SEASONS

Summer 2026

A Publication for Alumni, Parents & Friends

Salute to the CLASS of 2026







NOTRE DAME ELEMENTARY

NOTRE DAME MIDDLE SCHOOL

NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL LATIN

NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS



NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS

NOTRE DAME ND ELEMENTARY

NOTRE DAME ND MIDDLE SCHOOL

NOTRE DAME NDCL CATHEDRAL LATIN

Mission

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

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.

Core Values

Justice

Respect

Integrity

Community

Excellence

SEASONS

Summer 2026

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Please send all address changes and correspondence to:

Notre Dame Schools, Office of Advancement
13000 Auburn Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024
advancement@ndcl.org | (440) 279-1067

Graphic Design: Stefanie Mirman

Message from the President

Building On Excellence:
A New Chapter For Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School

Change often brings a mix of emotions. While we are excited about new opportunities, it is natural to feel some uncertainty when beloved leaders move on and new faces step into important roles. As we begin the 2026-2027 school year, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School is experiencing several significant leadership transitions. Rather than viewing these changes as disruptions, I see them as opportunities to build upon our strong foundation and continue advancing the ambitious goals outlined in our Strategic Plan.

For more than a century, Notre Dame Schools have thrived because of its ability to evolve while remaining firmly rooted in its mission. Our commitment to teaching students academically, spiritually, and personally has never changed. What has changed is our willingness to continuously seek the best people, programs, and opportunities to ensure that Notre Dame remains strong for generations to come.
This year, we are excited to welcome three outstanding leaders who will help guide the next chapter of our school's growth.

Chris Poulos: A Familiar Face Leading Forward

When Principal Jodie Ricci accepted the opportunity to serve as Curriculum Director for the Diocese of Cleveland, we were grateful for her years of dedicated service and leadership. At the same time, we were fortunate to have an exceptional leader already within our Notre Dame family.

Chris Poulos has been a cornerstone of NDCL for more than two decades. As a teacher, coach, mentor, and administrator, he has developed deep relationships with students, families, faculty, and alumni. He understands what makes Notre Dame special because he has helped shape that culture for many years.

Chris's appointment as Principal provides both continuity and momentum. His experience and institutional knowledge will ensure a smooth transition, while his passion for student success will help advance several strategic priorities, including academic excellence, student engagement, and strengthening our Catholic identity. Most importantly, Chris knows that the future of Notre Dame depends on preparing students to thrive in a rapidly changing world while remaining grounded in faith and values.

Ryan Miller: Strengthening Our Athletic Tradition

Athletics have long been an important part of the Notre Dame experience, teaching students perseverance, teamwork, leadership, and resilience. We are excited to welcome Ryan Miller as our new Athletic Director.

Ryan brings extensive experience in athletics, admissions, and student recruitment. His unique background allows him to see athletics not only as a competitive endeavor but also as an important component of student development and school growth.

One of the key objectives in our Strategic Plan is enhancing the student experience while continuing to strengthen enrollment. Ryan's leadership will help us build athletic programs that attract students, develop character, and foster school pride. As we continue investing in our athletic facilities and programs, Ryan will play a critical role in ensuring that our student-athletes have opportunities to excel both on and off the field.



(L to R: Dr. Jacqueline Hoynes, Mr. Chris Poulos, and Mrs. Jodie Ricci)

Chad Kuchenmeister: Supporting Students Every Day

A successful school is built on strong relationships and a positive culture. We are pleased to welcome Chad Kuchenmeister as our new Assistant Principal and Dean of Students.

Chad is already familiar with the Notre Dame community, having served as a mathematics teacher at NDCL. His experience in the classroom gives him valuable insight into the needs of students and teachers alike.

In his new role, Chad will focus on student support, school culture, and helping students navigate the challenges and opportunities of high school life. His leadership directly supports our Strategic Plan's emphasis on student formation, belonging, and creating an environment where every student feels known, valued, and challenged to grow.

Looking Ahead

While leadership transitions naturally draw attention, they are only part of a much larger story. Across our campus, we continue to make significant progress toward our Strategic Plan goals. We are strengthening our Catholic identity, enhancing academic programming, investing in innovative learning spaces, improving facilities, expanding opportunities for students, and ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of our school.

The addition of Chris, Ryan, and Chad represents more than new personnel appointments. Together, they bring experience, energy, and a shared commitment to the mission of Notre Dame Schools. Their leadership will help us continue moving forward with confidence and purpose.

As I look ahead to the coming year, I am filled with optimism. Notre Dame has never been defined by any one individual. Rather, it has always been defined by a community of faithful leaders, dedicated educators, supportive families, generous alumni, and students eager to grow into the people God created them to be.

The faces may change, but the mission remains constant. And because of that mission—and the remarkable people who carry it forward—the future of Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School is brighter than ever.

Dr. Jacqueline Hoynes

President, Notre Dame Schools

President's Wish List

- Art Building
- Printers for STEM lab
- Pergola for Outdoor Classroom at NDCL
- NDES/NDMS Gym
- Playground equipment at NDES

If you want to learn more about these or might consider funding one or more, contact me today! jacqueline.hoynes@ndcl.org, (440) 279-1050

Board Member profiles

Jackie (Preston `01) Franck



BOARD ROLE: Board Operations Committee and Advancement Committee

EMPLOYER: Preston Superstore

CONNECTION TO NDS: NDES and NDCL graduate; siblings Bill Preston `04 and Gordon Preston `07.

FAMILY: Married to Andy Franck. Children: Charles (15), Taylor (13), and Connor (10), all are at or graduated from Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School.

TIME ON BOARD: Board member since 2021.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO JOIN THE BOARD? I was inspired to join the board because it felt like a meaningful way to give back to this place that has always been so special and important to me. I wanted to contribute my experience, support the schools' future and help ensure the same strong foundation for not only my kids but for generations to come.

WHAT MAKES NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS SO SPECIAL: It's hard to explain unless you've experienced it. People joke that once you're here, you drink the 'Kool-Aid' but really, it's because you can't help but love it. There's a genuine family atmosphere that makes people feel connected, supported and feel they truly belong. I moved around a lot growing up and attended several different schools. When I came to Notre Dame in 6th grade, it was the first place I ever truly felt at home. After constantly being the new kid, I found a community where people knew me, cared about me and made me feel like I belonged. Now years later, I get to watch my own kids have that same experience. I see that same comfort, confidence and contentment in them that I felt when I was their age. That feeling, that sense of home and community is what makes Notre Dame different.

YOUR HOPE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION GOING FORWARD: My hope for Catholic education going forward is that it continues to be a meaningful and pivotal part of the conversation around education and continues to thrive for generations to come. I'm grateful my children have the opportunity to grow academically and spiritually in this community and honor and carry forward the legacy of the Sisters of Notre Dame. Their commitment to faith, service, and compassion will live in all of us that have had the privilege to attend this special school.



Kevin Woeste



BOARD ROLE: Chair of the Buildings & Grounds Committee

EMPLOYER: CEO, McSteen Land Surveyors



CONNECTION TO NDS: Married to Molly (Feller `06) Woeste, and three children: Mae (8), Archie (6), and Gus (3) all attend Notre Dame Elementary School.

TIME ON BOARD: Board member since July 2024; member of the Buildings & Grounds Committee since October 2023.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO JOIN THE BOARD? I've always found a lot of meaning in serving and giving back to my community. But what truly moved me was watching our own children thrive at Notre Dame surrounded by teachers who genuinely love and care for their students, in a community that pours so deeply into every child. Seeing that, it felt only natural to want to pour back into the school in return. Board service became the way to do that: to put my skills to work where they were needed and to be part of this community even more deeply.

WHAT MAKES NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS SO SPECIAL: It starts with the foundation the Sisters of Notre Dame built and that history is woven into everything the schools do today. But what truly sets Notre Dame apart is its people, and a warmth you feel the moment you walk through the doors. It's apparent in the administration, the teachers, and the children themselves, who are so clearly happy to be part of the Notre Dame family. The dedication I've seen here is unlike anything I've encountered in education, and it's exactly what made me want to be part of such a strong community and help it reach its goals.

YOUR HOPE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION GOING FORWARD: Molly and I have always believed that, above all else, we want to raise our children to be kind. Academics matter and a love for learning matters but the greatest skill any child can carry into the world is kindness. My hope for Catholic education going forward is that the legacy present in the halls of Notre Dame—a genuine kindness towards one another—endures, regardless of how the world around us may change. If we can send students out having truly learned to lead with love and acceptance, they'll be well prepared to leave the world a little better than they found it.

Cathedral Latin Alumni Association Recognizes Giardino and Nista as Men of the Year



Tom Giardino S.M. `60, Jacqueline Hoynes, and Joe Nista `64

On April 26th, the Cathedral Latin Alumni Association recognized Br. Tom Giardino S.M. `60 and Joe Nista `64 as the Merit Award recipients for 2026. The awards were presented at the Association's annual Communion Breakfast held at St. Noel Church and Banquet Center in Willoughby Hills. The Merit Award is bestowed to someone who distinguishes himself in his chosen field of endeavor in a manner that brings renown to Cathedral Latin School. The event includes remarks from Notre Dame Schools President Dr. Jacqueline Hoynes.

Giardino recently celebrated his 60th anniversary as a Marianist. In 1988, he and Brother Frank Nurthen represented the Society of Mary at the opening celebration of the new Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School. He's held a number of leadership positions around the world within the Society of Mary, including 23 years as a trustee for the University of Dayton and currently on the Board at St. Mary's University in Texas. The product of Gesu School in University Heights, he was active at Cathedral Latin in writing for the Latineer, Sodality Club, National Honor Society, and president of his senior class.

Nista is past president of the Cathedral Latin Alumni Association and former member of Notre Dame Schools Board of Directors. Projects that highlight Cathedral Latin's history are near and dear to his heart. Among them is the reproduction of wooden doors within the Cathedral Latin arch that is located at the W.O. Walker Building in Cleveland's University Circle. He was also integral in the re-dedication of the WWII plaque now on display at NDCL, the archives room at NDCL, and building the Brother Nurthen Endowed Scholarship at NDCL to nearly $500,000 in value.

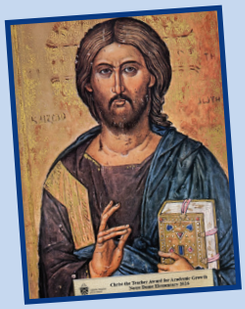
"Since 1951, the Annual Communion Breakfast has been a special time to honor our Men of the Year. This year 117 guests had an opportunity to learn how Brother Tom and Joe distinguished themselves in their chosen fields bringing renown to Cathedral Latin School. The day was a great joy sharing stories and rekindling memories of our great Latin heritage and a time to share the Latin spirit with friends, family, and former faculty members."

- TERRY RONCAGLI `77, EVENT CHAIRMAN





News and Notes from Campus



NDES wins Christ the Teacher Award from Diocese of Cleveland

Notre Dame Elementary School was the recipient of the Diocese of Cleveland's "Christ the Teacher Award" for Academic Growth. The award recognizes schools for achieving the highest academic growth in math and reading on the NWEA MAP Growth Assessment for two consecutive years.

Armand Volkmer and the Monsters team up to benefit Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital

Rising 5th grader Armand Volkmer and Cleveland Monsters forward Owen Sillinger teamed up with University Hospitals to create a custom Monsters logo that was used on hats as part of the Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital Night February 21st at the hockey game. The hats, special jerseys, and locker nameplates were auctioned off to benefit the hospital. Sillinger was a finalist for the AHL's Man of the Year award for service in the local community.





Armand got to drop the puck at the game with his Rainbow nurse—Rebecca Chapman—NDCL alum from the class of 2000.



Avery Kovacs Receives the Bishop Anthony M. Pilla Youth Leadership Award

Rising 8th grader Avery Kovacs received the Diocese of Cleveland Youth Leadership Award at the 32nd Annual Peace & Justice Awards this past spring. This event recognizes those who put their faith into action in our community.

Avery has become an active part of our Middle School Campus Ministry program and leads by reminding us that loving God means loving others, especially through small, faithful acts that build peace and promote justice. His example challenges all of us to look outward, respond generously, and trust that God works powerfully through willing hearts. Congratulations, Avery!

News and Notes from Campus

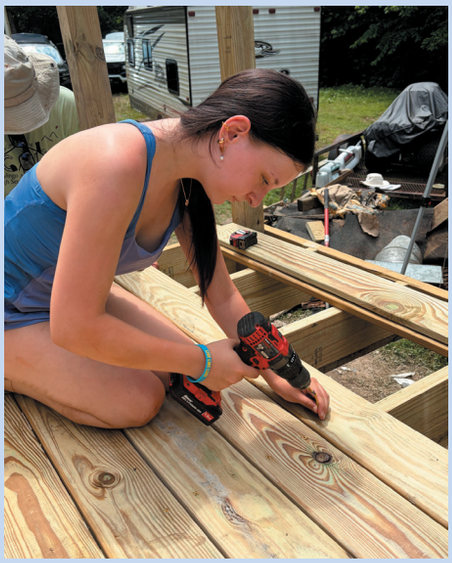
13 NDCL student-athletes sign on to play at the college level

Congratulations to several NDCL seniors who signed on to play at the next level!









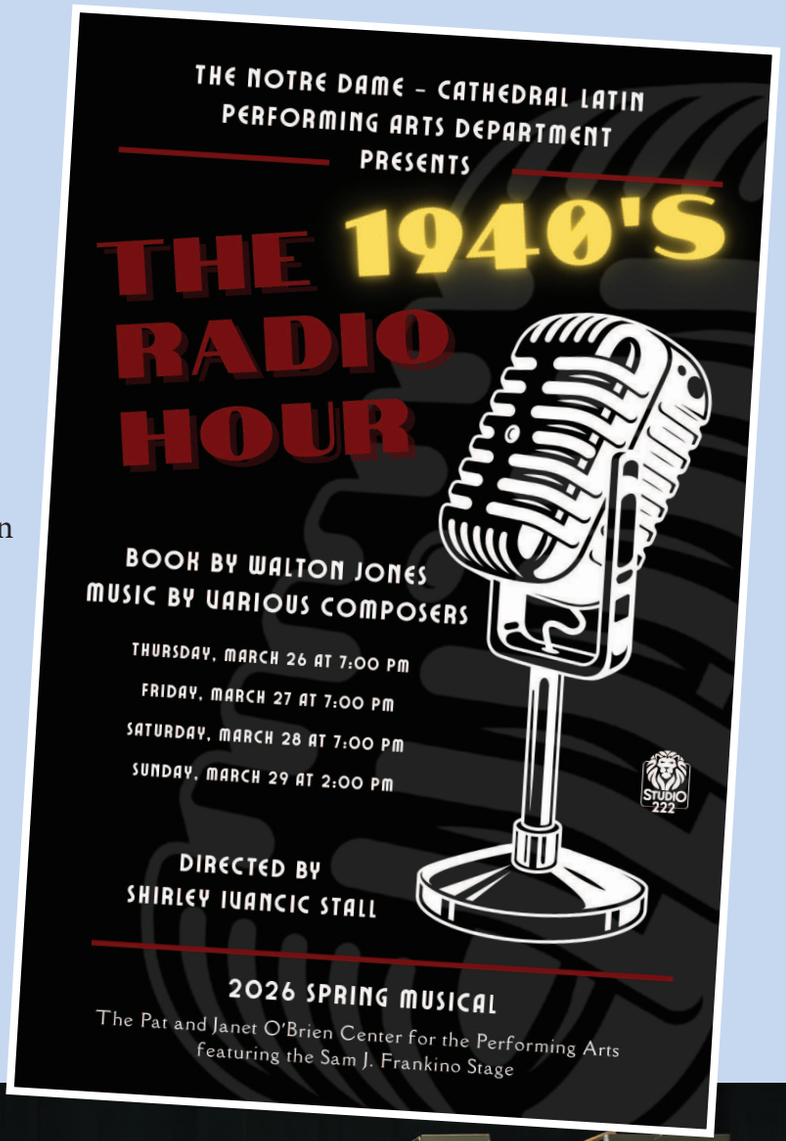
Annual West Virginia Mission Trip builds community and houses too

In June, 24 students, 3 staff members, and 6 alumni participated in the annual mission to trip to Dunlow, West Virginia for the 2026 Wayne County Workcamp. Each were assigned to a work crew comprised of students and staff from 5 different schools or church groups that also attended. The crews were sent out to do necessary repairs on houses. Crews completed work on replacing entire floors, damaged siding, built handicap ramps, and a new home. The crew led Monday evening's prayer service and planted a tree in honor of Luke Skotzke '24, who passed away in July of 2025.

Thanks to support from the DuBois Family/Ace Hardware Willowick, plus contributions to the Luke Skotzke Memorial Fund, most of the trip's cost was covered.

NDCL musical The1940s Radio Hour delights audiences

Under the direction of Ms. Shirley Ivancic Stall, the amazing talent and teamwork of cast and crew brought the Big Band era of the 1940's to life and depicted the "escape" from WWII through radio variety shows. The audiences commented on the wonderful singing, comedic acting, and the fashion of the period. Thank you to all who recognize the talent and dedication of our theatre students, and came to see the show this past March!



SPRING Musical



PHILANTHROPY Spotlight

$1.6 MILLION IN PHILANTHROPY TO NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS IN THE 2025-26 ACADEMIC YEAR

• GIVING DAY • ENDOWMENT • NDCL FUND • NDES FUND • LIONSGO •
• MANE EVENT AND GOLF CLASSIC • GRANTS AND RESTRICTED GIFTS •

NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS GIVING DAY

NOVEMBER'S RECORD GIVING DAY paved the way for an all-time high of annual fund support to Notre Dame Schools--$535,000 in total for NDCL and Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School. This includes Giving Day, NDCL Fund and NDES Fund.

Including LionSGO, The Lions Golf Classic and Lions Mane Event net totals, YOU generously gave over $1.6 Million to Notre Dame Schools in the recently completed academic year. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

We are investing in our teachers, our campus, and financial aid for our students. Your giving does this and so much more!

RECURRING GIFTS ARE AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS

One of the easiest and most powerful ways to support our school is through recurring monthly giving. Monthly giving allows you to spread your support across the year in a way that is manageable and consistent. Instead of making a one-time gift, you can set up an automatic contribution—of any amount—that is charged each month. It's simple, convenient, and flexible.

We invite you to consider joining our community of recurring donors. Together, we can ensure that our mission continues to flourish for generations to come.

Visit www.LionsGive.org or click on the QR Code to start your recurring gift to the Annual Fund and make a lasting impact one month at time!

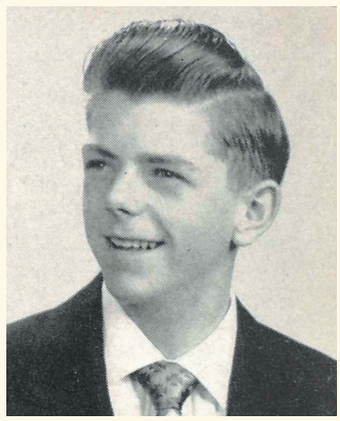
MONTHLY Giving

CONTACT *Courtney (Rice'98) Bacik, Donor Engagement & Annual Giving Coordinator at 440-279-1079 or Courtney.Bacik@ndcl.org for questions regarding the NDCL Fund and NDES Fund.*

RECURRING DONORS:

Eva M. Szantho Char. Lead Trust
Elizabeth Basich `03
Mike `00 & Janet (Polzer `00) Bauer
Edward Cermak `58
Colleen Conway Cooney
Peter Domanko `00
Barbara (Krawczyk `55) Fatica
Timothy Griesmer `98
John Guthleben `59
Christopher `01 & Abby Hart
Dolores (Hoge `74) Joyce
Keven `98 & Meghan Krajnak
Sue Luck
Bobby and Destiny O`Brien
Lawrence OToole `69
Chris & Marie Poulos
Avis Pritchett `74
Bill and Kelly Prymas
Angela (Reese `98) Rakauskas
Doug and Brandy Ratka
Eric & Rhianna Rieger
Lauren Rudman`02
Richard Sadowski `05
Greg and Michelle Schmidt
Louis Shenk `61
Dean and Denice Teeples
Kelley Thompson
Kevin & Christine (Beckman `90) Zaletel

THE DONALD D. LYNCH FAMILY FOUNDATION LAUNCHES SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS FOR 4 NDCL STUDENTS



The Donald D. Lynch Family Foundation, named for Cathedral Latin graduate Donald D. Lynch `51, granted $20,000 to NDCL this past year for need-based tuition assistance for four NDCL students. Thank you to the Foundation for this generous gift in support of Catholic education!

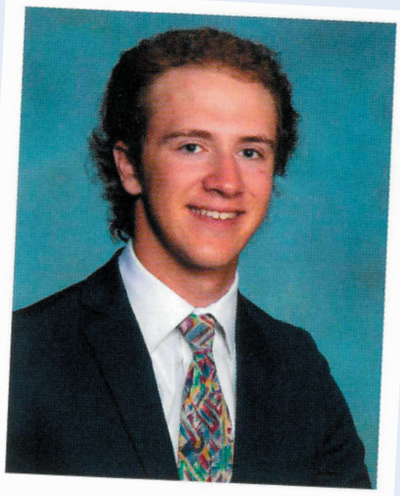


LOZICK SCHOLARS 10 YEARS LATER

10 years ago, the Lozick Family Foundation began awarding eight 50% scholarship grants to NDCL students. Each recipient meets certain criteria established by the Foundation including demonstrated financial need, minimum GPA and school involvement. To date, over 30 students/graduates benefited from this generous gift from the Foundation, named for Ed `55 and Catherine Lozick.

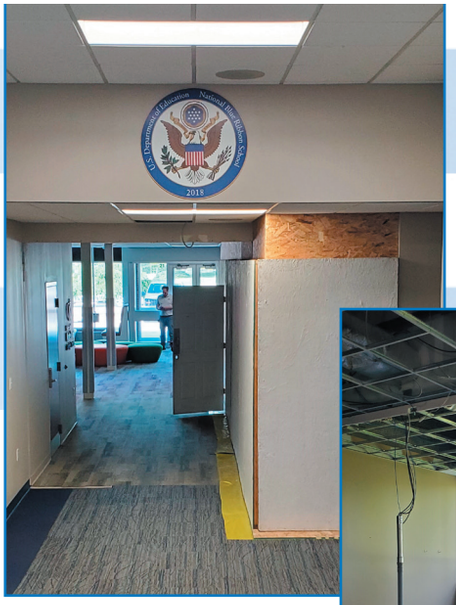
One of the early Lozick Scholars was Spencer Jacobson `20. Where is he now? Spencer is beginning is 3rd year teaching science and coaching football at NDCL. Talk about a return on investment!

"My mom got sick my sophomore year, and my dad took a second job," he says. "If it wasn't for the Lozick Grant I would not have had the chance to stay at NDCL. My life wouldn't be the same. That was the hardest time of my life. I can now give back to a place that is important to me. I am very grateful for what this did for me."



Spencer Jacobson

NDCL to open state-of-the-art STEM and Innovation Space this fall





Not long after the final bell of the 25-26 school year rang, construction crews took to the west wing of NDCL to begin demolition of walls and prepare for the brand new STEM and Innovation Space that will open in the fall. Thanks to generous donors and portions of the Raise the Paddle from the Lions Mane Event, the new space will be ready to welcome students and teachers soon.

I am especially excited about the opening of our new Innovation Space at NDCL this year. This state-of-the-art learning environment will provide students with hands-on opportunities to explore STEM, innovation, and entrepreneurship while preparing them for success in an ever-changing world.

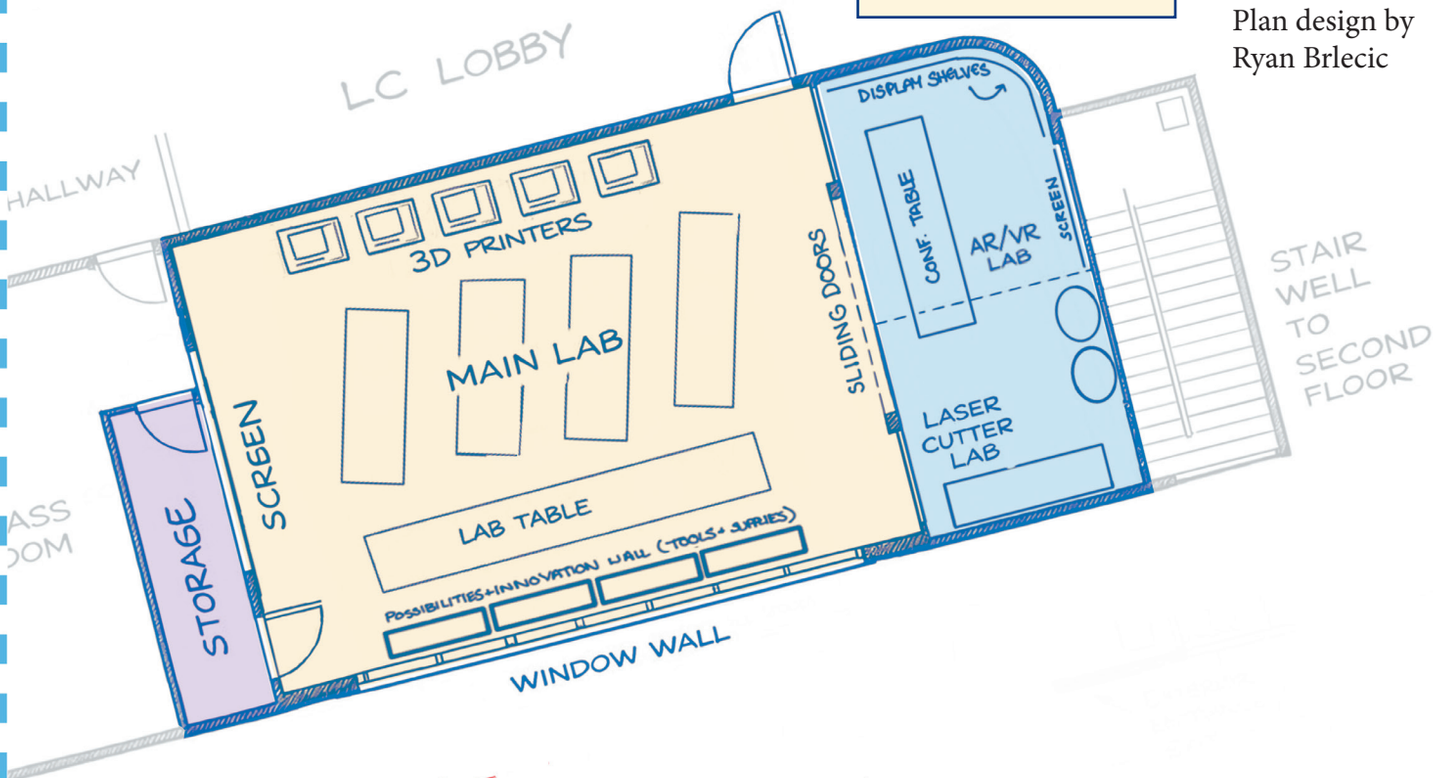
I am deeply grateful to the generous donors whose vision and support made this project possible. Their investment in Notre Dame Schools is an investment in our students, and their generosity will impact generations of learners to come.

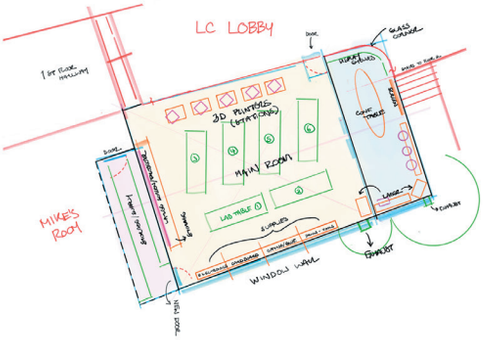
-Dr. Jacqueline Hoynes, President

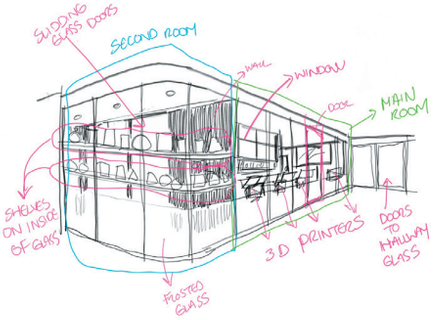
Lead Donors to the STEM and Innovation Space:

Anna Amato
Joe Misinec
Len `64 and Cynthia Ringenbach
The Simpson Family
Stephen Wernet and Sandra (Eiler `61) Jones-Wernet

Plan design by Ryan Brlecic







NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS
THE LIONS MANE EVENT
AROUND THE WORLD
MARCH 21, 2026
PRESTON Superstore

Lions Mane Event:
AROUND THE WORLD SETS NEW RECORD WITH $250,000 RAISED







The 2026 Lions Mane Event held on March 21st was a record-breaking evening of celebration, and philanthropy. This year's "Around the World" theme transformed the event into a global adventure, featuring international-inspired cuisine, vibrant décor, and entertainment that kept guests engaged from start to finish.

Thanks to the incredible support of sponsors, parents, alumni and friends, the event raised a record $250,000. The evening showcased the strength of our school community and its commitment to providing exceptional Catholic education for future generations.

Guests enjoyed a variety of outstanding food stations prepared by the AVI team, whose creativity brought the theme to life through flavors from around the world. A special thank you goes to Chef Jay and his team for delivering an exceptional dining experience. Entertainment included a lively mariachi band serenading guests as they arrived and a crowd-pleasing performance by the Chardon Polka Band. The live and silent auctions, along with the ever-popular Road Warrior Raffle, added excitement and friendly competition throughout the night.

A highlight of the evening was Raise the Paddle for the Holy Family Fund (emergency financial aid) and campus STEM investments, including NDCL's new STEM and Innovation space scheduled to open this fall. These initiatives are possible thanks to the generosity of our attendees.

Special thanks to our corporate sponsors, including the title sponsor Preston Superstore for leading the way to an amazing night on campus and going "around the world"!



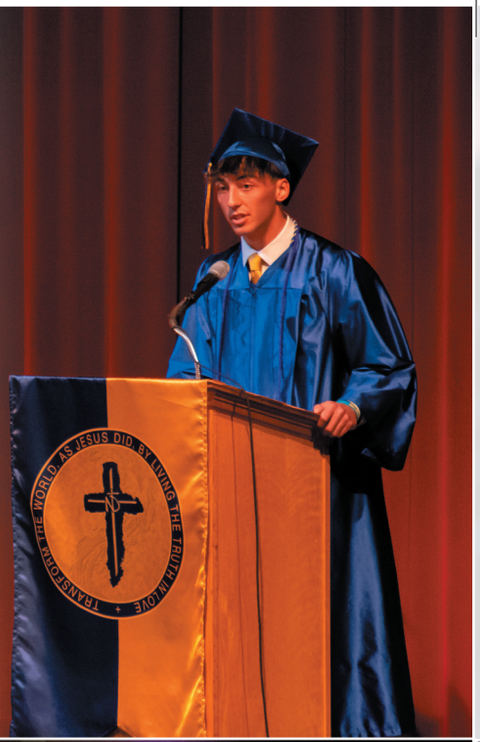


SAVE THE DATE: NEXT YEAR'S LIONS MANE EVENT IS MARCH 13TH

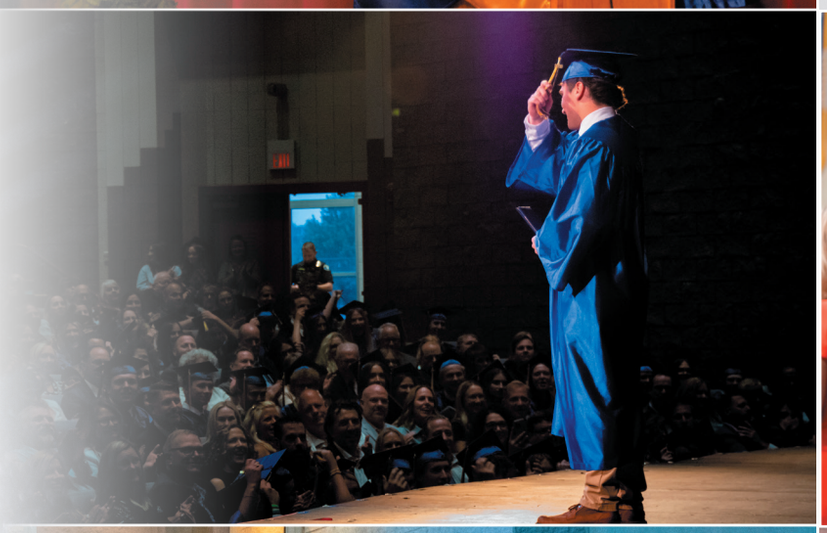




TIP OF THE CAP *to the* CLASS OF 2026



Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School celebrated its 36th Commencement Ceremony at the Mentor Fine Arts Center on May 22. The 162 members of the Class of 2026 received their diplomas in a celebration of their scholastic achievement over four years. Rob Bonchak `26, a third generation NDA/NDCL graduate and member of the Class of 2026, gave a heartfelt commencement address reflecting on NDCL's mission and values that the graduates embody today and in their bright futures.



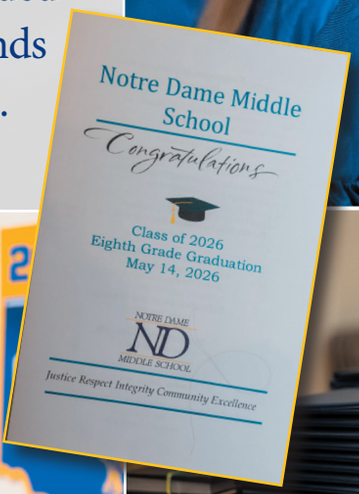






Notre Dame Middle School graduated 69 eighth graders on May 14th at NDCL's McGarry Gymnasium. In celebrating their move to high school, a highlight of the ceremony was the creative photo gallery of each graduate throughout their grade school journey. The evening concluded with a reception with family and friends in the Eugene T. Baker Gymnasium.











NOTRE DAME NDCL CATHEDRAL LATIN

Notre Dame–Cathedral Latin

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

Open House

October 6, 2026 | 6-8 PM

- Enjoy personalized tours
- Meet students, teachers, and coaches
- Attend presentations on Athletics, Campus Ministry, and Student Services



Kellie Watrobski, Director of Admissions
kellie.watrobski@ndcl.org | 440.279.1088
Scan the QR Code to Register



NOTRE DAME ND ELEMENTARY
NOTRE DAME ND MIDDLE SCHOOL

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



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

KEEP THE TRADITION *cooking*



A TRADITION FOR 64TH ANNUAL OVER SIX DECADES

JOIN FELLOW ALUMNI AT THE 64TH ANNUAL NOTRE DAME CHICKEN BBQ & BOUTIQUE

ONE SUNDAY. ONE COMMUNITY. ONE TRADITION THAT BRINGS US TOGETHER.

Every fall, alumni, families, friends, and supporters gather for one of the area's most beloved traditions—the Notre Dame Chicken BBQ & Boutique.

It's more than a meal. It's a chance to reconnect, celebrate, and help preserve a tradition that has welcomed generations for more than six decades.

Whether you're catching up with classmates, introducing your family to a favorite tradition, or lending a hand behind the scenes, we'd love to see you there.

Come for the Memories.
STAY TO MAKE NEW ONES.

ENJOY the famous chicken dinner

BROWSE the Boutique and Country Kitchen

VISIT with classmates and friends

SUPPORT the Sisters of Notre Dame and this cherished community tradition

CAN YOU SPARE A FEW HOURS?

Every successful BBQ depends on volunteers.

From serving meals and greeting guests to helping in the Country Kitchen, Boutique, traffic control, and more—there's a place for everyone!

- SERVE FOOD
- COUNTRY KITCHEN
- BOUTIQUE SALES
- HOSPITALITY
- TRAFFIC CONTROL
- MISSION SUPPORT
- SETUP & TRANSPORTATION
- AND MORE!

VOLUNTEER. RECONNECT. *Give Back.*

Assignment options and shift times are included on the volunteer form.

SAVE THE DATE!
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
12:00 – 5:00 PM

Attend.
VOLUNTEER. MAKE AN IMPACT.
Scan the QR code to volunteer today or request a volunteer form.

Questions? Please contact Paula Aveni at paveni@ndec.org or (440) 313-4105

Teacher Feature: Ms. Vicki Frabotta `86



NOTRE DAME NDCL CATHEDRAL LATIN

TITLE: English Department Chair

FAMILY: Daughter Brianna Cowman `18 (and NDES `14)

SCHOOL TIES: Vicki is a 1986 NDA graduate. Her two brothers, David `92 and Stephen `98, and sister Theresa Santoiemmo `03 are NDCL graduates. Her cousin is Anthony Ventimiglia `93.

YEARS AT NDCL: Completed her 34th year at NDCL this past school year.

COLLEGE: John Carroll (BA and Masters in Education). Hobbies or fun things to know: I like baking and continuing traditional family recipes.

FAVORITE ABOUT NORTHEAST OHIO: The change of seasons. “We get to experience all 4 seasons. I think the world looks new every season.”

Vicki Frabotta has been a fixture in NDCL’s English Department since its beginning years. Having just completed her 34th year, the long-time educator continues to bring new concepts to her classes, yet uses her students’ feedback to collaborate on further course development.

"Its something that makes NDCL such a special place to me, she says. When I try something new in class, the students are helpful in making it better. Its a real collaboration. Here is my idea, it may not have executed well, but they help me to fix and improve it for the next years class. It’s important that I’m always learning and adjusting to be a better teacher.”

Ms. Frabotta credits the students but also colleagues-past and present-for shaping her as a person and a teacher. I’ve had the privilege to work with amazing people that inspired me in so many ways, she says. "Sr. Eileen Quinlan got me out of my comfort zone to be creative and go with my instincts; Mrs. Zita Knific and I collaborated in Professional Learning Communities before it was common; and Mr. Chuck Calovini shaped my professionalism. To me, NDCL is my second family."

SOCIAL JUSTICE CLASS

Frabotta and Judge Michael Shaughnessy (father of Megan `12, Kate `18 and Kelly `25) had an idea to collaborate on a social justice class based on Catholic Social Teaching. After just completing its 5th year as a class, the early results are evident.

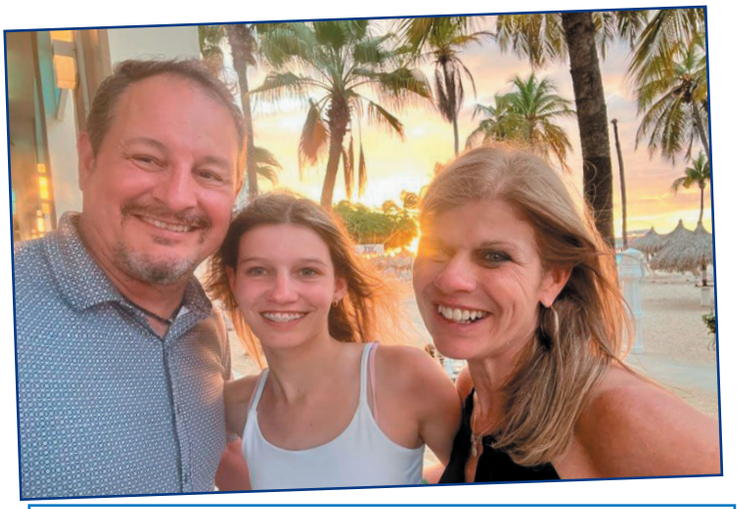
“The class raises more questions for students than it answers," Frabotta says. "Thats the point of the class. How do we live in solidarity with each other in our society and preserve the dignity of every person?”

The course includes several guest speakers and opportunities to hear many sides of very complex issues. Students engage in experiential and travel opportunities-both local and national. "The students are the people who are going to transform the world with those they meet now and in the future." A highlight of the course is the chance for students to attend the Ignatian Family Teach In for Justice in Washington, DC. "I hope the students take away confidence that they can succeed in navigating the world to work for justice. I hope I have and will continue prepare all my students so that they can handle anything thrown at them — in their chosen profession and in life."



Teacher Feature: Mrs. Sue Ball

NOTRE DAME ND MIDDLE SCHOOL



ROLE: 6th Grade Science and Social Studies teacher

FAMILY: Married to James (32 years this December) and daughter Remington (16).

YEARS AT NDES: Just completed her fifth year at NDES.

WORK BEFORE NDES: Sue worked for Discovery Education as a trainer and also taught in Madison for 15 years.

HOBBIES OR FUN THINGS TO KNOW: I love golfing, reading and pickleball.

FAVORITE ABOUT NORTHEAST OHIO: I love all the Metroparks, there is so much to do in a close area.

Hands-on learning is what makes Sue Ball's teaching philosophy memorable and exceptional. From creative news reports of ancient civilizations to business sales pitches to Rube Goldberg machines, Ball drives her students' creative and critical thinking skills to levels above and beyond most their age. But it's the school's culture that she is quick to credit for her love of the school these last 5 years.

"This place is a culture of love," she says. "You walk into the building and feel it. The kindness of the students, the support from teachers and the administrators and our parents, it all feeds into this culture that I feel is so special here."

When it comes to teaching and learning, Ball is a firm believer that hands-on projects gives students a well-rounded education including presentation skills and critical thinking.

One example is the class project called "Ancient Civilization Newscast" where students in Ball's class become historical reporters about a long lost civilization by producing and presenting a newscast. Working in teams, they write the script, present the "news" live including supporting images that show like a newscast, interview key people, dress in costume, and then watch the recording of it.

Another example is the "Shark Tank"-style economics class project. Students develop original products, create a prototype, figure cost and profit, create a pitch then sell it to "sharks" made up of judges from our parent and NDMS community.

"Kids really learn well this way," Ball says. "I want kids excited when they walk in. If they are bored, I am bored."

Ball says the new science classroom in the recently expanded Notre Dame Middle School is a huge hit, both with the students and teachers.

"The science lab is used every day. We can now do more elaborate lab experiments and the convenience of electrical in each lab table makes a big difference. The new space gives our science classes more hands-on opportunities."

Ball is quick to credit the commitment to Catholic principles which fosters the culture of love on campus.

"I can bring God into the classroom everyday here," she says. "Having prayer as part of our day makes an immeasurable difference. My parents taught me the importance of prayer and faith, which is what we instill with our daughter Remi. I want her to know that she is never alone. You can always lean on your faith, that's why Catholic education matters".





2021, 2016, 2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991, 1986, 1981, 1976, 1971, 1966, 1961, 1956

COME HOME FOR REUNION 2026

Saturday, September 26, 2026
4-8 pm

Join alumni from NDCL, NDA, and Cathedral Latin on Saturday, September 26, 2026, from 4–8 PM for the reunion celebration honoring classes ending in '1 and '6.

Reconnect with classmates, reminisce about favorite school memories, and enjoy an afternoon of food, fun, and fellowship on campus. The event will feature local food trucks, outdoor games and activities, and a Spirit Shop stocked with the latest NDA, CL, and NDCL apparel for sale. Plus, enjoy a ride on the Euclid Beach Rocket Car.

The reunion takes place the same weekend as the popular Notre Dame Chicken BBQ, making it a great time to gather with friends and family and celebrate our shared traditions.

Tickets are now on sale! Visit us online at www.ndcl.org or scan the QR code below to register and learn more.

Interested in helping make your class reunion a success? We're looking for enthusiastic Class Captains to help spread the word and encourage classmates to attend. The class with the most attendees will have a street named for their class for an entire year!



Scan the QR code below and register

For more information, *please email Elizabeth (Penko-Suk '11) Fanzo, Advancement Events Coordinator at elizabeth.fanzo@ndcl.org.*

LionSGO

NOTRE DAME ELEMENTARY · NOTRE DAME MIDDLE SCHOOL · NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL LATIN

YOUR TAXES. THEIR TUITION. OUR FUTURE!

$366,211

2025 OHIO TAX DOLLARS

turned into tuition assistance for Notre Dame Schools. (including the Angel Scholarship Fund)

428
CONTRIBUTORS
Parents, grandparents, alumni, teachers, and friends of school.

26%
INCREASE
Continued growth and a milestone towards our goal.

$1,000,000
GOAL
Making Catholic education a reality for more families.

LIONSGO IS EASY AND COSTS YOU NOTHING!

HERE'S WHAT LIONSGO SUPPORTERS HAVE TO SAY:

"The LionSGO Ohio tax credit truly delivered. We were able to support a cause we care about with no net cost through the tax credit. The process was simple and easy to complete. It's one of those opportunities that feels too important to pass up, especially given the positive impact it has on students and schools. I'd strongly encourage everyone to look into it as they plan for their 2026 taxes as it's a straightforward way to make a difference."

– Mike `97 & Melissa (Lallo `99) Tighe

"LionSGO is an easy way for me to give back to a place that has formed me. The process is smooth, most notably receiving the receipt via email for tax purposes. With the SGO, I am able to choose where my tax money goes. Anyone who has the opportunity should capitalize on it!"

- Mary Grace Raddell `20

"We choose to contribute to LionSGO because it supports valuable educational opportunities for students while also providing us an Ohio tax credit benefit. Our contributions help enhance student programs and academic excellence while receiving a dollar-for-dollar Ohio tax credit, making it a meaningful way to invest in education while reducing our state tax liability."

- Wesley and Anmarie Rand

"If you can get the word out, it is a great resource for the school. As a past contributor, I initially ignored the program because I didn't realize there was no out of pocket cost until I received a flyer that explained it in detail."

- LionSGO contributor

"The contribution process was well designed and easy to follow."

- LionSGO contributor

USE YOUR 2026 OHIO TAXES TO BENEFIT NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS

Learn more at LionSGO.org

PHILANTHROPY IS A CONWAY FAMILY TRADITION

Colleen Conway Cooney shares her personal and family philanthropic story



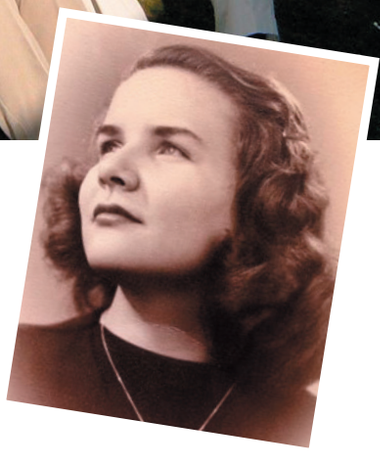
The name Conway is as synonymous with philanthropy in the Cleveland area as any. Jim Conway was a renowned fundraiser for decades at John Carroll University, Ursuline College, and Case Western Reserve University. Conway's daughter, Colleen Conway Cooney, shares her pride in the family's Catholic legacy that includes an Endowed Scholarship at NDCL bearing her mother's name—Catherine Conway.

"Our mom lived on Ansel Road and walked to school at NDA, along with her two sisters," Conway Cooney says. "All of our family were taught by the Sisters of Notre Dame at Gesu and three of us graduated from Regina High School. Our family scholarship started at Regina, then moved over to NDCL and honors my mom as a 1948 NDA graduate. We want Catholic education at NDCL to be possible for other students."

Conway Cooney recently retired as a judge. She served on the Cleveland Municipal Court and the Eighth District Court of Appeals. The impact of her own Catholic education played a role in her work as a judge.

"My faith taught me to treat everyone in my courtroom with respect. The first time I sentenced a defendant to jail his lawyer commented on the kind manner in which I spoke to his client."





Conway Cooney remains close with Sr. Kathleen Ryan, SND, a member of Notre Dame Schools Board of Directors. Sr. Kathleen taught her sisters at Gesu.

"We are so blessed to have the Sisters of Notre Dame in our life, and that NDCL continues their mission and vision." Conway Cooney says. "We go way back with Sr. Kathleen."

"At Gesu, I even remember helping her to coach softball. My husband John later served on committees with Sr. Kathleen so he got to witness how truly exceptional she is and her love of Catholic education."

The family's endowment at NDCL, The Catherine Conway `48 Endowed Scholarship, supports one student at NDCL each year with demonstrated financial need. It is one of 82 named scholarships at NDCL.

10-year Endowment Goal:

10-year Endowment Goal:

$50 MILLION

As part of Notre Dame Schools 10-year Strategic Plan, our goal is to grow Endowment (currently at $21 Million) to $50 Million total. ***How can we do this?***



Investment growth of current endowment



Realization of declared estate gifts



New gifts to existing endowed funds and creating new, named Endowments



Achieving a transformational Endowment gift ($5 million or more) by 2028.

Growing Endowment to $50 million will:



Fully fund tuition assistance and scholarship support



Free operating revenue that bolsters capital expenditure opportunities



Insure against removal or reduction in state funding.

EXCITING ENDOWMENT NEWS!

*Latin `64 Starts Scholarship at NDCL:* Thanks to the generosity of a lead gift from Jim `64 and Bette Zaletel, the CL Class of 1964 is the latest class to start an Endowed Scholarship at NDCL. They join the CL Class of 1935, 1955, 1963, and 1970, as well as the NDA Class of 1974 and 1977 in having Endowed Scholarships at NDCL.

*NDA `77 adds to its Class Scholarship:* In anticipation of their 50-year reunion in 2027, members of the NDA Class of `77 recently gifted $25,000 to its existing scholarship at NDCL. The class hopes to reach $100,000 Endowment value by the end of 2027.

Campus Ministry and Beyond the Walls program endowments are newest giving opportunities: In expanding Notre Dame School's Endowments beyond scholarships, you can now contribute to two new endowed funds—Campus Ministry and Beyond the Walls. The Campus Ministry Endowment funds school programs and initiatives tied to faith formation and our vibrant campus ministry activities. Beyond the Walls Endowment supports experiential and immersion trips—current and future—sponsored by the school that take our students' learning opportunities "beyond the walls" of the classroom. Gifts of all sizes are welcome for these new funds, including naming-level giving opportunities.



Individuals over age 70 ½ can take advantage of the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution to make a gift to NDCL. Use all or part of your RMD and reduce your tax liability, all while investing in Catholic education at NDCL. The easiest and most impactful way to give!

Interested in learning more about these endowments? Contact Director of Advancement Keven S. Krajnak `98 at (440) 279-1068 or Keven.Krajnak@ndcl.org.

Class News

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

1996: **Mary Bilinski** was re-elected as Vice President of the Twinsburg Education Association Teacher's Union. She was also recognized by the Ohio Education Association (OEA) and OEA's Media Director with a podcast highlighting her grant writing. Congratulations, Mary!

2019: **Marissa Webb** starred as Sandy in The Brecksville Theatre production of Grease in May. Congratulations Marissa! ➔



Bundles of Joy



LUCIA FARINACCI

Born to Aria (Mirabile `08) and Angelo Farinacci



DOMINIC *Martin* CUFFARI

Born to Lisa (Castelletti `07) and Matt Cuffari



BROOKS *Patrick* MOLINARO

Born to Anthony and Keighle (Joyce `12) Molinaro



ARTHUR *Joseph* GAUNTNER

Born to Julie (Kaminski `12) and Andrew Gauntner

In Memoriam

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

Cathedral Latin School

William Cinadr `68
Ken DeLuca `65
Robert Fiorille `54
John Gibbons `62
Brian Kelly `71
Charles Kleinhenz `62
Dave Komorowski `62
Paul Misischia `68
Rev. James O'Donnell `48
Ivan Otto `55
Chris Parker `77
Alvin Payne `60
Daniel Rudman `62
Anthony Tortorici `61
Andrew Vadas `68
John Winterich `58

Notre Dame Academy

Shirley Havlek `52
Sandra (Eiler `61) Jones-Wernet
Sr. Margaret Kerr `52, SND
Sr. Lenette Marcello `67, SND
Ellen (Griffin `54) McGarry
Kathleen (Fuerst `54) Neroni

NDCL

Anthony Kralj `24

Friend

Mr. Doug Hogan (former Board Chair)
Sr. Mary Antonee Pfenning, SND

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THIS YEAR'S INDUCTEES INTO THE

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

AT NDCL @ 2:00 P.M.



Lisa Bizjak `82



Michael Herringshaw `06



Dani Ramos `11



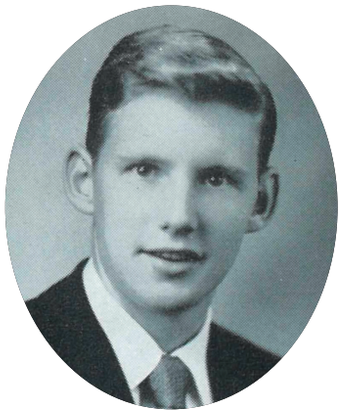
Liz (Weiler `11) Pelechaty



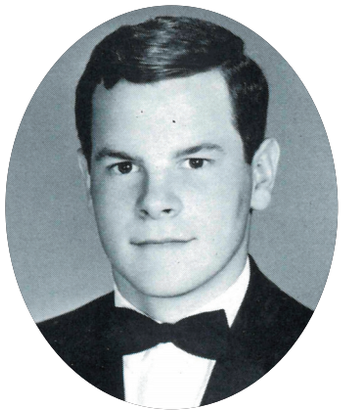
Coach Alex Dowger



William Bambrick `26



John Egan `50



Patrick Hoynes `68

The Athletic Hall of Fame *celebrates the athletic achievements of these men and women during their Notre Dame Academy, Cathedral Latin School, and NDCL career. This fall, these 8 individuals will join the nearly 300 members of the Athletic Hall of Fame during an induction ceremony and dinner on NDCL's campus.*

All alumni, families, and friends are welcome to attend this event on Saturday, October 10th at NDCL. The event begins with a 2 p.m. social hour followed by dinner and inductions. The event is business casual. Purchase your tickets online at www.ndcl.org beginning August 1st.

PERSPECTIVE: FAITH SHAPES OUR FUTURE

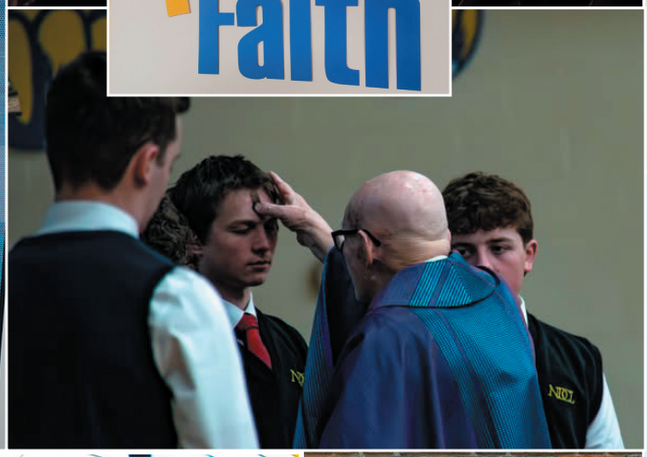


















INCLUDE NOTRE DAME SCHOOLS AS A BENEFICIARY IN YOUR WILL



IT'S EASY *to make a lasting, legacy gift that will benefit Catholic education for years to come. Include Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School or Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School as a beneficiary in your will.*

BY DOING *this, you become part of The Notre Dame Circle, our exclusive membership of alumni, families, and friends of the school that have taken this step in legacy giving to Notre Dame Schools.*

You can use the legal name and EIN for the school in your estate plan:

Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School
13000 Auburn Road, Chardon, OH 44024
EIN is 20-0039266

Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School
13000 Auburn Road, Chardon, OH 44024
EIN is 61-1607991

"I'm in the Notre Dame Circle. How about you?"

For me, including NDCL in my estate plan is a great way to honor my mom and her NDA education. It honors my parents and the impact the Sisters of Notre Dame have had on my family. My future estate gift will be a figurative brick in the foundation rather than a literal brick on a pathway. That's why I am proud to be part of the Notre Dame Circle.

– Colleen Conway Cooney

NOTRE DAME CIRCLE MEMBERS

Named after Our Lady, the patroness of Notre Dame Academy, Cathedral Latin and Notre Dame Schools, 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
The Estate of Bruce Colosimo '67
Robert and Heather Coode
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
Christopher `70 and Jean Payne
The Estate of Bill `50 † and Jackie (Jakubowski `53 †) Pevec
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 Rita Strater
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 †

† Deceased

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440.279.1067 or advancement@ndcl.org

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Follow us:

SAVE THE DATES

Lions Golf Classic **August 24**
Reunion **September 26**

Notre Dame Chicken BBQ **September 27**
Come Home, Men of Latin **October 9**
Athletic Hall of Fame Induction **October 10**
Giving Day 2026 **November 19**



Photo credit:
Full Stop Photography

Notre Dame Schools President Dr. Jacqueline Hoynes cuts the ribbon at NDCL's new turfed softball field in March