

# The Naz Newsletter



*Nazareth Academy High School Parent Update*

**September 5, 2021**



*“Charity, charity... Nazareth and a lack of charity cannot go together.”*

*-Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd*

## **From the Office of the President**

### ***Mrs. Denise LePera***

COVID continues to present consistent challenges. Last year our first positive case was in October. This year it was on our second day of full in-person instruction. The numbers for incidence per 100,000 and positivity rate continue to rise at rates comparable to last fall.

As we are located within the City of Philadelphia, we are strictly required to follow the guidance provided by the City of Philadelphia Department of Health. The Pandemic Team here at Nazareth submits a City of Philadelphia Department of Health survey daily to report any exposures to COVID, along with reporting any positive cases. When we report a positive case, we must provide a list of close contacts.

Designations of who is considered a close contact are not made by Nazareth, nor is Nazareth setting the duration of quarantine or isolation periods.

These policies have been set by the City of Philadelphia, and to that end I have been working with the city's liaison in the COVID contact tracing department. On Wednesday, we received approval to consider close contacts unvaccinated individuals who sit in front of, behind or next to the positive case. Based on this discussion with a city official we are duty-bound to consider this our policy going forward.

It goes without saying that the pandemic has been an unprecedented event that has been exasperated by 24/7 media coverage since March 13, 2020. As restrictions and mandates fluctuate (sometimes wildly), we are all tasked with the frustration of toggling between being prudent citizens and resuming our traditional lives. We at Nazareth understand this frustration and do not wish to add to it.

Therefore, let me clearly convey that our goal is to follow the guidance above to ensure there is no risk of closure due to non-compliance of the city's mandates and recommendations. All while remaining full in-person and making every student, faculty and staff member feel safe.

If you have concerns with any student life issue, please reach out to Mrs. Hartey immediately at [thartey@NazarethAcademyHs.org](mailto:thartey@NazarethAcademyHs.org) or at 215.268.1078.

For your convenience, please find the current [school guidance](#) which our Pandemic Team keeps updated with real-time changes along with the [Quarantine Visual Aid](#) from the City of Philadelphia Department of Health which should be helpful in understanding how the quarantine/isolation protocol is presently defined.

Thank you for your support and patience as we navigate what is hopefully the last few months of the challenges of the pandemic.

### **Thought for the Week**



### **Grandparent Mass and Breakfast**

Grandparents Day Mass and Breakfast will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2021. Mass begins at 10:00 AM and the breakfast will immediately follow in the gym. Please [RSVP](#) by September 7th to reserve your seats at Mass and the breakfast.

### **PA Tax Credits and Coffee**

**Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30-8:00 am**

Turn your PA state taxes into tuition assistance for Nazareth Academy Students!

This workshop will explain how you can give the gift of a Nazareth education - grab your coffee and join us on Teams to learn how! Join Jeff Gibson from BLOCS (Business Leaders Organized for Catholic Schools) to learn how you can take advantage of these programs and benefit Nazareth students. Businesses and individuals can redirect up to 100% of their personal PA state tax bill to Nazareth through the PA EITC and OSTC programs.

[Click here to register!](#)

### **Open House Lawn Signs**

Recruitment for the next class of Pandas has begun. If you would be willing to put an Open House lawn sign on your property or business, please have your daughter stop by the Main Office.

### **Bring Your Sister to School Day ~ September 20<sup>th</sup>**

Bring Your Sister to School Day is back! If you have a daughter in 5th through 8th grades who would like to spend the day with her older sister at Nazareth, please [click here](#) to register. This will be an awesome day for your daughters! Please note that the day is limited to only sisters, including half-sisters and stepsisters.

## **From the Office of the Principal**

### ***Mr. Jim Meredith***

This past week reinforced the unpredictability of both the pandemic and the weather. I hope that you and yours are safe and well. We pray for all those who are suffering as a result of Hurricane Ida.

The Counseling Activities postponed on Thursday due to the weather-related closure of school have been rescheduled for Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, now a Special C-Schedule. In most weather closures, such as snow, we will shift to a Flexible Instructional Day, where teachers assign students work or meet remotely for the class to account for time not being present in school. In the case of severe weather, such as Wednesday night and Thursday, when dangerous conditions potentially cause loss of life, injury, along with widespread property damage and loss of power, we will do what we did on Thursday, close school and cancel classes as the safety and well-being of our students, families, and staff is paramount.

### **Back to School Night**

We have discussed lessons learned during the pandemic and how we can do things differently, even as we work to emerge from the continued challenges of a public health crisis. Last year, when we are unable to hold events in person, we held each Back to School Night, both in September and January, remotely, through Microsoft Teams. After both nights, teachers shared that parent attendance increased from previous years. When we talked to parents, they cited the convenience of not having to rush to school and the ability to attend from the comfort of their own homes. Mindful of those positives, Back to School Night on Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, will be held remotely, via Microsoft Teams.

We are excited to be holding in person events again this school, as evident early on with New Student Welcome Night, Mother-Daughter Mass and Breakfast, and the NAPA General Meeting, along a whole calendar of opportunities for parents to be in school in person. However, there is also great value in increased engagement, time saved, and added convenience for this Thursday's remote event.

Your daughters will share with you their school Teams account to access your class on Thursday night. Please follow your daughter's roster for Friday. In advance of Thursday night's event, an email of reminders will be sent to all parents.

**Back to School Night Schedule: September 9, 2021**  
**Conducted Remotely Via Student Microsoft Teams Account**  
**Parents Follow Student Friday Roster in PowerSchool**

6:30 PM	-	6:35 PM	BLOCK 1A
6:40 PM	-	6:45 PM	BLOCK 1B
6:50 PM	-	6:55 PM	BLOCK 2A
7:00 PM	-	7:05 PM	BLOCK 2B
7:10 PM	-	7:15 PM	BLOCK 3A
7:20 PM	-	7:25 PM	BLOCK 3B
7:30 PM	-	7:35 PM	BLOCK 4A
7:40 PM	-	7:45 PM	BLOCK 4B

**Schedule for the Week**

Monday, September 6: Labor Day, School Closed

Tuesday, September 7: Special C Schedule, Counseling Activities (*rescheduled from 9/2*); NAPA General Meeting, 6:30 PM

Wednesday, September 8: A Schedule

Thursday, September 9: A Schedule; Back to School Night, 6:30 PM, remote, via Microsoft Tea,

Friday, September 10: A Schedule

<b>Tuesday, September 7</b>		<b>Wednesday, September 8-Friday, September 10</b>	
<b>Special C Schedule</b>		<b>A Schedule</b>	
Warning Bell	7:40 AM	Warning Bell	7:40 AM
Homeroom	7:45 AM-7:57 AM	Homeroom	7:45 AM -7:57 AM
BLOCK 1	8:00 AM-9:11 AM	BLOCK 1	8:00 AM- 9:21 AM
Block 1A	8:00 AM-8:34 AM	Block 1A	8:00 AM - 8:39 AM
Block 1B	8:37 AM-9:11 AM	Block 1B	8:42 AM- 9:21 AM
Special Event	9:14 AM-9:54 AM	BLOCK 2	9:24 AM-10:45 AM
BLOCK 2	9:57AM-11:08 AM	Block 2A	9:24 AM-10:03 AM
Block 2A	9:57 AM-10:31 AM	Block 2B	10:06 AM-10:45 AM
Block 2B	10:34 AM-11:08 AM	Activity Period	10:48 AM-11:23 AM
Activity Period	11:11 AM-11:42 AM	BLOCK 3	11:26 AM-12:47 PM
BLOCK 3	11:45 AM-12:56 PM	Block 3A	11:26 AM-12:05 PM
Block 3A	11:45 AM-12:19 PM	Block 3B	12:08 PM-12:47 PM
Block 3B	12:22 PM-12:56 PM	BLOCK 4	12:50 PM- 2:10 PM
BLOCK 4	12:59 PM-2:10 PM	Block 4A	12:50 PM- 1:29 PM
Block 4A	12:59 PM-1:33 PM	Block 4B	1:32 PM-2:10 PM
Block 4B	1:36 PM-2:10 PM		

**From the Office of Campus Ministry**

***Ms. Shannon Donnelly, Campus Minister***

One of the values of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth is Loving Relationships. In this new school year, I pray the value of loving relationships is a part of all of your daughters' journeys. Relationships make the experience more valuable than it already is, since, in the words of the Sisters, *"Love is the very heart of Nazareth life; modeled after the Father, Son, and Spirit. The selfless, life-giving love of an infinitely generous God compels us to form compassionate relationships with others."* Service, and ministry are great outlets to form these relationships!

Service hour opportunities are posted outside my office (second floor) on clipboards with sign-up sheets. There are a couple opportunities to get half or all of hours for the semester in the month of September!

There is a mandatory Kairos meeting for all parents of seniors on September 13th at 6pm, in the Chapel. Please email [sdonnelly@nazarethacademyhs.org](mailto:sdonnelly@nazarethacademyhs.org) if you or a family representative cannot attend. *\*This meeting is without your daughter.*

Our Fall service drive will be starting next Friday, School Supply Drive! Stay tuned for more information in next week's newsletter.

## **From the Office of Academic Affairs**

### ***Mrs. Pat Quinn, Assistant Principal***

#### **Reminders**

- The drop/add period has ended.
- Thank you for communicating with me about your daughters' classes.
- We are certainly trying our very best to return to our pre-COVID academic model. For any student who is not physically present in the school building at the time of any type of assessment, it is up to the discretion of the teacher as to the location and time that the assessment may be taken.
- Mid-Fall Deficiency reports will be issued on 9/28 and are due to be returned with a parent/guardian signature to the issuing teacher by October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Honors are awarded and grade-point averages are calculated on the semester.

I wish everyone a Happy and Safe Labor Day!

## **From the Office of Student Life**

### ***Mrs. Theresa Hartey, Assistant Principal***

I hope everyone is having a great Labor Day Weekend! Here are some upcoming student events:

**Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>:** Senior/Freshman Meet and Greet during Activity Period (outside).

**Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>:** Freshman Week; Friday is Freshman Retreat Day.

During Freshman Week, we will hold two collections--one for students in need of school supplies including backpacks, and the other for Afghan refugees. More details will follow regarding these collections.

**Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>:** Bring Your Sister to School Day. We are excited to have our NAHS younger sisters on campus; please see Mrs. LePera's comments for additional information.

**Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>:** Club Fair. We will hold a club fair to help students become more familiar with all the clubs and activities that we offer here at Nazareth.

Have a great week! God bless!

## **From the Office of Counseling**

### ***Ms. Alyssa Mikulski, Director of College Counseling***

#### **Class of 2022**

Please encourage your students to read their emails and check for updates to the Class of 2022 College/Post-Secondary Information Microsoft Team. We update students as often as possible about colleges, scholarships, college visits with Nazareth, fee waivers, etc.

The senior class presentation will be rescheduled for some time next week.

There will be a senior parent presentation night on September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM. More information will be provided about this event soon.

#### **SAT School Day Class of 2022**

If your student wants to take the SAT during our SAT School Day on October 13th, please have them fill out this [SAT Sign Up Form](#) by September 10th.

The cost is \$55, and you will be provided with a payment form before the SAT. If you believe your family may qualify for an SAT fee waiver, please follow this link to see [Eligibility Requirements](#). If you do meet the requirements, please contact me at [amikulski@nazarethacademyhs.org](mailto:amikulski@nazarethacademyhs.org) so I can ensure you are billed appropriately. If your student has signed up and they would like to opt out, they have until September 14th to email me with that request.

#### **Transcript Request Form Class of 2022**

When your student applies to a college or university, they need to request that their transcript be sent to that particular school. This should be done through the [Transcript Request Form](#). There is a \$3 fee per transcript that is sent. (Example: If your student applies to 5 colleges, then the fee is \$15.)

#### **Instant Decision Days Class of 2022**

Nazareth will be hosting an Instant Decision Day with [Holy Family University](#) on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Students who participate will be given an admission decision this day. Students should register by October 1<sup>st</sup> and complete an application to Holy Family University by October 4<sup>th</sup>. If your student is interested in registering, please have them fill out this [FORM](#).

Nazareth will be hosting an Instant Decision Day with [La Salle University](#) on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Students who participate will be given an admission decision this day. Students should register for this event and complete an application to La Salle University by October 7<sup>th</sup>. If your student is interested in registering, please have them fill out this [FORM](#).

#### **Interview Day Class of 2022**

Nazareth will be hosting an Interview Day with [Saint Joseph's University](#) on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Students who participate will not be given an admission decision, but they can speak with the admissions representative about their application to Saint Joseph's University, about the university, or about anything else they would like to discuss related to admissions. It is preferred if students apply to Saint

Joseph's University before October 26th, but it is not required. Students should register for this event by October 21<sup>st</sup> by filling out this [FORM](#).

### **Class of 2023**

Please encourage your students to check their emails regularly for relevant college and post-secondary information that may be sent to them from the College Counseling team.

The junior class presentation is rescheduled for Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a junior college parent presentation night in October, so be on the lookout for more information regarding this night coming soon.

## **From the Office of the Athletic Department**

### ***Mr. Dan Bradley, Athletic Director***

#### **Weekly Athletic Schedule September 6, 2021-September 12, 2021**

#### **Monday, September 6**

4:00 – 6:00 – V Soccer Practice – TBC

#### **Tuesday, September 7**

2:30 – 4:30 – V Tennis Practice

2:30 – 4:00 – V XC Practice – Benjamin Rush

3:00 – 5:00 – JV Soccer Practice – TBC

3:00 – 6:00 – V Soccer Practice – TBC

3:00 – 6:00 – JV/V VB Practice – Nazareth Gym

6:30 – 9:00 – V Cheer – Nazareth Gym

#### **Wednesday, September 8**

3:45 – V Tennis vs. MSJ – Away – Van

2:30 – 4:00 – V XC Practice – Fluehr Park/Eden Hall

3:00 – 5:00 – JV Soccer Practice – TBC

3:00 – 6:00 – V Soccer Practice – TBC

3:45 – 5:00 – JV VB vs. New Foundations – Home – Nazareth Gym

5:00 – 6:30 – V VB vs. New Foundations – Home – Nazareth Gym

#### **Thursday, September 9**

2:30 – 4:30 – V Tennis Practice

3:00 – 6:00 – JV/V VB Practice – Nazareth Gym

4:00 – V Soccer vs. GMA – Away – 1:55 Dismissal

5:15 – JV Soccer vs. GMA – Away – 1:55 Dismissal

6:30 – 9:00 – V Cheer – Nazareth Gym

#### **Friday, September 10**

3:00 – 5:00 – JV Soccer Practice – TBC

3:00 – 6:00 – V Soccer Practice – TBC

3:45 – 6:00 – V Tennis vs. SH – Away – Van – 1:45 Dismissal

### **Saturday, September 11**

10:00 – 12:30 – JV/V VB Practice – Nazareth Gym

12:00 – JV Soccer vs. Wood – Away - @ Wood

7:00 – V Soccer vs. Wood – Away – HVAA Turf Field

## **From the Office of the Nazareth Academy Parent Association (NAPA) Mrs. Grace Pirolli P '22**

Please look for our weekly NAPA Newsletter beginning Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **September Meeting**

Please join us for our first [NAPA General Parent Meeting](#) on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Performing Arts Center. Please bring your questions and ideas. Looking forward to meeting all of you!

### **Mum Sale**

The NAPA Mum Sales is underway. \$10 each or 3 for \$25.00 ~ 9" plants in your choice of Orange, Purple or Yellow. [Click here](#) to purchase your mums. Plant pick up will be in the school parking lot, Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9-10:30 AM



## **Prayer Intentions**

Through the intercession of Blessed Mary Stella and her Ten Companions, whose feast day was Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, please remember the following in your prayers:

- Those impacted by the coronavirus, the victims and the first responders on the front lines fighting this virus
- Those affected by Hurricane Ida, most especially those who were killed, injured, and lost their homes
- All who labor and for those searching for employment
- Our Jewish brothers and sisters who are observing Rosh Hashanah this week
- Mr. Jack Barth, *Facilities*
- Mrs. Jessica MacKay, *former Director of Counseling*
- All intentions of the Nazareth Community