

Notre Dame Prep — 2030 —

TRANSFORMING THROUGH PURPOSE

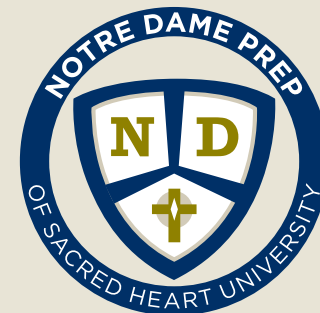


NOTRE DAME
Prep OF SACRED HEART
UNIVERSITY



Notre Dame Prep 2030

TRANSFORMING THROUGH PURPOSE



Notre Dame Prep is entering a new era. Sustained enrollment growth, expanding academic opportunities, and a deepening partnership with Sacred Heart University have created new possibilities for our school—and an even greater responsibility to prepare students for lives of faith, purpose, leadership, and service.

At the heart of this vision is Notre Dame Prep’s Portrait of a Graduate. It defines the enduring outcomes of a Notre Dame education: graduates who Live in Christ, Pursue Excellence, Seek Wisdom, Strive for Greatness, and Lead with Love. These are not simply aspirations for our students; they are the standard by which we will shape every aspect of the Notre Dame Prep experience.

Achieving this vision requires more than excellent teaching or outstanding programs. It requires a school intentionally designed to form the whole person. For that reason, Notre Dame Prep 2030 is organized around four strategic priorities that strengthen every dimension of the institution—from academic excellence and faith formation to student culture, operational vitality, and long-term stewardship. Together, these priorities create the conditions in which every student can flourish, and every graduate can embody the Portrait of a Graduate.

Notre Dame Prep 2030 is more than a strategic plan. It is a shared commitment to our students, our mission, and the future of Catholic education. It affirms our belief that excellence is never accidental. It is cultivated through faith, purposeful leadership, wise stewardship, and a community united around a common vision. Together, we will continue to build a school where young men and women are prepared not only for college and career success, but for lives of conviction, compassion, and lasting impact.

Building the Conditions for Every Student to Flourish

THE PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

The Portrait of a Graduate defines the ultimate outcomes of a Notre Dame Prep education. Achieving those outcomes requires an institution equally committed to excellence in every dimension of school life.

For that reason, Notre Dame Prep 2030 is organized around four strategic priorities that strengthen both the formation of our students and the vitality of our institution.

1. Academic Excellence and Innovation

Challenging every student through exceptional teaching, rigorous learning, and meaningful discovery.

2. Faith and Character Formation

Strengthening Notre Dame Prep’s Catholic identity by forming students who seek to ‘Be Imitators of Christ’ through faith, virtue, and servant leadership.

3. Culture of Purpose and Achievement

Creating a community where every student is known, challenged, and inspired to flourish.

4. Stewardship and Institutional Vitality

Ensuring the people, resources, partnerships, and infrastructure necessary to sustain our mission for generations to come.

The first three priorities shape the student directly. The fourth strengthens the institution that makes that formation possible. Together, they create the conditions in which every student can flourish, and every graduate can embody the Portrait of a Graduate.

Every initiative in this plan ultimately answers one question: Will it strengthen our ability to form the graduate we aspire to send into the world?

Academic Excellence & Innovation

OUR VISION

Notre Dame Prep will elevate the academic experience through exceptional teaching, rigorous learning, and intellectual challenge. By strengthening academic programs, investing in faculty excellence, expanding strategic partnerships, and embracing responsible innovation, students will be prepared for college, leadership, and lives of purpose. Students will learn to think critically, communicate effectively, solve complex problems, and apply their knowledge with confidence and integrity. Through continual improvement and a commitment to educational excellence, Notre Dame Prep will prepare every student to thrive wherever life calls them.

Goal 1: Advance Academic Excellence Through Innovation and Inquiry

Strengthen academic rigor and student achievement through inquiry-based instruction, personalized learning, interdisciplinary opportunities, and responsible innovation.

Key Initiatives:

- Implement a four-year Portrait of a Graduate digital portfolio documenting each student’s academic growth, reflection, leadership development, and personal formation.
- Expand inquiry-based instructional practices that promote critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and authentic problem-solving across disciplines.
- Provide sustained faculty professional development aligned with instructional priorities, mission effectiveness, inquiry-based pedagogy, AI literacy, and emerging best practices in education.

Goal 2: Foster Student Well-Being and Ethical Digital Citizenship

Integrate social-emotional learning, ethical technology use, and digital wellness to develop healthy, responsible, and compassionate learners.

Key Initiatives:

- Integrate social-emotional learning practices into classroom instruction, advising, and student support systems.
- Develop a comprehensive Digital Citizenship and Responsible AI Framework that integrates digital wellness, ethical technology use, academic integrity, faculty training, and student AI literacy.
- Support faculty in recognizing and responding to student wellness needs through professional development and collaboration with student support teams.
- Utilize student feedback and assessment data to identify opportunities to strengthen student belonging, engagement, and overall well-being.

Goal 3: Expand Strategic Partnerships to Enhance College Readiness and Authentic Learning

Deepen collaboration with Sacred Heart University and other partners to provide authentic, college-connected learning experiences and expanded opportunities for students.

Key Initiatives:

- Expand Sacred Heart University partnerships through faculty mentorship, research opportunities, dual-credit coursework, academic enrichment programs, and access to specialized learning experiences.
- Increase opportunities for AP, Honors, International Baccalaureate, and ND-SHU dual enrollment pathways.
- Develop additional authentic learning experiences through internships, community partnerships, research opportunities, and career exploration.
- Strengthen collaboration with higher education partners to ensure students are prepared for success beyond Notre Dame Prep.

Goal 4: Expand International Baccalaureate Program Offerings

Build on the success of the International Baccalaureate Programme by expanding course offerings, increasing participation, and exploring opportunities to become an “IB for All” school.

Key Initiatives:

- Expand IB course offerings annually, with intentional growth in the arts, sciences, and social sciences.
- Increase student participation in the full IB Diploma Program through targeted student and family education.
- Provide support structures that encourage a broader range of students to access IB coursework.
- Evaluate opportunities to implement an “IB for All” model that expands access to inquiry-driven, globally focused learning experiences.

Academic Excellence & Innovation: Indicators of Success

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students’ ability to articulate academic growth through portfolios, reflections, and performance evidence aligned with the Portrait of a Graduate.• Increased proficiency in inquiry-based learning practices across grades 9–12.• Increased annual participation and achievement in IB, AP, Honors, and dual enrollment coursework.• Increased student engagement in authentic learning experiences, including research, internships, and college-connected opportunities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved student, family, faculty, and higher education partner feedback regarding academic preparation and student readiness.• Increase IB Diploma participation, with a goal of 15% of graduating students pursuing the full IB Diploma by 2029.• Launch an “IB for All” pathway by 2030. |
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Faith and Character Formation

OUR VISION

Notre Dame Prep will deepen its Catholic identity by forming students who know, love, and follow Christ. Through worship, service, reflection, and intentional virtue formation, the school will cultivate graduates who live with faith, integrity, compassion, and a commitment to the common good.

Rooted in our call to “Be Imitators of Christ,” students will grow in spiritual maturity, moral courage, and servant leadership. Faith formation will be woven throughout the student experience and, like academic achievement and personal growth, be assessed as a defining measure of our mission.

Together, students, families, faculty, and staff will cultivate a community where the Gospel is lived with authenticity, compassion, and joy.

Goal 1: Reaffirm and Revitalize the Lived Commitment to “Be Imitators of Christ”

Create opportunities for students to deepen their relationship with Christ and live their Catholic faith with conviction and joy.

Key Initiatives:

- Expand retreat programming, reflection experiences, and opportunities for spiritual growth across all grade levels.
- Increase opportunities for prayer, Adoration, student-led liturgies, and meaningful worship experiences.
- Strengthen connections with parish communities and encourage active participation in the sacramental life of the Church.
- Develop opportunities for students to reflect on how faith informs their decisions, relationships, and daily actions.

Goal 2: Form Character and Leaders Through Truth, Virtue, and Service

Form students whose character is marked by virtue, integrity, and servant leadership.

Key Initiatives:

- Implement a Virtues in Action framework highlighting monthly virtues throughout academics, athletics, and co-curricular experiences.
- Develop leadership opportunities that emphasize humility, responsibility, compassion, and service.
- Establish recognition programs celebrating students who demonstrate character, integrity, and commitment to others.
- Connect leadership formation to the Portrait of a Graduate attributes of Live in Christ and Lead with Love.

Goal 3: Integrate Faith and Character Formation Across the Student Experience

Embed Catholic identity, virtue formation, and moral reasoning throughout academics, athletics, student life, and service.

Key Initiatives:

- Strengthen service learning by connecting service experiences to Catholic Social Teaching, guided reflection, and leadership development.
- Incorporate opportunities for ethical reasoning and moral reflection across academic disciplines and student experiences.
- Partner with coaches, advisors, and activity leaders to ensure consistent reinforcement of mission and character expectations.
- Continue developing a culture where faith, service, and compassion are visible throughout daily school life.

Goal 4: Deepen the Faith Life of the Notre Dame Prep Community

Foster a vibrant faith community through opportunities to grow together in faith. Enrich spiritual formation to cultivate discipleship, strengthen relationships, and strengthen our commitment to the mission of Catholic education.

Key Initiatives:

- Create opportunities for faculty and staff faith formation, reflection, and professional growth rooted in Catholic identity.
- Develop parent and family faith formation programs that strengthen the partnership between home and school.
- Expand community prayer experiences and faith-centered gatherings to unite students, families, faculty, and staff.
- Call every member of the Notre Dame Prep community to witness the Gospel through faith, compassion, service.

Faith & Character Formation: Indicators of Success

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| • Increased student participation in retreats, worship experiences, service opportunities, and faith formation programs. | • Increased opportunities for students to demonstrate servant leadership and community impact. |
| • Student reflections that demonstrate growth in faith, virtue, moral reasoning, and understanding of Catholic identity. | • Strengthened stakeholder confidence regarding the strength and authenticity of NDP’s Catholic culture. |
| • Manifest integration of mission and Catholic identity throughout academics, athletics, extracurricular programs, and campus life. | |

Culture of Purpose and Achievement

OUR VISION

Notre Dame Prep will cultivate a community where every student is known, challenged, encouraged, and inspired to grow. High expectations, meaningful relationships, and a shared commitment to excellence will shape a school culture where students discover their gifts, develop confidence, and strive to become their very best.

Achievement will be celebrated, leadership will be expected, and every student will be encouraged to contribute to the life of the school and the good of others. Through mentorship, service, and authentic community, Notre Dame Prep will form young men and women who lead with humility, resilience, and purpose.

Goal 1: Articulate and Live a Shared Set of Core Values

Establish core values that shape daily life and define what it means to be part of the Notre Dame Prep community.

Key Initiatives:

- Develop and articulate a shared set of institutional core values to define and operationalize shared expectations aligned with the Portrait of a Graduate.
- Develop consistent language, traditions, and practices that reinforce school values across academics, athletics, arts, extracurricular activities, and student life.
- Create opportunities to recognize and celebrate students, faculty, and community members who exemplify NDP’s core values.
- Integrate core values into student reflection, advising, leadership development, and community-building initiatives.

Goal 2: Ensure Holistic Excellence for Every Student

Support the academic, personal, spiritual, and extracurricular growth of every student through intentional advising, meaningful opportunities, and responsive support.

Key Initiatives:

- Launch personalized academic and growth plans beginning with one grade level and expanding annually to support each student’s progress and goals.
- Strengthen advising structures to ensure students receive consistent mentorship, guidance, and support throughout their NDP experience.
- Expand clubs, arts, athletics, and co-curricular opportunities that promote whole-person formation while monitoring student workload, balance, and well-being.
- Continue to strengthen systems that identify and support students’ academic, social, emotional, and personal needs.

Goal 3: Cultivate a Culture of Servant Leadership and Community Impact

Prepare students to lead with humility, courage, and integrity through service, leadership, and meaningful responsibility.

Key Initiatives:

- Expand leadership pathways aligned with the Portrait of a Graduate, including Student Council, Student Leadership Institute, Distinguished Scholars Program, and other student leadership opportunities.
- Create alumni mentorship opportunities that connect graduates with current students and support leadership growth.
- Strengthen service-learning experiences that include reflection, community partnerships, and opportunities for meaningful impact.
- Provide students with authentic leadership experiences that develop communication, collaboration, decision-making, and problem-solving skills.

Culture of Purpose & Achievement: Indicators of Success

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| • Increased student engagement and participation across academic, athletic, artistic, service, and leadership opportunities. | • Improved student retention and continued engagement with the Notre Dame Prep community. |
| • Student growth in leadership, responsibility, service, and personal development through reflections, surveys, and portfolio evidence. | • Increased alumni involvement through mentoring, service, and school engagement opportunities. |
| • Strong evidence of belonging and satisfaction as reflected in stakeholder feedback. | |
| • Expanded leadership and service opportunities, including mission trips, community partnerships, and student-led initiatives. | |

Stewardship & Institutional Vitality

OUR VISION

Notre Dame Prep will steward its people, resources, and facilities, with wisdom and integrity, ensuring that every investment strengthens our mission and serves future generations of students. Through careful planning, responsible growth, and faithful stewardship, the school will build upon its momentum while preserving the close-knit community that defines the Notre Dame experience.

In partnership with Sacred Heart University and other community partners, Notre Dame Prep will continue expanding opportunities, strengthening resources, and investing in a campus that reflects the excellence and promise of its mission.

Goal 1: Strengthen Financial Stewardship, Advancement, and Partnerships

Strengthen the long-term sustainability of Notre Dame Prep through responsible stewardship, expanded advancement and alumni development, and strategic partnerships.

Key Initiatives:

- Strengthen financial stewardship through responsible budgeting, long-range financial planning, and diversification of revenue sources.
- Expand advancement efforts through annual giving, major gifts, planned giving, grants, and a comprehensive capital campaign supporting strategic priorities.
- Develop a capital campaign focused on larger institutional priorities, including future facility improvements that enhance the student experience and support enrollment growth.
- Increase alumni, parent, and donor engagement through meaningful communication, stewardship, volunteer opportunities, and philanthropic initiatives.
- Develop mutually beneficial partnerships with Sacred Heart University, local businesses, foundations, parishes, and community organizations to expand opportunities and strengthen institutional resources.

Goal 2: Modernize and Expand to Support Academic, Arts, Athletic, and Faith Formation

Create learning and community spaces that reflect Notre Dame Prep’s academic ambition, Catholic identity, and commitment to whole-person formation.

Key Initiatives:

- Execute a phased Facilities Modernization Plan aligned with academic growth, student needs, and long-term institutional priorities.
- Reimagine the library as a Student Commons gathering space that encourages collaboration, connection, and community life.
- Modernize academic, student support, and athletic facilities to align with enrollment growth and evolving program needs.
- Construct a new dining hall and kitchen to enhance community life and student experience.
- Expand athletic and co-curricular opportunities through the addition of programs aligned with student interest, mission, and institutional capacity.
- Advance sustainability through responsible resource management, long-term facilities planning, and student engagement in campus stewardship.

Goal 3: Sustain Strategic Enrollment Growth While Preserving Community and Access

Grow enrollment thoughtfully through the Road to 600 initiative while preserving Notre Dame Prep’s culture, accessibility, and sense of community.

Key Initiatives:

- Expand transportation routes throughout Greater Bridgeport and Fairfield County to improve accessibility for current and prospective families.
- Strengthen strategic marketing and brand clarity centered on Notre Dame Prep’s Catholic mission and Portrait of a Graduate.
- Continue enrollment efforts focused on attracting students who contribute to the academic, athletic, artistic, spiritual, and leadership life of the school.
- Maintain a strong commitment to financial assistance and socioeconomic diversity.
- Ensure enrollment growth is supported by appropriate staffing, facilities, and student support systems.
- Continue collaboration with Sacred Heart University to expand opportunities that enhance the student experience.

Goal 4: Invest to Sustain Excellence and Innovation

Ensure staffing, infrastructure, and operational systems keep pace with academic growth, innovation, and the needs of students and faculty.

Key Initiatives:

- Align staffing with enrollment growth and program expansion through strategic faculty hiring and administrative support.
- Invest in instructional coaching, Campus Ministry, counseling, and student support roles that strengthen the student experience.
- Strengthen technology infrastructure to support artificial intelligence, digital portfolios, cybersecurity, and data-informed decision-making.

Stewardship & Institutional Vitality: Indicators of Success:

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| • Completed priority facilities projects are aligned with academic, programmatic, and enrollment growth. | • Strong financial health reflected in balanced budgets, diversified revenue streams, and long-term fiscal sustainability. |
| • Enrollment growth at or on track for 600 students by 2030 while maintaining appropriate class sizes and a strong sense of community. | • Sustained faculty and staff retention aligned with institutional growth and programmatic needs. |
| • Increased accessibility through expanded transportation options and financial assistance. | • Positive stakeholder feedback regarding campus environment, communication, operations, and institutional effectiveness. |
| • Improved advancement outcomes (5% annual growth in giving), including annual giving, major gifts, alumni participation, and campaign success. | • Technology and operational improvements that enhance teaching, learning, and school operations. |

OUR COMMITMENT TO REVIEW AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Notre Dame Prep recognizes that effective strategic planning is an ongoing, reflective process. Progress toward the goals outlined in this plan will be reviewed annually by school leadership, Sacred Heart administration, and the Board of Visitors using mission-aligned data, stakeholder feedback, and accreditation benchmarks. This annual review process will inform adjustments to priorities, timelines, and resource allocation, ensuring that the plan remains responsive to student needs, faithful to the school's Catholic mission, and aligned with best practices in education. Through this commitment to continuous improvement, Notre Dame Prep will steward its resources wisely while advancing excellence, integrity, and purpose in all aspects of school life.

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Notre Dame Prep 2030 reflects our belief that excellence is never accidental. It is achieved through faithful stewardship, purposeful leadership, and the daily choices of a community committed to forming young men and women who live in Christ, pursue excellence, seek wisdom, strive for greatness, and lead with love. Together, we embrace this vision with confidence, knowing that the best chapters of Notre Dame Prep's story are still to be written.



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