



NOLAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL TALK

Summer Edition

August 7, 2023

Edition no. 4

“... [Mightier is he] who rules his soul than he who conquers a city.”

Proverbs 16:32

Greetings,

Thank you for your willingness to partner with Nolan Catholic High School in the formation of your child. In case we haven't met, my name is Spencer Kyle Smith, Dean of Student Formation, and it's my primary goal to support Nolan students in every way possible. That usually takes the form of helping students learn and abide by school policies—attendance, dress code, daily conduct.



Mr. Spencer Smith

Relationships come first for me, though, so you'll likely see me around campus getting to know more about our students' goals and interests in the greater pursuit of doing meaningful formation work. At the heart of that formation work is the example of Christ himself, who calls us first to a relationship with Him so that we may lead lives defined by the highest virtues of faith, hope, and charity.

It is the stated mission of Nolan Catholic High School “to provide a college preparatory education and evangelize students to be tomorrow's servant leaders through education in faith, formation in hope, and perseverance in charity.”

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While our Mission provides occasion for rich discussion on several fronts, the bit about leadership demands attention.

As you have likely observed, talk of “leadership skills” and “leadership development” abounds in the world of education. While there has never been more lip service given to the topic, many programs fail to address a simple, ancient truth: **leadership starts within the self**. If one cannot control oneself in the pursuit of a noble cause, one cannot hope to guide others.

Clearly this work is not for the faint of heart! Thankfully, we have mentorship initiatives in place on our campus to help students learn about and practice virtue. Collegium, a new fixture of our daily schedule, will create a vibrant space for students to explore their interests, practice some personal agency, and connect with a faculty mentor in a small group of their peers.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our **upcoming Esto Dux Socials on Wednesday, August 9th and Thursday, August 10th** [see below for link]. In addition to providing space to reconnect with friends, these events will serve to convey some specific policy updates relevant to the Dean’s office (such as cell phone policy, backpacks, shoes and uniforms).

I look forward to building a great year with you and your child!

Gratefully,

Spencer Kyle Smith

Communications policy: *Our Nolan Catholic Administration prides itself in always responding within two business days. For pressing needs, please contact principal@nchstx.org.*

Esto Dux Social

We are excited to invite our students and their families to our upcoming [Esto Dux Social](#) event at Nolan Catholic! This event will provide an opportunity for you to participate in required informative sessions while enjoying some treats (ice cream & popsicles!) and socializing with friends. Students can also pick up their parking passes and get their locker assignments. We are offering two days of scheduled meetings and events –

- [Wednesday, Aug. 9](#)
- [Thursday, Aug. 10](#)

The event will take place from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. For more information on the Esto Dux schedule, please [click here](#).



As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we want to ensure that your student's interests at Nolan Catholic are fully met. If your student has expressed an interest in a particular sport and you need more information, please complete the [NCHS Athletic Inquiry Form](#). This will help us to provide you with detailed information about the sport, including practice schedules, coaching staff, equipment requirements, and any other pertinent details. We look forward to partnering with you and your student on this remarkable journey as a Viking!



At the heart of self-control is knowledge (and practice!) of **virtue**, and we at NCHS firmly believe that virtue can be taught. The four cardinal virtues—justice, wisdom, courage, moderation—serve as our positive guides toward forming a well-ordered soul that then manifests the highest virtues—faith, hope, and charity. Our cell phone policy is designed to help our students practice the virtue of moderation in particular, where there is a time and a place for every activity, **learning being**

the main activity taking place at school. For this reason, at NCHS we have a strict cell phone policy: cell phones must be stored in our students’ lockers. For more details on the cell phone policy, please join us for the Esto Dux social on the 9th or the 10th of this week, starting at 6:30 p.m. We will also review the policy with our students on the first day of school.



This year we will continue with our backpack-in-the-locker policy. The goal is to help our students prioritize organization and preparation for class. We recognize that some of our students might have medical accommodations in regards to carrying heavy items. Please contact our administration team for questions. We will be sending out a survey to families and teachers to gauge the success of this policy this fall. We look forward to learning from your feedback and finding ways to continue collaborating with you on the well-being of our students.





Like any worthy endeavor, virtue formation takes work, and **NCHS strives to create an environment conducive to that work.** School policies are designed with such craftsmanship in mind. “Nolan Catholic’s Uniform Expectations” is one such policy. Behind the enforcement of the uniform is the pastoral intention to teach our students to express their truest selves through dialogue, sharing ideas and

interests—drawing their attention away from the way one looks to the way one acts, thinks, speaks, and lives out a good life. For more details on the uniform policy and how we enforce our bracelet, lanyard, and nail polish expectations, please join us for the Esto Dux social on the 9th or the 10th of this week, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Medical Accommodation

Students must choose from the footwear listed on the Mill’s website. To begin the process of receiving this accommodation, please fill out the following form: [Medical Exemption Request for Out of Uniform Shoes](#).

Any exception must be approved by the Dean of Student Formation and requires the following documentation:

- Medical doctor’s letter which states a medical diagnosis, duration of the exemption
- Signed acknowledgement form by the medical provider that the current shoe program is not acceptable for the student’s medical condition



If a medical accommodation request is accepted, the shoe must be a solid black athletic shoe with black soles, black laces, and black brand logo, or, a solid white athletic shoe with white soles, white laces, and white brand logo.



Mark Your Calendars!

- **Senior Sunrise:** August 14th, TBD
- **First Day of School:** Tuesday, August 15th (Dress Gray Uniforms)
- **Welcome Week:** August 21st - 26th
- **Back to School Night:** Wednesday, August 23rd, 6:30pm-8:30pm
- **Fall Pep Rally:** Friday, August 25th, 2:15 p.m.
- **No School (Labor Day):** Monday, September 4th
- **Q1 Progress Reports:** Friday, September 8th
- **No School (Diocesan Inservice):** Friday, September 15th

See our full calendar [here!](#)

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FRC TEAM 4206

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A ROBO VIKE?

Email Us

Moderator, Brad Billeaudeau
bbilleaudeau@nchstx.org



BENEFITING THE NOLAN CATHOLIC STUDENTS & COMMUNITY

Hello Viking Family,

It is that time of the year again, and the Viking Club is preparing for its biggest fundraiser of the year: The 4th Annual Viking Club Golf Classic. This year's event will be held **on Friday, October 6, 2023**, at the Fossil Creek Golf Club at 3401 Clubgate Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76137. Please mark your calendars and save the date!

Last year's event brought over 140 golfers for a beautiful day of golf, food & refreshments,

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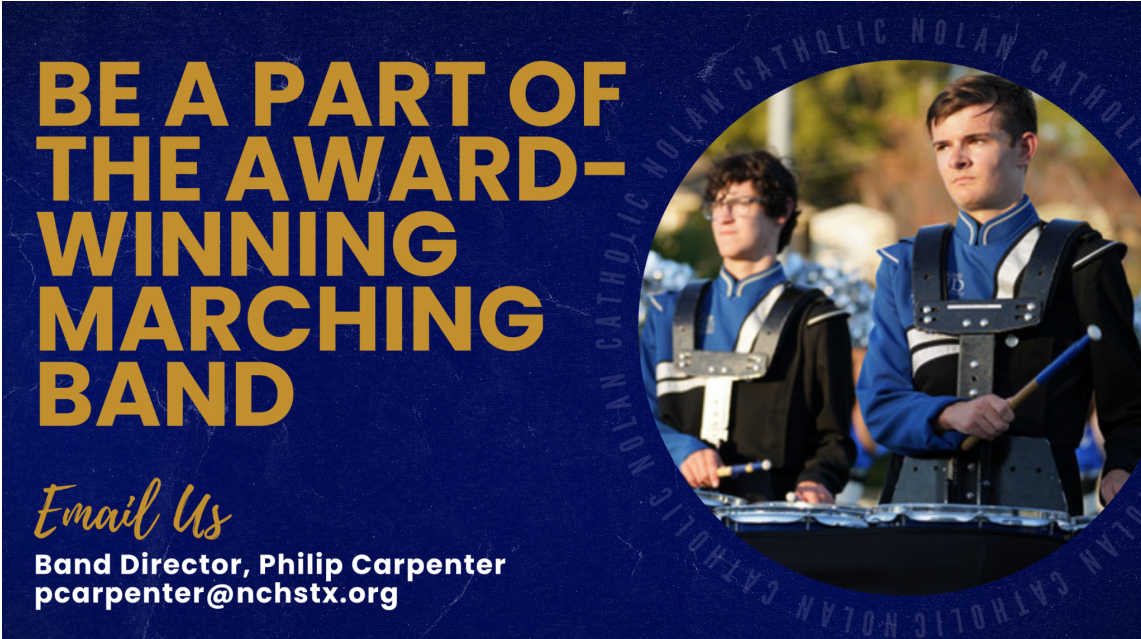
live music, and a ton of fun! It's always a great time to be with your fellow Vikings, past and present! Golfers from all skill levels—beginner, pro, and anything in between—will attend. But if you would rather not play, come out and volunteer! Plenty of fun and fellowship is also going on behind the scenes!

The Viking Club aims to support all NCHS-approved athletics, organizations, and clubs. Our goal is to surpass the amount raised last year (\$65,000) to help give back to our school and maximize our students' extracurricular activities and overall experience at Nolan Catholic High School. To do this, we would like to ask you for continued support and participation this year.

For more information on registering, becoming a sponsor, or volunteering, please click [HERE](#). More information will follow on how you can also donate, so stay tuned.

Please help us spread the word!
In Christ,

Robyn Larson Coffey, '95
VP of Communications - Viking Club
vikingclub@nchstx.org



**BE A PART OF
THE AWARD-
WINNING
MARCHING
BAND**

Email Us
Band Director, Philip Carpenter
pcarpenter@nchstx.org

Lunches: Catering by ECI

If you are interested in adding funds to your student's account for cafeteria purchases, you can do so by [clicking here](#). For new families, you can locate your student's ID number listed on the Student RenWeb dashboard. Click on the "Add Student/Patron" button on the upper left menu and follow the prompts.



Nolan Catholic High School is a ministry of the Diocese of Fort Worth providing a college preparatory education and evangelizing students to be tomorrow's servant leaders through

EDUCATION IN FAITH | FORMATION IN HOPE | PERSEVERANCE IN CHARITY

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