



# Partnership News

from the SND National Education Office: [www.snded.org](http://www.snded.org)

## Julie Billiart, Akron - four years in the making and worth waiting for!

Founded in 1954 by the Sisters of Notre Dame, the Julie Billiart School in Cleveland, OH was a pioneer for providing a Catholic education for students with learning differences. Those inaugural efforts have grown tremendously over the past 60+ years and has garnered the school national recognition for the “JB Way” of “BEYOND EDUCATION. BEYOND EXPECTATIONS”.

JB’s successful educational environment with small class sizes, customized curriculum, on-site therapies, and highly trained intervention specialists is a model worth replicating. Knowing the need to help students with autism, ADD/ADHD, dyslexia, and social learning challenges extends beyond their Lyndhurst campus walls, JB’s leadership, with the blessing of the Chardon Province SND, established the Julie Billiart Network and began the long process of opening their first expansion school in Akron.



Located in West Akron in the former Christ United Methodist Church, Jason Wojnicz, the principal of JB Akron, and others have worked hundreds of hours preparing the space for use. Jason commented that every detail in the building is intentional, from the toys and technology to the carpet and lighting, to create a safe and comfortable environment for kids.

The first day of school began on August 22<sup>nd</sup> with 14 students in grades K -2. A providential beginning as JB in Lyndhurst began 63 years ago with 14 students as well! We’re taking that as a good sign that 2017 is the beginning of a long and impactful legacy for decades to come. Best wishes to all!

## New Leaders

Welcome, congrats and best wishes to the following individuals who have assumed a new leadership role in their school or education center:

Stefan Gates	Interim Principal	Cardinal Mooney High School	Sarasota, FL
Anthony Guevara	Head of School	La Reina High School and Middle School	Thousand Oaks, CA
Brad Fuller	Interim Principal	Notre Dame Academy	Los Angeles, CA
Kim Grilliot	President	Notre Dame Academy	Toledo, OH
Sarah Cullum	Principal	Notre Dame Academy	Toledo, OH
Ashley Hobbs	Principal	Notre Dame Academy Elementary School	Los Angeles, CA
Lilliam Paetzold	President	Notre Dame Academy Schools	Los Angeles, CA
Michael Bates	President	Notre Dame Schools	Chardon, OH
Paul Miller	Director	Notre Dame Urban Education Center	Covington, KY
Katherine Nienaber	Principal	St. Augustine School	Covington, KY
Sue Greis	Principal	St. Joseph School	Cold Spring, KY
Kim Huser	Assistant Principal	St. Joseph School	Cold Spring, KY
Nancy Schroeder	Principal	St. Mary Catholic School	Leipsic, OH
Rebecca Brown	Principal	St. Peter School	Lorain, OH
Erick Rubalcava	President	St. Pius - St. Matthias School	Downey, CA
Veronica Zozaya	Principal	St. Pius - St. Matthias School	Downey, CA
Teresa Kitchen	Principal	St. Wendelin Catholic School	Fostoria, OH

Our apologies if we missed a leadership change. If so, please contact the office at [paveni@ndec.org](mailto:paveni@ndec.org) so we can update our files.

## Summer - movin in!



Tony Guevara and his wife Suzy relocated (back!) to California from Salem, Oregon. So Tony had lots of boxes to unpack - both in his new office at LaReina and at home. Tony, we hope you and your wife have settled into life in sunny California without too many glitches - and muscle sprains from all the unpacking!

Kim Grilliot had it a bit easier than Tony. Kim was Principal at NDA in Toledo, OH before being chosen as the new President. So her move was just to another office down the hall. Perhaps that's why Kim's "movin' in" picture included a big smile ☺



## 2018 Summit - coming soon!!

Hopefully you received two postcards and an email or two about next summer's major event: the 2018 National Education Summit. If not, please send an email to Lisa at [lcanterbury@ndec.org](mailto:lcanterbury@ndec.org) so we can add you to the mailing list.

Held every 3 years, the National Education Summit provides a dedicated opportunity to live and breathe the charism and vision that characterize SND education. Additionally, it puts at the forefront what is a core SND ministry - education.



The Summit dedicates time to refocus and connect with the larger SND educational community and reinforce that we are all part of something bigger and global, beyond an individual school or ministry.

### Benefits

- The Summit provides opportunity for individuals to network with one another, thus allowing for the building of relationships that can be called upon to seek help and advice when dealing with new or difficult situations in their own school or ministry.
- The Summit provides an opportunity to remind ourselves of why a SND Catholic education is, and should be, valued by students, their families, administrators and staff.
- The Summit builds solidarity and continuity among the network.

## 2018 SND National Education Summit Key Information

**Dates:** June 20-23, 2018

**Who:** The target audience includes presidents, principals, directors, board members, teachers, and faculty involved in the "Global High School" program. The Summit is, however, open to all interested in the event as well as those in international SND education.

**Theme & Focus:** The theme for the 2018 Summit will be "Mirrors & Windows". We will reflect on our shared heritage while planning for a future of transformative education that maintains the mission and vision of the Sisters of Notre Dame. The program will focus on leadership development, Charism understanding and the SND Educational Vision in today's reality. The Summit process will integrate prayer, knowledge, understanding, action and networking.

### Program Elements:

- Daily Keynote Speakers
- Breakout Sessions specifically geared towards administrators, board members and faculty/staff
- Networking options
- Quality Prayer Experiences

**Location:** Notre Dame College (our only sponsored university) in South Euclid, Ohio. The beautiful campus offers plenty of space for general sessions, breakout sessions and housing as well as close proximity to shopping, dining and entertainment.

To-date, we have announced 3 key note presenters: **Kelly Croy, Sr. Melannie Svoboda and Kerry Robinson.**



For more information on the 2018 Summit, speaker bios, and to stay-up-to-date on details and logistics visit the Summit webpage: <http://www.snded.org/2018-national-education-summit>

## Foundation Day, October 1<sup>st</sup>



What are your plans for this year's celebration of Foundation Day? In years past, schools and centers have celebrated special Masses, held prayer services, participated in service projects, baked sunflower cookies, and served lunch to the Sisters.

If you have something special planned for this year, please capture your celebration in a photo or two and send them to [paveni@snded.org](mailto:paveni@snded.org) with a note. Perhaps you'll inspire another school with an idea for next year's celebration.



## A young man with incredible poise and a loving heart



The folks at **Metro Catholic School in Cleveland, Ohio** are as proud as proud can be. Sergio Harris, a fourth grade student, was a speaker at the recent "The Forum for Catholic Formation and Education". He spoke in front of hundreds of Catholic School educators, catechists and administrators - and the Bishop!!

Sergio was a big hit with the audience and spoke to the importance of Catholic education and the Metro Catholic family in his life. His small stature (he had a little trouble being seen over the top of the podium!) and sweet voice belied the grand power of his message. Visit <http://metrocatholic.org> if you would like to watch a video of Sergio's presentation.



## Summertime - a time for memory making moments



For the twelfth year, Sister Lisa Novak assembled a support staff of Chardon, OH Sisters of Notre Dame, several Notre Dame College students, and adult chaperones to guide eighteen high school students through four days of prayer, sharing and daily service activities. The **SND Summer Service Experience** is designed to introduce the students to "Sharing, Witnessing and Living the Charism and Mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame" through introducing them to those in need and teaching a valuable life lesson about service. Students involved were from Clearwater Central Catholic High School in Florida, Cleveland Central Catholic High School, in Cleveland, OH and Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School in Chardon, OH.

The theme "Help Jesus in Disguise" resonated with the students as they worked with clients at the Office of Migration and Refugee Service; The West Side Catholic Center, a site offering meals, clothing, and programs for the homeless; Bishop Cosgrove Center, the largest homeless center in downtown Cleveland; and Blessing House, a children's crisis care center in Lorain, Ohio.

Sr. Lisa smiled as she explained, "They were happy and satisfied that together they did help Jesus in disguise both at the service sites as well as back at St. Leonard's during their time together playing, doing their little duties/chores and group prayer and reflection. 'God is good and He does take care.' They got it!"

Text excerpts and photos taken from an article on the SDN Chardon website: <http://sndchardon.org>



A group of students from **Notre Dame Academy in Toledo** were equally as busy and impactful this past summer. It's become a tradition for the girls to take a summer mission trip and this year they headed to the Dominican Republic to help serve the community there and experience a different culture and its people in the process.

A major project this year was planting what seemed like a forest of native trees and plants! Looks like a few friendships were also formed along the way.





St. Peter Catholic School in North Ridgeville, OH is thrilled to announce they were selected by The Ohio Academy of Science to receive **The Governor's Thomas Edison Awards for Excellence in STEM Education and Student Research** for their accomplishments during the 2016-2017 school year. The criteria for the Thomas Edison Award for Excellence are: (1) to conduct a local science fair with twelve or more students, (2) qualify two or more of

these students for one of the Academy's 17 district science days, (3) have students participate in at least one or more youth science opportunities beyond the classroom such as State Science Day, Science Olympiad, B-Wiser, visits to museums, mentorship programs, and extended field trips and (4) convince external STEM professionals how, and to what extent, the school's program met the Academy's definition of STEM education. Now that's a commitment to science education! Congratulations to the students, Principal Roger Brooks, the staff, parents and all the volunteers for all of your hard work. The value of a thorough understanding of science content and interactive learning opportunities is in many ways immeasurable.

**CRS Global High School Program - register now!**



There are notable reasons and significant benefits for being involved with the CRS Global High School (GHS) Program:

For heads of schools, GHS facilitates the combination of vision, creativity, and the global reach of CRS with the richness, depth and relevance of the SND charism and educational vision and principles. For teachers, GHS is a great way to develop higher order skills, problem solving, and learning by fostering creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. Students become global citizens aware of happenings in the world; engaged in global issues; and are part of the solution. These types of experiences are valued by colleges, universities and employers alike.

**Notre Dame Academy in Toledo** achieved the "Silver Level" of the GHS program by leveraging the flexibility of the program's criteria and designing program components that work well with their school vision and mission, curriculum, service commitments and student experiences. This past year, the NDA Toledo GHS initiative included:

1. Eucharistic Adoration: Entire School (grades 7-12) participated through their Theology classes by using the Chapel to pray on a specific intention. Women and children were a specific intention.
2. Lenten Activities:
  - a. Rice Bowl Collections. Each grade competed to collect the most money. The winning grade received pep points.
  - b. Little Sisters of the Poor: Soap and shampoo were collected to benefit the residents of the Little Sisters of the Poor run nursing home. 2 winning homerooms received a pizza lunch.
3. Mardi Gras fundraiser for Sister Mission in Papua New Guinea and Ronald McDonald House
4. June 2017, 25 students traveled to the Dominican Republic to help at the Mariposa Foundation (see page 4)

Taking another tactic, **Clearwater Central Catholic High School in Florida** hosted Thomas Awiapo, a Catholic Relief Services speaker, to kick off Rice Bowl and their Global High School program.



Thomas Awiapo tells a truly inspiring story of survival and success. Growing up in a small African village in Ghana, Thomas was orphaned before the age of ten and left on his own to struggle for survival. He was the second of four brothers; his youngest two brothers died of malnutrition and lack of care.

His search for food led him to an elementary school, where he was fed a small meal every day. He survived, studied, and eventually won scholarships to attend college. He later earned a master's degree from California State University.

Today, Thomas works with Catholic Relief Services as integral part in bringing global solidarity to Catholic schools in the United States. He lives in Ghana with his wife and four children. His story of initiative and his joyful presence has brought inspiration to thousands of people in the U.S., including the Clearwater Central Catholic High School.

The NDA and CCCHS differing approaches to the GHS program are good examples of how SND affiliated and sponsored high schools can simply fine-tune school wide events, service programs, and Lenten activities to qualify as a GHS participant. To get started, visit the CRS website (<http://ghs.crs.org>) that is filled with simple, easy to follow, step-by-

step instructions. You can also contact Lisa Canterbury, the SND National Education Office Program Director, at [lcanterbury@ndec.org](mailto:lcanterbury@ndec.org) or 440.279.1102.

If your school is interested in hosting a CRS speaker as a part of your Global High School Program, contact Phoebe Heibeck at [phoebe.heibeck@crs.org](mailto:phoebe.heibeck@crs.org) ([www.crsricebowl.org/speakers](http://www.crsricebowl.org/speakers)).



### Lessons on a different scale

Not sure how to teach young students complex religious ideas, Sr. Nanette Zeimet, SND turned to a childhood favorite - music and rhymes. Putting a new twist on something old, Sr. Nanette's use of musical parodies proved to be a winning formula. Read about her parodies in the October issue of *Catechist Magazine*. And don't be surprised if songs you learned as a child become stuck in your head all day. To learn more, please visit <http://www.snded.org/in-the-spotlight> for a copy of the article.

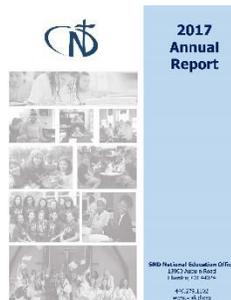
### 2017 Distinguished Graduate Awards



This past year, fifty-six awards were presented to students across 37 schools - thirteen in high schools and forty-three in elementary schools. The list of awardees is included in our Annual

Report and is posted on our website at <http://www.snded.org/distinguished-graduate-award>. We are thrilled to have a photo of many of the students as it's nice to put a face with a name. Next year our goal is to have photos of ALL of the students. School principals - that means our goal becomes your "to do". Please 😊 Thank-you!

**Annual Report** - a copy of the SND National Education Office 2016/2017 Annual Report can be found on our website. In it you will find a summary of major activities that we organized or participated in this past year. Thanks to all who supplied the pictures that really liven up the report!



Here's the link: <http://www.snded.org/national-office>.

### Meetings and Events

- New Leaders Meeting, September 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> at Bethany Retreat Center
- Education Advisory Council annual meeting, October 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> at Lial Renewal Center
- BoardSource Annual Conference, October 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, Seattle, WA

- 2018 National Education Summit, June 20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>, Notre Dame College, Cleveland, OH



This past spring we designed two series of posters that are a colorful, visual representation of the Educational Vision and Principles of the SND. Art work that

can be displayed in a high traffic space as a reminder of the values that guide a SND sponsored or affiliated school. Sr. Patricia McClain, President of Lial School in Whitehouse, OH sent a picture of their posters framed and hung, surrounding their Coesfeld Cross. It's a lovely corner for quiet contemplation.

If you would like more information or would like to order a set of 16" x 20" posters, email Paula at [paveni@ndec.org](mailto:paveni@ndec.org). Two versions are available - the "symbolic" series and the "people" series. One set of five posters can be purchased for \$60.00.



**Welcome to our new sponsor!**

We are very pleased to welcome **Partners in Mission** as the sponsor of our newsletters.

Founded and currently led by Larry Furey, Partners in Mission is "a full-service consulting firm that offers proven strategies and practices to advance the mission of growth and excellence in Catholic schools, dioceses, religious congregations and parishes."

Thanks Larry, for your support! For more information visit <http://www.partnersinmission.com>.

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