

FUELING THE FIRE

A strong and lasting educational tradition inspires the energy that is now present at Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin. Families, committed to a Catholic education, compel us to provide the education they so desire for their children: preparing leaders who will “transform the world by doing the truth in love.” And yet, commitment and tradition are not enough to ensure that Catholic education will remain healthy in today’s world. Changing demographics and financial considerations continually challenge the viability of this treasured experience. Securing our future is essential.

NDCL is alive with energy as demonstrated through its mission, vision and core values. In 2003, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School separately incorporated and initiated the sponsorship model of governance. The newly formed Board of Directors, comprised of religious and laity, accepted the responsibility for the governance and long-term viability of NDCL.

One of the Board’s first initiatives was the articulation of a Strategic Plan (2004-2009). The plan outlines the direction of NDCL in response to the challenges and complexities of Catholic secondary school growth. Since its adoption in 2004, NDCL has deliberately and methodically accomplished 85% of the plan including the implementation of a president-principal model used nationally by over half of all Catholic secondary schools. Other important initiatives include a facilities master plan and endowment expansion to provide for future enrollment management.



Voices

BRIAN AND PEGGY GOLDEN

Neither Peggy nor I attended NDCL, but together we have amassed 35 years of Catholic education thanks to the personal sacrifices and commitment of our parents. Our prayerful decision on where to send our children for high school was considered extremely important in hopes that our children would be in good hands during their more formative years.

We now see NDCL as an extension of our family. Brian '08, Megan '10, and Mary Katherine '14 have been entrusted to the mission of NDCL so that while they grow socially and academically, they will also be nurtured with a passion to live Christ-centered lives.

We believe that NDCL’s mission compels them to be committed to the highest standards of Catholic faith formation and academic instruction while still inspiring and nurturing a community to be concerned with service to others. Through our observations and our children’s experience, the NDCL community has truly demonstrated that they aspire to these standards. Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin has established a clarity of purpose: “to prepare leaders who transform the world by doing the truth in love.”

NDCL is set to embark on its first comprehensive capital campaign. As parents, we realize significant changes and renovations must occur to keep NDCL viable and on the forefront of Catholic education. This capital campaign will allow NDCL to further achieve and excel in its mission, to enhance many facets of student life, and to attract future students.

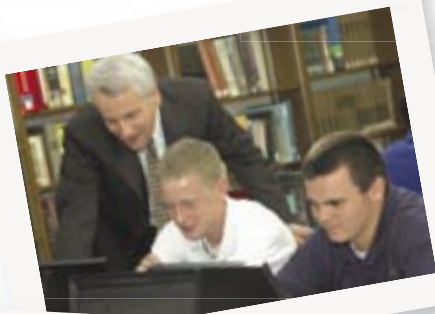
With confidence and trust, we fully support this campaign because NDCL’s leaders are committed to developing a shared vision of the school’s future. We believe this campaign ensures that NDCL will continue to proudly distinguish itself by strengthening its Catholic identity and unparalleled spirit of a faith-based community, enhancing its academic and athletic profiles, and promoting a mission that encourages its students to follow the life of Jesus Christ.

Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin is thriving and bustling with student activity. The hallways, lobbies, and cafeteria areas are overflowing with student clubs and organizations, performing arts groups and athletic teams. And yet, space limitations dramatically limit the full development of our talented students. The auxiliary gym (1964), referred to as the Aux Gym, is routinely used for assemblies, rehearsals and productions, athletic practices and broader community events. Practice and game scheduling, along with pedestrian traffic flow, into the Aux and McGarry Gyms is very problematic. It is clearly evident that the physical plant limits NDCL's program growth.

Continuous endowment funding is another priority essential for NDCL's vibrant future. Experience tells us that parents are committed to Catholic education. However, over 30% of our families have a demonstrated financial need. Present endowment provides approximately half of that total need. In order to make the NDCL experience affordable for as many as possible we have only one choice: keep growing our endowment.

Today's Catholic families are sophisticated and well-educated consumers. In our highly competitive marketplace, they examine and compare educational options for their children. How NDCL measures up in academics, affordability, service opportunities, and especially, extra-curricular activities is vital to our success.

Years of preparatory work have fueled our burning desire to move NDCL forward. It is time to blaze a new trail in response to the needs of our students and families. At this pivotal juncture, our future course is clear. NDCL is ready and poised for a capital campaign.



Voices

JOHN AND KATHY KUTZ

John and I wanted a high school where our children would receive individual attention with a college-preparatory curriculum while also having the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities. Reading the Mission Statement and Core Values taught at NDCL made our choice easy. NDCL not only gives students a great academic foundation, it helps them with lifelong lessons.

Since we made our decision to enroll our children at NDCL, our expectations have been exceeded. Allison '08 is currently receiving an excellent education and gaining invaluable leadership experiences. We anticipate the same for Maggie '11, who entered this fall as a freshman.

With so many of NDCL's peer schools enhancing their curriculum and facilities in order to remain competitive, it is a necessary endeavor. This initiative will be successful, and in the end, send a clear message to past, existing and future students of NDCL's commitment to a well-rounded education through expanded, up-to-date facilities.

This campaign brings together Notre Dame Academy, Cathedral Latin School and the entire NDCL community. An opportunity awaits us to focus on a common goal for the benefit of existing and future students. That's pretty powerful!

Voices

MARK AND BETH HOERSTEN

Our daughter Jenna is currently a senior at Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin. Our sons, Bradley '05 and Luke '04, also attended NDCL and are now enrolled at Purdue University. Neither Beth nor I graduated from NDCL, CL, or NDA, so our connection is as parents of NDCL students.

A Catholic education has been an important priority for us. We looked at several schools and were impressed with the environment that exists at NDCL. The teachers and administration are top-notch and provide a supportive influence on the students with faith-based education and high academic standards at the core. The campus setting rivals many small colleges.

When people ask us, "Why a Capital Campaign at NDCL?" the answer is simple. NDCL is a living institution, and it's necessary from time to time to make improvements that keep the facilities in line with the needs of the contemporary student community. We need this campaign; otherwise the school will eventually fall behind in what it takes to raise students prepared for today's world.

The fact that NDCL exists at all is due to the support and generosity across multiple generations of students and families. Our children have benefited from what others provided in the past. It's now our turn to do our part to keep NDCL viable in the community.