



THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Parents,

What a blessing it is to be a member of the NDA community! That was quite evident Monday evening at our *Light Up NDA* event. We were not sure the weather was going to cooperate however, after a rainy jv soccer game, the skies cleared and a rainbow appeared over our campus. That was just the beginning of a very special evening for our Pandas!

I would like to thank everyone involved in making *Light Up NDA* such a spirited evening for our community. There were many hands involved in making the debut of our new track and field lights such an incredible event for our NDA students, parents and grandparents. *Light Up NDA* was a great example of what we do best at Notre Dame Academy - collaborate. Most especially, I would like to thank the generous NDA family who donated the funds used to purchase our new sports complex lights. With this new light system, our student athletes are able to compete day and night and our fans are able to enjoy entertaining events at NDA - complete with cutting-edge special effects lighting and synchronized music. I look forward to seeing all of you at an upcoming evening soccer game so we can light up NDA once again!

I would like to congratulate four of our NDA students on being named National Merit Commended students. Abigail Breeze, Macie Feldman, Grace Heberling and Samantha Mazzaro were each recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program as Commended Students in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. This honor speaks to the dedication of these students and their commitment to academic excellence.

An important part of the fall season at NDA is our annual Autumn Gala. I would like to invite each and every one of you to participate in this year's Autumn Gala on October 16. It is our largest fundraiser of the year and we could really use your support. You can find more information on how to register, purchase game and raffle tickets and more below.

Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in your daughter's Catholic education. Have a great week!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf





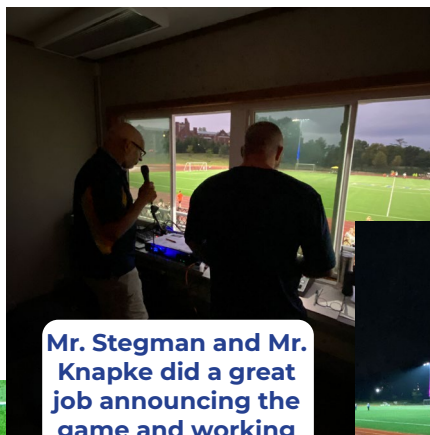
Light Up NDA was an exciting evening under the new lights at Notre Dame Academy featuring NDA's fall athletes, Band, Dance Pandas and Honor Choir - not to mention NDA's #1 nationally ranked Soccer Pandas! Thanks to everyone who attended - we can't wait to see you back at NDA's Buenger Sports Complex for more Panda fun!



Our Panda fans showed up dressed in neon and full of Panda Spirit!



Mr. Stegman and Mr. Knapke did a great job announcing the game and working the lights in the Press Box!



NDA alumna and professional photographer Katie Stratman covered the event for The Enquirer!



Celebrating our NDA fall varsity athletes!



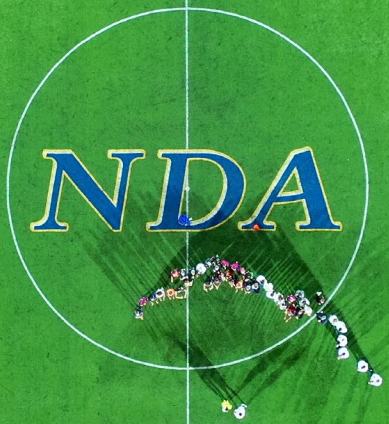
NDA Honor Choir beautifully singing the National Anthem!



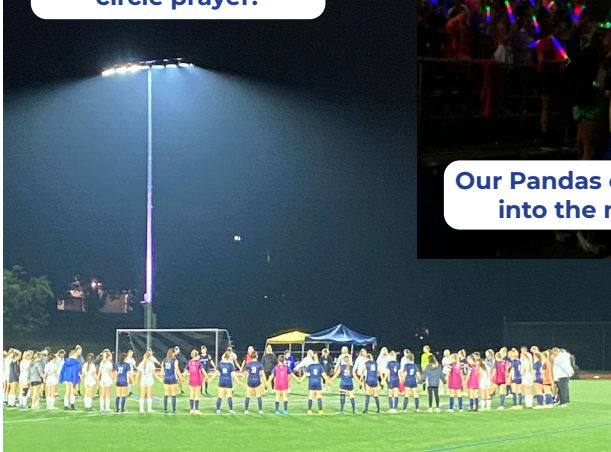
Our Soccer Pandas played to win!
JV Pandas 5-0 NCC
Varsity Pandas 4-0 NCC



Senior Abby Breeze was recognized for breaking the school record with 11 shutouts in a season!



Giving thanks in our circle prayer!

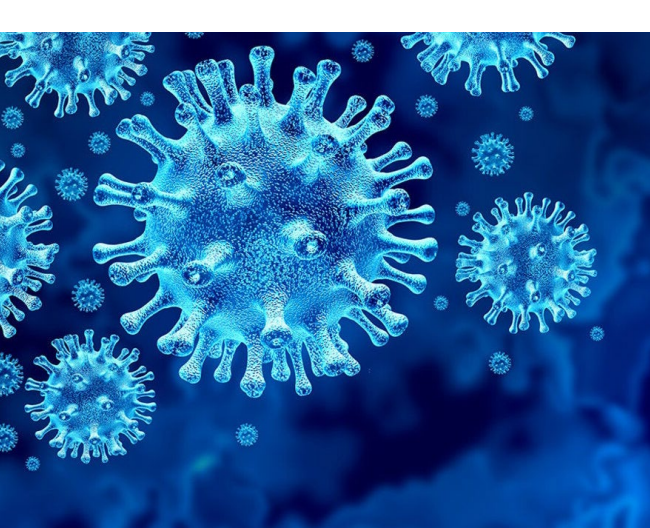


Our Pandas cheering into the night!



NDA/CCH Band and NDA Dance Pandas put on an incredible half-time show!





WEEKLY UPDATE

COVID-19

As of today, Wednesday, September 21, we have had 4 new reported cases of members of our community testing positive for COVID-19 within the last week.

As we move forward, please keep NDA updated on any COVID-19 related issues involving your family. In the event that someone in your household is being tested for COVID-19 or your daughter is exposed to or tests positive for COVID-19, please contact our school nurse, Tina Sizemore, RN., at 859.292.1843 or sizemoret@ndapandas.org.

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

INTERESTING STUDY ON MASKING IN SCHOOLS

Today in the Cincinnati Enquirer there is a story that reinforces what we have learned about masking in schools over the past several months - they make a tremendous difference in keeping our school community safe! In the article, [Cincinnati Children's study: COVID-19 cases, quarantines lower in schools with mask mandate](#), Dr. Katherine Auger recently examined COVID-19 caseloads in seven Cincinnati-area schools to learn whether universal masking works. Her study showed the following:

- The rate of students getting diagnosed with COVID-19 was 78% higher in the partially masked schools than those that had universal masking.
- The rate of students being quarantined was 60% higher in the partially masked schools.
- The ratio of quarantines per COVID-19 case was 30% higher in the partially masked schools.

The bottom line is that school districts with universal masking had a significantly lower rate of COVID-19 cases, and quarantines were lower, too. Thank you for making a difference by supporting our mask requirement at NDA!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

All athletes, freshman taking P.E. and Dance Team members who test positive for COVID-19 must be cleared for progression back to activity by an approved health care provider (MD/DO) and MUST complete the KHSAA COVID-19 [Return to Play Form](#) before returning to participation in a physical education class, Dance Team or sports at NDA.

Tina Sizemore, RN.
NDA School Nurse



PARENT RESOURCE

COVID-19 INFORMATION

There are many important resources for parents and students on NDA's COVID-19 Information page on the website [HERE](#).

- Pandas Return to Campus Plan
- Information from the Nurse's Office
- Daily Personal Assessment questions
- COVID-19 Vaccine information
- Diocesan communications

Student Life

ATTENTION PARENTS

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION ALERT

Notre Dame uses SwiftK12 to communicate emergencies to the school community or to push out messages very quickly. The system syncs up with PowerSchool and uses the phone numbers and emails we have in the system (the same information that was submitted using Final-Forms). A practice alert will be conducted this Thursday at 3:15 p.m. If you do not receive the message or if there is an error in receipt, please contact the school office, so we can make any necessary changes.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

ITSTIME2!

PRESENTATION FOR STUDENTS

On October 6, 2021, Dr. Brian Ceccarelli, founder of the ItsTime2! organization will be speaking to our students about mental health awareness, anti-bullying efforts, and the alarming rate of teen suicide. This presentation utilizes a mix of powerful videos, personal stories, and factual statistics that touch upon topics which may affect many of our students. These topics include: bullying, cyber-bullying, depression, and family or friends in crisis. The overall message is a very important one: our students need to be honest with themselves and with others. If they are going through challenging times, they need to reach out to an adult, tell someone how they are doing, and get additional help if needed. NDA faculty and staff will also attend a session by Dr. Brian Ceccarelli before school on October 6.

From past experience we know that hearing stories of overcoming personal challenges can be rewarding and empowering. We also know that for some students these stories may trigger difficult memories and emotions. If this is a potential concern of yours or you feel that this presentation may be too much for your child at this stage in his/her life you may opt your child out of the assembly. I would encourage you, however, to preview the website (<https://www.itstime2.org>) and check out the videos under the Stories tab. Please use this presentation as a discussion point with your child as we have found that many students, after hearing the program, are anxious to discuss these topics with their parents.

To opt your child out of the presentation please email Mrs. Amber Grayson, graysona@ndapandas.org, by October 1. [ItsTime2!Infographic](#)



PANDA PRIDE

SPIRIT WEAR SALE

Who loves new Panda spirit wear? You can find something for all of the Pandas in your life at NDA's Bambootique! Shop online [HERE](#).



IMPORTANT SCHEDULE CHANGE

INSTALLATION OF NEW BISHOP

In honor of Bishop-elect John C. Iffert's installation as the 11th Bishop of Covington, all schools in the Diocese of Covington will be closed on Thursday, September 30. Afterschool clubs and activities will also be canceled but already scheduled sporting events may continue.

The activities planned for Thursday of NDA's Foundation Week will be moved to Friday.

Enjoy the day off, and please say a special prayer for Bishop Iffert and Bishop Foys!



NO SCHOOL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30!

CONGRATULATIONS

NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENTS

Four NDA seniors have been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program as Commended Students in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, will be presented by NDA Principal Mr. Jack VonHandorf to Abigail Breeze, Macie Feldman, Grace Heberling and Samantha Mazzaro.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2022 competition by taking the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

"The extraordinary academic opportunities for students at Notre Dame Academy give them with the support and resources to be among the best and brightest in our state and nation," said Mr. VonHandorf. "Recognition as a National Merit Commended Student is one of the top academic honors a student can earn in high school. We congratulate these students on their commitment to academic excellence."



COLLEGE/CAREER DAYS

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHT

College/Career Days for juniors and seniors are considered excused and can be taken until the end of April. Students are given 6 total days between the two years, and verification forms can be picked up in the front office.





COOL TREAT

SOPH FROSH TIME!

Our freshmen and sophomores recently got together for a Panda Ice Cream Social and a chance to get to know one another better!



HUNGRY?

ORDER LUNCH FOR NEXT WEEK

Click [HERE](#) for the lunch order form for next week. This form serves as a head count for our cafeteria staff. Please indicate which days you would like to purchase lunch next week. Payment will be due upon pick up in the cafeteria and using your ID card barcode and will be charged to your NDA lunch account through PayPams.

YOU'RE INVITED!

SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2023!

You are invited to join me for a once-in-a-lifetime travel experience to [Peru in summer of 2023!](#)

I decided to offer this opportunity because traveling abroad empowers individuals to get out of their comfort zone and gain cultural fluency.

We will be talking about all of the above and more at our hybrid informational meeting on Tuesday September 28, at 6:30 p.m. in Alumnae Hall (or via Zoom if you prefer to attend virtually). Please join our meeting to hear all the details including the itinerary, dates, and cost of this trip. The meeting will also mark the official opening of enrollment!

Please [click here](#) to RSVP to confirm your spot at the meeting.

There are limited spots on this tour, so we would love to have you attend this meeting to learn more about this exciting opportunity!

Thanks,
Ms. Dooling

You're Invited...

P E R U

Summer 2023

COME LEARN MORE AT OUR
TRAVEL NIGHT,
**TUESDAY SEPT. 28TH AT
6:30 IN ALUMNAE HALL OR
VIA ZOOM!**
YOU MUST SCAN QR CODE
BELOW AND REGISTER IN
ADVANCE TO ATTEND



SCAN ME

CAMPUS MINISTRY

MORNING MASS

This week we will celebrate Mass in our beautiful *Mary, Mother of the World* Chapel at 7:20 a.m. again on Thursday and Friday. All are welcome to join us!



YOUTH RETREAT

SUMMIT 21

There are only a few weeks left to register for the upcoming Diocesan Youth Retreat: **SUMMIT 21** (formerly known as Youth 2000).

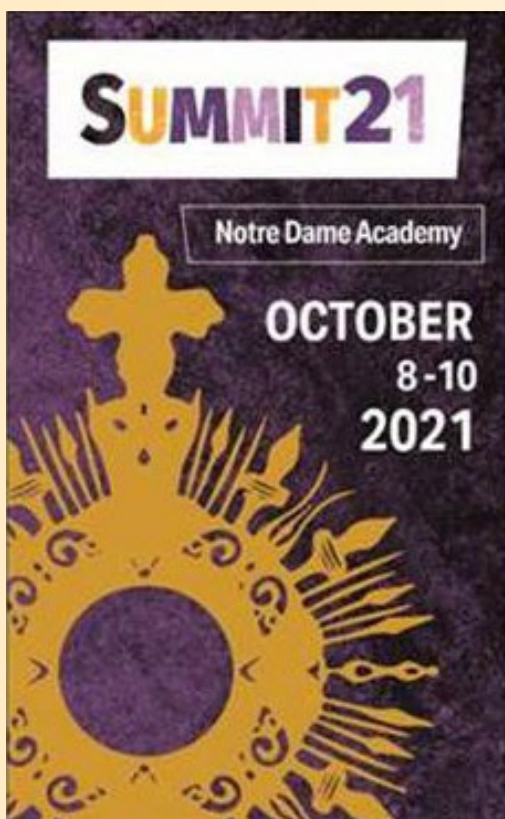
Come and discover more about our Catholic faith... meet Jesus in the Eucharist... feel His healing love... make new friends from around the diocese... enjoy live music — and have fun!

Fast Facts about Summit 21:

- Open to Catholic youth 13-22
- Runs Friday 6:30–10:30 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m.–10 p.m., Sunday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- \$40 fee includes all snacks and Saturday meals. Financial aid on request.
- Early bird discount! Save \$10 on registrations postmarked by September 24.
- Do not mail registration after Sept. 29; use walk-in registration Friday 5:30 p.m.

For more information and to register visit: www.CovDio.Org/Summit

Registrations need to be mailed in by September 29.



Following the model of World Youth Day, the event includes daily Mass, the rosary, Eucharistic adoration and dynamic catechesis by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and diocesan priests. There will also be live music, lay testimonials as well as great food, snacks and social time. Some new guest speakers are coming this year! Many of our diocesan priests come to concelebrate and hear confessions.

On Saturday, participants can ask questions to a select panel of clergy and laity. The panelists come well prepared to explain Church teaching on matters large and small - especially on tough issues of faith and morals - with clarity, charity and wit.



2021

AUTUMN GALA

Autumn Gala Registration is Now Open!

The Autumn Gala will be held on **Saturday, October 16, 2021** at Summit Hills Country Club. The evening consists of an elegant sit-down dinner, hors d'oeuvres, open bar and an incredible array of live and silent auction items. The evening also features several raffles and specialty games.

Early Bird Registration

Now's the time to take advantage of the Early Bird Registration. To receive the discounted rate, purchase your tickets on or before October 1.

Buy it Now

Is the Daytona 500 on your Bucket List? This year we are excited to offer this [once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!](#) The experience for 2 includes Reserved seating at the Daytona Race and the Saturday Xfinity Series Race, 3 nights accommodations, transportation to the Speedway, virtual access to interviews with NASCAR Drivers and much much more!

Sisters' Heavenly Glow Candles

These hand-crafted and "blessed" 7 oz. candles were made exclusively by the Sisters on the 4th floor. They will be a treasure for your home or office and add that special touch of warmth. Buy one or more, but quantities are limited.

Panda Payout Raffle- Now is Your "Chance"

Panda Payout split the pot raffle tickets are on sale NOW! Please support NDA Student Tuition Assistance and Identified Education Needs by purchasing your tickets TODAY! Anyone can purchase these tickets... alums, parents, friends, family, neighbors...the list goes on!

Tickets can be purchased online or through school for \$20 each. 1st Place winner receives 40% of the winnings and 2nd Place winner receives 5%. All other winnings go towards NDA Student Needs! What an easy way to make a BIG difference! Don't miss your "chance"!

[Click here](#) to Register, Purchase Game and Raffle Tickets, Heavenly Glow Candles, Buy It Now, Become a Sponsor, and more!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

2021

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FALL VARSITY ATHLETES!

CROSS COUNTRY



GOLF



VOLLEYBALL



SOCCER



**VOTE!
VOTE!
VOTE!**

ATTENTION PANDA FANS

PLEASE VOTE

Pandas, please take a minute to vote for our Golf team and Ella Simkonis! [VOTE HERE](#)

STRIKE!

BOWLING

NDA Bowling Starts in October! Grab a friend and come on out to have fun and join the team. First few practices are Tuesday/Wednesday October 5th/6th, 12th/13th, 19th/20th and 26th/27th from 6 p.m. -8 p.m. at Florence Bowl. Reach out to Coach Hampton at hamptond@ndapandas.org with any questions!



2021

PLAYING FOR A PURPOSE

This year's Playing for a Purpose volleyball game between our NDA Volleyball Pandas and St. Henry will be held on Friday, September 24 at 7:30 p.m. at Ryle High School.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Attendees MUST arrive before 6:30 p.m. to enter the game. DOORS WILL CLOSE AT 6:30 P.M.**
- **All attendees will be required to be fully masked at all times and socially distanced.**
- **There will be NO TAILGATING for this event.**

Tickets for this fun annual event will cost \$7 and went on sale in-person at NDA on **Tuesday, September 21 for STUDENTS ONLY**. Students were able to purchase **1 TICKET** on that day. Ticket sales opened up to the general public on Wednesday, September 22 at NDA with a limit of 4 tickets per buyer.



DONATOS[®] PIZZA
Every piece is important.™

DOUGH-NATIONS!

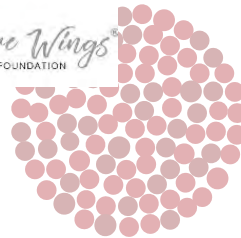
Please help I Have Wings
fund their organization
on Thursday, Sept. 23rd, 2021

**20 % of your regular priced
purchase will be "Doughnated"
by Donatos to I Have Wings**

Must present this flyer
with purchase or to driver
for rebate to be valid! Valid on
dine-in, pick up, and delivery!

Valid 09/23/2021 FROM: 11AM - 9PM

USE CODE: 536 FOR ONLINE ORDERS ONLY



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Show your support without leaving your house!
Have your order delivered!
ORDER AT DONATOS.COM

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES



PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

JUNIOR ACT PRACTICE TEST



Next Wednesday, September 29, the juniors will be taking a practice ACT test. We will start the test at 9 a.m. and the students will be dismissed when they are finished close to 12:30 p.m. Students will need to bring a calculator and #2 pencil. [Torchprep](#) (standardized test prep company) provides and scores the test for the students. We do not offer accommodations (ie. extended time) for the practice test.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORE CERT TESTING



Next Wednesday the freshmen and sophomores will be taking a practice ACT test online using their ipads called the [CERT Test](#). This is a test that will be given to them once in the fall and again in the spring. This is just practice. It does provide students with videos after the test explaining each question and which ones the student answered incorrectly. We do not offer accommodations (ie. extended time) for the practice test. Freshmen and Sophomores will be dismissed at 2 p.m. that day. They need their charged iPads, calculators and a packed lunch (we will have sandwiches and snacks for purchase if needed).

EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN

HELPING YOUR TEEN WITH SELF-DOUBT BROUGHT ON BY SOCIAL MEDIA USE



Constantly looking at the carefully curated social media profiles of friends and acquaintances can cause teens to harbor feelings of self doubt and low self esteem. [Read this article](#) from the Child Mind Institute to learn about concrete ways in which you can help your teen fight those feelings and look at social media from a more realistic perspective.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

GREEN DOT PROGRAM AT NDA



"No one has to do everything, but everyone can do something."

Green Dot is a nationally recognized bystander strategy focused on preventing violence in all its forms, including bullying, dating violence, and sexual assault. Green Dot Specialists trained selected sophomore, junior, and senior Pandas on Monday September 20 in the different ways they can safely intervene in potentially harmful situations involving teens by using the "3D's:" Direct intervention, Delegation, or Distraction. The strategies are based on the belief that each of us holds power as bystanders to actively prevent violence, and to shape our community's norms.



GSE APPLICATION PROCESS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR ENTREPRENEURS

At the KY [Governor's School for Entrepreneurs](#) (GSE), students are exposed to instructional coaches, mentors, startup tools, the business model canvas, design thinking, funding, pitch competitions, emerging technologies, scholarships, and so much more. **An Informational Meeting about the KY Governor's School for Entrepreneurs will be held after school on Thursday October 14 in Alumnae Hall!** Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors can apply for 2022 GSE beginning in November!



GSA APPLICATION PROCESS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

For three weeks every summer since 1987, Kentucky's most talented and creative high school students are invited to grow and learn together at the [Governor's School for the Arts](#) summer program. Rising juniors and seniors in high school are offered in-depth instruction in one of nine artistic disciplines:

Architecture
Visual Art
Film & Photography

Creative Writing
Instrumental Music
Vocal Music

Musical Theater
Drama
Dance

GSA Informational Meeting after school on Thursday, October 7 in Alumnae Hall!



GSP APPLICATION PROCESS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The KY Governor's Scholars Program (GSP) is a free 5-week summer residential program for outstanding high school KY students after their junior year. [GSP 2021-2022 Applications and Forms](#) are now available on the GSP website, under the Applicant's tab, along with [Helpful Hints and Videos](#). A GSP Informational Meeting is scheduled for Thursday Sept. 30 after school in Alumnae Hall. NDA's 2021 GSP Scholars will be there to share information about their GSP experiences. **NDA's GSP Applications are due November 18.** Contact Mrs. Hildreth with your questions.



RESOURCES FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

NDA PARENT TOOLBOX

NDA's counselors have put together some very useful tools for our parents [HERE](#).



MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE EASY

DRUG FREE CLUBS OF AMERICA

Parents & Guardians:

Q: What if my daughter has used something? I don't want her to get in trouble at school for it.

A: The school never gets the results of the drug tests; only parents. DFCA informs parents directly, allowing them to handle the results and get any help as they best see fit. Being able to say, "I can't. I might be tested," could be the difference between a teen saying Yes and NO in that unexpected difficult moment.

ATTENTION PARENTS

KIP SURVEY

On October 4, Notre Dame Academy Sophomores and Seniors will be participating in the Kentucky Incentives for Prevention (KIP) Student Survey which is designed to assess alcohol and drug use among students. A Parent/Guardian Letter was sent directly to parents via email on Monday, with the Fact Sheet and opt-out non-consent form on Tuesday. The survey is completely voluntary and anonymous, and will be very helpful for school planning and program development.

Notre Dame Academy is participating in this important project because we believe that young people's use of substances is a serious issue for our communities. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hildreth, our school KIP Survey Coordinator, at hildrethk@nda-pandas.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

NDA COLLEGE VISIT SCHEDULE

These are College Visits specifically for NDA students/families. The visits are in the hallway outside the cafeteria. All students are welcome to visit the reps.

September

Monday, September 27, Ohio Northern University
Wada Rhoades
a-rhoades@onu.edu

How to become a Drug Free Club member at NDA:

1. Apply and pay: Submit your one-page paper application and payment to the office or do so online [HERE](#). The fee is \$25/year. If freshmen sign up for 3 years (\$75), their senior year is free.
2. Test drug free.
3. Receive your ID Card at school.
4. Enjoy rewards from school and from our local community!
5. Stay drug free! Random drug tests can come at any time.

Applications accepted through October 29.





DBL Law is a full service law firm providing premier legal services and business advice in a collaborative manner with integrity, professionalism and respect. DBL Law attorneys provide a high level of valuable legal services to individuals, institutions and companies in many areas of law, including: Administrative Law & Zoning, Adoption, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Banking and Commercial, Bankruptcy, Business Organizations & Taxation, Civil Litigation, Collections, Construction, Employment & Labor, Estate & Succession Planning, Health Care, Intellectual Property, Immigration, Medical Malpractice, Nonprofit & Tax-Exempt Organizations, Personal Injury & Wrongful Death, Probate, Professional Liability, Real Estate & Title, Technology/Cybersecurity, Trade Secrets, White Collar Criminal Defense, and Workers' Compensation. For more information, go to <https://www.dblaw.com/crestview-hills-ky/>



SHARING OUR

Community News

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

- St. Joseph Heights Work Study Positions available for Students
- Seeking Lower Tuition Payments?

Important dates

September 23

Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m.

September 24

Mass in Chapel 7:20 a.m.

Fall Sports pep rally - Soccer Field (weather permitting)

Playing for a Purpose Volleyball vs. St. Henry

September 29

Super Day FR/SO Cert, JR ACT test, SR college planning

September 30

NO SCHOOL: Installation of New Bishop

October 1

SND Foundation Day

October 3

Golden Girls Alumnae Event

October 6

Suicide Prevention Speaker

October 8

No School - Professional Development Day for Faculty

October 8-10

The Summit 2021 at NDA (Formerly Youth 2000)

October 16

The Autumn Gala!

October 18

FR Homeroom rep elections

October 19

Seniors leave for retreat

October 21

Admissions Informational Session