

New Student Welcome Guide

Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin

Class of 2030

March 7, 2026



**Freshman
Orientation**

August 12, 2026



NDCL.ORG

Visit our website for the latest NDCL news and updates.

Welcome to the NDCL Family!

Use this booklet to navigate the registration process and successfully begin your first year at Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School.

Here is a handy list of the tasks you will complete today:



**FAMILY
CONFERENCE**

Schedule your courses for next year.



**FINANCE
OFFICE**

Confirm your desired tuition payment plan.



**UNIFORM
APPAREL**

Order your school uniform.



**GYM
UNIFORM**

Order your gym uniform.



Justice

Respect

Integrity

Community

Excellence

Campus Ministry Fosters a Living Faith



Retreats

As part of our faith formation and spiritual experience at Notre Dame- Cathedral Latin, students participate in a grade-level retreat each year that focuses on one of NDCL's core values: community, respect, justice, integrity, and excellence.

As Juniors and Seniors, students have the opportunity to attend Kairos, a powerful four-day, student-led retreat centered on deepening their relationship with Christ through personal witness.

Liturgy and Prayer

Father James Caddy, our school chaplain and Pastor Emeritus of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, celebrates Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation each week during Lion Time. In addition, Father Caddy celebrates Masses for athletic teams and activities as they arise.

Our school community gathers for Mass on large liturgical feast days during the academic year, while our Theology classes attend Mass together each semester. Through our shared experience of Mass, we strive to cultivate a sacramental foundation in our students, with an emphasis on the Eucharist and Sacred Scripture.

Students are invited to serve in multiple ways at our school liturgies as:

- Lectors
- Altar Servers
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Music Ministers

Service Opportunities

Service to others is an integral part of how we live out the mission of Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School. Students complete ten (10) hours of service to others each semester, for a total of twenty (20) hours per year. Throughout a student's four years at NDCL, this service requirement grows to highlight our shared responsibility to the most poor and vulnerable in our society.

Summer Mission Trips/Experiences

NDCL offers two summer mission trips/experience, allowing students to serve locally, nationally, and internationally.

- Morehead, Kentucky: Rural Healthcare Student Experience open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors
- Wayne County Work Camp, West Virginia: open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors

MISSION STATEMENT OF NOTRE DAME-CATHEDRAL LATIN SCHOOL

Like Mary, who gave Christ to the world,
 Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School educates leaders who transform the world, as Jesus did, by living the truth in
 love.

Transportation Services

Public School Bus Service

Ten different school districts currently provide transportation to and from NDCL for the current academic year. Although transportation decisions are made by the respective boards of education, these districts will most likely continue to transport our students for the coming school year:

School District	Phone Number
Berkshire Local	440.834.3380, ext. 2
Cardinal Local	440.632.0261, ext. 6005
Chagrin Falls	440.893.4055
Chardon Local	440.285.4069
Kenston Local	440.543.9567
Kirtland Local	440.256.3311, ext. 6
Mayfield City	440.995.7891
Riverside Local	440.357.5571
West Geauga local	440.729.0026
Willoughby-Eastlake City	440.975.3736

If you live in any of the school districts listed above, you are eligible for transportation to and from NDCL. All transportation arrangements are made between you and your district's transportation coordinator.

Districts not listed above do not provide transportation to and from NDCL. You may wish to check with your non-busing district to see if you would be entitled to reimbursement for your driving expenses.

Should you have questions or concerns about transportation provided by a public school district, please contact your local transportation coordinator's office. Only they can give you the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding pick-up and drop-off times, bus routes, bus transfers, etc.

NDCL-Provided School Bus Service

On vehicles provided by the school, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin currently offers transportation to and from these locations for the 2024-2025 school year:

St. John Vianney, Mentor	Corpus Christi Academy, Lyndhurst
St. Bede Church, Mentor (PM only)	Painesville Assembly of God, Concord/Painesville
All Saints of St. John Vianney School, Wickliffe	St. Gabriel-South Parking Lot, Concord
Trinity Church, Mentor	Beachwood Community Center, Beachwood
South Chagrin Polo Field, Chagrin Falls	Russell Town Hall, Novelty
Willoughby Montessori (PM Only), Willoughby	

The cost for round-trip transportation for the 2025-2026 school year is \$460 per quarter. The 2025-2026 fee will be determined by the overall number of student riders next year. One-way, part time ridership, and as-needed options are also available. In addition, there is also a 6:30 PM activity van from NDCL that goes to Corpus Christi Academy, St. Gabriel School, South Chagrin Polo Fields, and All Saints of St. John Vianney School. Each year, bus stop locations depend on how we can serve the greatest number of our students who wish to utilize this transportation option.

Because this transportation is provided by NDCL and not a public school district, any NDCL student who wishes to use the service may do so. Please direct questions to Mr. Phil LeMay, Transportation Coordinator, at 440.279.1093.

Clubs & Activities: A great way to get involved

NDCL's block schedule provides time for clubs to meet during Lion Time within the school day. Most clubs meet once each month. As you prepare for your freshman year, look over this list of possibilities and select one or two clubs you'd like to join this fall.

- Animal Defenders Club
- Art
- Book of the Month
- Certified Peer Educators
- Chess & Gaming
- Color Guard
- Conservation Club
- Corn Hole/Ping Pong
- Creative Writing
- Dance Team
- Fourth Friday
- Joseph of Arimathea Pallbearer Society
- Labre
- Mu Alpha Theta
- Marching Band
- Medical Careers Club
- Mock Trial
- NDCLive: Video Announcements
- Robotics Academic Team
- Student Activities Board
- Theatre
- World Language
- Voices for Justice

Here's a snapshot of what to look forward to...

Labre is a year-round, weekly immersion experience rooted in a spirit of true accompaniment and solidarity. Labre focuses on caring for the needs of Northeastern Ohio's poorest by visiting with and sharing much needed (on both sides!) companionship and basic necessities such as food, hygiene products, and clothing.

Marching Band is a musical ensemble that performs at all varsity football games and a variety of parades, concerts, and other events throughout the year. Marching band is available to all woodwind, brass, and percussion players, or anyone who is willing to learn and practice an instrument. Marching band also supports the visual element of color guard. The color guard is selected by audition each May. We also welcome baton twirlers interested in becoming majorettes.

Mock Trial students role play lawyers and witnesses in a courtroom drama against other schools in front of real judges in an actual courtroom setting. Student lawyers prepare and argue all aspects of a case while student witnesses have to act in character while giving testimony on the witness stand. Students interested in studying law, criminal justice, or acting are encouraged to participate as they learn the various aspects of our judicial system.

Fourth Friday Bible Study is one of the most powerful mornings of the month at NDCL. What started with just 12 students gathering before school has grown into a movement of 70+ students showing up hungry for faith, friendship, and truth. We meet before the school day begins to center our hearts on Christ, and yes, there are always donuts waiting for you! It's real conversations, strong community, and a chance to grow deeper alongside your classmates. Come see why so many students choose to start their day this way - faith, friends, and a donut in hand.

Student Activities Board is an organization motivated by the challenge to serve Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School as Christian leaders. The overall purpose of the SAB is to encourage pride and unity between students and teachers and promote its mission and core values throughout the entire student body. Members of the SAB organize various school activities throughout the year, from the Welcome Back Dance and Homecoming Week to Spirit Week.

Theatre is open to students of all grade levels. NDCL's Performing Arts Department present three productions each year: a fall play, spring musical, and student-directed one-act plays. Students participate as actors; musicians; stage crew; costume, hair, and makeup designers; lights and sound crew.

Dress Code Regulations for Boys

The General Rule:

A student who wears a visible item that is not specifically permitted by the dress code is in violation of the code. The administration of Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School has the ultimate authority to determine the appropriateness of all attire.

Boys Dress Uniform

Worn on Mass days and other days specified by administration

- Khaki plain front or pleated slacks, purchased from School-belles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger. Dockers™-style khaki slacks may be obtained from any supplier. However, these pants must be traditionally styled slacks with inside pockets (not patch pockets), plain or pleated fronts, cuffed or stitched hems, and no contrasting seams or other adornments. A belt securely fastened around the waist is worn if the slacks bear belt loops.
- White or light blue oxford style, button-down collar shirt, long or short sleeves, not oversized, with tie. This shirt, which must be properly tucked into the pants, may be purchased from any supplier.
- Navy blue V-neck or crewneck sweater or vest with NDCL logo, purchased from Schoolbelles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger.

Boys Standard Uniform

Regular School Day Uniform

- Navy or khaki plain front or pleated slacks, purchased from School-belles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger. Dockers™-style navy or khaki slacks may be obtained from any supplier. However, these pants must be traditionally styled slacks with inside pockets (not patch pockets), plain or pleated fronts, cuffed or stitched hems, and no contrasting seams or other adornments. A belt that is securely fastened around the waist is worn if the slacks bear belt loops.
- Long or short-sleeved polo shirts with NDCL emblem, mesh or interlock knit, in white, maize, navy or cobalt blue, from Schoolbelles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger.
- Navy blue V-neck or crewneck sweater, sweater vest, or crewneck sweatshirt with NDCL logo, purchased from Schoolbelles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger. Students also have the option to purchase a navy crewneck sweatshirt (sweatshirt G900) from MyLocker.net. MyLocker.net provides a number of personalized options for these navy crewneck sweatshirts

Other Items

- Socks must always be worn.
- Solid white t-shirts with no writing or design may be worn under shirts.
- Simple jewelry that complements the uniform may be worn. However, boys may not wear earrings.
- Dress shoes must be worn with the dress uniform and need to be black, brown, navy, or tan. Shoes must be closed-toe in loafer, tie or clog (backless) style. Boots and boot-like shoes are permitted during winter months. Athletic footwear or "look-alike" will be permitted with the standard uniform.
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted. Extreme spiking, shaved sides or backs, carvings, unnatural colors or combinations of colors, and long tails are some examples of hairstyle extremes. Boys' hair should not extend beyond the top of the shirt collar. Students may not wear scarves, bandannas, hats, or other headwear.
- Boys are to be clean-shaven; beards, mustaches, and sideburns extending below the earlobe or onto the cheek are not permitted.

Warm Weather Option:

For approximately the first month and the last month of school (specific dates determined by the administration), boys may opt for the following clothing suited for the warmer weather:

- Solid khaki or navy knee-length (golf or walking but not cargo) shorts purchased from any supplier
- Banded bottom or straight-hemmed polo shirts with NDCL emblem, long or short sleeves, in mesh or interlock knit, in white, maize, navy or cobalt blue, from Schoolbelles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger
- Visible socks
- Athletic shoes

Boys who choose the warm weather option must choose it in its entirety (shorts, polo, socks, and shoes). They may not "mix and match" items with the standard or dress uniform. The warm weather option does not apply to dress uniform days.

Dress Code Regulations for Girls

The General Rule:

A student who wears a visible item that is not specifically permitted by the dress code is in violation of the code. The administration of Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School has the ultimate authority to determine the appropriateness of all attire.

Girls dress uniform

Worn on Mass days and other days specified by administration

- Herringbone skirt purchased from Schoolbelles, Land's End School, or Tommy Hilfiger and worn with opaque (not see-through, not patterned, not mesh) tights in solid blue, black, grey, or white. Skirt must come within three inches of the top of the knee and be in good condition.
- White oxford-style, button-down collared shirt, long or short sleeves, appropriately fitted and tucked into the skirt
- Navy blue V-neck or crewneck sweater or vest with NDCL logo, purchased from Schoolbelles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger

Girls standard uniform

Regular School Day Uniform

- Uniform Bottoms Option 1: Herringbone skirt purchased from Schoolbelles, Land's End School, or Tommy Hilfiger and worn with opaque (not see-through, not patterned, not mesh) tights in solid blue, black, grey, or white. Skirt must come within three inches of the top of the knee and be in good condition.
- Uniform Bottoms Option 2: Khaki or navy plain front or pleated slacks, purchased from School-belles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger. Dockers™-style navy or khaki slacks may be obtained from any supplier. However, these pants must be traditionally styled slacks with inside pockets (not patch pockets), plain or pleated fronts, cuffed or stitched hems, and no contrasting seams or other adornments. A belt securely fastened around the waist is worn if the slacks bear belt loops.
- Banded bottom or straight-hemmed polo shirts with NDCL emblem, long or short sleeves, in mesh or interlock knit, in white, maize, navy or cobalt blue, from Schoolbelles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger
- Navy blue V-neck or crewneck sweater, sweater vest, or crewneck sweatshirt with NDCL logo, purchased from School-belles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger. Students also have the option to purchase a navy crewneck sweatshirt (sweatshirt G900) from MyLocker.net. MyLocker.net provides a number of personalized options for these navy crewneck sweatshirts.

Other items

- Visible socks must always be worn with pants. Girls must wear opaque (not see-through, not patterned, not mesh) tights or leotards in solid blue, black, grey, or white with skirts. Girls may wear leggings but they must be accompanied by color-matching socks. Leg warmers, thigh-highs, thermal underwear, or long pants under skirts are not permitted.
- Solid white t-shirts with no writing or design may be worn under blouses or shirts.
- Simple jewelry that complements the uniform may be worn. Large dangling earrings may not be worn; no more than two earrings per ear are permitted. Anatomical piercing, except of the ear, may not bear jewelry of any kind. No accessory may be worn that is contrary to the school's philosophy.
- Dress shoes must be worn with the dress uniform and need to be black, brown, navy, or tan. Shoes must be closed-toe in loafer, tie or clog (backless) style. Boots and boot-like shoes are permitted during winter months. Athletic footwear or "look-alike" will be permitted with the standard uniform.
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted. Extreme spiking, shaved sides or backs, carvings, unnatural colors or combinations of colors, and long tails are some examples of hairstyle extremes.
- Students may not wear scarves, bandannas, hats, or other headwear.

Warm weather option

For approximately the first and last months of school (specific dates determined by the administration), girls may opt for the following clothing suited for the warmer weather:

- Solid khaki or navy knee-length (golf or walking but not cargo) shorts purchased from any supplier
- Banded bottom or straight-hemmed polo shirts with NDCL emblem, long or short sleeves, in mesh or interlock knit, in white, maize, navy or cobalt blue, from Schoolbelles, Lands' End School, or Tommy Hilfiger
- Visible socks
- Athletic shoes
- Girls who choose the warm weather option must choose it in its entirety (shorts, polo, socks, and shoes). They may not "mix and match" items with the standard or dress uniform. The warm weather option does not apply to dress uniform days.

Lion Athletics: 51 Teams in 28 Sports

Hundreds of NDCL students participate in our comprehensive and competitive interscholastic athletic program. Here is a listing of athletic programs that begin in the summer and early fall.

Boys & Girls Golf

Practice and tryouts begin July 28 at Fowler's Mill Golf Course in Chesterland.
Boy's Coach: Ed Trebets; edward.trebets@ndcl.org
Girls Coach: Tiger Alexander; tiger.alexander@ndcl.org

Volleyball

Practice and tryouts begin August 1 in the McGarry Gym.
Coach Tom Ray: tomray13@gmail.com

Girls Tennis

Practice and tryouts begin August 1 at the NDCL tennis courts.
Coach David Cole: davidgriescole@gmail.com

Cross Country

Practice begins August 1 on the NDCL campus.
Coach Ralph White: ralph.white@ndcl.org

Indoor Track & Field

Practice begins December 1 on the NDCL campus.
Coach Ralph White: ralph.white@ndcl.org

Boys Soccer

Practice begins August 1 on the NDCL campus.
Contact Luciano Ruscitto: Luciano.ruscitto@ndcl.org

Girls Soccer

Practice begins August 1 on the NDCL campus.
Coach Pamela Malone: pamela.malone@ndcl.org

Cheerleading

Clinics March 25 and 26. Tryouts March 28
Practice begins August 1.
Coach Nicol Susel: nicol.susel@ndcl.org

Football

Practice begins August 1 at Lion Stadium.
Coach Sam Vander Ven: sam.vanderven@ndcl.org

Boys Basketball

Practice begins October 31
Please Contact Andy Pohl
andy.pohl@ndcl.org

Girls Basketball

Practice begins October 24
Coach Pete DeMichele: pete.demichele@ndcl.org

Bowling

Practice begins October 31
Coach Alex Dowger: alex.dowger@ndcl.org

Gymnastics

Practice begins October 31.
Coach Alicia Lewandowski: alicia.m.lewandowski@gmail.com

Hockey

Practice begins October 27.
Coach Keith Abood: keithabood@gmail.com

Swimming

Practice begins October 24.
Coach Bryan Scheider: swim.team@ndcl.org

Wrestling

Practice begins November 14.
Coach Michael Fleeman: michael.fleeman@ndcl.org

2026-2027 Academic Calendar

2026-2027 Academic Calendar

CALENDAR LEGEND

	Teacher days (no classes)
	Vacation days/holidays
	Examination/testing days

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

- ✓ Freshman orientation: August 12
- ✓ First day of classes 9-12: August 13
- ✓ Quarter 1 ends: Oct. 13
- ✓ Quarter 2 ends: Dec. 18
- ✓ Quarter 3 ends: March 8
- ✓ Quarter 4 ends: May 20
- ✓ P/T Conference days: Oct. 8 & March 16