

Our Belief Statements

We believe that:

- ◆ Each child is created in the image and likeness of God.
- ◆ Our children can become true reflections of God's love by imitating the Holy Family of Nazareth.
- ◆ The family's supportive involvement in their child's school experience is critical for that child's happiness and success.
- ◆ An environment of love helps children grow and develop to their potential.
- ◆ The education of the whole child – intellectually, artistically, spiritually, morally, socially, and physically – cultivates productive and compassionate members of society.
- ◆ Children are entitled to an education in surroundings in which they feel safe and respected.
- ◆ Each child's learning style and personal achievements should be valued and acknowledged.
- ◆ We are building God's reign of love in our world, step by step, moment by moment in this place. The more we recognize God in the daily environment, the more compassionate and caring we will be.
- ◆ Appreciating diversity and understanding other cultures, races, and religions are values that should be encouraged and modeled.
- ◆ A challenging and evolving curriculum is a driving force behind the school's success and longevity.

For enrollment information and questions, contact:
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NAZARETH ACADEMY GRADE SCHOOL
4701 Grant Avenue · Philadelphia, PA 19114

Accredited by the Middle States Association Commissions
on Elementary and Secondary Schools
www.nazarethacademy.net



NAZARETH ACADEMY GRADE SCHOOL

Our Mission Is Family

2024 - 2025



Empowering and inspiring students to
excel as lifelong learners in a faith-filled
caring environment.



A Message from the Principal

Dear Friends,

Please allow me to welcome you to Nazareth Academy Grade School. Thank you for considering our school for your child.

The administration, faculty and staff are looking forward to another outstanding school year and we know it will be the best one yet. We invite you to join us in this amazing endeavor.

This year will be filled with numerous learning possibilities for our students, and we ask you, our parents, to join forces with us and support the children in their many achievements.

Nazareth Academy Grade School is such a special place to learn and grow. Under the guidance of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, our students know that we foster thinking, passion, responsibility and prepare them for the future. Our mission, vision and core values exist to advance the mission of Jesus which commits us all to work toward helping us all become witness to the love of God in the simple and ordinary experiences of daily life.

With positive collaboration between home and school, we feel blessed to work with all of our families for a common goal which is academic success of your child. We are NAGS strong and under the protection of our Blessed Mother, the Holy Family, and our Martyred Sisters, we will succeed.

God bless,

Sister Linda Joseph, CSFN
Principal

Partners in Education: Parents and Teachers

Each new school year brings high hopes and great expectations for both parents and teachers. Nazareth fosters positive parent-teacher partnerships that result in improved educational outcomes for students.

To guide students on the path to a well-balanced, culturally rich life, our faculty encourages enthusiasm for academics and for the arts. Nazareth's teachers possess the knowledge, experience, and love for teaching that is so necessary to guide, inspire and challenge students to realize their full potential.

We strive to help students develop a solid sense of self-worth and integrity so that they will not only be scholars but also strong community minded individuals prepared to succeed in the many realms of our diverse society.

The **Nazareth Academy Grade School Parents' Association (NAGSPA)** assists the administration in fulfilling the mission of the school by spreading the Gospel message of Jesus, providing financial support and in encouraging parents to work together for the good of the school. Participation in NAGSPA events is required for overall success of the school and results in a strong sense of community and caring relationships.

Nazareth maintains open communication with parents and guardians. Information is sent home week via an emailed "E-Envelope." Our website and calendar lists events throughout the school year. In addition, *School Reach* is utilized for special announcements, bus issues, athletic events and school closings.

NAGS is affiliated with Holy Family University's School of Education. Through this beneficial partnership, Junior Practicum students and Student Teachers are regularly assigned to our classrooms throughout the year.

Anchored by 83 Years of Catholic Tradition, We Excel at:

- ◆ Providing a **family-like** atmosphere where children dream, grow, discover and flourish
- ◆ Interacting with our students **one on one**
- ◆ **Cultivating** faith, confidence and independence
- ◆ Providing **cutting edge** teaching strategies using 1:1 school-supplied Chrome Books and iPads
- ◆ **STEM** Curriculum and Lab
- ◆ Enriching academic learning **in and outside** of the classroom
- ◆ Preparing our graduates for high school, college and the real world: ***The Class of 2024 received \$501,350.00 in academic scholarships!***
- ◆ Enabling a **dedicated** Parent Association to further the school's mission
- ◆ Encouraging **responsibility and compassion** through strong community service activities
- ◆ Maintaining contact with over 1,550 **alumni**
- ◆ Fostering **collaboration** with our surrounding community

Grades, Testing and Assessment

Care is taken so that each student can master concepts present in daily lessons. Progress reports and report cards are issued on a trimester basis. Parents are provided the opportunity to access their child's progress and assessment results online through *Teacherease*.

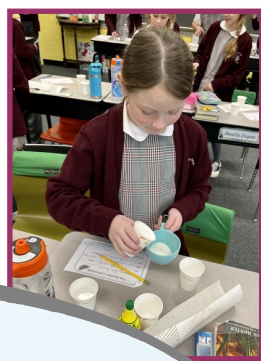
In addition, *Terra Nova Standardized Tests* are administered to students in grades 2 through 7 in the spring. This exam covers a full range of subjects, from Reading and listening skills to Math, Social Studies and Science. When combined with ongoing teacher assessments, Terra Nova tests allow the school to monitor overall progress compared with national averages and to adjust the curriculum accordingly.

Community Impact

Nazareth Academy Grade School faculty and students find great satisfaction in planning and participating in community service events. Properly implemented, service learning projects develop citizenship, responsibility and many other positive virtues making this a highly effective character education program in and of itself. Nazareth partners with many institutions, organizations and corporations to further promote the message of the school's mission statement.

Service-oriented projects and fund raising activities benefit the following:

- ◆ Aid for Friends
- ◆ Archdiocesan Food Bank
- ◆ Autism Speaks
- ◆ Blessed Mary of Castello Home
- ◆ Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- ◆ National Kidney Foundation
- ◆ Nutritional Development Services
- ◆ Philadelphia Veterans Administration Center
- ◆ Saint Francis Inn
- ◆ Saint Jude Hospital for Children
- ◆ Morgan's Light (Awareness of dating violence)



83 Years of Academic Excellence

Curriculum is the plan for learning which identifies the students' interaction with content, materials, resources, other learners and procedures for assessing the attainment of educational outcomes.

Nazareth Academy's curriculum exemplifies skills and their development in the content areas. This addresses the education of the whole child, the needs of the child and how the child learns. Nazareth implements group instruction and cooperative learning, weaving in student-centered activities and technology.

▶▶▶ The Core Curriculum

- ◆ Religion
- ◆ English Language Arts (Gr. 4 - 8), Honors English (Gr. 6, 7, 8)
- ◆ Mathematics or Honors Mathematics (Gr. 4 - 8)
- ◆ Social Studies
- ◆ Science
- ◆ Spanish

All students participate in Specialized Areas of:

- ◆ Music
- ◆ Art
- ◆ Technology
- ◆ Physical Education
- ◆ Latin, Grades 7 - 8

Our Mission

Nazareth Academy Grade School, founded in 1941 by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, is a private co-educational Catholic School for students in grades one through eight. Our mission is to spread the Kingdom of God's love by creating a family-friendly environment in which we invite students and their families to discover God in everyday life events and to be an integral part of the Nazareth family. We are committed to promoting academic excellence and Christian morals and values, and to demonstrating, through our students' personal engagement in service projects, God's love and care for the poor and others in need.

Technology

Technology is a vital part of the educational process at Nazareth Academy Grade School. Hundreds of studies indicate that where students have access to technology that is integrated into the curriculum, test scores improve, students are more engaged and teachers become true mentors. Each student is provided a Chrome Book and an iPad to enhance their learning.

Enrichment Activities

Student planning, initiative, creativity and leadership find their source in curricular and extra-curricular activities.

We open the door to the arts by encouraging participation in our music and theater arts programs, further expanding the diversity of students' talents. Additional activities include:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Math Club | Hand Bells |
| STEM Club | "Joyful Ringers" |
| Science Club | Choir Chimes |
| Choir | Bucket Drumming |
| "Grace Notes" Choir | Recorders |
| Yearbook | Dance Program |
| Flag Football | Reading Olympics |
| Theater Production | |

Nazareth students also participate in First-In-Math Online Program, St. Jude Math-a-Thon, Geo Bowl, Student Council, Buddy Program, Student Dances, Field Trips, Christmas and Spring Concerts, Book Fair, Annual Walk-a-Thon and Field Day.

Summer activities include:

- ◆ STEM Camp
- ◆ Theater/Dance Camp

The curriculum is also enhanced by:

Health Classes, CORA, Library, STEM Lab and a Catapult Resource Center with teachers.



Music Program

In addition to weekly music classes, students may participate in a variety of music ensembles such as Choir, "The Grace Notes," an elite group of singers, and a hand bell/choir chime group known as "The Joyful Ringers." These groups perform at various venues throughout the year. Students in Grade 3 learn to play recorders. In Grade 5, student learn bucket drumming. Many of our students are chosen to participate in the Archdiocesan Music Festivals.



Physical Fitness and Athletics

Physical fitness is a vital component of the well-rounded individual. Various fun activities are offered to refine motor skills as well as promote health and teamwork. Regular instruction on Health and Nutrition is also offered in the classroom.

Nazareth recognizes that learning does not take place only inside the walls of the classroom. Our athletic program is designed to develop the health-related fitness and physical competence needed so students can develop healthy and physically active life styles. Through competitive sports, the students grow towards being respectful and responsible individuals and motivated learners.

The school holds academic membership in the Catholic Academy League at the following levels but participation depends on interest in forming a team:

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| Soccer | JV and Varsity |
| Basketball | JV and Varsity |
| Baseball | Boys Varsity |
| Softball | Girls Varsity |
| Track | Grades 4 - 8 |
| Swimming | Grades 4 - 8 |



Student Services

- ◆ Busing provided through city and townships
- ◆ Free Breakfast and Hot Lunch Program,
- ◆ Tutoring, Education/Psychological Evaluations, Remediation, Counseling, Catapult Resources, CORA Services and Speech Therapy
- ◆ Free morning drop off from 7 AM
- ◆ Extended After-School care provided by Alpha House for a fee