

MATER DEI MISSION STATEMENT

Mater Dei, a Catholic, diocesan regional high school nurtures the spiritual, moral, intellectual, emotional, and social growth of young men and women.

In a caring environment, respectful of individual differences, her comprehensive program educates, fosters faith, and develops gospel values.

THOUGHTS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we enter the month of November, we realize that the first quarter has quickly slipped by us. It did not slip by quietly, however, for our students were busy achieving success both in and out of the classroom! Inside the classroom, 61% of our students earned either high honor roll recognition (4.0 to 3.8 GPA) or honor roll recognition (3.79 to 3.5 GPA) for the first quarter! Outside the classroom, our fall athletic teams and Marching Knights experienced numerous victories, and the members of our activities participated in and sponsored a variety of events. Please know that I recognize that this level of success is no accident, but rather a direct result of the attitudes and commitment of our students, parents, faculty, and staff. Thus, it is truly with a high level of pride that I serve the Mater Dei community!

One key aspect of my service is to promote our commitment to providing our students with the skills required to serve as leaders in the Catholic church, for as the number of clergy and religious decline, we, as Catholics, are called to participate in the sacramental life of the church. In addition, at a time when our society is marred by deepening divisions between the rich and the poor, our tradition instructs us to place the needs of the poor and the vulnerable first, for how those in need in our society are faring serves as a basic moral test. Thus, throughout the month of November, our students, faculty, and staff will focus on fulfilling their responsibility, through service and ministry, to protect and to aid the poor and the vulnerable, a basic social teaching of our church. I truly believe that by making our students aware of their obligations to others, we can make a difference!

In closing, as we look forward to the holiday season, we are called to thank our Lord and Savior for his many gifts to us and to pray for those who have not yet experienced his graces. Together, we can grow stronger and provide the foundation our students need to become productive Catholic adults. As always, may God continue to bless you and your family!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE *blessing those in need*

From November 5–16, the four classes will again enjoy a friendly competition for a good cause – collecting canned goods for our local food pantries.

Like last year, when our students donated 1,824 canned goods, the winning class will earn a jeans day during exams, and the winning homeroom will earn a pass for a free beverage and treat at lunch.

We offer our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Deb Foote, Mrs. KK Schneider, our National Honor Society members, and our St. Vincent de Paul officers for organizing this event, which has resulted in the donation of a total of 23,980 canned goods in the past thirteen years!

**MAY THE MOST
GENEROUS CLASS WIN!**



STUDENTS OF THE QUARTER

We are pleased to announce our “Students of the Quarter” for the first quarter:

- seniors Ciara Perkes and Drew Timmermann
- juniors Faith Rackers and Jacob Schadegg
- sophomores Elizabeth Beckmann and Josh Schmitt
- freshmen Emma Huelskamp and Michael Redman

The “Students of the Quarter” are selected by the faculty from the list of students who have earned high honor roll or honor roll recognition.

**Join us in congratulating
these students and their families!**

CLASS OF 2018 ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

AVERAGE ACT SCORES

Composite = 23.5
 English = 23.6
 Math = 22.7
 Reading = 23.8
 Science = 23.5

AVERAGE ACT SCORES FOR COLLEGE PREP CURRICULUM *

Composite = 24.2
 English = 24.3
 Math = 23.4
 Reading = 24.6
 Science = 24.0

** Eighty-four percent of the Class of 2018 completed a college prep curriculum, defined as "core or more" by ACT, which includes four years of English and three or more years each of mathematics, science, and social studies.*

ACT COLLEGE READINESS BENCHMARKS

Through research with postsecondary institutions nationwide, ACT has established college readiness benchmark scores for each ACT subject-area test as a means of more precisely measuring college readiness. The chart below provides both the benchmark scores and the percentage of the members of the Mater Dei Class of 2018 who met those benchmarks (as provided in the "ACT Profile Report" dated October 17, 2018.)

	ENGLISH minimum 18	MATH minimum 22	READING minimum 22	SCIENCE minimum 23	MET ALL BENCHMARKS
college prep *	85%	58%	72%	58%	43%
all students	83%	52%	69%	56%	40%

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We are pleased to provide the average ACT scores, ACT college readiness benchmark statistics, and additional academic accomplishments that were achieved by our Class of 2018.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ACT Performance In the Class of 2018, 27 students (27%) earned an ACT composite score of 27 or higher, and ten students (10%) earned an ACT composite score of 30 or higher.

Scholars The Class of 2018 included fifteen Illinois State Scholars (17%) and one National Merit Commended Scholar.

Scholarships Seventy-five percent of the members of the Class of 2018 received scholarship offers, which totaled \$10 million.

College Credit Hours During their four years at Mater Dei, the members of the Class of 2018 earned 1,900 hours of college credit through enrollment in our dual credit courses.

National Honor Society (NHS) Forty-two percent of the Class of 2018 were members of NHS, having earned a GPA of 3.6 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING WEEKLY

As we gather with our families to share both food and friendship in celebration of Thanksgiving, let us truly thank God for all we have been given. Despite the struggles we face, let us recognize that our nation has been blessed, for our lives are much more comfortable than the lives of many others in the world.

Let us not forget, however, that as Catholics, we also have an opportunity every Sunday to gather with our church family to share Eucharist and friendship. Why do we sometimes fail to gather for this weekly Thanksgiving?

Please remember that we have a responsibility to model for our children the importance of praising and thanking our God for his many gifts.



For each new morning with its light,
 For rest and shelter of the night,
 For health and food,
 For love and friends,
 For everything Thy goodness sends.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



HELPING HANDS

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society is pleased to announce that during the first quarter, the Mater Dei family donated an amazing total of **\$6,086.39** through class missions and special collections!

Specifically, a total of \$2,143.39 was donated to class missions: the Class of 2022 supports Santa Clara Scholarship Fund for students in Guatemala, the Class of 2021 supports Sr. Thea Bowman School in East St. Louis, the Class of 2020 supports St. Anne Mission Hospital in Kenya, Africa, and the Class of 2019 supports orphanages in Haiti and Venezuela.

In addition, the Mater Dei community donated \$3,470 to the Belleville Diocese St. Vincent de Paul Society, which was raised from our Walk for the Poor; \$273 to the U.S. Society of St. Vincent de Paul for Hurricane Florence relief, which was raised from a Teens for Life bake sale; and \$200 to Small Miracles, which was the profit from pro-life shirt sales.

We commend and thank our students, administration, faculty, and staff for living the Gospel through their commitment to helping those in need. Their generosity is truly amazing!

NOVEMBER KNIGHT LIFE

- 1 All Saints Day & Grandparents Day Mass (9:40 a.m.)
- 2 Fall Play — *Miracle on 34th Street* (7:00 p.m.)
- 3 Fall Play — *Miracle on 34th Street* (7:00 p.m.)
- 4 Open House (prospective families) (12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.)
Fall Play — *Miracle on 34th Street* (2:00 p.m.)
- 5 School Board Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
Thanksgiving Food Drive Competition Begins
- 12 No School — Veterans Day
Mothers and Friends Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 16 Thanksgiving Food Drive Competition Ends
Band Parents Glo Bingo (see “Mark Your Calendars”)
- 18 Fall Athletic Banquet (12:00 pm, Breese KC Hall)
Knight Club Appreciation Social (4:00 p.m.)
- 19 Band Parents Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
Memorial Mass (7:00 p.m.)
- 21 Thanksgiving Mass (9:40 a.m.)
XX-Schedule (1:00 p.m. dismissal)
- 22 No School — Thanksgiving
- 23 No School
Mater Dei Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament
- 24 Mater Dei Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament
- 26 Fathers and Friends Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BAND PARENTS GLO BINGO

In support of our band programs, gather your family and friends for Glo Bingo on November 16. For only \$25, each player receives six Bingo cards, a glow hat, and a Bingo dauber. Held at the Breese American Legion, doors open at 6:00 p.m. and Bingo begins at 7:00 p.m. In addition to \$1,000 in cash prizes, the event includes a cash bar, DJ, and music. For reservations, please call 618-531-5027 or email mdknightsmusic@gmail.com.

THANKSGIVING MASS

Join the Mater Dei community for our Thanksgiving Mass on November 21 at 9:40 a.m.

THANKSGIVING BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Join us for two days of boys basketball at our Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament on November 23 and 24.

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

Enjoy the sounds of the season as performed by our concert band, jazz band, wind ensemble, and chorus at our Christmas concert December 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium.

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING**

count your blessings
remember to be grateful
share love with others

WHOO CARES about students' struggles with



Anxiety
Grief
Depression
Spirituality
Self-Esteem
Belonging
Relationships
Coping Strategies
Self-Image
Mental Well-Being

WE DO! Please contact us for help.

Mrs. Tammy Carroll, Counselor
phone: extension 352
email: tcarroll@materdeiknights.org

Ms. Colleen McDermott, Campus Minister
phone: extension 102
email: cmcdermott@materdeiknights.org



HOW TO SAVE A LIFE

In October, our junior and senior students participated in QPR suicide prevention training. QPR is a research-based program that challenges students and adults to Question, Persuade, and Refer people who feel hopeless, helpless, or even suicidal. We were blessed with the expertise and sensitivity of Beth Ricciardi, a wonderful counselor at Coping 4 Life.

Although suicide is the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34, and the fourth leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 35 and 54, **there is hope, for suicide is preventable.** QPR reminds us to pay attention to our mental well-being, to consistently practice self-care, and to generously invest in the lives of others. If you have questions regarding the training, please contact Mrs. Tammy Carroll, our counselor.

As always, thank you for your trust and your support, for together, we can make a difference in the lives of our students!



IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO PLAN FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION



FREE ACT PREP – PERIOD 8 STUDY HALLS

To assist our students in preparing for the

ACT, Mrs. Goetz is hosting ACT test preps in room 304 during every period 8 study hall (after silent reading). **Note the change in the study hall period.**

These sessions are provided free to all interested students, who may participate in as many sessions as they choose. Mrs. Goetz will review all subject areas included on the ACT, but will initially focus on the subject area determined “most needed” by participating students.

Students interested in participating should register on the “ACT Prep Study Group” page on Schoology (code: 822XH-G8XM7).

NOTE: An additional extensive ACT test prep will be offered later in the school year.

ORDER ACT PREP GUIDE NOW

Mrs. Goetz is now accepting orders for ACT’s *The Official ACT Prep*

Guide 2018-2019. The cost is \$24 (retails for \$33). Students who order at this time will receive their guide before Thanksgiving break. This guide is utilized for the ACT prep course we will offer in February and March.

NOTE: Students will have a second opportunity to order just prior to the start of the ACT prep course.

MATH ACT REVIEW IN DECEMBER

Ms. Sackett will offer a Saturday math ACT review

prior to the December ACT (date to be determined). The cost will be \$10 per student. Additional information will be provided soon.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT OFFICE ON SCHOOLGY

Mrs. Goetz reminds parents to enroll in the College Placement Office Schoology groups of their choice: the Class of 2019 (senior) group access code is JDRJ9-TWNNS, the Class of 2020 (junior) group access code is TSBMM-7D85B, and the Class of 2021 (sophomore) group access code is 4BQW2-34F3K. A Class of 2022 (freshman) group will be added at a later date. (Students are automatically enrolled in the group for their class.)

The Schoology pages and College Placement Office newsletter, which will be emailed to parents, include information related to college fairs, college visits to Mater Dei, ACT test prep and test dates, and scholarship opportunities; as well as websites related to the college placement process, including preparing for the ACT and SAT, searching for colleges, applying to colleges, applying for financial aid, and NCAA eligibility.

NCAA ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY

Sophomores, juniors and seniors who are considering playing athletics at an NCAA Division I or Division II college or university should register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. The NCAA Eligibility Center website is www.eligibilitycenter.org

ACT TEST DATES

Registration information is available in our College Placement Office or on the ACT website (www.actstudent.org).

December 8, 2018 (at Mater Dei)
(late registration deadline November 19, 2018)

February 9, 2019
(deadline January 11, 2019)

April 13, 2019 (at Mater Dei)
(deadline March 8, 2019)

June 8, 2019
(deadline May 3, 2019)

July 13, 2019
(deadline June 14, 2019)

NOTES

In order for Mater Dei to receive ACT scores, the registration must include our CEEB code (where a student attends school): 140-395.

Test accommodations must be requested at the time of registration. International and ELL students are eligible for extended time.

To avoid extra fees in the future, at the time of registration, students should list potential college choices (to which their ACT scores will be sent).

ACT TEST ANSWERS

Students who complete the ACT test on December 8, April 13, or June 8 have the opportunity to order the ACT Test Information Release (TIR) for \$20 per test date. The TIR may be ordered at the time of registration or during the six-month period after the student’s test date.

The TIR provides a copy of the test questions, a student’s answers, and the answer key. For the writing test, a student will receive a copy of the writing prompt, the scoring rubric, and the scores assigned to the student’s essay.

SAVE THE DATE



MOTHERS & FRIENDS DINNER AUCTION APRIL 6, 2019

2019 CALENDAR DRIVE IS UNDERWAY!

The 2019 Calendar Drive is off to an excellent start with 2,630 calendars sold as of November 5! Now in its 34th year, the Calendar Drive, the only fundraiser for which we request participation from all students, serves as the cornerstone of our fundraising.

Did you know that the cost to educate each student is \$8,730? As a result, approximately \$3,200 per student must be funded from two sources: parishes (approximately \$1,500 per student) and fundraising (approximately \$1,700 per student). **Thus, the participation of all families in the 2019 Calendar Drive is essential!**

The “sales pitch” is simple: for only \$25, a buyer will have 391 chances to win cash (\$30 daily, \$100 and \$500 monthly, and \$1,000 and \$2,000 on December 31). Moreover, students have the opportunity to earn multiple incentives, including cash (the complete incentive program is provided to the right).

Please accept our “THANK YOU!” in advance, for the support you provide is essential to the Calendar Drive’s success and is greatly appreciated! **Together, we can make the 2019 Calendar Drive a record-breaking success!**

PREPARING FOR COLDER WEATHER

To assist you in ensuring that your child adheres to the dress code, we are providing a detailed explanation of “winter” clothing. Please know that your assistance is appreciated!

SWEATSHIRTS: sweatshirts with a Mater Dei logo, as well as sweatshirts purchased at an IHSA or ICCA event, may be worn over a dress code shirt.

SWEATERS: sweaters that are solid black, solid navy, or solid white, may be worn over a dress code shirt.

note: the term “sweater” includes the traditional meaning of “sweater” and a fleece pull-over with a zipper at the neck (not a “full” zipper, down the entire front, which is defined as a jacket). Thus, a jacket does not meet the definition of a sweater, even if it is solid black, solid navy, or solid white.

note: the term “solid” is defined as not having a logo, with the exception of a Mater Dei logo, which is an acceptable option.

JACKETS AND COATS: Jackets and coats with a Mater Dei logo may be worn during the school day.

Finally, to answer the most common question regarding jackets, coats, and solid color sweatshirts — without a Mater Dei logo it is not acceptable, but with a Mater Dei logo it is acceptable.

CALENDAR DRIVE INCENTIVES

- 1) A student who meets his/her quota of eight (8) or more calendar sales will receive a day off school April 5, 2019.
- 2) After a student sells eight (8) calendars (\$200), he/she may wear jeans or sweatpants and a Mater Dei shirt or sweatshirt on all Fridays during the Calendar Drive (through and including January 25, 2019).
- 3) Each homeroom that meets its quota will receive a snack.
- 4) When a student sells ten (10) or more calendars, he/she will earn special dress days and receive prize money as follows: \$5 for the first ten (10) calendars sold and \$10 for each additional five (5) calendars sold.
- 5) When a student is the seller of a daily calendar drawing winner, he/she will receive a “front of the lunch line” pass.
- 6) For the freshman, sophomore, and junior classes, the top salesperson in each class will receive a \$500 tuition credit, and the second place salesperson in each class will receive a \$200 tuition credit. (Credit surpassing a tuition balance will be applied to next year’s tuition.)
- 7) For the senior class, the top salesperson will receive a \$500 tuition credit, the second place salesperson will receive a \$250 tuition credit, and the third place salesperson will receive a \$150 tuition credit. (Credit surpassing a tuition balance will be awarded in cash.)
- 8) The last day to earn prizes is January 31, 2019. Prize money will be available beginning February 4, 2019. The last day to claim prize money is February 28, 2019.

Please contact Fr. Chuck Tuttle with questions regarding the incentives.