

# The NAZ Newsletter

*A monthly newsletter for the parents and families of Nazareth Academy High School*

**May 2019**



## Last Month Recap

- ◆ On Friday, April 26th we celebrated our Annual Blue and Gold Spirit Day at Nazareth. Congratulations to the Blue team that took home the victory. Thank you to Mrs. Greenwald and Ms. Ennis for moderating the event and thank you to all of our students who participated and made the day so fun and special.
- ◆ Also on Friday, April 26th the talents of our students were on display at the 2019 Legacy Gala. The event honored the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, the Greco/Monari family and Ms. Wizz for everything they have done for NA over the years.
- ◆ Congratulations to the Class of 2019 who were pinned and inducted into the Nazareth Academy Alumnae Association on Thursday, May 2nd during a beautiful ceremony and dinner in Chapel and the gymnasium.
- ◆ Congratulations to our Nazareth Academy Softball team who captured the Catholic Academies League championship with a 13-6 win over Villa Maria on May 2nd. Way to go girls!



## Important Dates

### **Monday, May 20th**

May Procession - Special Schedule  
Spring Semester Ends

### **Tues. May 21st - Thurs. May 23rd**

Semester Exams

### **Friday, May 24th**

No School For Students  
Clerical Day for Faculty

### **Monday, May 27th**

No School  
Memorial Day

### **Tuesday, May 28th**

Hershey Park Trip

### **Wednesday, May 29th**

Class Day Awards  
8:40 Warning Bell  
12:00 PM Dismissal

### **Friday, May 31st**

Class of 2019  
Commencement Exercises

### **Monday, June 3rd**

No School

### **Tuesday, June 4th**

Last Day of School  
Special Schedule  
7:40 AM - 10:00 AM

## *Embracing Faith, Family, and Education*

# President's Report

Mrs. Denise LePera



What an exciting year for Nazareth Academy High School – celebrating 90 years of embracing faith, family and education. However, as you can appreciate, there are many challenges. In order to achieve the greatest success, alumnae and friends support makes a difference in the impact we have on our students.

In a few weeks, you will receive a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Pirolli P'22 asking you to support the Nazareth Fund. Parent support of the Nazareth Fund is a vote of confidence in the educational experience provide to your daughters.

As you can imagine, tuition does not cover the full cost of education. The gap between the actual costs and what tuition provides is partially made up of gifts to the Nazareth Annual Fund.

## **The Impact Your Nazareth Fund Gift**

- Financial assistance to the increasing number of families who find it increasingly difficult to give their daughter a Nazareth education.
- STREAM at Naz...Continue our efforts in STEM by incorporating Religion and ensuring the STEM outcomes are infused throughout the curriculum. Not only will STREAM at Nazareth increase opportunities in STEM careers but the Religion component will ensure we shape virtuous leaders, and being across the curriculum will result in all students developing the problem solving, analytical thinking, and effective communication learn by STEM models.
- Opportunities such as performing in Carnegie Hall, art scholarship at PAFA through the Maguire Foundation partnership, and an athletic program that allows our student-athletes to compete for Division I and II scholarships
- Transforming a 90-year old building into a 21st century teaching and learning facility, modernizing the HVAC and mechanical systems while maintaining the character and history provided by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

With your help, Nazareth Academy High School will continue to be the premier college preparatory school for girls in Philadelphia for the next 90 years.

You can make your donation online today by [clicking this link](#).

## Advancement and Alumnae

Thank you to all who supported the Legacy Gala. It was a huge success netting nearly \$70,000 to benefit our girls. Having the support of so many parents is critical to the success of schools.

We hope you can join us for the Panda Golf Outing on June 12th at the gorgeous Union League Golf Club at Torressdale. For more information, please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter.

## Reminder Regarding the ID Cards and Lunch Accounts

May 20th is the last day lunch is being served. We will be charging FACTS accounts for all outstanding balances after that date. Please check your daughter's lunch balances through MyKidsSpending to avoid the balance being charged through FACTS. Next year, outstanding lunch account balance will be billed monthly to FACTS.

As a reminder, all students should wear their ID cards on a visible lanyard. Students must swipe into the building every day. This swipe card is also their means of payment in the Student Dining Room. Beginning next school year, students will need their swipe cards to make payment in the Student Dining Room – the pin number will not work.

This will help lines move more quickly and avoid mis-keyed pin entry. If your daughter needs a replacement ID, she should report to the Attendance/Security office immediately.

## Social Media

Please follow us on [Facebook](#) to enjoy our Throwback Thursday posts showing the history of the school through yearbook memories. It has been a wonderful journey and both current and past students enjoy the glimpses back into our proud past. We look forward to the next 90 years!

## NAPA

Thank you to those who responded to our recent survey. The Nazareth Academy Parent Association (NAPA) is looking for parent class reps to help recruit new members and volunteers as well as to help share important information. Please complete [this survey](#) to let us know you are interested in getting more involved.







As the school year draws to a close, we congratulate and wish our Class of 2019 well. Their legacy of service and excellence will be a part of Nazareth long after they graduate on May 31. They have been true leaders of the school and they will be missed.

We also wish our returning freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, a happy, healthy, and safe summer. Although summer is a time to refresh and recharge, it is important to remain sharp. Our students are urged to continue to hone their skills by utilizing their Khan Academy accounts for preparation and practice for the SAT and PSAT. Research shows that with at least ten hours of work on Khan Academy, SAT scores have improved by 100 points.

This issue of the Family Newsletter has valuable information for this year and the next. For example, Miss Donnelly provides information about summer retreats. Please make sure to check it out. Have a wonderful summer with your family and friends!

## Middle States

Nazareth Academy High School, the only private Catholic high school for girls in Philadelphia, is pleased to report its achievement in earning the coveted reaccreditation status by the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools, the gold standard for measuring and advancing school improvement. (continue on next page).

## **Middle States (cont.)**

Middle States reaccreditation is a multifaceted evaluation process that schools and school systems voluntarily use to demonstrate they are meeting a defined set of research-based performance standards. The 12 Middle States Standards for Reaccreditation are: mission; governance and leadership; school improvement planning; finances; facilities; school organization and staff; health and safety; educational program; assessment and evidence of student learning; student services; student life and activities, and information resources.

The reaccreditation process begins with a self-study that is conducted by the school or school system and requires input from school leaders, teachers, parents and students. Following the self-study, a team of volunteer educators from Middle States member schools conducts an on-site peer review visit to observe school operations and interview various stakeholders.

[Click Here To Read the Full Press Release](#)

## **Expansion of Academic Enrichment Program**

For many years, Sister Teresa Mary Lukaszewski, CSFN, has been providing valuable academic enrichment at Nazareth for students who have learning needs in the learning support program. Without the work by Sister Teresa Mary, the needs of students at Nazareth Academy with learning differences would not have been met.

While Sister Teresa Mary does an excellent job with learning support, the reality is that there is only one of her so the program needed expansion to ensure that the needs of our students were fully addressed. The expansion of the program adds a teacher who specializes in Reading with a Special Education certification.

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Moira Whalen, a 2009 Nazareth alumna, will join our faculty this fall and work with Sister Teresa Mary. Ms. Whalen earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Saint Joseph's University after her graduation from Nazareth.

In addition to her teaching experience at St. Albert the Great School and Ancillae-Assumpta Academy, Ms. Whalen is certified in Special Education K-12 and as a Reading Specialist K-12. Ms. Whalen will teach students Reading and Learning Strategies, while Sister Teresa Mary will teach Math and Learning Strategies.

The students in the program will go to learning support for an entire block every day, and will split the block between Reading and Math. This team approach for the students, with parents, academic enrichment teachers, administration, and classroom teachers all involved is designed to help our students succeed in every way possible.

Please [click here](#) to read an account about Ms. Whalen's work as an educator.

We are excited to welcome Ms. Whalen to the Nazareth Academy High School faculty!

## Internet Upgrade

Through last month, the internet service to Nazareth Academy High School was provided in partnership with the system at Holy Family University. While this agreement with Holy Family was beneficial because it gave our teachers and students much needed internet access, it was apparent that we needed both more speed and capacity to meet the level of quality of teaching and learning here at Nazareth Academy High School.

We are pleased to announce an upgrade of our internet speed and capacity at Nazareth. After nearly two years of upgrades to the backend of the systems structure, the WIFI network was reconfigured and segmented into separate accounts for students, faculty, and guests. Last month, we finalized two separate, 1Gbps high-speed connections from both Comcast and Verizon. These upgrades have increased our internet speed and capacity to meet the demands of the 21st Century learner with more enhancements to follow.

## Summer Hours

Throughout the summer, the school and administrative offices will be open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM . We will be closed on Fridays and on July 4th.

## Opening Week of School Year 2019-2020

Here is the schedule for the Opening Week of School:

- **Monday and Tuesday, August 19 and 20:** Faculty Professional Development and Organizational Days, No School for Students
- **Tuesday, August 20, 6 PM:** Freshmen Welcome Night
- **Wednesday, August 21:** Freshmen Only Report
- **Thursday, August 22:** All Students Report (1:00 PM dismissal)
- **Friday, August 23:** All Students Report (1:00 PM dismissal)

The entire school calendar for 2019-2020 will be shared shortly.

## Retirements

We bid a happy retirement to the following members of the Nazareth Family who have dedicated decades of service to this school:

- Dr. John Fischer, Science
- Ms. Marge Lafferty, Performing Arts
- Mrs. Cookie Versino, Main Office

We are so grateful to all you have done for Nazareth Academy High School. May your retirement years be healthy and happy, and may the Holy Family of Nazareth bless and keep you always.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Ms. Emily Sheridan (Social Studies) who will marry her fiancé Robert in June.





Here are some summer retreats for your girls:

~ "Do Not Be Afraid!" Family Vocations day on June 15th is welcome to The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa on June 15th with keynote speaker, Leah Darrow. Several Religious communities will be there to speak and open the hearts of young people and share their way of life. Event is for children, teens, and adults--all who pray and support religious vocations.

~ Wonderfully Made: A Theology of the Body Retreat for High School Girls. Here you will unpack what it means to be a young, dynamic, Catholic woman in today's world. Retreat will take place May 31st-June 2nd. Retreat at St. Mary's of Providence Retreat Center in Elverson Pa.

~ Please join me in praying for our senior class as they prepare to graduate and move onto great adventures and prepare for God's plan for their life! Praying for you all to have a safe, happy, and healthy summer. God Bless!



## Exams

Exams will be administered Tuesday, May 21 until Thursday, May 23. No changes to the exam schedule are permitted. Please refer to the Exam Policy in the Student Handbook.

The May examination schedule is as follows:

### **Tuesday, May 21st (2-60 minute examinations)**

8:10 AM Warning Bell

8:15 AM Prayers, Attendance & Announcements

8:30-9:30 AM Block 1 and Block 1 Classes meeting M, W, F

9:40-10:40 AM Block 2 and Blocks 2A and 2B

### **Wednesday, May 22nd (2-60 minute examinations)**

8:10 AM Warning Bell

8:15 AM Prayers, Attendance & Announcements

8:30-9:30 AM Block 3 and Block 3A

9:40-10:40 AM Block 4 and Block 4 Classes meeting M, W, F

### **Thursday, May 23rd (3-60 minute examinations)**

8:10 AM Warning Bell

8:15 AM Prayers, Attendance & Announcements

8:30-9:30 AM Block 1 Class meeting T, Th, F

9:40-10:40 AM Block 3B

10:50-11:50 AM Block 4 Class meeting T, Th, F

Exam Make-Up Day

### **Friday, May 24th**

No School-Faculty Clerical Day

Grades Due by 2:00 PM





## Summer School

All summer remediation sessions will be completed through the Jesuit Virtual Learning Academy renamed Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute. Any student in need of remediation will be registered through Nazareth Academy High School. Information has been mailed to parents.

## Honors and Grade Point Averages

Honors and Grade Point Averages are calculated on semester grades.

## Summer Assignments

If an assignment is given for a particular class, it will be listed on the website. Not all classes are given summer assignments. If a summer assignment is required for a class, it may be distributed in several ways. Teachers may give a hard copy or it may be found on the website. I have contacted local Barnes & Noble stores concerning books assigned for summer reading. You are not obligated to purchase books there but they should have an ample supply if needed.

## Roster Changes

Department chairpersons will be checking final grades for any class that is a course prerequisite. If the prerequisite class does not meet the necessary grade requirement, you will be notified of any changes.





## Art Classes

Attention ALL Artists of NAHS: The Maguire Foundation is generously supporting another year of free tuition for summer one-week intensives at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Any high school student enrolled at Nazareth can apply!

### APPLYING IS SIMPLE!

Interested students should:

1. Choose the course(s) from the list below
2. Complete the application and Mrs. Shaw can provide the link.
3. Email it to Ms. Emily Owens of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts at [EOwens@pafa.edu](mailto:EOwens@pafa.edu) and Please cc Mrs. Shaw at [bshaw@nazarethacademyhs.org](mailto:bshaw@nazarethacademyhs.org)

**The deadline is May 17th.**

Here are this year's class offerings:

- Landscape Painting, June 24 – 28
- Drawing I
  - Session 1, July 1 - 6 (Monday - Saturday; no class on July 4)
  - Session 2, July 29 - August 2
- Figure Sculpture\*, July 8 - 12
- Painting I: Still Life, July 8 - 12
- Portrait Drawing and Painting, July 15 - 19
- Music Industry Illustration, July 15 - 19
- Printmaking: Etching and Monoprint, July 15 - 19
- Drawing for Comics, July 22 - 26
- Photography, July 22 - 26
- Drawing II: Life Drawing\*, July 22 - 26
- Painting II: Figure Painting\*, July 29 - August 2
- Watercolor, July 29 - August 2
- Cast Drawing and Painting, August 5 - 9
- Printmaking: Woodcut and Screen printing, August 5 – 9

For more information, [please click here.](#)





## Flynn O'Hara Private Shopping Event

A reminder to save the date for the Private Shopping Event at Flynn O'Hara on June 19th from 6:00-8:00 PM for all your school uniform needs. Check out Nazareth's [custom shop site](#) to view uniforms options, pricing, or to place an order. If you choose not to attend this event be sure to order your uniforms by August 1, to ensure delivery by the first day of school.

I hope you enjoy your summer and that you and your family have the opportunity to relax and spend quality time with your daughters. This past year has brought many positive changes to Nazareth Academy, which has enhanced the learning environment and created an exceptional place for your daughters to develop academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. I hope that you and your family take time to enjoy the lazy days of summer! While the summer is a great time to relax, have fun, and create fond memories, it is also the time to learn, reflect, explore, and get ready for the upcoming school year. We know from experience that students, faculty, and staff need a break so they can come back fresh and ready for a new school year. I look forward to seeing you in August.



# End of School Schedule

Date	Happening
Monday, May 27th	Memorial Day - No School
Tuesday, May 28th	Hershey Park Trip
Wednesday, May 29th	8:40 AM Warning Bell Awards Ceremony Senior Slide Show 12:00 PM dismissal
Thursday, May 30th	7:40 AM Warning Bell Ascension Thursday Liturgy Baccalaureate Mass Practice for Seniors and Flagbearers 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM at Holy Family Center for all involved in graduation, including all faculty, students orchestra, chorale ushers, flagbearers, etc. Locker Cleanout and Distracted Driving Awareness Assembly scheduled for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors not involved in graduation practice Approximate dismissal is 11:15 AM
Friday, May 31st	Class of 2019 Graduation Exercises Baccalaureate Processions begins at 9:45 AM. Graduation Ceremony at Holy Family University – 11:30 AM.
Monday, June 3rd	No School
Tuesday, June 4th	7:40 AM Warning Bell Installation of Student Council. Final day for students, Approximate dismissal 10:00 AM.

# Counseling

Mrs. Emma Menszak

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## Distracted Driving Awareness Assembly

The Toni Donato-Bolis & Baby RJ Foundation was created to spread awareness to the dangers of distracted driving. On May 30th, Mr. Charlie Donato will speak to our Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior class on this important topic.

Mr. Donato lost his daughter, Toni Donato-Bolis and her unborn baby, Ryan Jeffrey (RJ) to a distracted driver.

# Athletics

Mr. Dan Bradley

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## Sports Update!

Many congratulations to the softball team for winning the AACA League title and being named the number one ranked team in District One Class 4A! The team will host the 4 seed on May 22nd. The team finished the regular season with an amazing 14-2 record. [Click here](#) to read the story on CatholicPhilly!

A HUGE Congrats to Megan Dignam, the NE Times Softball Player of the Year, and to Head Softball Coach Danielle Vittitow, the NE Times Softball Coach of the Year!

Congrats to all of our spring athletes for a terrific season!

We celebrated all of our athletes for their dedication to Nazareth athletics at our annual sports banquet on Wednesday, May 15th, at the Maltese Room. Congrats to all of our award winners!





# NAZARETH ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

*Embracing Faith, Family, and Education*



*The 9th Annual Nazareth Academy High School*

## PANDA GOLF CLASSIC

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019

**12:00 PM ~ TEE OFF**

THE UNION LEAGUE GOLF CLUB  
AT TORRESDALE

*For sponsorship opportunities and registration, visit*

*[NazarethAcademyHS.org/PandaGolfClassic](http://NazarethAcademyHS.org/PandaGolfClassic)*

*or call 215.268.1047.*

