



DEPAUL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Spartan Sentinel

Welcome to the Spartan Sentinel, our bi-weekly electronic newsletter for all things DePaul Catholic.

Principal's Corner Mr. Russell Petrocelli

Dear Spartan Community:

A good friend of mine is fond of saying, "Don't Blink" as it relates to how quickly time seems to pass us by and this school year is no exception. We have already held one successful Open House and have another one scheduled on **Sunday, October 27, 2019**. There is an enhanced buzz of excitement related to interest in attending DePaul Catholic High School, and I am happy to share some good news with you related to our academic program.

Last year, I initiated the **Academy of Science and Technology**, a prescribed program of study for students entering the Class of 2023 interested in Engineering or Computer Science. For the Class of 2024, we have added a program of study to concentrate on Medical Science. ***I am also pleased to announce the Academy of the Arts and Humanities.*** Students will be able to apply for entry into one of three areas of concentration: Arts and Letters; General Humanities; or Law & Government. Each strand includes a four-year Honors curriculum of English and Social Studies, culminating in Advanced Placement courses. In addition, a four-year specialty curriculum in Art, Music, or Law and Government, provides a solid industry-standard based education while allowing ample opportunity for additional electives. Students applying for the Class of 2024 may also apply for one of these specialized courses of study and, upon successful completion, will earn an Academy endorsement on their diploma. Please feel free to contact me, the Admissions Director, or Guidance Office if you should have any questions about our Academy programs.

Please visit this newsletter on a regular basis to be brought up to speed on the happenings across the campus. If you are a graduate and are in the neighborhood, please stop in and say hello.

St. Vincent DePaul...Pray for Us!

Moving Forward...

Mr. John Merritt '71

Vice Principal, Student Life

The Night Things Changed

One Teacher's Opinion

My first year of teaching school was the 1976-77 school year at DePaul. I was 22 years old and I had a head filled with great ideas, or so I thought.

The year was very challenging as I was learning how to transfer to my class what I believed the students needed to learn and master. Some of the students were not very receptive to my lecture about the Lusitania or World War I (OR MOST THINGS!). Can you imagine not being interested in that stuff?

Most of the time, a bad class was my fault. But not all the time.

Some of the students started to be discipline issues in class. With one student in particular it got to the point where I felt it was necessary to call the student's father. It would be the only time, as a teacher, I ever called a parent based on a discipline issue.

The father of the student answered the phone. I explained the situation and the response of the father was "I will take care of this, thank you for calling". The student arrived at school the following day a changed man and went on to become one of the best students in the class. I will always be grateful to the father who helped me by disciplining his son.

Teaching became *real teaching* as I gained experience, and felt that I always had the support of all the parents of the students in my class.

Then.....

One night, I believe sometime in the late 1980s, I think it was a Tuesday, I went to sleep, woke up, went to school and things felt a little bit different. There was a note in my mailbox to call a parent. I did so and went on to be told how I was unfair, had singled out and had embarrassed their child by correcting their behavior in class. *My crime was that I had made the child move their seat.*

It seems the student had gone home and changed the story of what had happened (to save their own skin), and when I gave the parent the true version I was told that I was not being truthful and that I was out to get the student. The quote was "my child never lies to me".

I hung up the phone and realized that life as a teacher had changed. Now, at least for this parent, I was viewed as an adversary rather than a partner in their child's education. Teaching became a bit more challenging after this.

Each year, as more and more parents began thinking like the one mentioned above, I noticed teachers hesitating to discipline children, avoiding communicating with parents and I watched grades begin to inflate. Confrontations rather than cooperation became more common. This was especially true for my friends who taught in public school.

Education, in many schools, became more about keeping the peace than about challenging students to be the best they can be. There became a true divide with parents. There were still plenty of supportive parents, ready to work with teachers to help their child, however the ever more vocal group of parents who viewed their children as victims and teachers as adversaries became a constant issue.

Today, this is what I notice now as I approach my 66th birthday.

People still become teachers for all the right reasons.

- To educate
- To guide
- To coach
- To set an example

The sad part is, that for some teachers, the perceived lack of support has led them to either lower standards to keep the peace, or to leave the profession. This is true with coaches also, in my opinion.

These people work in both private and public schools.

Teachers leave the profession because:

- They are not permitted to discipline their class.
- They must guarantee that all outcomes, for all students in the class, are the same no matter what the level of ability of the student.
- Teachers have no control over the social promotion of students not ready to be promoted.

· Lack of support from parents in monitoring homework and home studying for tests and exams.

· Politics, especially in public schools.

Teachers stay in the profession when:

· They view it as a mission.

· They are not affected, too much, by the negativity that surrounds them.

Finally,

Teaching is still a great profession and my hope for younger teachers is that they go to sleep one night and wake up to find a renewed partnership with parents, both in academics and athletics.

A continued thanks to all the parents who support the educators in their schools.

In my opinion:

Team teaching is not about 2 teachers in a room teaching a subject, it is really about teacher + parent working together.

The result: happy, successful students.

Let the leaves fall!

Spartan Nation

Important Dates From The Athletic Department, 2019-2020

- **March 19th**- Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony (@ The Grove)
- **June 15th** - 27th Annual DePaul Catholic Golf Classic (@ North Jersey Country Club)

Fall Open House

THE DEPAUL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY INVITES YOU INTO OUR HOME FOR A LOOK AT WHY OVER 11,000 ALUMNI BELIEVE THAT WE ARE "THE PLACE TO BE".

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

12:00PM - 2:00PM

Please RSVP by visiting
WWW.DEPAULCATHOLIC.ORG

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO: ADMISSIONS@DPCHS.ORG



DEPAUL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 1512 ALPS ROAD, WAYNE, NJ 07470 PHONE: (973) 694-3702

Welcome, Future Spartans!

Mrs. Brynn Merritt Campbell

Director of Marketing & Enrollment Management

Hi! We're super busy in the Admissions Office, but we really like it that way. There are a bunch of ways listed below that you can come visit with us. You're always welcome to our home.

We've already visited many of your schools, but we are still adding more dates to our calendar. If you'd like us to stop by, please give us a call!

Shadow Days

Now Available!

Come Spend A Day As A Spartan!

[Register Here](#)

Open Houses

[RSVP](#)

Sunday, October 27th

Guided tours will be offered from 12:00pm - 2:00pm.

Coaches, Faculty, Staff, Parent Ambassadors, and Students will be available to answer all of your questions.

The Engineering Lab will be open. Come learn all about our new Academies.

HSPT Test

Friday, November 8th

Online Registration for this exam ends on Wednesday, October 23rd.

This test is required for all 9th grade applicants. Our school code is 145.

DePaul is a testing site.

[Please register for the test here.](#)

Apply Today!

Applications for the Class of 2024 are now being accepted. Please submit them by December 6th for a January decision.

[APPLY HERE](#)

Already applied? Here are your next steps.

Download this form, fill it out, and turn it in to your current school to have your records released to us.

[Release of Records Form](#)

Be sure to sign up for the HSPT test!

In the next few weeks all applicants will be receiving an email from the Admissions Office with information about applying for our Academies, getting your teacher recommendation, and setting up Academic Scholarship interviews. Stay tuned!

What's Happening At DPCHS?

[Mrs. Coleen Brophy '79](#)

Director of Special Events & Alumni Relations

Reunion season is in full swing here at DPCHS. Along with a number of reunions held this month, we welcomed back over 100 alumni, family and friends at our Pre-Game Homecoming Reception. We thank all of the "Class Captains" who work diligently to be sure that their classmates have a night to remember. It's wonderful to watch the groups come together to celebrate their time at DePaul. They are proof that once you're a Spartan, you'll always be a Spartan.

Thank you to the classes that made a donation back to DePaul following their reunion.



Class of 1964



Class of 1969



Class of 1999

News From The Alumni Association

50th Reunion of the Class of 1969 Delivers a Miracle!

The 50th reunion of the DePaul Class of 1969 was held on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019. More than 90 classmates traveling from 24 different states came for the event. One heartfelt wish for a miracle to enable one of our classmates to attend came from Lucia Chappelle, who is a minister in a Multi-Denominational church and lives in Los Angeles, CA. She financially couldn't afford to make the trip. She sent her best wishes with a request to see some follow up pictures from the event. One of our classmates asked our fellow alumni for help to make Lucia's miracle happen. He took up a collection from our classmates, bought Lucia's ticket, and arranged travel and hotel accommodations for the weekend so she would be able to attend all of the reunion events. Lucia celebrated with her class that she so loves and remembers. Talk about camaraderie among a class whose strong bonds obviously remain stronger than ever! And in the Spirit of our patron St. Vincent DePaul, "Miracles do happen."



DePaul Catholic High School students collected food, clothing, school supplies and Halloween costumes for the Straight and Narrow community.



Midnight Run

[Mrs. Val Haggerty](#)

Once again, on October 5th, the Junior Honors Theology class participated in a Midnight Run. The students traveled with their parent chaperones to the stops assigned to them by MidnightRun.org and met with many people who benefited from the students' gifts of food, clothing and other necessary sundries.

The second of three Midnight Runs will be held on November 23rd and the following donated items would be

greatly appreciated: **hats, gloves, blankets, mens coats, backpacks (all gently used), toiletries, underwear, and socks.** Please drop off any donations to DePaul Catholic, or send your students to room 100 for drop off. We are very proud of the students hard work in preparing for these runs!

May God generously bless all who support them in this endeavor.

WLHS Announces '19-'20 Board

[Mrs. Lucila Meza](#)

World Language Honor Society wants to announce the new executive board members for 2019-2020.

President of the Society is **Jamielyn Juan**, Vice-president for the Spanish section, **Valery Mendoza**, Italian section, **Hanna Vaidya**, French section, **Amanda**

**Callahan and General Secretary,
Christian Rosario.**
Congratulations to all of them!



Remembering Our Veterans

[Mrs. Judith Gorski](#)

The St. Vincent DePaul Honor Society is sponsoring a fundraiser honoring and benefiting those who served or are serving in the Armed Forces.

Flags are being sold for \$3.00 each. Each will be tied with a white ribbon on which the name of the veteran will be printed. All flags will be placed in the front oval on Veterans Day where a commemorative service will be held.

To order a flag(s) please complete the bottom portion of [this form](#) and return to Judith Gorski at DePaul Catholic. (gorskij@dpchs.org)

Guidance News

[Mrs. Anne Gregory](#)
Director of Guidance

The PSAT testing was a huge success. Grades 8-10 had the chance to take a practice test so that when they take their official test in 11th grade they will be very prepared. College applications are in full swing. Please remember Seniors that you must submit your application and pumpkin sheet two weeks before the application deadline.

DePaul Catholic Parents' Association WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Our next **PA Executive Board meeting** is **Tuesday, November 19th at 7pm** in the DP Information Commons Room! All are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!



From The TRICKY TRAY COMMITTEE

Where: The DP Information Commons
When: Wednesday, October 23 at 7pm.
Join us for some light refreshments, meet the committee chairs and learn how you can become involved in the **largest** DePaul Community event of the year!

Can't make it on Wednesday, please contact:
Donna DiPiano 973-766-3662 donnam59@optonline.net
Debbie Lozito 201-214-6848 dldoc@aol.com
Maryann Marren 973-580-3401 school12marren@yahoo.com



From The HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE
 Thank You to everyone who baked and served at the October 9th Open House. Your goodies were delicious and enjoyed by all! **Our next Open House is October 27, 2019.** If you'd like to volunteer for this or any future events please contact:

Julie Sullivan at 201-693-5629 juliesullivan7399@gmail.com
 Deb Murray at 973-818-4841 demurray@hotmail.com



From The PARENT AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE
 On October 9th our Parent Ambassadors were on duty to greet and check in some of the 100 families who attended our first fall Open House. Our ambassadors are not only some of the first faces you meet at DePaul Catholic but they are also some of the first voices you speak to when you have an incoming freshman! As a member of the Parent Ambassador Program, you have the opportunity to meet current DP family members and share your experiences with potential incoming families. Thank you to all who were able to attend!

For more information or to help at our next event please contact:
 Andie Pegel at 973-985-0880 atpegel@optonline.net
 Jo Spaulding at 973-800-6091 jo@goprologic.com

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advisor- Sr. Jeanne Agans President- Allison Beshada Secretary- Jean Raftery, Mina Farrell Treasurer- Kim Wilderson Tricky Tray- Donna DiPiano. Maryann Marren, Debbie Lozito
 Hospitality- Deb Murray, Julie Sullivan Ambassadors- Andie Pegel, Jo Spaulding Calendar Raffle- Cindy Winkler
 Snack Stand- Bob Niemiec, Allison Beshada Public Relations- Brenda Salamon Stop & Shop- Rosalind Tomeio



Michele Nesbitt, Carmen Tomeio and John Carpinelli



Julie Ruighaver and Allison Chorba



Michele Nesbitt, Kim Checinski, Maria Marano, Gini Panzera and Dawn Enze



Maryann Marren



Tarah Jn-Louis and Christine Relovsky



Chris Marren, Manny and Yolanda Correa, Doris Kiefer



Maryann Marren and Sue Ferrara

STAY CONNECTED

