warm welcome to each of you. I would also like to thank you for the privilege of partnering with you in your daughter's Catholic education.

Today we welcomed our students back in true NDA style with a great deal of cheering, loud music, smiles and the unmistakable energy that only our Pandas can bring. (You can get a glimpse of the excitement of our first day back to school [HERE](#).) It's wonderful to have our students back in the school building as they bring life to our campus. We look forward to a productive school year filled with spiritual growth and academic accomplishments.

During our opening school assembly this morning, I had the privilege of introducing NDA's new President, Mrs. Trish Miller, to our students. Mrs. Miller spoke to our NDA community about her role and explained that her job is to advance the mission of Notre Dame Academy so that our students have a wonderful experience and in order that NDA is around for generations to come. Mrs. Miller's message was met with much enthusiasm from our students.

Our school theme for this year is *Radiating God's Goodness*. This theme is rooted in the First Educational Principle of the Sisters of Notre Dame: The Centrality of a Good and Provident God. Each member of our NDA family received a device decal of our theme with the image below which will serve as a reminder of our commitment throughout the year. By *Radiating God's Goodness* each and every day, we will create an environment where kindness, love, acceptance and support are expected and appreciated. Together we can spread God's goodness and foster a culture of compassion and collaboration at NDA.

We are blessed at Notre Dame Academy in so many ways. Our students, eager to learn, coupled with our dedicated faculty who strive for educational excellence, are a testament to the strength and commitment of our educational community. Our devoted staff members work diligently behind the scenes to ensure the smooth operation of our school. On this first day of school, we reflect on the day in 1906 when Notre Dame Academy first opened its doors to the young women of our community. We are humbled to be part of this profound legacy of Catholic education founded by the Sisters of Notre Dame. Today as a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Notre Dame, we are part of a larger network charged to be joyful, positive, humble, optimistic and kind to those around us. That is what it means to be a community influenced by the charisma of the Sisters of Notre Dame - sharing in a way of life that proclaims God's goodness and provident care.

Have a great school year!

In Notre Dame,

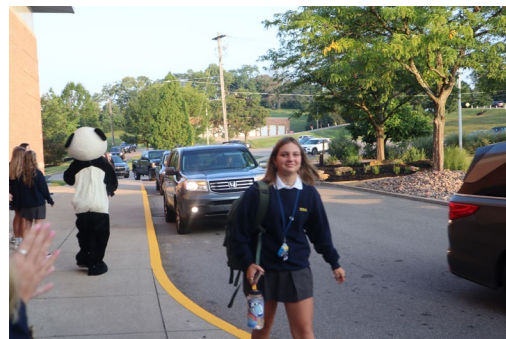
Mr. Jack VonHandorf



Have a great day and make good choices!



*Let's write a
new story
Pandas!*



Student Life



CLASS OF 2024!

SENIOR RA! SENIOR RA!

Yesterday the Class of 2024 gathered to paint their cars in preparation for the beginning of a new school year. There was a lot of great energy and our seniors had fun getting their cars ready for their final year at NDA!



FIRST MIXER OF THE YEAR!

NEON NIGHT

Student Council will be hosting the first social event of the year on Saturday, August 26 from 8:30 - 11 p.m. in the auditorium. There will be a DJ and the evening is a great opportunity to connect with new and old friends! Guests from other schools are welcome. Be sure to dress in your best neon colors! The cost is \$5 per person. A portion of the proceeds will benefit victims of the fires in Maui.



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Bambootique

PANDA GEAR

BAMBOOTIQUE

Get the latest Panda gear at NDA's spirit wear shop, the Bambootique! You can shop online [HERE](#).



DELICIOUS NEWS

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

You can find NDA's lunch menu below and on our website [HERE](#).

Parents, please check your daughter's lunch account balance throughout the school year to avoid overdue account issues. Thank you!

ATTENTION PANDA PARENTS

IN CASE YOU MISSED PARENT MEETINGS...

You can find the documents which highlight events and activities pertinent to your daughter's class here:

[Freshman Information Sheet](#)

[Sophomore Information Sheet](#)

[Junior Information Sheet](#)

[Senior Information Sheet](#)

To view the entire school calendar visit our website or click [HERE](#). Calendar events will also be shared in the weekly Panda Press. Your daughter will also receive a weekly Padlet with information to help her plan for her week. NDA's Student/Parent Handbook is now available through our website [HERE](#). Please use this resource if you need help navigating school policies or procedures

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION
PLEASE READ**

PLEASE NOTE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CARPOOL INFORMATION

If your daughter plans on riding with an NDA student driver at the end of the day, please complete the carpool form found [HERE](#). Once the form is completed, your daughter will receive a new colored ID holder. She will need to show the blue or gold colored ID holder to her last period teacher each day in order to dismiss with an earlier grade.



AWESOME EXPERIENCE

SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM

Several of our Pandas spent some time in August learning academic strategies, working on math, summer reading, getting to know other Pandas and learning their way around NDA at the 2023 Summer Bridge Program!

PLEASE NOTE

ATTENDANCE EMAIL

If your daughter is going to be late, out for the day or if she is leaving early, please contact the office through attendance@ndapandas.org or call the main phone line 859-431-2600.

PLEASE NOTE!



REGISTER TODAY

PANDA SKI TRIP

Registration is now open for NDA's Ski Trip to Colorado (January 11-15)! Fill out the form [HERE](#) to save your spot!! Registration is first come, first serve and will be open until August 30 (or earlier if all the spots have been filled, then a waitlist will be created).

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING FOR ADULTS

Question. Persuade. Refer. Just like CPR, QPR is an emergency response to someone in a mental health crisis and can save lives. Participants learn how to question a person about suicide, persuade someone to get help, and refer someone to appropriate resources. It is designed to train teachers, caregivers, coaches, or anyone in a position to prevent suicide and how to help save a life.

1N5, a local mental health organization, whose mission is to prevent suicide by erasing the stigma of mental illness and promoting optimal mental wellness, provides these trainings to community members for FREE!

Register [HERE](#) to sign-up for an upcoming FREE virtual QPR Training:

August 24, 2023 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Educator Focused, but open to all

September 14, 2023 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - Caregiver Focused, but open to all

September 28, 2023 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - General training, open to all

October 12, 2023 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - General training, open to all

October 26, 2023 - 4:00 - 6:00pm - General training, open to all

WELCOME TO THE PANDA FAMILY



We have made a change in administration and will be having two assistant principals this year.



Molly Proudfit serves as the Assistant Principal for Academics and as a teacher in the science department. Molly has been a member of the Notre Dame community for thirteen years. Prior to joining the faculty at NDA, she earned a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Meredith College, where she discovered the impact of women's education first hand, and a Master's degree in Education from the University of Tennessee. She is currently working toward the completion of a second Master's, this time in Education Administration at Xavier University. Ms. Proudfit is a National Board Certified Teacher and has been recognized as Teacher Who Made A Difference by the University of Kentucky.



Lisa Timmerding is a 1997 NDA graduate. She attended Northern Kentucky University and pursued Elementary Education for both her undergraduate and Master's degree. She then earned an additional Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership from NKU. She has 21 years of teaching experience in public and parochial schools. The last 6 years she has spent in a leadership role at Holy Cross Elementary School in Latonia serving as the principal. She took advantage of the opportunity to come back home to the school that meant so much in her life - and so she is happy to join the NDA family this year! Her daughter will also be joining us this year as a Junior. We are excited to have both of them.

Welcome to our new faculty members:



Butch Hamm is coming out of retirement to teach English at NDA. A veteran teacher of 37 years, Mr. Hamm has taught courses in English, Library Media, TV Production, AP Language and Composition, Theatre, and Communication. He holds a BA and an MA in Communication from Morehead State University and a Rank 1 in Rhetoric from Wayne State University. He will be AP Language, British Literature, Research Writing and Science Fiction.



Marcia Sullivan is joining our religion department and will be teaching senior and sophomore religion. Marcia is a native of Ireland and she earned her Bachelor's Degree in majoring in Religious Studies with a minor in European History. She came to the United States in 1998 for graduate school at the University of Notre Dame. Marcia spent several years teaching in Catholic schools in Charlotte, North Carolina and moved to Cincinnati in 2005 to be closer to family. She has taught at Mount Notre Dame High School, and Summit Country Day Middle School. Marcia is a product of an all-girls high school education and was thrilled to be given the opportunity to teach the students of Notre Dame Academy.



Sammie Kleier, class of 2018, is teaching freshman English, Research Writing, and Modern Lit. this school year. Prior to joining the staff at NDA she taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Literature at Immaculate Heart of Mary. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Secondary Education at Thomas More University. She is also our head JV cross country coach.



Tish Grote Lashua is joining the Religion department and will be teaching Sophomores and Juniors this year. She is an alum from the class of 1999 and has 3 Panda daughters and an eighth grade son at Blessed Sacrament. Tish pivoted last year from a successful career in marketing to education, which has always been her passion. She taught at St. Joseph in Cold Spring last school year. Tish holds a bachelor's degree in Marketing from NKU and a Master's in Marketing Research from the University of Georgia.



Lauren Meese is our next new teacher. She graduated from NDA in 2019. She will be teaching Biology and Anatomy classes this school year. This past May, she received her Bachelors degree in Biology with a concentration in teaching from Eastern Kentucky University. She is extremely excited to start her first year of teaching at NDA.

FINE ARTS

AUDITIONS & TECH INTERVIEWS: TUES AUG 22- THURS AUG 24 AFTER SCHOOL

SIGN UP FOR CAST & CREW FOR KEN LUDWIG'S BASKERVILLE: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY!

Technical Interviews and Auditions for Baskerville will be held Tuesday, August 22 - Thursday, August 24. You can find out all of the information about the show and how to get involved [HERE](#).



Tues Aug 22
Wed Aug 23
Thurs Aug 24



Technical Interviews
& AUDITIONS

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE AFTER SCHOOL CHORUS, THE PANDA TONES?

Panda Tones is a choir class that meets once a week, is open to all grade levels, and will perform in the Christmas and Spring showcases.

There will be a short informational meeting Thursday, August 17, after school in the choral room. If you cannot make it and would still like to join the choir or have any questions, please email Mrs. Chandler (chandlerk@ndapandas.org).

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

LET'S BOWL PANDAS!

COME JOIN US FOR OPEN BOWLS AND BRING A FRIEND!

When: Thursday August 17 and August the 24 **Time:** 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Where:** Erlanger Strikes and Spares.

All skills are welcomed so come bowl with us, have some fun and check it out. You may be interested in bowling for NDA this year. Email Coach Hampton @hamptond@ndapandas.org with any questions. See you on the lanes!

ATTENTION ALL NDA STUDENT ATHLETES

DISCOUNT CARD FUNDRAISER

All Parents of Athletes must make your selection for the Athletic Fundraiser option in Final Forms by Sept. 1, 2023.

Every Athlete at NDA must participate in the Athletic Fundraiser. This year the fundraiser is brand new and features a Plastic Discount Card. You get discounts to local merchants from a plastic credit card size card that fits conveniently in your wallet. The card contains discounts to approximately 20-24 local merchants and restaurants on the back of the card. These discounts can be used multiple times and are good for one year. Also included are 4-5 Key Tags that can fit on your keyring that contain discounts to restaurants or merchants that are single one-time use discounts. The discount cards are sold for \$20 each.



You have until Sept 1 to make your selection. You have 3 options available to choose from for your athlete's participation. (refer to chart below)

- You can sell all 18 cards (Pay NO fundraiser fee)
- You can opt in at half - sell 9 cards (half the cards, but also pay half of the additional fundraiser fee of \$140)
- Or opt OUT completely and sell NO cards, but pay a full fundraiser fee of \$280

Once you have made your selection in Final Forms, after September 1, 2023 and the cards have been produced for you, the cards are yours to sell and your responsibility.

If your daughter is unsure if she will participate in a sport (for instance in the spring) you may want to choose the "sell no cards" option. If she decides not to do a sport at all you will not be billed the fundraiser fee, as no cards were produced for you.

If NO SELECTION is made you will fall into the category of "Sell No Cards" and be billed the full \$280 fundraiser fee for participating in a sport.

- Discount Cards will be delivered to NDA and picked up by students in mid October.
- A spreadsheet of the card sales must be uploaded by the student to a provided link on our website (for tracking purposes)
- All Money for the cards turned in to the Athletic Department by December 15, 2023

Discount Card Fundraiser Requirements

Select an option for each child participating in Athletics below **by September 1, 2023.**

If no option is selected, or a student chooses to participate in athletics after September 1, 2023, the student will owe the "Sell No Cards" cost.

If you are unsure whether your daughter plans to participate in athletics, you may want to select the "Sell No Cards" option so that cards are not produced for you and you are not held financially responsible for those printed cards.

Children	Sell All Discount Cards			Sell Half Discount Cards			Sell No Discount Cards		
	Your Fundraiser Cost	Cards To Sell per Child	Total Due per Child	Your Fundraiser Cost	Cards To Sell per Child	Total Due per Child	Your Fundraiser Cost	Cards To Sell per Child	Total Due per Child
Child 1	\$0	18 (Turn in \$360)	\$360	\$140	9 (Turn in \$180)	\$320 (\$140 your cost + \$180 in discount card sales)	\$280	None	\$280
Child 2	\$0	14 (Turn in \$280)	\$280	\$110	7 (Turn in \$140)	\$250 (\$110 your cost + \$140 in discount card sales)	\$220	None	\$220
Child 3	\$0	8 (Turn in \$160)	\$160	\$65	4 (Turn in \$80)	\$145 (\$65 your cost + \$80 in discount card sales)	\$130	None	\$130

Review your fundraiser selection in Final Forms (Discount Card Fundraiser Tab) to select the option that best fits your needs.

ADVANCING THE MISSION

LET'S CELEBRATE! PRESIDENTIAL INSTALLATION

All members of the Notre Dame Academy community are cordially invited to attend the installation ceremony for our new President, Mrs. Trish Miller on Saturday, August 26 at 10:00 a.m. at NDA.

You can also find a link to registration for Mrs. Miller's installation ceremony [HERE](#).

Notre Dame Academy's Board of Directors

cordially invites you to attend the

Installation of

Trish Miller

as President of Notre Dame Academy

on

Saturday, August 26, 2023

at

10:00 o'clock in the morning

at

Notre Dame Academy

1699 Hilton Drive

Park Hills, Kentucky 41011

To ensure your attendance and reserve your seat, we kindly request that you confirm your attendance no later than August 18, 2023, by scanning the QR code provided.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

LIGHT THE NIGHT FOR NDA

Are you interested in getting involved at NDA and meeting new people? The *Light the Night for NDA* committee is currently looking to expand! *Light the Night for NDA* is our largest fundraiser and will take place on November 11, 2023 at the St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center in Erlanger, KY. Fill out the online volunteer form [HERE](#) or contact Denise Bowman, Director of Events and Scholarship Advancement at bowmand@ndapandas.org for more information.



SHARING OUR Community News

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

- Molly Mayer's Studio of Dance

Important dates

August 18	Opening Mass
August 22	Theatre Auditions & Tech Interviews
August 23	Theatre Auditions & Tech Interviews
August 24	Theatre Call Back Auditions
August 26	Presidential Installation
	Student Council Fall Mixer
September 4	NO SCHOOL: Labor Day
September 6	Parent Mini-Night
September 7	Late Start
September 8	Picture Day
September 15	Mid-quarter
	Club Orientation
September 20	Super Day: JR Practice ACT
	SR College Planning
	FR/SO CERT Test
September 22	Fall Sports Pep Rally
	Playing for a Purpose VB Game
September 25	Common Reader Day