

# SEASONS

A Publication for Alumni, Parents & Friends | Summer 2025

Notre Dame Schools Celebrates  
**THE CLASS OF  
2025**



NOTRE DAME  
**ND**  
ELEMENTARY

NOTRE DAME  
**ND**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

NOTRE DAME  
**NIOL**  
CATHEDRAL LATIN

# NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS



## Vision

Notre Dame Schools will engage students in an exceptional Catholic education. We will focus on loving, respecting, and educating all to discover and develop their God-given talents. We will challenge our students to respond faithfully to Jesus' call to transform the world by consciously doing good and bringing hope to the hearts of all.



## NDES/NDMS Mission

Celebrating God's goodness and provident care, Notre Dame Elementary School educates children by nurturing dreams, excellence, and success for transforming their lives and our world.



## NDCL Mission

Like Mary, who gave Christ to the world, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School educates leaders who transform the world, as Jesus did, by living the truth in love.

## Core Values

Justice

Respect

Integrity

Community

Excellence

Summer 2025

## In This Issue

- 2 *Message from President*
- 3 *Board Profiles*
- 4 *Gridiron Lions*
- 8 *Alumni Profile*
- 10 *Campus News and Notes*
- 12 *Lions Mane Event ROARS to new record high*
- 14 *Graduation 2025*
- 16 *Teacher Features*
- 18 *Endowment Listing*
- 19 *Endowment Profile*
- 20 *In Memoriam and Class News, Baby News*
- 21 *Reunion 2025 Recap*
- 22 *LionSGO*
- 23 *SND at 175*

## Board of Directors

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 Mandy Capel  
 Frank Cappello  
 Jennifer (Liebenauer '01) Cavolo  
 George Collins '65

Robert Coode  
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 Jackie (Preston '01) Franck  
 Chris Hart '01  
 Matt Keefe



*Alumni Engagement Survey.*  
 Take this 9-question survey that helps us plan our engagement and marketing.

**Please send all address changes and correspondence to:**  
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 Office of Advancement  
 13000 Auburn Road  
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 440.279.1067

## School Administrators

**Dr. Jacqueline Hoynes**  
*President, Notre Dame Schools*  
**Mrs. Jodie Ricci**  
*Principal, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School*  
**Mrs. Joelle Coates**  
*Middle School Principal*  
**Mrs. Friederike Wintersteller**  
*Elementary School Principal*

## Office of Advancement

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*Director of Advancement*  
**Mrs. Courtney (Rice '98) Bacik**  
*Annual Giving and Donor Engagement Coordinator*  
**Ms. Erica Kostelac '16**  
*Advancement Services Coordinator*  
**Mr. Quinn Malone**  
*Webmaster*



# Message from the President

## Dear Notre Dame Family,

At Notre Dame Schools, strategic planning is more than a routine exercise—it is a vital expression of our ongoing commitment to excellence, growth, and mission-driven leadership. As we launched a new strategic planning cycle, we knew we wanted to adopt a living, breathing plan—one grounded in clarity, accountability, and real-world execution.

After thoughtful exploration, we embraced the Entrepreneurial Operating System (EOS)—a practical, proven framework designed to help organizations sharpen their vision, strengthen leadership, and achieve sustainable growth. EOS centers on six key components: Vision, People, Data, Issues, Process, and Traction. Together, these provide a focused path forward by aligning our team around common goals, addressing challenges head-on, and creating measurable results.

Our EOS journey began in the summer of 2024 with full engagement from our Board and leadership team. During our strategic retreat, we reaffirmed our core values, set our sights on a bold 10-year target, and charted the milestones necessary to get there—starting with a focused three-year picture and a concrete one-year plan. I encourage you to go to our website to have a closer look at our exciting strategic planning journey: the goals we've set, the progress we've made, and the vision that is guiding us forward. We are energized by the clarity and direction this process has brought to our community, and we are proud to share it with you—our valued partners in mission.

Thank you for your steadfast support as we continue building a future worthy of the Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin legacy.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Jacqueline Hoynes, President**

jhoynes@ndes.org;  
Jacqueline.hoynes@ndcl.org  
(440) 279-1050



## President's WISH LIST

*Highlighting some of our current "wishes" that will further our schools:*

- **Innovation Lab at NDCL**
- **New Art Building for NDCL and Middle School students**
- **Retractable/motorized American flag for McGarry Gymnasium**
- **New gymnasium at Notre Dame Elementary School**
- **Turfed baseball and softball fields at NDCL**

*If you'd like to learn more about these or might consider funding one or more, contact me today!*



## 6 PILLARS FROM OUR STRATEGIC PLAN WITH A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF EACH:

### ► ACADEMICS

- State of the art Innovation and STEM lab
- Safe and secure AI integration

### ► ADVANCEMENT

- Grow Endowment to \$50 million in ten years
- Deepen alumni engagement

### ► CATHOLIC IDENTITY

- Launch new course about the Sisters of Notre Dame and Cathedral Latin legacies
- Service-learning curriculum that integrates Catholic social teaching, faith-based reflections, and the SND educational principles.

### ► FACILITY/SAFETY/SECURITY

- Enhance mental health services
- Audit cell phone and Wi-Fi service to identify gaps and recommend improvements.

### ► OPERATIONAL VITALITY AND MISSION ADVANCEMENT

- Develop and implement an effective governance model rooted in the mission and best practices of an SND-sponsored school.

### ► FINANCE

- Implement a five-year forecasting model to ensure sustainable financial growth and ongoing investment in Notre Dame Schools.
- Establish tuition pricing models and sustainable salary tables to attract and retain top talent.

**Check out the entire strategic plan at [www.ndcl.org](http://www.ndcl.org) and [www.ndes.org](http://www.ndes.org).**

*"The SND Transformative Leadership Award honors outstanding leaders in our SND USA network of ministries whose work embodies our SND mission of empowering positive change in the lives of others. As a transformative leader, Dr. Hoynes brings her extensive professional experience, dedication to Catholic education and sense of justice and compassion for others to her work each day. Leading others to embrace personal growth and an ethic of service to others, Dr. Hoynes serves as a beacon of hope for the Notre Dame Schools community."*

*--Dr. Laura Koehl, Executive Director SND USA National Sponsorship and Network Office*

# Board Member profiles

## Constance (Melito '76) Eyman



**BOARD ROLE:** Board Operations Committee Chair.

**EMPLOYER:** Retired after 30 years in health care executive management and Licensed Nursing Home Administrator.

**CONNECTION TO NDS:** Notre Dame Academy graduate, class of 1976

**FAMILY:** Husband Kurt and children: Kurt Charles III, Katherine, Christian, plus 6 grandchildren.

**TIME ON BOARD:** Joined Board in 2023.

**WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO JOIN THE BOARD?** I welcomed the opportunity to serve and give back to a school that had strongly influenced my Catholic Identity, values, and furthered my educational goals. I was invited to the Board by Mary (Dever '76) Legerski who was my classmate at NDA and thought I would be a good fit.

**WHAT MAKES THE NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS COMMUNITY SPECIAL?** What I love about the schools is the collaboration and interconnection between NDCL and Notre Dame Elementary/Middle School. In the short time that I have been serving on the Board, I have been witness to the dedication, compassion, and loving environment that echoes in the halls. The leadership team, teachers, staff, students, and the Board, everyone is engaged and committed to the mission of a strong lifelong Catholic education with the focus of growing and furthering the mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame.

### YOUR HOPE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION AT OUR SCHOOLS OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS:

The NDS experience provides a terrific foundation. My hope is that NDS students and graduates leverage that foundation to do something amazing -- for themselves, for others, and for their community.



## Matt Keefe



**COMMITTEE(S):** Chair of Finance Committee

**EMPLOYER:** EdgePoint Capital Advisors, Partner

**FAMILY:** Wife Kelly (Kane '93) and children: Connor, Katie '24, and Elizabeth '27.

**YEARS ON THE BOARD:** 4 years

**WHY DID YOU JOIN THE NDS BOARD?** My wife Kelly served on the Board before our daughters attended NDCL. Once she rolled off and our daughters began at NDCL, I joined. We enjoy being involved in our alma maters and the schools that our kids attend.



### WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT THE SCHOOLS?

The unwavering commitment of the mission. A resource-rich educational experience wrapped in a

Catholic environment provides outcomes and experiences that are truly unique.

**WHAT IS YOUR HOPE FOR NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS STUDENTS?** My hope is that each student and graduate does something special—for themselves, for others, and for their community. They'll do this by using the foundation that their Notre Dame Schools education provided them.

### OTHER BOARD AND COMMITTEES INVOLVEMENT:

Providence House, St. Ignatius High School, St. Paschal Baylon, and the University of Dayton.



# Gridiron LIONS



*As we look back at 35+ years of NDCL football, alumni and coaches share life lessons they learned and advice for current and future Lions. NDCL opens its season at home August 22nd.*



## Mike Beatty '05:

"The most important part of being a member of a team is doing your job. Understanding your role and committing fully to that as an individual is what

leads to sustained success. It is rare that success is solely one's own efforts. For me it was my older siblings instilling an attitude and attention to detail and my teammates sacrificing themselves for the greater good of the team."

"Defeating Lake Catholic in 2003 was the moment it all felt real that NDCL was a program. One of the hardest things as an adult is losing that connection to a community like a team."



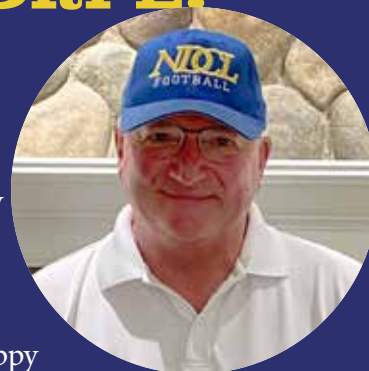
## Mike Deluca '03:

"You ask yourself 'how bad do I want this'? Then you dig deep and pursue your dreams and goals. Today it's the same in business. What extra effort

can I put in to give me the best chance of winning? I'll never forget my last NDCL football game, defeating Lake Catholic and going out on a win."

"I hope that when today's Lions think about the best times of their 14 to 18 year-old life, they smile, laugh and relive some of their own great memories."

## COACH DAN THORPE:



Without a doubt our win against Lake Catholic that sent NDCL to the playoffs for the first time is still today my greatest joy. Seeing the student body rush the field after a game and everyone jumping up and down in happy emotion. We scored a late touchdown to come within one point but rather than go for the tie with an easy extra point, we went for two and got it. I honestly never thought I'd leave NDCL. My time was short there since my wife's job took us to Chicago.

During my time at NDCL the Mary and Jesus statue was re-dedicated and located at Lion Stadium. The team prayed there before the games and I'm glad that still happens today in its new location by the school.

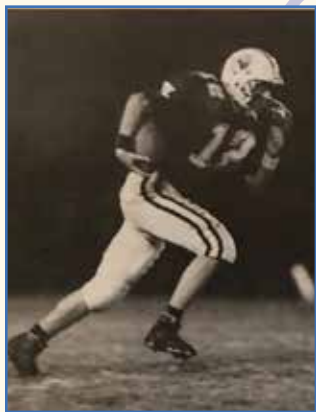
Often we were out manned in games we lost but we were never out played. "It is good to have an end to journey toward; but it is the journey that matters in the end."



## Dave Kocsis '95:

"NDCL football taught me about hard-work, discipline, persistence and how to overcome adversity, all attributes that have helped me persevere in my professional career. Defeating Lake Catholic in freshman football and then in 1994 as seniors, both by the same 18-14 score was something I'll never forget. We were the first team to beat Lake."

"I hope today's Lions enjoy and appreciate the bonds they create in the trenches, training and competing. It's a very short window but it creates lasting memories and life lessons that will help them succeed in the years ahead."



## Tim Salcer '96:

"I remember a lesson that Pat Benz '94 taught me on a long ride home after a loss to Steubenville. He sat next to me on the bus ride, a senior captain and me a sophomore back-up QB, and challenged me to be a leader and help set a higher standard for our team. He wanted NDCL to be great and

for us to learn from the challenges the program faced early on and believe we could build a winning program. NDCL Head Coach Mark Barren had a tremendous impact on me. I'm fortunate to work at the Cleveland Guardians for his brother Brian who instills the same team-first, compete non-stop, have faith in your team qualities that his brother instilled in me at NDCL."

"Remember that football is just a game, it's great to compete and being passionate about it, but remember your true calling in life and purpose. Always treat others kindly every chance you get. At the end of the day, our Faith is the most important. Stay grounded in your purpose and no matter what issues come your way trust in Jesus and he will bring you through."

## COACH BYRON MORGAN:



"The most athletic eleven may not necessarily be the best eleven. It's all about the team working together to achieve a common goal.

I have great memories I have from my six years as coach of the Lions including : defeating Lake Catholic 3 times and the 2012 team, losing our first two games by close scores to playoff teams, and then winning 8 in a row and hosting a state playoff game!

My hope for today's Lions is to enjoy their years at a great school! Appreciate the education afforded them and create lifelong friendships and memories. It will go by very quickly!



## Nick Gattozzi '19:

"Playing for NDCL taught me that earning your spot in the real world isn't about talent alone—it's about putting in the kind of work your competition won't long after the lights turn off and no one's watching."

"Understand that football is more than a game—it's a training ground for life. Chase greatness with relentless effort, lead with character, and never shy away from the







## Josh Dasch '12:

"The biggest lesson is this: contribute to something bigger than yourself and leave everything on the field because you want the guys to your right and left to know you gave your all. The same can be said for how I strive to show up in my marriage. Every night when my head hits the pillow, I want my wife to know that I showed up and gave my all today because

we're a team and good teammates never have to question whether or not you care. You sign up for something and that means you're accepting ALL the little things that come along with your commitment. You can't predict what's coming, but you always have to show up, give it your all, and do your reasonable best."

"My senior year we were predicted to lose by 28 points to Willoughby South and we ended up winning 49-27. I currently reside a few streets away from South's football stadium and to this day I get goosebumps driving past that field, remembering that night."

"I hope today's kids learn that football is so much more than a game. Life will hit harder than any linebacker ever could—but football will teach you how to get back up. Every snap is another day. Another opportunity to do better than the last. Just keep showing up."



## T.J. McKiernan '15:

"I credit much of my work ethic and my ability to operate in a team environment to the lessons I learned over my four years playing football at NDCL. Our coach, Ben Malbasa, made it clear from the start - his goal wasn't just to shape us

into better football players, but into young men who would go on to be responsible, compassionate, and committed members of society."

"After we lost in the playoffs my senior year was the last time I'd wear an NDCL Football jersey. I dropped to my knees in tears, only to see my dad running across the field to hug me. If you've seen the final scene of Friday Night Lights, it was that kind of moment - heartbreaking, but beautiful. It was the kind of pain that only comes from loving something, and the people you share it with, that deeply."

"I hope today's NDCL student-athletes realize just how fortunate they are to be part of something as special as this program. It's easy to get caught up in the day-to-day grind, but those moments, those friendships, and that sense of community—those are the things that stay with you long after the final whistle."

## COACH BEN MALBASA:

"I am fortunate to have coached dedicated football players, taught enthusiastic and talented English students, and been a part of a close-knit community -- all examples of the lasting impact of teams. Committing to a team and to me is an act of faith -- when you believe, then you understand -- and my students, players, and colleagues shaped experiences at NDCL that did so much to teach me this."



Beating Hoban in 2014 in week 9 is a favorite memory. They beat us 50-14 the previous year; so, the only people who believed we had a chance were our coaches, players, families, teachers, and friends. The win broke a conference losing streak, clinched a playoff berth, and set us up to earn NDCL's first-ever playoff win a few weeks later. Most of all though, it was a night I often think of as a reminder that there is nothing better than being part of a committed team."

While I was only at NDCL for two years, the students I taught in English and coached in our football program continue to play a large role in my life, and many have become lifelong friends."





## John Longano '95:

"Finish what you start, give 110% effort in everything you do, and never give up. I'm proud of being the first varsity team to beat Lake Catholic and being part of an offensive line that delivered a 1,000-yard rusher."

"My hope for today's Lions is that they experience winning at a high level, develop life-long friendships, and have pride in being an NDCL student and alum."

## Brad Stricker '08:



"NDCL taught me the importance of hard work & consistency. Despite some coaching turnover, our team always remained committed to being successful. These lessons guide me daily in my career and personal life, emphasizing the importance of preparation and consistency in pursuit of my goals. Defeating Lake Catholic our senior year was a great way to end senior year."

"I hope they create lifelong friendships. I wish them all the best as they look to achieve success on and off the field while cherishing their time representing NDCL."

## NDCL HEAD COACH ANDRE GRIFFIN:

"My favorite memory of my first season is winning our first game which led to me being dumped with water and making the playoffs last season."



"My hope for today's student athlete is to have a great experience at NDCL on and off the field."

## 2025 NDCL FOOTBALL Schedule

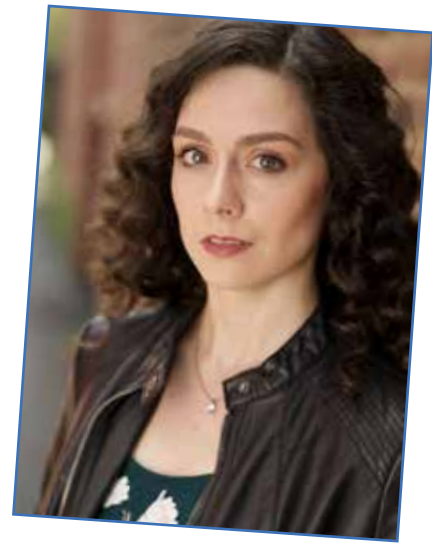
Fri, Aug 22	Struthers	Home	7:00 PM
Fri, Aug 29	West Geauga	Away	7:00 PM
Fri, Sep 5	Kenston	Away	7:00 PM
Fri, Sep 12	Benedictine	Home	7:00 PM
Fri, Sep 19	Bedford	Away	7:00 PM
Fri, Sep 26	Holy Name	Home	7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 3	Padua Franciscan	Home	7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 10	CVCA	Away	7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 17	Elyria Catholic	Away	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 25	Lake Catholic	Away	7:00 PM

**GO LIONS!**



# Diana Frankhauser '12

## NDCL's Annie pursues her passion on stage and film around the globe



As a sophomore, Diana Frankhauser graced NDCL's stage as the title character in the spring musical *Annie* in 2010. Asking a 15-year old to work with a canine as her co-star might be a tall order, but Frankhauser was up to the task.

"Treats were very helpful," she says with a laugh about working with "Sandy". "I never thought I'd get that role. Playing Annie at

NDCL really set me on a different track and changed the trajectory of my life."

Frankhauser is a professional actor and teaches the Meisner technique for the Houde School to acting students around the globe. The technique teaches authentic and believable behavior to actors, and for them to instinctively react to their acting partners' actions.

After NDCL, Frankhauser attended Wright State University near Dayton, majoring in acting. She was one of only seven students selected for the program. While at Wright State, Frankhauser went to train with the Shakespeare Theatre in New Jersey, performing in one of Shakespeare's tragedies: *Titus Andronicus*.

Recently, she won Paris Film Awards "Best Actress" in the short film *The Resistance* portraying a British spy during WWII. Frankhauser just completed a project called *Blood and Rust* where she had a supporting role playing a roadkill collector.

Her time as a young actor at NDCL and mentors like Shirley Ivancic-Stall and Roger Atwell put her on the path to where she is today.

"My first year we did *Little Women*, and I was part of the ensemble," she said. "We did a production senior year, *Commedia del'arte*, that made me feel this work was very real. Those productions felt different. Mr. Atwell was pulling scripts from professional publishers. The NDCL experience confirmed for me that this is what I want to do."

Her favorite project was *Skylight*, which was a three-person person show at None Too Fragile Theatre in Akron. The production won Cleveland Critics Choice as the best non-musical production in 2023.

"I never left the stage, 2 hours and 45 minutes on stage and 17 monologues. It was my favorite because it was so hard with a lot of tricky content. I felt if I can do this I can do anything."

As she reflects on her time at NDCL and advice for today's students, Frankhauser emphasizes to be authentic to who you are as a person.

"At the end of the day, be enough. You don't need to be more, you don't need to be less. You are enough. Live NDCL's core values and stand for your beliefs. Develop a strong work ethic and high expectations for yourself. I learned and developed all of this at NDCL and use them as I build my career today."







# Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School

**Preschool - Grade 8**

- Faith Formation
- Good Shepherd
- Academic Excellence
- Technology, Spanish, & STEM for Grades K-8
- Honors & On-Track Math and ELA for Grades 6-8
- Outdoor Learning Experiences on Beautiful Campus

**Stop In to See Our Renovated Middle School!**



**Barbara Williams**, Director of Admissions  
bwilliams@ndes.org | 440.279.1129  
Scan the QR Code to Visit Our Website



## Open House

📅 October 7 and 29, 2025 | 6-8 PM

- ① Personalized Tours  
Meet Students, Teachers, & Coaches  
Presentations on Athletics, Campus Ministry, & Academics

Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School educates leaders who transform the world, as Jesus did, by living the truth in love.

- 9 Academic Coaches
- 13:1 Faculty to Student Ratio
- STEM-Focused Curricular Offerings
- Eleven College Credit Plus Dual-Credit Courses



**Kellie Watrobski**, Director of Admissions  
kellie.watrobski@ndcl.org | 440.279.1088  
Scan the QR Code to Visit Our Website



# News and Notes from Campus

## Latin Alumni honors Patrick Oliver '74 as Man of the Year

On June 1st, the Cathedral Latin Alumni Association recognized Dr. Patrick Oliver '74 (left in photo) as its Man of the Year. The recognition was the highlight of the annual Communion Breakfast at St. Noel in Willoughby Hills. Oliver has a long career in law enforcement, including serving as Chief of Police for the City of Cleveland. Now living in the Dayton area, Oliver and his wife Kim have three children. Congratulations, Patrick!



## Young Alumni join in on summer Labre

Connor Majernik '24 and Josh Grambo '24 joined in on a recent Labre experience with NDCL campus minister Nick Carillon. NDCL's Labre ministry travels to Cleveland's east side every Tuesday to share food and fellowship with those experiencing homelessness and/or severe poverty.

## West Virginia Work Camp: Alumni join with NDCL students to make a difference

23 Students, 3 faculty, and 6 alumni made the annual trip to Dunlow, West Virginia to participate in the 2025 Wayne County Workcamp. Five crews were assigned to build a new house while other crews constructed handicap ramps, installed roofs, painted, replaced a floor, and other projects.



Natalie Reiger '27 was part of a crew that helped build a new house. "We built a house for someone that needed a home. That's something I'll never forget!"







## NDMS competes in Ohio History

In May, Nine NDMS students advanced to the State level of competition in the Ohio History Day competition. 8th grader Iva Injic won the Environmental Award for her project based on the Cuyahoga River fire and the beginning of the EPA.



Dr. Hoynes at the June 27th Cathedral Latin golf outing with Frank Hlad '68 and Chris Lynch '75 ▲



## Bacik and Smith receive SND Distinguished Graduate Award

Eighth graders Brandon Bacik and Jamison Smith received the SND Distinguished Graduate Award at their Notre Dame Middle School Commencement on May 15th at NDCL.

The Distinguished Graduate Award from the Sisters of Notre Dame (SND) recognizes graduates of schools sponsored or affiliated with the Sisters of Notre Dame who demonstrate outstanding faith, service, and academic achievement.

## NDCL announces Living the Truth in Love award recipients

Congratulations to this year's recipients of NDCL's Living the Truth in Love award. The highest honor at NDCL, this award recognizes two students from each grade level who have demonstrated in work and action the mission and core values of Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School.



**Seniors:** Mia Trusso and Thomas Simpkins, **Juniors:** Sadie Skotzke and Colin Krajnak, **Sophomores:** Celia Brewer and Andrew Liberatore, **Freshmen:** Audra Smith and Owen Thomas





# What a night!

The Lions Mane Event: Oktoberfest smashed records left and right – raising more money than ever before (\$220,000) and serving up German food, drink, and entertainment. From start to finish, it was an unforgettable evening full of energy, excitement, and over-the-top fun. If you missed it, you missed a great time!

The evening culminated in the Raise the Paddle for The Holy Family Fund and STEM needs, achieving nearly \$100,000 for these areas of need.

Special thanks to our Title Sponsor Preston Superstore! Their generous support to NDCL and Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School led the way to this record year.

Mark your calendars now for next year's Lions Mane Event: Around the World! which will be celebrated on March 21, 2026 at NDCL. Featured entertainment will be the Chardon Polka Band and food, drink, dress, and décor from "around the world"!







Register today at  
[www.ndcl.org](http://www.ndcl.org)  
 or [www.ndes.org](http://www.ndes.org).

## Lions Golf Classic is August 25th!

**Join us** at Fowler's Mill Golf Course on Monday, August 25, 2025 for the Lions Golf Classic. Along with the Lions Mane Event, the Lions Golf Classic raises funds for NDCL and Notre Dame Elementary/Middle School. These dollars go right to work investing in school improvements like new technology, professional development for teachers, and more. Cost is \$150 per person or \$550 for a foursome. Corporate sponsorships are \$1,000 and \$2,500. Everyone can participate in Tuffy's Ball Drop—four chances for \$50. The ball landing closest to the hole wins \$500 cash!

**Other highlights** include a Hole in One Contest, Putting Contest, Skins Game, and 50/50 Raffle. Last year was a record year raising over \$40,000 and attracting 170 golfers over the 27 holes at Fowler's Mill.





# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025!

NOTRE DAME  
**NDCL**  
CATHEDRAL LATIN

NDCL celebrated its 35th commencement on May 23rd at Mentor Fine Arts Center. 166 students became our newest alumni surrounded by parents, faculty and staff, and family and friends.

On May 14th, NDCL celebrated the Baccalaureate liturgy as the school bid farewell to the senior class. Each member of the Class of 2025 received their own statue of Mary and Jesus, a replica of the one that stands on NDCL's campus.







NOTRE DAME  
**ND**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Notre Dame Middle School graduated 66 students on May 15th at NDCL's McGarry Gymnasium. 57 members of the class will be at NDCL in August. Mrs. Joelle Coates, Principal of Notre Dame Middle School, reflected on her first graduation as principal:

"Watching our 8th graders walk across the stage was an unforgettable moment in my first year as principal. It was an honor to be part of their journey, and I can't wait to see all they will accomplish in high school."



The Elementary students also "graduated" to the Middle School





# Teacher Feature:

## Mrs. Laura (Neff '03) Gooding



**ROLE:** English Teacher, CCP Instructor, and Instructional Coach

**FAMILY:** Married to Michael for 17 years this year; children Rocco (14), Gannon (12), and Celeste (9). Siblings Marisa (Neff '99) Prokop, Matthew Neff '96, and Holly (Neff '94) Suszynski

**SCHOOL TIES:** 2003 NDCL graduate

**FUN FACT:** Laura is fascinated by rocks and fossils.

Beginning her 6th year at NDCL, Laura Gooding reaches back to her days as an NDCL student for her own inspiration as an educator today.

“Without a doubt, Zita Knific had such high expectations for us as students,” Gooding recalls. “She was a tough love teacher, willing to be different, willing to challenge us, willing to argue with us and for us. But she pushed us to achieve the high expectations she had for us. To this day, I share my high school essay on

Tennessee Williams characters with my students. Zita marked it up in her special way and noted how my writing got worse as the essay went on. I’ll give my students the same level of tough love in their writing because I know they can do better.”

Gooding notes the energy on campus and in the building as something that keeps her thriving at NDCL. The energy brought by the administrators, her colleagues, and the students is contagious and drives her to contribute her own passion to the school.

“I’m most proud of my CCP (College Credit Plus) students and the capstone project they do,” she says. “The students choose a topic that they are curious about, meaning they don’t know a whole lot about it and they are willing to do the work to learn more. They research it, think creatively and critically about it, and write a capstone paper about it anywhere from 15 to 37 pages. It’s a true showcase of not only their acquired skills, but also their personal passions. Allowing my students to choose their own topics introduces me to who they are as an individual, what they care about, and their hopes for the future. When it’s complete, these students have something in their hands that they can take to college with them. Real evidence that they are ready. Students come back when they’re in college to share how they are teaching their college classmates about APA style and I see how proud they are. That’s leadership!”

Her passion for teaching is evident. The results are students ready to take on the next challenge. Gooding has two objectives when her students leave her class: the skill of thinking critically about language and the creative skill of composing effectively, plus the ability to use cohesive and powerful language in every day communications.

“We are educating students for a world that doesn’t exist yet,” she says. “I have the opportunity to impact the experience of our students. Their transformation isn’t always visible to me, it takes a little time. I hear from parents and I read about their success as alumni. That’s what makes me proud of this place and our work.”



# Teacher Feature: Mrs. Sheri (Smith '97) Bacher



**ROLE:** STEM Teacher (grades K to 6th) and Challenge Teacher

**FAMILY:** Married to Brian for 17 years this year. Kids: Grace (13), Katheryn (11), and Sarah (8) all at NDES/MS. Her grandmother Helen (Marbach) Brown is an NDA graduate, Her sister Loreen is a 1999 NDCL graduate, and niece/nephews Zak Smith '18, Halle Smith '20, and Ryan Smith '23 are NDCL graduates.

**SCHOOL TIES:** 1997 NDCL graduate

**FUN FACT:** Sheri's dream vacation is a river cruise in Europe



Sheri Bacher has the unique opportunity as a specials teacher to share her love of STEM and learning with most of the students at NDES. Teaching kindergarten through 6th graders, each age level brings its own rewards.

"This year the 4th graders learned about electricity," Bacher says. "I taught them how to sew an electric circuit. It was taking a basic life skill and bringing it up a level with something innovative. The kids were so excited. It was difficult, tying knots, threading needles, but also taught them problem solving if the circuit wasn't working."

Afterwards, the circuits were made into a banner with a religious team and brought to the Sisters of Notre Dame Health Center.

"This school is special to me—being able to share our STEM project and make them into banners for our Sisters in a way that shares our faith makes this place unique. Being able to incorporate prayer and discussion about God in your day brings calm and allows us to have hope and a positive outlook on life."



Her NDCL experience helped shape Bacher into the teacher she is today.

"I had so many wonderful teachers at NDCL: Mr. Hummer who demonstrated so much love and joy for his faith and his family; Ms. Webb who was a kid at heart and absolutely loved teaching; and Ms. Wahl whose love of science and work ethic inspired me to go into science."

Bacher recognizes the love and respect her own children have for their NDES teachers, as well as the educational rigor that NDES expects of its students.

"I love that I can be where my kids are and in an environment where I can express my faith and live my faith."

# Endowed Scholarships at NDCL and NDES:

*Building Endowment is a pillar of a thriving and successful non-profit like Notre Dame Schools. The NDCL and NDES Endowments total approximately \$19 million. Each year the Board of Directors authorizes a limited draw from this Endowment (usually around 5%) for merit and need-based tuition assistance for students.*

*With a sound investment strategy, Endowment values grow over time and provides more resources for Notre Dame Schools to award scholarships and financial aid.*

*Notre Dame Schools has 81 named Endowments, 80 of them are for scholarship support.*

The Abood & Cappello Families Endowed Scholarship  
The Amato & Grdina Families Endowed Scholarship  
The Joanne T. and Eugene '37 T. Baker Scholarship  
The Mr. and Mrs. T.A. Baker Scholarship  
The Victoria F. Baker & Eugene '37 T. Baker Scholarship  
The R. Edward Basista '42 Endowed Scholarship  
The Dr. Eugene C. Best '45 & Dr. Eileen (Lambden '47) Best Endowed Scholarship  
The Michael J. Blaszak '66 Endowed Scholarship  
The Amy Wahl Breen Scholarship  
The Buckon O'Brien Endowed Scholarship  
The Libero & Clara Caticchio Endowed Scholarship  
The Joanne Zappone Caticchio Endowed Scholarship  
The Joseph "Peppino" Caticchio Endowed Scholarship  
The Cathedral Latin Class of 1935 Endowed Scholarship  
The Cathedral Latin Class of 1955 Endowed Scholarship  
The Cathedral Latin Class of 1963 Endowed Scholarship  
The Catherine Conway '48 Endowed Scholarship  
The Mafalda E. Geraci DePaul Memorial Scholarship  
The Dolores Graham Dickard '47 Scholarship  
The Dominic DiMarco CL '69 Endowed Scholarship  
The Mark C. Dolesh '74 Endowed Scholarship  
The Florence B. & Lawrence '35 M. Druckenbrod, Jr. Endowed Scholarship  
The Jean Zappone Elia Endowed Scholarship  
The Michael A. Ferrara, Jr. Endowed Scholarship  
The Fitzgerald Family Endowed Scholarship  
The Tom and Amy Friedl Endowed Scholarship  
The Edward & Ann (Braham '55) Goedecke Scholarship  
The Sr. Margaret Gorman, SND Endowed Scholarship  
The Dolores Marie Gorse Endowed Scholarship  
The Sr. Jacquelyn Gusdane, SND Endowed Scholarship  
The Thomas John Guthleben Endowed Scholarship  
The Archbishop Hallinan Scholarship  
The Bernadette T. Jackson Endowed Scholarship  
The Estelle Alice Jankowski Endowed Scholarship  
The Robert & Bernadette Kane Endowed Scholarship  
The Klements, Lambden and Best Families Endowed Scholarship

The Lisa Kost '88 Memorial Scholarship  
The L and E Endowed Scholarship  
The Learning Brook Scholarship  
The Emily Liebenauer Endowed Scholarship  
The Andy P. Lehman Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
The Anthony J. Magyar & Ann T. Magyar Endowed Scholarship  
The John and Emma Marcis Endowed Scholarship  
The William A. Masley III Endowed Scholarship  
The Fred H. McClure '35 Endowed Memorial Scholarship  
The McGuigan Family Endowed Scholarship  
The Rev. James R. McKay S.M. Endowed Scholarship  
The George J. McMonagle '24 Endowed Scholarship  
The Daniel D. Molnar '33 Endowed Scholarship  
The Roland & Esther Morris Endowed Scholarship  
The Terry '63 and Susan Mulligan Scholarship  
The Notre Dame Academy - Class of 1977  
The Notre Dame Academy - Class of 1974  
The NDCL Alumni Association Scholarship  
The Brother Francis T. Nurthen Scholarship  
The Orlando Baking Company Scholarship  
The Payne Family Endowed Scholarship  
The Bishop Anthony M. Pilla '51 Endowed Scholarship  
The Anthony Pozelnik '31 & Albina Pozelnik Scholarship  
The Michelle Primozic '83 Memorial Scholarship  
The Matt Pruzinsky '03 Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
The Most Rev. A. James Quinn, JCD, JD, VG Scholarship  
The John B. and Rita Conway Quinn Family Endowment  
The Radosky Family Endowed Scholarship  
The Jim Ramsey '52 Memorial Scholarship  
The Rodeno Family Endowed Scholarship  
The Laverne Hall Rascher Endowed Scholarship  
The Sister Mary Jane Rohr '44, SND Endowed Scholarship  
The SJF Endowment Scholarship  
The Sophie Skufca Marton & Louis Skufca Endowed Scholarship  
The Gregory Thomas Slak Endowed Scholarship  
The Eugene '54 & Barbara Trela Endowed Scholarship  
The Marcin Trela Endowed Scholarship  
The Robert E. Van Bergen '41 Music Scholarship  
The John Viktoryn '65 Endowed Scholarship  
The Joseph A. Waler Heart of a Lion Endowed Fund  
The George Werling '47 Memorial Scholarship  
The Richard '59 and Judith Wervey Endowed Scholarship  
The Melissa Wiencek Endowed Scholarship

## Scholarships in Progress

The Charles Calovini Endowed Scholarship  
The Anthony L. Caticchio '54 Endowed Scholarship

*Are you interested in learning about Endowment at NDCL or NDES?  
Contact Keven Krajnak '98, Director of Advancement,  
at (440) 279-1068 or [Keven.Krajnak@ndcl.org](mailto:Keven.Krajnak@ndcl.org).*



# What's in a name?

## An inside look at one of NDCL's Endowed Scholarships

### ***The John Viktoryn '65 Endowed Scholarship***

was created in 2023 through the efforts of the Cathedral Latin Class of 1965 and friends and family members. Viktoryn served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He died in combat in 1968 at the age of 21 in South Vietnam.

Classmate and teammate Kevin McManamon shared an example of John's selflessness: "During a closing game of the 1965 basketball season, John passed up a shot multiple times and encouraged his Latin teammates to do the same—ultimately to get McManamon a chance at the Senate scoring record. McManamon was tied with a player from East Tech. On the 4th attempt, McManamon scored and secured the record, led by the efforts of Viktoryn."

This example shows the type of man John Viktoryn was—about as unselfish as they come. He kept busy as a student—having a Plain Dealer route, shoveling snow and mowing lawns for neighbors. He later attended Cuyahoga Community college before enlisting in the military.

John's father (John Sr.) also graduated from Cathedral Latin, in 1923. He later became a doctor and served as a physician for the Lions football team before passing away at age 53. John's brother Elliot graduated from Cathedral Latin in 1966.

Help keep John's memory alive and Catholic education thriving at NDCL with your gift to the Viktoryn Scholarship today. **Give online at [www.lionsgive.org](http://www.lionsgive.org) or contact Keven S. Krajnak '98 at (440) 279-1068.**



**Notre Dame Schools  
NEW**

**STRATEGIC PLAN**  
focuses on significant  
**ENDOWMENT GROWTH:**

**TODAY'S ENDOWMENT**  
is valued at approximately  
**\$19.2 million**

→ **1-YEAR GOAL:**  
**NDCL and NDES/MS**  
**Endowment valued at**  
**\$20 million**

→ **3-YEAR GOAL:**  
**NDCL and NDES/MS**  
**Endowment valued at**  
**\$25 million**

→ **10-YEAR GOAL:**  
**NDCL and NDES/MS**  
**Endowment valued at**  
**\$50 million**



# Class News

Scan the QR code to update your alumni contact information and to share your alumni news with us!



## In Memoriam

**1965:** Marlene (Fakeris) and Jack Schultz are celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary this August. Congratulations!

**2012:** Congratulations to Talia Trovato for winning The Food Network's Chopped top prize in the "Hungry for Love" series in May.

**2016:** Tyler Sabath and Ashley Zakrajsek were married in November 2024. Siblings in the wedding party included Gavin Sabath '21, Zach Sabath '18, Katelyn Zakrajsek '18, and Adam Zakrajsek '21 ▲



*May our deceased alumni rejoice in God's everlasting love.*

### Cathedral Latin School

Damanhurl Alkaitis '61  
Frank Aubrecht '72  
Lawrence Begin '71  
Robert Bonick '57  
Daniel E. Buckley '55  
James Buckley '57  
Richard Calkins '67  
Ray Camma '48  
David Caravona '59  
Ernest DeRose '58  
Edward Dubrovich '61  
Leo Feher '61  
Frederick Friedell '59  
Thomas Gohring '53  
Thomas Gombar '71  
Michael Grattino '55  
L. Daniel Hottos '50  
John Kaminski '49  
Ben Kulwicki '61  
Stanley Kumor '61  
William McAdams '67  
Nicholas Molnar '49  
Jim Miklich '69  
Robert Miller '58  
Dennis Motyka '67  
Thomas Mscichowski '56  
Norman Novotny '56  
Stan Pajek '49  
Anthony Patronite '65  
Joe Perella, Jr. '78  
Andrew Poploske '61  
Roland Ross '55  
Joseph Rudnicki '70  
Daniel Sazima '50  
Carl Sferry '68  
Gerald Stopar '65  
Robert L. Sylvester '47  
Frank Turek '62  
James Vitale '65  
Daniel Walsh '55  
John Wilkins (Wilczynski) '48  
William Wintrich '59

### Notre Dame Academy

Janet (Wolanin) '69 Alexander  
Andrea (Poklar) '82 Byrne  
Patricia (Musial) '70 Gogolin  
Patricia (Grell) '71 Herfkens  
Eileen (Cykowski) '60 Kiersh  
Mary Louise Kirk '58  
Eleanor (Vishey) '51 Piepsny  
Sandra Prebil '65  
Joan (Dorner) '60 Radous  
Eleanor (Ilenin) '50 St. John  
Carol (Mauff) '59 Svegel  
Janice (Zingale) '60 Tagg  
Janet (Czekala) '65 Wojciechowski

### NDCL

Tim Mainello '93  
Luke Skotzke '24

### Friends

Rita Strater

## Bundles of Joy



**hayden mae**  
born to Andrew Bales '06  
and Ashley (Shisila) '05  
Bales



**marleigh** was born  
to Krista (Dailey) '05  
and Jared Brown

**david christopher**  
born to Michael and  
Alexandra (Manfroni) '16  
Muzic.



**lillian rose**  
born to Christine  
(Sandacz) '08 and  
David Dashevsky



**heidi elaine**  
born to Liz Maier '06  
and William Liu



**blair**  
born to Rob Deering '05  
and Amanda Hoffman '05

**george thomas**  
born to Mike and Bridget  
(Makar) '09 Rogers



Amanda Hoffman '05, Krista (Dailey) '05 Brown and Ashley (Shisila) '05 Bales all had baby girls within a month of each other in October and November 2024. Allie (Miranda) '05 Hazen with her "baby" (who is now in 2nd grade).







**Reunion 2025** was a fantastic evening celebrated on NDCL's stunning campus. Alumni returned to campus, some for the first time since they had graduated, and had a great time.

The evening began with Mass celebrated by Rev. Mark L. Hollis '63 followed by delicious food, drink, memories and laughter shared among friends and classmates from 1960 through 2020. Guided and self-guided tours of NDCL were a highlight.

Congratulations to the NDA Class of 1985 for having the most attendees. Be sure to look for the street named for their class on campus next time you visit – 1985 NDA Way!







# You gave the gift of Catholic education. THANK YOU!

**88%**  
 OF DONORS  
 GAVE THE  
 MAXIMUM  
**\$750**



**GIVING  
 GREW BY 6%**



**CLASS OF  
 1999  
 MOST  
 DONORS**



**BUZZER  
 BEATER**

LAST GIFT  
 BEFORE  
 4/15 TAX  
 DEADLINE



**11:57 P.M.**

Here's what donors  
 say about giving to  
 Notre Dame School's  
 LionSGO:

"In Ohio, we have a unique opportunity to donate to a scholarship-granting organization and have the entire amount reimbursed. Based on this, there is no risk for someone to donate since there is no cost to the individual.

I am very pleased to be able to help Notre Dame schools be able to provide needed scholarships to students."

—Mr. Greg Schmidt (NDCL Faculty Member)

**YOU DID IT!**  
**\$245,280 from 355 donors**

"People don't realize how easy and simple the LionSGO process is. Time requirement is a few extra minutes when you or your tax person completes and files your taxes. I was skeptical the first time a couple years ago but figured worth a shot to help NDCL.

LionSGO is a net zero contribution for me and our NDCL grads who also participate. The entire amount of the LionSGO contribution is refunded as a full tax credit vs simply reducing your taxable income.

Of course, always do your research or consult with trusted advisor."

—Michael Szmania (NDCL parent)

"The LionSGO donation is a no-brainer. The tax money is going to the State of Ohio either way, but by donating it to NDCL through LionSGO, it gives us the opportunity to give back to the great school our four sons attended. The funds at NDCL then become available to help other students offset a portion of their tuition. In a small way it's our way of "paying it forward".

—Tom '78 and Beth Stricker  
 (CL alum and past NDCL parent)

**LionSGO** is open for the 2025 tax year.

**Our vision: \$1 million in LionSGO**  
 Can we count on you? Invite a few friends, too.

Questions about LionSGO? Contact Director of Advancement Keven S. Krajnak '98 at (440) 279-1068 or Keven.Krajnak@ndcl.org.

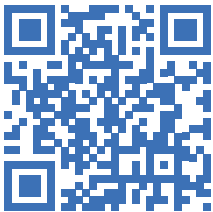




**2025 marks the Sisters of Notre Dame 175th anniversary** as a global congregation. From humble beginnings in Coesfeld, Germany to their arrival in Cleveland in 1874, we are proud to celebrate this milestone which coincides with a jubilee year for the Church.

“This anniversary is very special for our Sisters,” says Sr. Michelle Kelly, SND, Assistant Principal for Student Services at NDCL. “The theme ‘Pilgrims of gratitude and hope’ speaks to the gratitude we share in looking back at our history while also looking forward in hope.”

SND-founded schools around the country shared in the anniversary through various acts of service and acts of kindness. NDCL and Notre Dame Elementary/Middle School students participated with a prayer service, handwritten cards to the Sisters in the health care center, and recordings. Each month, NDCL students recorded short videos about the anniversary events including faith sharing from different cultures, international meals, and the 175th anniversary anthem written by Sr. Mary Karita Ivancic, SND who also wrote NDCL’s alma mater. The anthem was recorded by a choir of NDCL students, teachers and administrators including principal Mrs. Jodie Ricci, and Sisters of Notre Dame and SND Associates in Chardon.

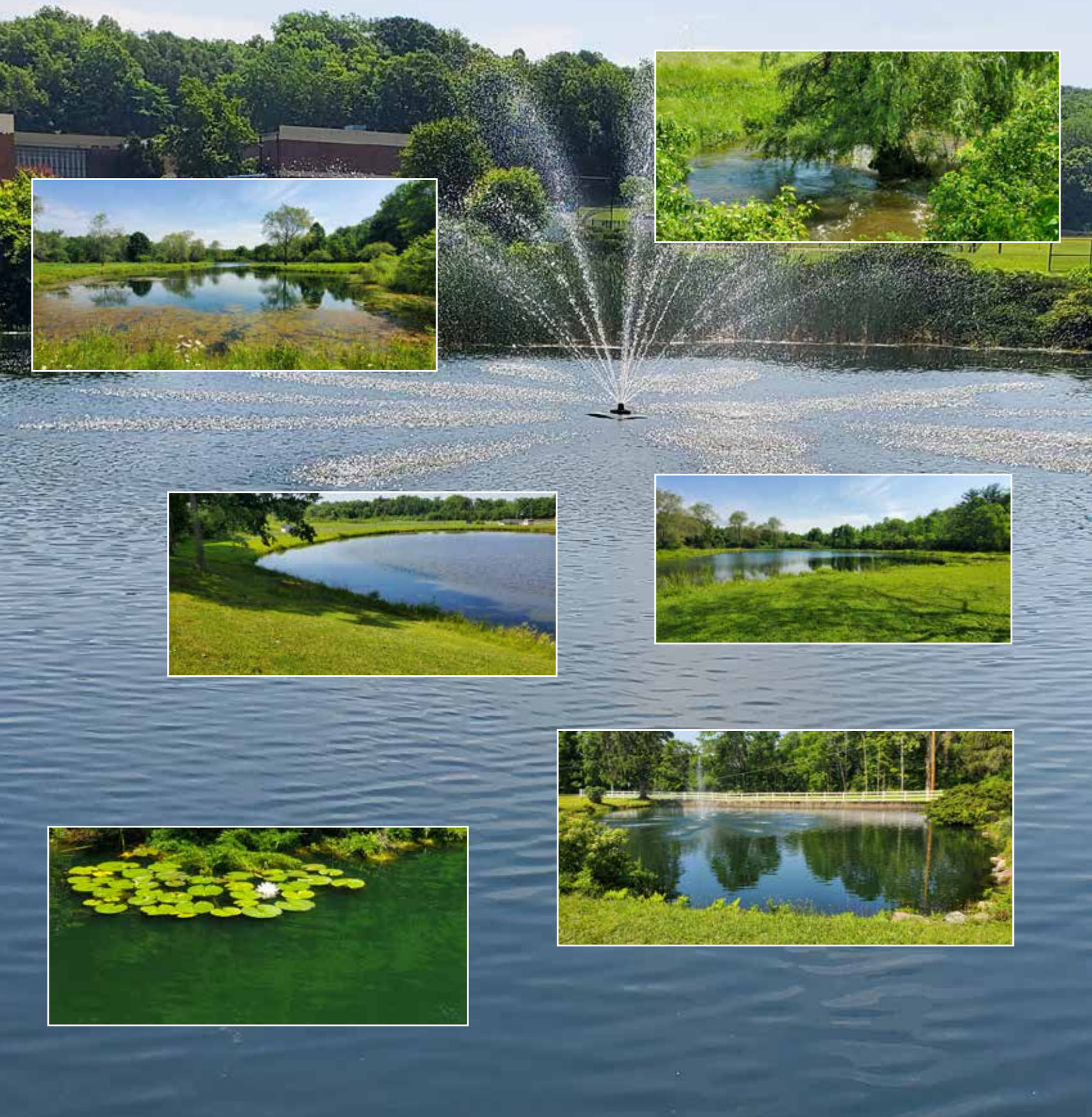


You can watch the video of the anthem here





# PERSPECTIVE: **Water**



*Essential to life. Movement. Changing.*



# When planning your own legacy, make **CATHOLIC EDUCATION** a priority

**Did you know?** The largest gift most organizations like NDCL will ever receive is in the form of an estate gift realized after the person's lifetime. Cathedral Latin alumni, Notre Dame Academy alumnae, and NDCL grads—plus parents, grandparents and faculty members—are making these declarations today to ensure the future of Catholic education on our campus.

Consider “the gift of a lifetime” by making NDCL a beneficiary in your will or trust.

**Contact Director of Advancement Keven S. Krajnak '98  
at (440) 279-1068 or [Keven.Krajnak@ndcl.org](mailto:Keven.Krajnak@ndcl.org).**

## Notre Dame Circle

*Named after Our Lady, the patroness of Notre Dame Academy, Cathedral Latin and NDCL, honors our alumni and friends who have included NDCL in their estate plans.*

Anonymous (7)  
The Estate of Carmelo '53 † and Germaine (Grdina '55 †) Amato  
The Estate of Eugene T. Baker '37 †  
The Estate of James Bennett '64 †  
The Estate of Betty J. (Hoge '52) Blasse †  
Andy Bushman  
The Estate of Marilyn F. Carter '48 †  
The Estate of Anthony Caticchio '54 †  
Rick '74 and Bernadette (Caprez '75) Cavolo  
George '65 and Mary Collins  
Colleen Conway Cooney  
Catherine M. Corrigan '49  
Hon. William J. and Patricia (Ward '56) Coyne  
Karen (Ritchie '81) Crivello  
Audrey (Hubeny '52) Dvorak  
David and Lynne (Gorse '74) Ernes  
Margaret (Burke '77) and Rudolf Fernandez  
Bob '55 † and Suzanne Fitzgerald  
Darlene A. Fritz '67  
Fran Gasper '52  
Gerianne Geszler '70  
Shirley Havlek '52  
Ernest and Helen (Intihar '72) Lallo  
The Estate of Harry C. Jackson  
Dorothy Jankowski  
The Estate of Margaret A. Kubu '40 †  
Kevin and Maureen Lynn  
The Estate of Ann T. Magyar †  
The Estate of Robert S. Malaga '45 †  
Dan Mathe '05  
Ken '56 † and Annie Mrozinski  
Joseph '64 and Patricia Nista  
The Estate of Fran Nugent '46 †  
Jerry Ann (Wernet '62) and Stan '62 † Osenar  
Sterling '60 and Lois (Andruscik '61) Parks  
The Estate of Bill '50 † and Jackie (Jakubowski '53 †) Pevc  
Janet Poponick '77  
The Estate of Anthony A. Pozelnik '31 †  
Avis Pritchett '74  
Richard T. Reminger '49  
Michael and Barbara Rossi  
The Estate of James F. Schlecht '36 †  
The Estate of Louis A. Shainker '60 †  
Annette (Pavell '79) Shively  
Rich Somodi '63  
Joe Spagnuolo '61  
The Estate of Julius P. Sukys '42 †  
Richard A. Sundra '53  
Chetster Talarczyk '60  
Jim '66 and Janie † Talty  
Dominic A. Tomaro '68  
Steve and Mary Ann (Sauter '59) Urlacher  
Maureen Wahl  
Joseph M. Walton '44  
James G. Zaletel '64  
The Estate of Anthony G. Zappa †

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# SAVE THE DATES

## Come Home Men of Latin

**Benedictine vs. NDCL at Lion Stadium**

Friday, September 12, 2025  
5:30 PM Tailgate Party | 7 PM Kickoff

Cathedral Latin Alumni join us for a pre-game tailgate party and on-field seating for the NDCL/Benedictine football game.



## Alumni Ladies Night Out

Thursday, October 9, 2025 | 6 - 8 PM

M Cellars  
6193 S River Rd W, Geneva, OH

Event includes a tasting led by Tara (Paytosh '98) and Matt Meineke, a Q&A about the winery, and a meet and greet with the NDCL Leadership Team



NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS  
**GIVING DAY**  
 2025:  
 November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025



**WE'RE MOVING!** The Office of the President, Advancement Office, and Finance Office for Notre Dame Schools is moving this summer to "Concord House". The house, on the property near the Butternut Road entrance, was renovated this summer to modern office space and a conference room.

The former President's Office and Advancement Office will eventually be repurposed, waiting for the next big thing at NDCL. More to come!

