

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, 58% 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 CANNED FOOD COMPETITION

From November 5–16, the four classes at Mater Dei 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 882 canned goods, the winning class will earn a jeans day during exams, while the winning homeroom will earn a donut and Ski "breakfast."

Please join us in thanking Mrs. Deb Foote, Mrs. KK Schneider, our class officers, and our NHS officers and members for organizing this event, which has resulted in the donation of a total of 9,886 canned goods in the past seven years!

MAY THE MOST GENEROUS CLASS WIN!

◆◆ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ◆◆

QUARTER AUCTION ◆ December 2

Gather your friends, collect your quarters, and enjoy an evening of buying in support of our music programs!

Held at the American Legion in Aviston, the doors will open at 2:00 pm and the games will begin at 3:00 pm.

To reserve a table or receive additional information, please contact Sue Quitmeyer at 618-224-7857.

SOUNDS OF THE KNIGHTS ◆ December 16

Enjoy the sounds of our bands and chorus at the Christmas concert, held in the gymnasium at 7:00 pm.

MAGICAL KNIGHT CRUISE ◆ March 9

Save the date for a "Magical Knight Cruise," the Mothers & Friends dinner auction.



HELPING HANDS AROUND THE WORLD

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society is pleased to announce that during the first quarter, the Mater Dei students and faculty donated a total of \$1,934.45 to our weekly missions collections!

As in the past, students and faculty donate money to the missions each Wednesday during the homeroom period. Currently, the freshmen support the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ's school in Mexico; the sophomores support the Diocese of Belleville CYO's mission in Guatemala; the juniors support the Sacred Brothers, Sacred Sisters' orphanage in Venezuela; and the seniors support a Catholic school in San Estevan, Belize.

In addition, our St. Vincent de Paul Society is pleased to announce that their recent bake sale raised \$163.39, which will be donated to pay for the education of four high school students in Guatemala; and their recent Walk for the Poor raised \$128.00.

We commend and thank our students and faculty for living the Gospel through their commitment to helping those in need!

MATER DEI CALENDAR DRIVE UNDERWAY!

The 28th annual Calendar Drive is off to an excellent start – 2,543 calendars have been sold as of November 5, 2012!

As in the past, each student is asked to sell a minimum of seven (7) calendars, which will earn him/her a jeans day each Friday during the drive and a day off school on March 15, 2013!

In addition, students can earn CASH prizes for selling ten or more calendars! (A complete description of the incentive program is provided to the right.)

During its history, the Calendar Drive, our only school wide fundraiser, has saved each family \$165 - \$185 in tuition each year.

Therefore, please accept our "THANK YOU!" in advance - the support you provide is essential to the Calendar Drive's success and is greatly appreciated!

Let's make the 2013 Calendar Drive a record-breaking success!



BRRR . . . THE COLDER WEATHER HAS ARRIVED!



To assist you in ensuring that your child is adhering 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 in which the student participated, 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 which may include 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, such as a "The North Face" logo. (A Mater Dei logo is acceptable.)

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.

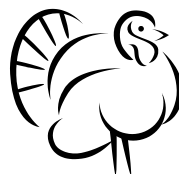
CALENDAR DRIVE INCENTIVES

- 1) A student who meets his/her quota of seven or more calendar sales will receive a day off school on March 15, 2013.
- 2) After a student sells seven (7) calendars (\$175), he/she may wear jeans and any Mater Dei t-shirt or sweatshirt on all Fridays during the Calendar Drive (through February 1, 2013).
- 3) Each homeroom that reaches its quota will receive donuts.
- 4) When a student sells 10 or more calendars, he/she will receive prize money as follows: \$5 for the first 10 calendars sold; \$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; 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 will be February 1, 2013. The prize money will be available beginning February 11, 2013. The last day to claim prize money will be February 28, 2013.

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

NOVEMBER KNIGHT LIFE

- 1 All Saints Day and Grandparents Mass (9:40 am)
- 2 Fall Play — *Harvey* (7:00 pm)
- 3 Fall Play — *Harvey* (7:00 pm)
- 4 Open House (for prospective families) (12:00 pm— 2:00 pm)
Fall Play — *Harvey* (2:00 pm)
- 5 Thanksgiving Canned Food Competition Begins
School Board Meeting (7:30 pm)
- 7 Bishop Braxton Visiting
- 10 Murray Center Visit (8:00 am—12:00 pm)
- 12 No School — Veteran's Day
Mothers and Friends Meeting (7:30 pm)
- 16 Thanksgiving Canned Food Competition Ends
- 18 Fall Athletic Banquet (12:00 pm)
Knight Club Appreciation Dinner (4:00 pm)
- 19 Band Parents Meeting (7:30 pm)
- 21 Thanksgiving Mass (9:40 am)
XX-Schedule (1:00 pm dismissal)
- 22 No School — Happy Thanksgiving!
- 23 No School
- 26 Fathers and Friends Meeting (7:30 pm)



CELEBRATING THANKSGIVING

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 today, let us recognize that our nation has been blest, 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 each 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.

Let's celebrate Thanksgiving each week!



KNIGHTS EARN TOP ACT SCORES

As the information below indicates, in addition to surpassing the state average ACT scores, the Class of 2012 surpassed the average ACT scores of the Classes of 2012 from Carlyle, Central, Centralia, Greenville, Highland, Lebanon, Mascoutah, Mt. Vernon, Nashville, Okawville, Salem, and Wesclin. **WAY TO GO KNIGHTS!**

	Composite	English	Math	Reading	Science
Mater Dei	23.7	24.0	23.2	24	23.2
Mascoutah	22.9	22.4	22.9	22.9	22.9
Okawville	22.0	21.4	22.6	22.2	21.4
Wesclin	21.6	20.8	21.6	21.8	21.7
Nashville	21.5	21.4	21.1	21.1	21.8
Greenville	21.0	20.1	21.5	20.9	20.6
Lebanon	20.8	20.2	20.3	21.3	20.5
Highland	20.7	19.7	20.8	20.9	20.9
Illinois (state)	20.6	20.1	20.9	20.5	20.6
Central	20.6	20.0	20.5	20.6	20.8
Carlyle	20.6	18.9	21.6	20.8	20.8
Centralia	19.9	19.4	19.9	19.7	20.1
Salem	19.7	18.7	20.0	19.6	19.9
Mt. Vernon	19.5	19.2	19.3	19.7	19.4

For the members of our Class of 2012 who enrolled in a college preparatory curriculum (four years of English; three years of mathematics, science, and social studies)

25.0 25.3 24.6 25.4 24.2

History of Composite ACT Averages

Class	MDHS	State
'93	20.3	21.0
'94	21.5	21.1
'95	20.8	21.1
'96	21.1	21.2
'97	22.2	21.2
'98	22.3	21.4
'99	21.9	21.4
'00	22.2	21.5
'01	22.4	21.6
'02	21.7	20.1
'03	21.4	20.0
'04	22.0	19.6
'05	22.0	20.1
'06	22.0	20.3
'07	22.3	20.3
'08	22.7	20.7
'09	23.1	20.8
'10	23.3	20.5
'11	23.5	20.9
'12	23.7	20.6

Data for the schools listed above was obtained from the "2012 Illinois School Report Card" for each school, which is located on the Illinois State Board of Education website (www.isbe.state.il.us) - "eReport Cards."



APPLYING TO COLLEGE? FOLLOW THESE STEPS

TRADITIONAL APPLICATIONS Seniors must bring the complete application, with a check for the application fee, to the College Placement Office. After reviewing the application, completing the school official's portion, and providing an official high school transcript, Mrs. Goetz will then mail the application.

ONLINE APPLICATIONS Seniors must bring the transcript request form and/or the counselor's recommendation form, as well as the school's address, to the College Placement Office.

THE COMMON APPLICATION At this time, Mrs. Goetz will send transcripts and the "School Report" offline (paper process). Thus, seniors must bring applicable forms to the College Placement Office. (Teachers may choose to complete recommendations online or offline.)

APPLICATION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS At this time, Mrs. Goetz does not send a transcript. Instead, when applying online, seniors must submit a "Self-Reported Academic Record."

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION Seniors may provide the letters with the application or request that they be sent separately.

WARNINGS Mrs. Goetz warns that the most common errors include incomplete or unsigned applications and missing application fees. In addition, seniors should request letters of recommendation early and submit their documents early to ensure that all deadlines are met.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT OFFICE ON EDLINE

Mrs. Goetz invites students and parents to explore the College Placement Office page on Edline. (link provided under "Contents")

On this page, Mrs. Goetz provides information related to:

- college fairs –
- college visits to MD –
- ACT test dates –
- scholarship opportunities –
- requesting electronic transcripts –

In addition, Mrs. Goetz provides numerous links to websites which provide information 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.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Goetz for assistance.

ACT TEST DATES

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

December 8, 2012
(deadline November 9, 2012)

February 9, 2013
(deadline January 11, 2013)

April 13, 2013
held at Mater Dei
(deadline March 8, 2013)

June 8, 2013
(deadline May 3, 2013)

NOTE

In order for Mater Dei to receive your child's ACT scores, which are listed on his/her transcript, the registration must include our CEEB code (where a student attends school): 140-395.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY

Juniors who are considering playing athletics at an NCAA Division I or Division II college or university should view the NCAA Eligibility Center presentation and register with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

In addition, students should inform Mrs. Goetz so that she, with the class advisors, can assist them with scheduling classes.

NOTES

A link to the NCAA Eligibility Center presentation is provided on the "College Placement Office" page on Edline.

The NCAA Eligibility Center website is www.eligibilitycenter.org

JUMP START AT KASKASKIA COLLEGE

Starting in 2013, Kaskaskia College will offer their Jump Start program during the spring, summer, and fall semesters.

The Jump Start program provides students who attend a high school in the Kaskaskia College district with the opportunity to enroll in up to four (4) credit hours of coursework at 50% of the tuition rate.

For additional information or an application, please visit Mrs. Goetz in the College Placement Office.