

SCHOOL NEWS

August 31, 2023



Welcome Back to School!

We are two weeks into the school year, and I can officially say we are in the learning groove. Teachers are cultivating positive learning experiences, and students are absorbing information. Over the past two weeks, I have witnessed incredible things happening at NAM. Students are excited about learning, helping their peers, and giving back to their classroom, school, and parish. Starting Monday, we are implementing a monthly school-wide reward to acknowledge and praise all positivity. During the month of September, students can earn positivity tickets for demonstrating good behavior and citizenship. Students will then enter their positivity tickets into a raffle for a prize.

~Ms. Fairbanks

Important Dates

- September 4: No School
- September 15: Early Dismissal 1:00pm; Before & After School Extended Care available
- September 25: All School PTO Meeting 6pm

Track-It-Forward

Click the link below to track your volunteer hours and view current volunteer opportunities at NAM.

<https://www.namartyrs.org/school/volunteer/>

School Theme

Faithful Stewards of God's Grace

Call & Response: We are faithful stewards of God's grace.

Contact Us

P: 402-476-7373

W: namartyrs.org

A: 1101 Isaac Drive Lincoln, NE 68521

Extended Care

P: 402-641-6210



NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS



Book Bites

2nd-6th grade parents: Please fill out the Google form if your child would like to join NAM's lunch time book club: Book Bites. For more information please read the attached letter.

<https://forms.gle/JevuDiuFpw5we1L99>

Martyrs Night Out



Keep in mind...

- Students will receive school picture proofs soon. Those will be sent home with your child.
- For the safety of our school family, you may only enter through the front doors of the school.

Community News

September is Suicide Prevention Month and Suicide Prevention Week is September 10-17. In Lincoln we are stepping up efforts to train everyone, from parents to students, about recognizing the signs that someone may be contemplating suicide. QPR stands for Question, Persuade, Refer. It is through questioning that we can help someone get help. Review the attachment to view training opportunities.

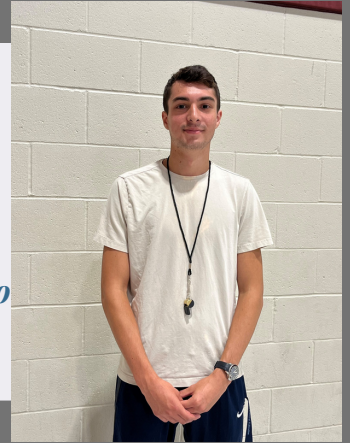
Junior High Electives



Our junior high students are in full swing with the elective program. This was a great afternoon in Robotics!

2023-24 Specials Teachers - Part 2

Hello I am Dre Vance, the new PE teacher here at North American Martyrs. This will be my first year teaching and I am so excited for this school year. I am from Fremont, NE and I graduated from Midland University where I also played basketball for a year. I enjoy playing and talking about sports. My role as the PE teacher is to educate the students on what it means to be physically active. They will be learning many ways to do that by games and activities that include exercises. In PE, we will also learn the fundamentals of various sports. I look forward to seeing all the students and getting to know them.



My name is Josh Kirkwood and I am one of the assistants at Pius HS. In addition to the work at the high school, I also serve the 5-8 bands at NAM, St. Peter's and St. Michael's. I am entering my 17th year teaching and second within the Diocese of Lincoln. I studied K-12 music at the University of Northern Colorado and received a Master's of Educational Leadership from the American College of Education. Prior to teaching (and living) in Lincoln, my family and I resided in Colorado for 22 years. During my time in Colorado, I was blessed to open two school buildings as the performing arts department chair (Mead HS and Soaring Heights PK-8). I have taught elementary through high school students as well as directing several drumlines across the state of Colorado. My high school band was recognized in the top 1% of bands at the Colorado All-State Band and were awarded top honors at several concert and jazz band competitions. I love working with band students and watching the progression they make throughout the year. As a percussionist/drummer, I have performed with the Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra, Denver Civic Orchestra and Fort Collins Wind Symphony. In Lincoln, I have performed with the Lincoln Municipal Band, Monday Night Big Band and the Lincoln Civic Orchestra.



My beautiful wife Sabrina and I have been married for 15 years and have three amazing children, Madeline (11), Christopher (9) and Juliana (5). All my children attend St. Michael's where my wife is the music teacher. Our family is also blessed with two Newfydoodle pups, Sofie (2) and Pepper (1).

My name is Kate Bliven and this year I have the privilege of teaching art! Since God created all things and we are made in his image, we all have the ability to create. What an amazing and powerful gift! I'm excited to help your children explore the many ways they can use this gift by teaching them essential art elements and principles and seeing what they create. The hallways at NAM are about to be transformed by these artists and I can't wait! I have been involved in the school since my conversion, 7 years ago, as a substitute teacher, para, and elective coordinator. My husband, Ryan, and I have 2 daughters, one is a freshman at Pius and the other in 6th grade at NAM. We are thankful for the community we have been able to form by being involved in the school. I'm looking forward to a fun creative year!

