Congratulations

Class of 2020
School News

Letter from the Principal

Dear Alumni, Families and Friends of NDV,

I hope you are having an enjoyable and relaxing summer. This has been an extraordinary school year and I am so proud of everything we have been able to accomplish as an NDV community. The school closure mandate in March was sudden and unexpected, but the teachers did not skip a beat and developed a comprehensive distance learning program structure in less than 48 hours. Parent, student, and community feedback about our program was overwhelmingly positive. The success of our program was due, in large part, to the creativity, hard work, and dedication of our teachers.

With the support of their parents, NDV students continued to thrive in their studies and to participate in cherished NDV traditions from a distance with ingenuity, persistence, and strength. I am so proud of the students and parents for adjusting so quickly to the online learning program.

Due to a healthy operating budget, sound financial planning, and your generosity, I am proud to report that NDV was able to keep the entire staff on payroll and to assist families who were experiencing financial hardships during this crisis. We were able to financially assist all families who requested support due to COVID-19 related job losses and are in need of support to keep their children at NDV in the fall.

Ordinarily, at this time, we would be winding down the Les Amis de NDV annual campaign to fund key school renovations and upgrades. In light of the pandemic, we decided to pause the campaign in March and to redirect contributions to COVID-19 related operational expenses. In addition, to allow for physical distancing modifications, one of the renovations that remains at the top of our list is the purchasing of air conditioners for every classroom. We are considering them a necessity now more than ever because of our need for good ventilation systems throughout the building. We have four, are installing three in July, and are in need of at least five more. If you have not donated to the Les Amis de NDV campaign this year, and feel able to do so, we would be most grateful for your support. If you are unable to donate financially to NDV’s campaign this year, please consider a gift of prayer.

We hope to achieve 100% participation from the entire NDV community – whether it is in the form of a donation, or a gift of prayer for the school and the community, your gift is appreciated.

God bless and bonne sainté,
Sarah

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Letter from the Alumni Director

Dear Alumni and Friends of NDV,

Congratulations to the Class of 2020! When their school year first started, they were excited about being in the 8th grade, being the leaders of the school, and making plans to be accepted into the high school of their choice. The Class of 2020 will stand out in NDV’s 96-year history for their accomplishments and leadership during these challenging times! They will always be remembered for being the first class to produce an 8th grade radio musical broadcast online that was enjoyed by the NDV community, near and far. The premier event had over 625 views, with family and friends listening from all over the Bay Area, and as far away as Mexico, Thailand, Sweden, and Australia.

We extend a special thank you to the Class of 2020 parents who have supported their children and the NDV community throughout their child’s years with the school. As alumni parents, I hope you will stay connected with NDV’s community.

For all of you who expressed enthusiasm about the “Salute to the ‘50s” Reunion, we are excited to reschedule this event and will do so when it is safe to host large gatherings. Some of you previously contacted me regarding your plans for an upcoming reunion, please don’t hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to help you with ideas and planning.

This has been an unprecedented time and I hope that everyone has weathered the times in good health and with strength and positivity. We are always interested in how you are doing and encourage you to send us an update, in addition to any email or address changes. We want to hear from you!

Merci and bonne santé

Bernadette
Distance Learning

From the Classroom to Distance Learning in less than 48 hours!

On Tuesday, March 10th the Archdiocese of San Francisco informed all Catholic schools of their decision to close school buildings and cancel classes from March 12 – March 25, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The school closure mandate was sudden and came at a difficult time for our teachers and staff. NDV had suffered the loss of a dear friend and colleague, Mr. Dimitrios Tsokas, Coach, Athletic Director, and beloved mentor for 38 years. In honor of Mr. Tsokas, NDV closed on Wednesday, March 11th, so that everyone could attend his memorial service. When teachers returned to school on Thursday, they met in the school auditorium and for two full days everyone pulled together to create a rigorous Distance Learning program designed to keep the students’ schedule intact and functioning effectively over a two-week period, or longer if needed. Students and parents quickly adjusted to the new online learning curriculum, and through innovative planning, teachers created engaging activities to keep the students connected to their classmates and to their favorite NDV traditions.

Julianne Cravotto ‘11 GS has embarked on a career in public service. She is currently a fellow in Sacramento working for Assemblyman David Chiu of San Francisco. Julianne is leading a preventative homelessness bill on board and care facilities. A 2019 graduate of UC Davis, Julianne was a political science and history major and the recipient of the prestigious University Medal as the top graduating senior.


Class of 2020

Graduating 8th graders continue to be accepted to top Bay Area high schools, and several students were accepted into prestigious honors programs, or admitted with distinction. The schools include: Saint Ignatius College Preparatory, Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, Convent of the Sacred Heart, Archbishop Riordan High School, University High School, Lick Wilmerding, Junipero Serra High School, Stuart Hall High School, Lycée Français, Lowell High School, and Redwood High School.

Anna Jayo, ‘04 GS will be the new NDV Athletic Director and Coach.

Class of 2016

Congratulations on completing high school! We would love to hear from you - give us an update and let us know how you are doing.
Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Judy Shilstone, esteemed NDV teacher for 37 years retires

Born in New York and raised in New Jersey, Mrs. Shilstone graduated from Columbia University with a Master's Degree, and taught in PS. 125 in NYC for several years before marrying and moving to California. She is the mother of one son and two daughters, one of whom is a teacher “for whatever influence I had in that regard.” She has eight grandchildren and she looks forward to spending more time with them, as well as traveling with her husband when it is safe to do so.

Why did you want to become a teacher?

I have always liked helping people as I find it rewarding. Teaching is the ideal occupation for helping others, especially when students discover something about themselves or figure out an idea, or appreciate an "aha" moment in a book they have been reading.

You wore many hats at NDV, what were your favorites and why?

Of the many activities I have been involved in, one that is dear to my heart, is coaching the Academic Decathlon. These are students who go far beyond what is expected of them in the classroom, take on academic challenges, work, support, and respect each other. Another activity has been as a Moderator of Student Council. To see students take on leadership, step out of their comfort zone, and show their love of the school with activities that make NDV special has been rewarding. They are the role models of the very best of NDV.

What would you say is the biggest change at NDV since you started In 1982?

The biggest challenge since I have been at NDV is the introduction of technology. Nowhere has that been more evident than as we have been practicing Distance Learning for our classes.

What do you think you will miss the most?

What I will miss the most are the students, especially in the Middle School, the staff who are so creative, supportive and respectful of each other, and daily surprises from the students that make this job so worthwhile.

What are you most looking forward to in retirement?

I have a nightstand stack of books I have been hoping to read and that will be a priority to jump start my retirement. I also hope to spend more time with my family who fortunately all live nearby.
Annual Science Fair

In January, students in grades 5, 6, and 7 created projects following the scientific method of inquiry. The projects were displayed in the auditorium for school viewing and judged by a committee of NDV parents.

Grandparents/GrandFriends'Day

Grandparents/Grand Friends' Day began with a mass followed by a festive reception in the auditorium. Classroom visits with teachers and student led activities kept our special guests busy throughout the day.
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- Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory,
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- Archbishop Riordan High School,
- University High School, Lick Wilmerding,
- Junipero Serra High School, Stuart Hall High School,
- Lycée Français, Lowell High School,
- and Redwood High School.

Class of 2016
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Alumni News

Athletic Director and Coach - Mr. Dimitrios Tsokas

NDVs beloved Athletic Director and Coach for 38 years, Mr. Dimitrios Tsokas, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, March 3 after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Mr. Tsokas was a devoted husband, father, loyal friend, and dedicated teacher. A rosary and memorial service was held at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church on Wednesday, March 11 at 11:00am. NDV was closed on March 11th so that his friends and colleagues could honor his memory and attend the service. He will be remembered as a pillar of the NDV community and will be missed deeply.

Alumni Donors

June Aymard ’49 HS in memory of Patricia Cleary Lynd ’49 HS
Marie-Therese Denning ’46 GS, ’50 HS in memory of Ann Ashburn McCabe ’46 GS, ’50 HS
Judy L. Kleinman ’60 GS, ’64 HS in memory of Yvon Soares ’60 GS, ’64 HS
Gail Arteseros in honor of Erica ’81 GS and Adria ’83 GS Arteseros, and Valerie Meehan ’38 GS, ’42 HS
Guillaume Cornu in memory of his wife, Jeannette Cornu (Duport) ’65 GS, ’69 HS
Andrée Lamanet ’49 GS, ’53 HS in memory of Clara M. Morrissey ’49 GS, ’53 HS
Françoise Etchenique ’63 GS, ’67 HS in memory of Thomas Blake ’63 GS
Donald Kidd ’52 GS in memory of Jerry Davalos, husband of classmate Sallyanne O’Brien Davalos ’52 GS
Elizabeth Gonczol (Gyurgik) ’62 HS in memory of her husband, John T. Gonczol
Rose Marie Beuttler ’42 GS, ’46 HS in memory of the High School Class of 1946
Adrienne Lacau ’59 GS, ’63 HS
Rene Lorda ’62 GS, ’66 HS in memory of Bernard and Grace Lorda
Gerald DelRio ’63 GS
Gail Siri ’50 GS in memory of Albert Frietzsche ’50 GS
Kevin McCarthy ’65 GS in memory of Marge and Jim McCarthy
Theresa Carney ’68 HS and Katie Carney ’70 HS in memory of Frank and Mary Carney
Peter Hogan ’60 GS
Maria-Grazia Celle (Ratto) ’70 GS
June Ellis Catron ’36 GS, ’40 HS in honor of Henriette Lahaderne ’36 GS, ’40 HS
Nancy Ferraris Sivy ’56 HS in memory of Rose Marie Martinello Gould ’56 HS
Nancy Sivy ’56 HS in memory of Rose Marie Martinello Gould ’56 HS
Adrian Buoncristiani ’54 GS
Odine Jacqueline Lalanne Beattie ’44 GS, ’48 HS in memory of her sister, Paulette Anne Lalanne Lassaga ’40 GS, ’44 HS
Denise Branch (Repetto) ’61 GS, ’65 HS in memory of Joseph Henry Andreano
Sister Patricia Haley ’54 GS, ’58 HS in memory of the Classes of ’54 GS and ’58 HS
Colleen O’Connor Knopf ’61 GS in memory of St. Nancy O’Connor CSJ ’48 GS, ’52 HS; Capt. Denis O’Connor ’54 GS; Sheila O’Connor St. Sure ’57 GS
Mary Kappeler Solvin ’49 HS in memory of June Leofanti Aymard ’49 HS
Louise Hughes ’45 GS, ’49 HS in memory of June Francis Aymard ’49 HS
Louise Hughes ’45 GS, ’49 HS in memory of Dimitrios Tsokas
Jane Jurkovich ’45 GS
Bernadette Lorda ’65 GS, ’69 HS in memory of Bernard and Grace Lorda
Michael T. King ’53 GS in memory of Gil Dowd, MD ’53 GS

Remembrances:

Denise Edler (Chartier) ’65 GS
Yvonne Eastman ’70 HS
Carol Ann Lemings (French) ’66 GS, ’70 HS
Ann McCabe (Ashburn) ’46 GS, ’40 HS
Antoinette “Toni” Dominice (Ammiro) ’58 HS
Paulette Anne Lassaga (Lalanne) ’44 HS
Beaverly Sassus (Birdsell), sister-in-law of Sr. Suzanne Sassus, CSJ ’46GS, ’50HS
What's New At NDV . . .

NDV announces the launch of the NDV Business Directory

NDV is proud to announce the launch of the NDV Community Business Directory to promote and support the businesses of NDV parents, grandparents, alumni parents, and alumni. Whether you own your own business, are employed by a business, or want to recommend a local business, we want to hear from you! We are planning to make this directory available in print as well as on the NDV website. Advertising your business is another way we can all help businesses we support recover and grow! If you are interested in learning more about the directory, please contact Bernadette Lorda at alumni@ndvsf.org

NDV's newly redesigned website:

NDV's newly redesigned website at ndvsf.org - have a look and see how we've changed!

Alumni Spotlight:

Nominate a former classmate for the Alumni Spotlight section for the next edition of Salut!

Alumni: Please let us know if you would prefer to receive the Salut! via email (send an email to Alumni@ndvsf.org). Merci!