

The NAZ Newsletter

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

February 2020



Last Month Recap

- Catholic Schools Week 2020 ran from Sunday, January 26 to Saturday, February 1. We kicked the week off with Mass in chapel on Monday in which we honored our faculty and staff members who have spent over 25 years working in education. [Click here to see those teachers.](#) The rest of the week was filled with friendly competition and ways to honor our students and faculty. On Friday our faculty and staff were honored with a [special video](#) in homeroom. It was a fun and exciting week celebrating our Catholic education!
- Congratulations to the following Nazareth Academy student athletes who earlier this month signed to their college and will be participating in athletics: Mary Connolly - DeSales University for lacrosse and Maria D'Aulerio - Ursinus College for basketball! Great work, girls! We are so proud of you!



Upcoming Events

February 17 - February 21

Mid Winter Break
School Closed

Wednesday, February 26

Ash Wednesday
Lent Begins

Tuesday, March 3

NAPA General Parent Meeting
6:30 PM in Performing Arts Center

Tuesday, March 10

Modified B Schedule
1:00 PM Dismissal

Wednesday, March 11

B Schedule
1:00 PM Dismissal

Friday, March 13

Naz-A-Thon
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Regular School Dismissal

Friday, March 20

Athletes Helping Athletes Night
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
School Gym

Embracing Faith, Family, and Education



What a wonderful job Steve and Grace Pirolli P'22 did with the Fashion Show! It is exciting to see NAPA hosting fundraising events and monthly meetings. Our girls did a brilliant job and were escorted by a few of the boys from Holy Ghost Prep. Looking forward to this tradition becoming a major fundraiser from our parents' organization! Make sure you check out all the pictures on our Facebook page.

NAPA ~ Nazareth Academy Parent Association

Elections for Open Executive Board NAPA Officers for the 2020 – 2021 School Year

We rely on our volunteers to help make Nazareth Academy High School a wonderful Please submit self-nominations or nominations for the following board positions:

~ President ~ Executive Vice President ~ Corresponding Secretary ~ Recording Secretary

Nominations must be received by February 15th with elections taking place through online ballots. The ballot will be shared at the March 3rd general meeting.

Please submit your self-nomination or nominations below:

[Nominations for NAPA Board](#)

If you are interested and have questions, please contact Terri Evans, NAPA Moderator at tevens@NazarethAcademyHS.org or 215.268.1047.

[Click here](#) for the parent page of the website which includes events, announcement, volunteer information and much more.

Volunteers for School, Admissions and Advancement Events

Nazareth is always in need of volunteers for our many NAPA, Admissions, Advancement and School events. [Click here](#) to complete the volunteer form for the 2019 -2020 school year. We will share this sign-up sheet in every monthly newsletter. You will need volunteer clearances. [Click here](#) for instructions on how to obtain volunteer clearances.

Mark Your Calendars for NAPA events

General Parent Meetings ~ 1st Tuesday of Every Month at 6:30 pm with Light Refreshments

March 3, 2020 Meeting:

This month's meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. An email will be sent regarding the topics as members of the Nazareth Academy High School faculty and staff will address the parents.

The incentive for attending March's meeting is an approved and scheduled dress down day for all students whose parent attends the March meeting.



With Valentine's Day this week, I was thinking how to fill our days with more love – for ourselves, for each other, for our families. Erma Bombeck had some great thoughts on just that.

From Eat Less Cottage Cheese and More Ice Cream Thoughts on Life by Erma Bombeck

If I had my life to live over again I would have waxed less and listened more.

Instead of wishing away nine months of pregnancy and complaining about the shadow over my feet, I'd have cherished every minute of it and realized that the wonderment growing inside me was to be my only chance in life to assist God in a miracle.

I would never have insisted the car windows be rolled up on a summer day
because my hair had just been teased and sprayed.

I would have invited friends over to dinner even if the carpet was stained and the sofa faded.

I would have eaten popcorn in the "good" living room and
worried less about the dirt when you lit the fireplace.

I would have taken the time to listen to my grandfather ramble about his youth.

I would have burnt the pink candle that was sculptured like a rose
before it melted while being stored.

I would have sat cross-legged on the lawn with my children
and never worried about grass stains.

I would have cried and laughed less while watching television ...
and more while watching real life.

I would have shared more of the responsibility carried by
my husband which I took for granted.

I would have eaten less cottage cheese and more ice cream.

I would have gone to bed when I was sick,
instead of pretending the Earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for a day.

I would never have bought ANYTHING
just because it was practical/wouldn't show soil/ guaranteed to last a lifetime.

When my child kissed me impetuously, I would never have said,
"Later. Now, go get washed up for dinner."

There would have been more I love yous ... more I'm sorrys ... more I'm listenings ... but mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every minute of it ... look at it and really see it ... try it on ... live it ... exhaust it ... and never give that minute back until there was nothing left of it."



Last year, in his Lenten Message delivered on Ash Wednesday in Rome, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, reminded us, “Our thoughts often focus on transient things, which come and go,” he said, noting that the ash is “a subtle yet real reminder that of the many things occupying our thoughts...nothing will remain. No matter how hard we work, we will take no wealth with us from this life.”

The holy season of Lent begins this year on February 26th, Ash Wednesday. During Activity Period that day, all of our students will receive ashes to serve as a visible sign of Christ’s sacrifice, death, and Resurrection for all of us. During Lent, our school community will engage in acts of prayer, sacrifice, and penance. Among these activities include schoolwide confessions on March 31st and Stations of the Cross on April 8th.

Please be assured that we will keep you and your family in our prayers during the season of Lent.

Title One Survey

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act, Nazareth Academy students are eligible to receive Title One funding from the federal government. To acquire these funds, we must have an accurate count of students and the income level for their families. In order to gather this information, a survey will be mailed home to each family during the week of February 17th. Even if you suspect that your income level exceeds the requirement, please still submit the survey. We want to submit a survey from every family. I want to assure you your privacy will be protected and no names are required on this family survey form. Only the address and grade levels are provided to the school districts so its staff can determine the funding for the Title I program for the eligible children. Thank you so much.



Nazareth had an incredible Catholic Schools Week celebration to end January! Being able to honor all of what our school is at its core and identity is always a great celebration! We are so grateful to be able to lead these young women in their pursuits to reach their full potential academically, spiritually, and personally.

CSC successfully had another drive and we thank you for the toiletries that were donated! That said, if your daughter needs service hours, remind her to check the board outside my office on the second floor for opportunities within the community. The next two months will have opportunities for hours.

Our last group of seniors left for Kairos on February 13th, right before Mid-Winter Break, so keep us in prayer as the girls grow closer to their own self, others, and most importantly, God.



Time has passed too quickly and I can't believe that we are nearing Mid-Winter break. I would like to share a few academic updates with you. The first is our May Examination Schedule. The reason it is published this early in the semester is because no changes may be made. We are fortunate to have a week specifically dedicated to taking exams built into the schedule. The Exam schedule is posted on the next page.

Exam Protocol

All students must take a final exam, with the exception of seniors who received an A- or A at every marking period. At the discretion of the teacher, students enrolled in an AP class are not required to take a final exam. No student is permitted to change her exam day under any circumstance. If a class is mixed with juniors and seniors, it is up to the discretion of the teacher as to whether or not an exam is given. This discretion only applies to classes where the majority of students are seniors. If the course in question is a prerequisite class, a final exam must be taken.

Dropping Classes

The Drop/Add Date has passed. No student is permitted to drop a class under any reason.

Deficiency Reports

Deficiency Reports will be submitted to the Main Office and will be sent through the mail. These reports will be mailed on Tuesday, February 25 and are due back to the issuing teacher by Tuesday, March 3. Parents/ guardians need to sign these reports.

Marking Period:

The end of the Mid-Spring Semester marking period is Friday, March 13 as grades are due on Monday, March 16. Mid-Spring Reports can be viewed electronically on Thursday, March 19. Honors and grade point averages are calculated on the semester only.

NAHS May Examination Schedule

Monday, May 18 (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

Tuesday, May 19 (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

Wednesday, May 20 (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

Thursday, May 21

NO SCHOOL

Friday, May 22

NO SCHOOL-FACULTY CLERICAL DAY

GRADES DUE BY 2:00 PM





February - March Events

February 15th	Kairos
February 16th	Kairos
February 17th – 21st	Mid-Winter Break- No School
February 26th	Ash Wednesday-ashes distributed during Activity Period
February 27th	Naz-A-Thon's Zumba & Morale Dance Night 6:30-8PM
February 28th	Robotics Club TAG Day
March 2nd	Hershey Park Trip Information in Homeroom
March 3rd	NAPA Meeting 6:30PM-7:30PM
March 6th	St. Lucy's TAG Day
March 7th	7th Grade Practice Test 7:30 AM-12:00PM
*March 10th	Modified B Schedule: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Assembly with Dr. Akoumany, 1:00 PM Dismissal
March 11th	B Schedule
March 13th	Naz-A-Thon
*Calendar Change	

Hershey Park Trip 2020

Every year Nazareth Academy High School organizes a school trip to Hershey Park for the Juniors, Sophomores and Freshmen. It is a fun day to celebrate the end of the school year with friends before the summer break. The Hershey Park trip is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26th. All information regarding this year's trip will be handed out in homerooms on March 2nd. There is a permission slip that must be returned whether a student is participating in this trip or is not participating this year.

Naz-A-Thon 2020

Nazareth Academy High School is holding its 6th annual NAZ-A-THON on Friday, March 13, 2020 from 8 am until 8 pm. NAZ-A-THON is a Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon that directly benefits Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. In particular, this year's funds will be donated to The Child Life Department, The Cardiac Department, and the Community Outreach Program for the Mental Health of Diabetes Patients.





Continuing the Conversation

As we address topics such as Personal Values with your children, it is our hope that they will continue these conversations with you at home. I often hear people saying things such as, “Just be yourself” or “Stay true to yourself”. However, as we know, that’s not always so easy for teenagers. Developmentally, they are in the crux of self- discovery, often questioning “Who am I? and ‘Who am I going to be?’” Adolescents who have a close connection to family, peers, coaches or leaders in their schools and community are more likely to have a strong sense of self which will foster strong personal values. As the adults in their lives, the real challenge becomes keeping the values we that we hope to instill in them, while taking a step back and allowing them to navigate, test the waters, and figure out what is most important to them in their journey towards adulthood.

Dr. Ken Ginsburg, a pediatrician specializing in Adolescent Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia addresses the formation of personal values in teens through what he calls the *3 Fundamental Questions of Adolescents*. Please see the link below.

<https://youtu.be/1uu087NWpgI>

Freshman Seminar

Students taking the Freshman Seminar course have had instruction on good study habits, time management and organization. Currently, the class is discussing healthy relationships as it pertains to interpersonal communication, including positive and negative interaction with peers. These topics are presented through direct instruction as well as group work and interactive discussion. Over the next few weeks, Mrs. Dibelius will begin to cover other counseling-related topics, such as: Personal Values, Self-Esteem, Stress- Management, and Career and Vocation Exploration.

Looking Ahead

In March, Dr. Stephanie Akoumany will present and dialogue with our student body about diversity, equity and inclusion; continuing with the mission of Challenge Day earlier this Fall, to “BE THE CHANGE” we want to see in our school and communities. We look forward to navigating topics such as cyberbullying, peer pressure, academics, implicit bias, and microaggressions. By having these important and meaningful conversations students are able to explore questions like, who am I? and what do I need from my school community to thrive? Also, in March, 15 students from the Junior and Senior class will represent NAHS at the Women in Leadership Seminar at Holy Family University. Congratulations, girls!





Upcoming ACT and SAT Test Dates and Registration Deadlines

SAT:

Test Date: Mar. 14, 2020	Registration: Feb. 14, 2020	Late Registration: Feb. 25, 2020
Test Date: May 2, 2020	Registration: Apr. 3, 2020	Late Registration: Apr. 14, 2020

ACT:

Test Date: Apr. 4, 2020	Registration: Feb. 28, 2020	Late Registration: Mar. 13, 2020
Test Date: Jun. 13, 2020	Registration: May 8, 2020	Late Registration: May 22, 2020

SAT/ACT Boot-Camp Sessions

- Kaplan is offering free boot-camps to help students boost your scores on the SAT and ACT
- During the free teacher-led boot-camps, students will review key content, pick up new strategies, and learn to answer questions faster.
- For more information: [SAT/ACT Boot-Camp Sessions](#)

College Acceptances and Scholarships/Grants

- Many students from the senior class have received acceptance and/or scholarship letters from colleges/universities. These letters will be needed as supporting documentation for the graduation booklet and the Class of 2020 Scholarship total.
- Seniors will receive a pre-college graduation survey that will be due in the beginning of April. This survey is where Nazareth Academy will get the student's information for the graduation booklet.
- We ask that seniors make copies of their acceptance and scholarships/grants. The documents will be attached to the pre-graduation survey as verification of the information.
- Please remember to check the [counseling page](#) of the Nazareth website for additional opportunities/information. Encourage your students to continue to look for scholarship opportunities.

College Planning with Counselors

Juniors attended a large group meeting in January regarding the college planning process. During the meeting juniors received important documents that the counseling department will need to assist your daughter in the college application process. If you have any questions or concerns regarding college planning, please feel free to contact your daughter's individual or college counselor.



College Information Sessions

During the spring semester the college counselors offer college information sessions to the junior class. These sessions are scheduled on Wednesdays during activity period in Computer Lab A.

Session 3 (February 12th): Career Exploration

- Session 3 will assist students in exploring career possibilities. Students will investigate salaries, job descriptions, required skills, responsibilities, etc. Students will be able to further their investigation to determine which college majors are associated with their career interests.

Session 4 (February 26th): College Search and Comparison

- Session 4 will assist students in the college search process. Students will be able to conduct college searches through a variety of platforms. Students will then compare colleges by size, location, programs offered, accreditations, etc.

Session 5 (March 3rd): Brainstorming the College Essay

- Session 5 will assist students in brainstorming and outlining the college essay. Students will receive the essay prompts from the common application and the coalition application. They will then have the opportunity to develop the beginning stages of their college essays.

College Fair

On April 1, 2020 the sophomore and junior students will be attending a college panel and fair during an assembly period. This is an opportunity for students to interact and ask questions to various schools. We are asking students to come prepared with questions and to be open-minded and visit every school station.

Currently the following representatives will be present:

- Temple University, Jefferson University, Penn State University, Saint Joseph's University, Holy Family University, Bucks County Community College, Kutztown University, Drexel University, LaSalle University, United States National Guard, Gwynedd Mercy University, Rosemont College, Immaculata University, DeSales University, Moravian College, United States Navy, Arcadia University, University of Scranton, Duquesne University, Bloomsburg University, Ursinus College, Alvernia University, Cabrini University, Shippensburg University, Bryn Athyn College, University of the Arts, Moore College of Art and Design

Winter Sports

Winter sports season has come to an end for basketball, cheer, and track and field. Our swim team will be moving on to the post-season. Swimming finished the season 11-2 and finished 4th overall at the AACA champs. Many swimmers qualified for District champs and will compete in the District One swim champs on February 27th and 28th at LaSalle University.

Our basketball team missed District One playoffs by the smallest of margins. Cheer season came to end with our girls competing at Disney in the National Cheer Competition. Our cheer team competed in many competitions throughout the fall and winter season in which they came away with many strong finishes.

Indoor track and field season ended with many of our girls running their personal best throughout the season. Thanks to all our winter athletes and coaches.

Spring Sports

Family ID is now open to register for Spring Sports. Also, track uniform can be purchased on Family ID as well.

Important Dates

- Thursday February 27th and Friday February 28th: Swimming District One Champs at LaSalle University
- February 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th: Concussion Testing will be held in the athletic conference room at 2:30. Any Freshman or Junior who has not taken the concussion test this year must take the test in order to tryout.
- March 2nd: First day of tryouts for Spring Sports (Lacrosse, Softball, Outdoor Track and Field).

The following items and actions are mandatory in order to try out for a spring sport. Links can be found on the website.

- Register on Family ID
- Concussion Test (Only Freshman and Juniors who have not played a fall or winter sport)
- PIAA Physical Form

March 9th: Last day to register for Spring Sports on Family ID. Again, registration on Family ID must be completed to tryout.

If you have any questions, please direct them to Mr. Bradley at dbradley@nazarethacademyhs.org.

Student Spotlight

Congratulations to the following students who submitted their applications for the Diocesan Scholars program and have been selected by the review committee as finalists for the program:

- Gabriele Celona
- Hannah Rogers

We also thank all of the outstanding students who applied to the program and went through the rigorous selection process.



In Loving Remembrance

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

-Luke 23:42

Please remember in your prayers recently deceased members of the Nazareth Family, especially:

~ Mr. James Daniels, Sr, father of Mr. Jim Daniels, Math Teacher



2020 Legacy Gala

Save The Date!

Friday, April 17, 2020

6:00 PM

*The Union League Golf Club at Torresdale
Philadelphia, PA 19114*

[Click Here For Early Sponsorship Opportunities](#)

OUR 2020 HONOREES:



MR. JOE CONNELLY AND SONS
Legacy Benefactor



MRS. PATRICIA QUINN
Legacy Faculty Member