



Dear Nativity Families:

Nativity of Mary School begins 2019 with much excitement about our progress and initiatives. Nearly four years ago, our school embarked on an aggressive strategic plan to ensure excellence in all areas of our school. Through this focus, we've added new programs, educational materials, technology and teaching methods to benefit students. Staff participated in additional professional development to support these programs. Our school has expanded and licensed our preschool program, added the lunch program, and increased partnerships and grants. As a result, these efforts have helped to increase enrollment and brought excellence to all operations of our school. During 2019-20, we will continue to focus on our Strategic Plan and invite you to review at: "[Strategic Plan](#)"

Our School Advisory Board and Finance Council are working with our trustees and administration to set tuition and fees for the 2019-20 year. We are honored to partner with your family and know that you make a commitment to send your children to Nativity each year. We are blessed to have you as a part of our school family. As we strive to balance our school budget, we are looking at all areas including student to teacher ratio, tuition, fundraisers, and benefits. Your input is welcome as we finalize these decisions. Please watch for 2019-20 tuition and fee information by the end of this month.

REGISTRATION FOR 2019-20: Nativity of Mary School begins registration for 2019-20. With TADS, registration will be simplified. What will this look like?

- **Registration for 1-8th Grades:** *You will not have to enter information, again. If your child is currently in Kindergarten to 7th grade, they will be automatically enrolled for the new school year. If your family is not planning to return next year, please email me at mreeder@nativitybloomington.org or call the office.*
- **Preschool & Kindergarten Students for 2019-20:** *You will need to register on TADS. If you already have a family account, you may log in and register. The link is: <https://secure.tads.com/Accounts/Login.aspx>. If you are new to our Preschool or Kindergarten program, you will need to "Create an Account."*
- **Preschool & Bus Stop at St. Edwards:** *If you are planning to enroll your child in the "Faithful Beginnings" preschool program at the Church of St. Edward, you can elect this option when you register for the preschool class. We plan to have a bus stop at the St. Edward's campus to bus your older children over to school at Nativity. Detailed information will be available this spring.*
- **COMING THIS SUMMER-Preschool Summer Care!** *We are extending our Creative Clubhouse program to include preschool. Details coming home soon!*

RALLY FOR ROBERTSON BENEFIT-January 18 at the KC Hall: Please plan to join us at this adult-only event to raise dollars to support Mrs. Robertson with her medical costs. **Tickets are available in the school office.**



PLAN TO ATTEND - Wed. January 16th at 7 p.m. in the Gathering Space. Will be discussing Messy Art Night and Spring activities and events. The PTO is planning a fun family event-



MISSION: Nativity of Mary Catholic School provides a Catholic education that fosters academic excellence and spiritual growth while preparing students to become responsible citizens in a global society.

JAN. 20: NEWSLETTER

[Can't find your paper copy?](#)
[Click here for attachments on our school website.](#)

JAN. 11: Spirit Wear Day!

JAN. 12: Charism Retreat – 9 to 3 p.m.

JAN. 13: Open House at St. Edward - 11:30-1 p.m.

- 2nd Grade Reconciliation Workshop

JAN. 16: PTO - 7 p.m.

JAN. 18: Rally for Robertson Benefit

JAN. 20: PTO Fun Day!

JAN. 21: NO SCHOOL

JAN. 23: SPIRIT of SPRING PLANNING MEETING

JAN. 27: Open House- Noon to 2 p.m.

JOIN US ON:

[SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)
[INSTAGRAM \(Click\)](#)
[FACEBOOK \(Click\)](#)

WELCOME TO CINDY KEOGH- New Creative Clubhouse Coordinator

Cindy comes to Nativity with a wealth of experience and most recently in the Northfield District coordinating their KidVentures programs. She is a member of St. Dominic's parish and an active volunteer in several nonprofits. She holds an AAS Degree in Child Development from Dakota County and is excited to connect with our families! Her email is: ckeogh@nativitybloomington.org.

NATIVITY FUNDRAISERS:

- **52 Club Raffle:** All raffle tickets, sold, signed, or unsigned, **MUST BE RETURNED to the school office by January 11, 2019.** Thank you for participating in this fundraiser. Please return all sold or unsold tickets. (If you choose to not participate, do not fill out the tickets.)
- **READ-A-THON "Camp Reads-A-Lot" will begin on Mon., Jan. 14.** Students are asked to read books and collect pledges for reading. All K-8 families have bought out of this fundraiser, but any additional pledges collected up to \$750 can be earned toward a tuition discount.
- **ANNUAL FUND:** The Annual Fund began three years ago and continues to raise critical dollars for our school. Our goal this year is to reach \$85,000. To date we have raised \$50,760. Thank you for your commitment to Nativity. If you can support our Annual Fund, we would greatly appreciate this! Ask your business to match your donation. Invite grandparents and relatives to support our school. [DONATE ONLINE](#)
- **SPRIIT OF SPRING MEETING-JAN. 23:** Join us January 23 at 6 p.m. We are looking for more people to get involved and need your great ideas!

NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL K-8 TUITION SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

Complete your TADS financial aid forms by February 27, 2019 in order to be eligible for the largest scholarships through Aim Higher, Catholic Services Appeal and the Catholic Community Foundation. Apply online at this link. You may already have an account, so you can log in, or create an account if you do not have one: <https://secure.tads.com/Accounts/Login.aspx?fa=1&lang=en>

PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2019-20: Students who will be four next fall and in their last year of preschool, are invited to apply for scholarships.

Apply: <https://www.grantinterface.com/User/Register?urlkey=earlychildhood>

KUDOS:

- **Middle School Families:** Thank you for your gifts to our Middle School teachers and specialists. They appreciate your generosity.
- **Connie Dowzak:** Congratulations on her retirement! Thanks to Courtney, Vanessa and Wanda who helped host her retirement celebration.

Blessings – Mindy Reeder, PRINCIPAL mreeder@nativitybloomington.org



LUNCH UPDATES

LUNCH BALANCES: Please log into Educate monthly to check on your lunch account balance. Our goal is to have positive balances as 2019 begins.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Looking for volunteers for our serving lunch. Email Jill Grimme at "[LUNCH VOLUNTEER](#)" or email Jill at her school email: jgrimme@nativitybloomington.org



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Sign up by clicking on this link to volunteer for recess.

[RECESS](#)



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

HIGHER POWERED

LEARNING at NATIVITY

Nativity of Mary School is partnering with the University of Notre Dame in a three year grant through their Higher Powered Learning Program. Their staff is working directly with our teachers, four this year, but all of our teachers over the next three years, to implement a personalized learning program for each child – referred to as Blended Learning.

BLAST Teachers – Will have a one-to-one conference with Notre Dame staff this month to implement winter classroom strategies.

NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL TEACHERS – All teachers will continue to read "The Growth Mindset" focusing on the January chapter, feedback and reflections.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



ACADEMY OF HOLY ANGELS:

January 10 – Open House at 6 p.m.

RSVP on the school website

January 12 – Grade School Night for basketball game 5 & 7 p.m.

January 19 – Application & Placement tests