

**NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL, INC.
ONE LAWTONS HILL
POTTSVILLE, PA 17901
PHONE: (570) 622-8110**

NOVEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



News from the Principal

As we enter the month of November, our minds turn to four significant celebrations – All Saints Day, All Souls Day, Veteran’s Day and Thanksgiving. November is a month for Thanksgiving and Remembrance. The Nativity family will gather together and celebrate throughout November. We are thankful to all of our parents, families and friends for their support of Catholic education at Nativity BVM High School. Please know that the Nativity community will remember our deceased loved ones in prayer throughout the month of November.

We especially ask for God’s blessings upon the United States of America as we remember our American Military. Please join us on livestream for a special service on **November 15, 2021 at 10:25 AM to honor our Veterans**. It is a day for us to thank God for those men and women who so bravely defend our country in times of war and peace.

Fall is a beautiful time of the year with brilliant colors highlighting the countryside. The month of November brings great excitement as we anticipate Thanksgiving. We all look forward to this holiday as a special time to share food and fellowship with our families. We need to take time out of our busy lives and spend quality time with our loved ones. I hope that everyone has a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving.

Our **Thanksgiving Liturgy**, celebrated on Wednesday, November 24th, allows us to praise God and to place life in its proper perspective. It is a day for reflection about who we are and what we have to be grateful for.

It is difficult to believe that we are ready to begin the 2nd quarter. As usual, it has been a busy but productive school year. The good news about Nativity continues to spread. Our Catholic faith and high academic standards set us apart from the rest. When you add the family atmosphere and all the athletic and social opportunities for students, it is hard to believe that students would attend anywhere else.

May we continue to pray for each other as we journey through the month of November. Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving Day!

Mrs Lynn A Sabol

THANK YOU!

A special thank you to Mrs. Jill Keener for her service at Nativity. Additionally, a special thank you to Mr. Lee Labosky for the time and talent he has shared with the Nativity community for the past 19 years. We wish both of them all the best!

Important Notice to Seniors!

Seniors who are applying to college must have their financial obligations up to date in order for transcripts to be released.

Financial Concerns

As always, we need everyone to keep their tuition and fundraising payments up to date. Students who have outstanding balances will not receive report cards, take exams or possibly not be able to participate in activities. Please make every effort to make payments in a timely fashion. It is crucial to the cash flow of the school. Thank you for your understanding!

Dress Code

Winter dress code is in effect. No shorts may be worn until the spring and all long pants must follow the guidelines in the handbook. If students choose to wear a sweater, it must be a school sweater which can be purchased in the school store. A reminder that students must be properly dressed in school uniform every day. Failure to adhere to the regulations will result in discipline action.

Please check your daughter's skirt for appropriate length and make sure that your son is clean shaven!

Special note: On Friday's during various sport seasons, students may wear team tee shirts, long sleeve shirts or jerseys. However, no jackets, sweatshirts or tops of any kind that cannot be tucked in are permitted.

Communication

Communication between parents, teachers, administration and students is key to the smooth operation of a school. There are many ways to communicate: phone, email and appointments, to name a few. Please keep in touch with your child's teachers by using email and checking grades on the MMS portal.

If you have a concern about academics, contact the teacher first. If this does not resolve the issue, please contact Mr. Naffin, the Studies Coordinator. Discipline matters should be directed to Mrs. Masinick. Please contact Mrs. Margaret Young with financial questions and Mr. Joshua

Muldowney with athletic issues. These people stay in constant contact with the principal to oversee the programs here at Nativity.

Please know that the administration, faculty and staff make every effort to provide quality Catholic education in a supportive, disciplined and safe environment. Every child is important and every child deserves a chance to succeed. Thank you to all of the parents who have been supportive as we all make Nativity the best place for our children.

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

New Student Information Night

On, Sunday, November 21st, Nativity will be hosting a New Student Information Night for 7th and 8th grade students beginning at 6:00 PM at the school. Nativity BVM High School administration, faculty, staff, students, parents and board members will be on hand to discuss specific information about academics, financial aid, guidance services and opportunities for students. This information will be particularly helpful for incoming freshmen, transfer students, new students and potential host families. We invite you and your family to join us for this event. No pre-registration is required. All are welcome! Please contact the school at 570-622-8110 or jldaubert@nativitybvm.net.

NEWS FROM THE STUDIES OFFICE

The first quarter grades closed on Friday, October 30th. Report cards will be distributed on Friday, November 6th. If there are any questions regarding grades, please contact Mr. Naffin in the Studies Office.

Parent Conferences

Parent Conferences will be held on Monday, November 16th. These conferences are **by appointment only**. Please refer to the letter which was mailed the week of October 26th. Appointments must be made by the students or via teacher email. These appointments **cannot** be made from the Office.

Honor Roll Criteria

Honors are tabulated on grades at the end of the quarters and are based on quarter grades. Honors will be awarded to the students who meet the following criteria:

Distinguished Honors – a grade of 93 or above in all subjects

1st Honors – an average of 89.5 or above in all subjects, with grades of 85 or above in all subjects.

2nd Honors – an average of 84.5 or above in all subjects, with grades of 80 or above in all subjects.

GPA

Student GPA's are calculated every marking period. GPA is printed on all report cards. Class rank is not printed on report cards by Allentown Diocese Policy. Please refer to the course selection booklet for the table of point values used in calculating GPA.

All transfer students will have their previous credits and GPA's included in the 1st marking period grades. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Naffin.

ATHELTIC NEWS

Congratulations to all of our fall sports teams. Every team this fall either qualified or had individual students participate at the District XI level. Both girls and boys soccer also qualified for the league playoffs but both lost in the 1st round of Districts.

Congratulations to the Volleyball and Football teams and they continue this week in District XI playoffs.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

On behalf of the Student Council Association, we wish to thank all in the Nativity Family who were involved in making Spirit Week a success! A special thank you to Mrs. Cathy Winter for her help in creating the Homecoming Football Program centerfold. Grateful thanks to all our candidates who ran! Congratulations to Ms. Lauren Ferhat and Mr. Marquis Ratcliff on their win for the 2021 election of the Homecoming Queen and King titles.

On Monday, November 15th, we will once again have our annual Veterans Day Program. We ask that any veteran wishing to attend **please call** the school by Wednesday November 10th and give us a name and number of guests attending the program. If you plan on attending, we ask that you please wear a mask. Thank you!

Our annual Christmas Prom will be on Saturday, December 4th, at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of November. Ticket prices, the schedule and menu will be available in the school and on the Nativity Facebook page. We look forward to seeing you there!

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!



Interact Club

Nativity's Interact Club has held several meetings over the last month. This club is service oriented and is associated with Rotary. Recently, we collected items for the Winter Coat and Diaper Drive. Our next events include a school wide cleanup, sending cards to all of our partner school students and a Red Cross Blood Drive.

If anyone has a service project that they need help with, please contact Mrs. Sabol or Mrs. Holohan.

YEARBOOK NEWS

YEARBOOK NEWS: As a reminder to senior parents, senior studio portraits are due to Miss Reynolds by Wednesday, November 25th. We ask that no outdoor poses are submitted. If you have any questions, please email Miss Reynolds at jreynolds@nativitybvm.net. Portraits can also be submitted to the same email address. Thank you and happy holidays!



Congratulations to Nativity Seniors, Marquis Ratcliff and Lauren Ferhat, who were named Nativity King of the Hill and Homecoming Queen at the Green Wave's Homecoming Football game on Friday, October 1, 2021!

FINANCE OFFICE:

POT OF GOLD WINNERS

DRAWING DATE: 10/20, 2021

- 1st Betz & Glen
Seller: Madison Kramer
- 2nd Joanne Baldino
Seller: D. Higgins
- 3rd Dan Figura
Seller: D. Higgins
- 4th Donna Ford
Seller: Kevin Kanute

FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

It is very important that your student fill out the proper absence excuse when making a college visit, going on vacation, having dental work done or will be out for an extended period of time. This absence excuse allows their teachers to make note of work they will be missing.

PLEASE BE SURE TO CALL the main office or the attendance line to report that your student will not be at school or will be late due to a doctor's visit.

Student Learning Supports

Classroom Plans

Student support plans are reviewed and renewed on a yearly basis. For students in need of learning supports Nativity has two (2) plans to meet their needs.

- 1.) Equitable Participation Service Plan (EPSP) is similar to an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). It is available to students that have been evaluated by a psychologist and have met the necessary criteria.

- 2.) Student Support Plan (SSP) is similar to a 504 plan. It is available to students that have been evaluated by a psychologist and have not met all the necessary criteria but still need supports to be successful.

If you have any concerns or questions about student support plans, please contact Al Bobinas, Ed. D. at:

abobinas@nativitybvm.net

College Board Accommodations

Please contact Mrs. Brensinger in Guidance if you are looking for accommodations for the PSAT or SAT. This is a 7-week process at minimum, so parents are encouraged to reach out immediately. Parents will need to fill out the Consent form located on the College Board website and give it to the office for Mrs. Brensinger :

<https://accommodations.collegeboard.org/request-accommodations/request/through-the-school>

If you need additional help please contact Mrs. Brensinger at guidance@nativitybvm.net

Attention New Students: If you had a learning plan prior to enrolling at Nativity, please be sure to bring a copy to the office for Dr. Bobinas. We ask that you give us a copy of the plan and a copy of the Evaluation/Reevaluation. Thank you.

SENIOR NEWS

Greetings and Happy Fall from the Class of 2022! We will be holding our annual pumpkin roll fundraiser again this year. Students will receive order forms on Thursday, October 21st - with an order sheet due date of Thursday, November 11th. Pumpkin rolls, handmade by Clare Brady, are \$15 each. Checks can be made out to Nativity. Delivery date is Thursday, November 23rd - you choose the time: 12:30 or 2:45. Please contact Mrs. Lori Cassidy with any questions at lcassidy@nativitybvm.net.



SCHOOL STORE

As basketball season approaches, let's not forget to get your sport passes! They are available in the school store. Adult-\$50. and Student \$25.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AT THE SCHOOL STORE:

Come enjoy an evening from 6:00-8:00 on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. Start your holiday shopping early with family and friends while having drinks and cookies/cupcakes (made by our Nativity students).

Uniform clothing, Nativity apparel and all miscellaneous items will be offered. Additionally, we will be revealing new Nativity clothing at this time. Plaid baseball hats, dog sweaters, lounge shorts/pants and baseball clothing to name a few. Free gift wrapping will be available.

Any students needing service hours will have the opportunity to volunteer at this event. We will need students to be greeters, wrap gifts and bake homemade cookies/cupcakes for all to enjoy. See Mrs. Eckley in the school store to sign up.

This event will be held in the cafeteria and masks will be required. During this time only, the certificate program will run a special. For every \$600 or more purchased in certificates, you will receive 2-\$10 gift cards of your choice or \$25 off tuition.

For those parents and friends of Nativity who are unable to visit the school store during school hours, we will be opening the school 2 nights in December for all those to finish their Christmas shopping. Details will be in the December newsletter.

Any questions, call Sue Eckley @ 570-640-0930

GREEN & GOLD

The Green and Gold would like to thank everyone who supported the gift card calendar fundraiser. An update will be given in the next newsletter.

Thank you for supporting the Green and Gold.



Raffle Update

The biggest fundraiser for the Green and Gold is the \$20,000.00 raffle, which goes off on Thursday December 16th. Tickets are \$100 and only 555 tickets are sold. We are reaching out to any parents interested in selling 5 tickets. If you are able to sell all 5, your child's name goes into a drawing to win a \$500 tuition credit. Contact Diane Yaneck in the main office at 570-622-8110.

Guidance News

We have a new Guidance Counselor! Mrs. Liz Brensinger joined the Nativity Family on October 4th. Please feel free to say hello when you are in the building or to email her at guidance@nativitybvm.net. We appreciate your patience as she gets settled and organized for the year.

Any student who would like assistance with their Resume is asked to see Mrs. Brensinger to make an appointment. Please note, all Seniors are required to have a Resume in their file upon graduating from Nativity.

All Seniors applying to Colleges through the Common App must invite Mrs. Brensinger as the Guidance Counselor. Mrs. Daubert is assisting with this process. Please use the following information when you invite the recommender.

Email: guidance@nativitybvm.net

Name: Mrs. Liz Brensinger

Please be sure to send in copies of your acceptance letters as well as any scholarship offers you receive. You may email them to guidance@nativitybvm.net or bring a copy to the office.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W, M.S.
Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

AHERA

In compliance with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response (AHERA) an inspection for asbestos was performed at each of our schools within the Diocese of Allentown. A copy of the inspection reports are on file in the school's Administrative Office for your review any time during normal school hours. In the event you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school's principal or the Diocesan Asbestos Coordinator.