

NEWS



Vol. VIII No. 2

NATIVITY ACADEMY AT SAINT BONIFACE

Summer 2011

Louisville's private middle school offering educational excellence to children of academic promise from low-income families

Congratulations to our Nativity Academy 2011 Graduates



L-R/Front Row: Brandi Blackshear, Uriel Trujillo, Corbin Spalding, Michale Fountain, Jalen Mayberry, Makala Taylor. Middle Row: Hailey Rocha, Maria Ramirez, Darriell Long, Derrick Taylor, Nicole Ranes, Mackenzie Pendleton. Back Row: Dakarai Alexander, Dayan Smith, Ashanti Burgess, Amber Horton, Majesty Williams, Jesus Rivera Reyes, Ashley Taylor



Dear Friends of Nativity Academy.

This newsletter is filled with "beginnings and endings." As usual, the final issue for the year features Nativity Academy's graduation. So you will see pictures of the nineteen young men and women who completed our program as the Class of 2011. Once again we are proud of our students' achievements

and look forward to continuing to work with them as they begin their high school careers. We are convinced that they can and will succeed.

Just as the Class of 2011 has left Nativity Academy at St. Boniface, I will do the same on June 30th. My hope that Nativity Academy will continue to provide excellent Catholic education to low-income families has been met with the appointment of Carol Nord as Nativity's Executive Director. The article introducing Carol will give you the same sense of confidence. I feel certain that she will provide the fresh ideas and energy needed to take Nativity to even higher levels of success. Although we have served in different areas of Catholic education, Carol and I have known each other for many years. She is highly respected for her work and leadership, and I am convinced she will be very successful.

With Carol's appointment, the return of Meghan Weyland as principal, and the leadership of our new Board chairperson, Mike Hendricks, I leave Nativity in extremely good and capable hands. Again, God has provided for Nativity Academy.

As I look back on the last nine years, I see God's activity at every turn – our families and children, our teachers, staff, and volunteers, our board members, our generous donors – each has demonstrated God's love and blessings. When I recently commented to a friend how everything at Nativity seems to work out for the best, she responded, "Of course it does. It's God's work." How right she is.

These years have been wonderfully blessed for me, and I am grateful for every moment. I want to close with a favorite quote from Angela Merici, founder of the Ursuline Sisters. Advising her followers about their relationship with those whom they seek to serve, she writes:

"...you must consider the manner in which you esteem them, for the more you esteem them, the more you will love them; the more you love them, the more you will care for and watch over them. And it will be impossible for you not to cherish them . . . and to have them all engraved in your heart, one by one, for this is how real love acts and works."

Each of you is engraved in my heart.

Gratefully,

Paula Kleine-Kracht, OSU, Ph.D.
Executive Director

**The Volcano Project
Build & Demo Science Event!**



Cory Bell displays a fact chart and his volcano construction.



Maya Stills and Kennedy Atkinson present their informational poster and volcano model.



Teacher Georganna Mahaffey supervises the set-up and grading of the students' volcano projects displayed on tables outdoors.

Wish List

Please help Nativity Academy prepare for the school year by donating any of the following needed supplies. For more information contact Kathey G. Sanders, Director of Development at 855-3313 or ksanders@nativityacademy.org

- 4-pack dry erase markers
- Graphing paper
- Red, Blue & Green pens
- Colored markers
- Colored pencils
- Glue sticks
- Highlighters
- Scissors
- Index cards
- Poster board – white or any color
- 4 packs AA batteries
- 2 pocket folders
- Sharpies
- Loose leaf paper – college or wide rule
- Pencil pouch for 3- ring binders
- Protractors
- Compasses

Graduation May 2011 – Celebrating Our

The eighth-grade Class of 2011 celebrated their graduation on May 24th in St. Boniface Church. Parents, sponsors, family and friends gathered with Nativity's administration, faculty, staff and guests to honor these students and celebrate their success.



Mackenzie Pendleton speaks at the ceremony.



Dakarai Alexander enters St. Boniface with his mother, Estraleeta Alexander.



Dr. Kevin Cosby, Pastor of St. Stephen Church, inspired and challenged the graduates with his message.



Graduate Ashanti Burgess escorts his mother, LaVease Burgess, (left) and sponsor Marjorie Dufek (right).



Deacon Pat Wright of St. Boniface shared prayers with the graduates.



Sr. Paula Kleine-Kracht and Mrs. Weyland present a Nativity Academy diploma to Darriell Long.



Maria Ramirez re and Guy Montgo

Enjoy more graduation photos at – www.nativitylouisville.org

Spring Field Day



Students enjoyed outdoor games and activities on their May field day at Waterfront Park.

Celebrating Graduates' Success!

Congratulations to our two former Nativity students, Consuelo Santillan and Shian Jordan. These current Sacred Heart Academy students made First Honor Roll for the second semester 2010-2011 school year. We are happy to celebrate their accomplishments in high school.



Gustavo Alcantara received a Spirit of Saint Xavier Award at the spring 2011 Sophomore Awards Ceremony for exemplifying "The Spirit of St. Xavier in all that he does."

Students' Success!



Sean and Cynthia Walker arrive happily to share this memorable occasion with their daughter, Makala Taylor.



Tracy and William Raney arrive with Nicole Raney for the graduation ceremonies.



receives warm congratulations from her sponsors, Libbye
omery

From the Board Chair

Summer 2011



Alice Cowley
Board Chair

It is with great hope, and some sadness, that I write my last column as Board Chairman of Nativity Academy. As I complete two terms on the board I envision not only the hurdles cleared but the road yet to travel.

Why am I hopeful? I have been blessed to work with vibrant, enthusiastic and creative board members. My successor is Mike Hendricks, who has all these qualities and currently serves as vice president for facilities management at Norton Healthcare. He is responsible for facilities management and planning, construction management and all real estate properties. Mike has bachelor, masters, and law degrees from the University of Louisville, where he serves on the Board of Overseers. His community involvement has been education focused, serving on the Board of Trustees of Ursuline Campus Schools from 1991-1998. Mike and his wife Jeanie have three sons and five grandchildren. They are avid travelers who enjoy preparing for trips by studying the history and culture of each destination. Mike is equally well prepared for his tenure at Nativity, and I wish him the best of luck, have full confidence in his abilities, and offer my full support for traveling the road ahead.

The sadness I feel stems from saying goodbye to old friends – not only fellow board members – but also to Sr. Paula as she begins her work at Bellarmine University in the Master of Education program. As our executive director, she has been an exemplary leader and a pleasure to work with during my tenure on the board. Truly, I prefer not to say goodbye but instead JOB WELL DONE! The entire board wishes Sr. Paula great success in her new endeavor, and we offer her our total support for making a difference in more students' lives.

What a difference Sr. Paula has made at Nativity! Since its opening in 2003, ninety students have graduated from Nativity. Of those graduates, 60 are in high school. From our first two graduating classes of 28 children, 27 either graduated from high school or completed a GED. Contrast this number with the 50% high school graduation rate for minority students in Kentucky. We are pleased that 12 of our graduates are entering their sophomore college year; we anticipate 12 college freshmen entering in the fall semester. Sr. Paula has accomplished this through inspirational leadership and a dogged determination for success. Failure is not in her vocabulary; she never gives up until the goal is accomplished. I have known Sister for many years. She has been a rare leader, an excellent educator and above all a loyal friend. Nativity's loss is Bellarmine's gain. But, in the end, we are all winners, because in her new role she will be ensuring an excellent education for more students.

Carol Nord Named As New Executive Director



Carol Nord

Nativity Academy's Board of Directors has named Carol Nord as the new Executive Director of Nativity. Ms. Nord will join the school on July 1, 2011.

Involved with Catholic elementary and middle schools for nearly 30 years, Carol Nord was named to Leadership Louisville's Class of 2009, serves on the Archdiocesan Principal Performance Appraisal team, and is a lead team member and site visitor for the district certification team. For the past six years, Nord served as the Head of School/Principal at St. Nicholas Academy, a K-8 school serving 800 students. Her leadership positions include 18 years as the Principal of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School in Louisville.

Ms. Nord holds a Master of Education, a bachelor's degree in elementary education, middle school math certification, and certification in elementary school principalship from the University of Louisville. In addition, she recently completed certification in fund raising management from Indiana University.

When asked about her new role as Executive Director, Nord said, "I am excited by the new challenges ahead of me as I join the dedicated staff of Nativity Academy. I welcome the opportunity to advance the mission of the school through collaboration with the board, staff, parents and students."

In a recent letter to the Nativity Academy Community, she states, "...It gives me great satisfaction to work as partners with the families in achieving the successes they desire for their children....It is my hope...to continue to build on the strong foundation and successes that Sr. Paula and Fr. Tim Hogan have begun. I am anxious to spread the "good news" of Nativity Academy at St. Boniface to our community."

I look forward to many more years of affiliation at Nativity Academy in whatever capacity I am needed. I thank each of our sponsors, donors, fellow board members and students for their support and passion for what the principal and teachers do every day. The world is full of everyday saints, and Nativity has been blessed with an abundance of these. I see them in the volunteer coaches, tutors, faculty and staff. I see them in the board and sponsors and in all those who are touched by the children and their achievements and extend a hand to a child. Keep up the good work and God Bless.

NIBBLER 2011

A Taste of
New Orleans



We thank our sponsors:

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...a reason for hope



NATIVITY ACADEMY

Save the Date!

6th Annual
Golf Scramble

Sponsored by boice.net

Thursday, August 25, 2011

Shotgun Start at 1:30 PM

Registration & Box Lunches start at 12 noon

Quail Chase Golf Club

7000 Cooper Chapel Road • Louisville, Kentucky 40229
502-239-2110

**To download registration form and
for sponsorship opportunities go to:**

On the web: www.nativitylouisville.org

On Facebook: Nativity Academy at St. Boniface

For more information about Nativity Academy,
or to donate, please visit our website
www.nativitylouisville.org
Or Contact: **Kathey Golightly Sanders at 502-855-3313**

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excellence to children of academic promise from low-
income families*

NATIVITY ACADEMY AT ST. BONIFACE

Executive Director: Paula Kleine-Kracht OSU

Incoming Executive Director: Carol Nord

Development Director: Kathey Golightly Sanders

Phone Number: 855-3313

Principal: Meghan Weyland

Phone Number: 855-3300

Extended Day Director:

Tami Harbolt-Bosco

Phone Number: 855-3300

Graduate Support Director:

Anne-Marie Brown

Phone Number: 855-3300

Sponsoring Congregations

Ursuline Sisters of Louisville

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www.nativitylouisville.org

**Please remember Nativity Academy at
St. Boniface in your will.**

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