



**World Ready Campaign**  
**PROGRESS**  
**UPDATE**

**July 2016**

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# A letter from John Snyder:

- CAMPAIGN CHAIR

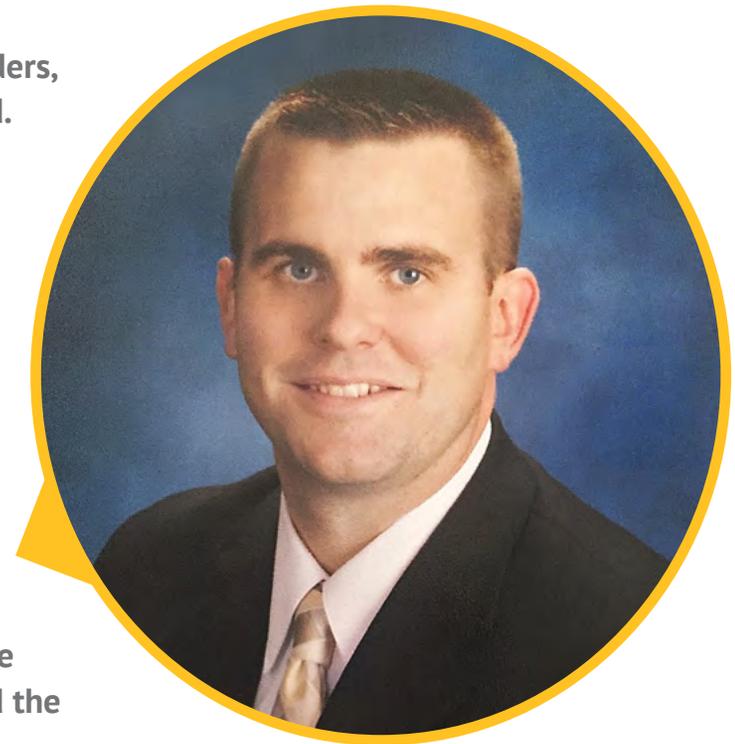
For years, enrollment at Notre Dame has steadily increased. Now, with the recent groundbreaking for the Monsignor Willenburg Center, our facilities are growing as well.

Notre Dame is known for teaching faith and values while preparing leaders, things that are essential to the future of the Mohawk Valley and beyond. Our new building's theater and stage space will allow the continued growth of our arts and music programs. Additional gym space will ease the burden of scheduling concerns for sports teams and allow more students to participate in extracurricular activities. This all strengthens the educational experience.

As construction continues, so does our campaign. Expanding our endowment fund is a vital part of our campaign. Additional fundraising allows us to provide more scholarships to ensure that a greater number of families can afford Catholic education.

Support for Notre Dame is more important now than ever. Join us and be part of developing the next generation of leaders in our community and the world. Help us make our kids world ready.

*John Snyder*





## Msgr. Francis J. Willenburg Center **GROUNDBREAKING EVENT:**

Bishop Robert Cunningham blessed the Burrstone Road worksite and the first shovel broke ground for the new Msgr. Francis J. Willenburg Center on May 18th. The building is named in memory of the beloved priest who was known throughout the Central New York community as an advocate for young people as well as a devoted fan for many area sports and schools. The event was held just east of the existing high school building. Dignitaries including Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente, Utica Mayor Robert Palmieri and representatives of local business and community attended.

Sister Anna Mae Collins, principal, stated, “This is our first major capital project in half a century. It illustrates the trajectory of our growing enrollment and the value the local community places on faith-based education for our young people.”

The new 14,000 square foot building will provide room for Notre Dame’s and the community’s growing performing arts and athletic programs. The school will now have a stage and an additional gymnasium featuring a regulation-size basketball court. A concessions area and warming kitchen, restrooms, locker/dressing rooms and office space will also be included.

According to Peter C. Murad, principal architect, “The dynamic structural full glazed facade serves as a beacon on campus and the architecture embodies the vision of educational excellence and creativity.”

Photography by Adam Brockway

Watch our  
**groundbreaking  
video!**



Click the video above or visit the Utica Notre Dame youtube channel to preview.

3.

## Meet the project team:

Several partners in the Msgr. Willenburg Center project have roots at Notre Dame. Peter C. Murad, ND '80, is principal architect with Architectural Resources of Buffalo. Joe Salerno, ND '00, owner of National Building &



Restoration of Utica, serves as general contractor. Carson Sorrell, clerk of the works, spent his fair share of time at Notre Dame, too. He was an assistant girls soccer coach and his wife, Monique, taught junior high math here. Their children: Matthew, ND '94, and Jennifer, Stephanie and Laura, triplets from ND Class of '96, are all Notre Dame alumni.

Salerno said, "It is a great opportunity to have a team whose members are all personally committed to the project. We all have Notre Dame in our hearts and we're all in this together ... Notre Dame has a different feel to it. It's not just another school. People don't realize that just like entire school districts have a sense of community, Notre Dame has a unique sense of community and generations of families have gone through here."

# Donor testimonials:

“The academic experience I had at Notre Dame was outstanding, and far superior to that which I experienced in public school, in both content and in faculty dedication and motivation of students. I never forgot my profoundly impactful time at NDHS – and it has been almost 50 years!

I was happy to respond to the request for financial support for the school, as I believe in giving back to highly effective institutions like NDHS, and have had the opportunity to see first-hand that the academic rigor and well-rounded education that I experienced in the 1960’s continues to be provided on campus to this day!”

*Kevin Gavagan,  
Class of 1971*

(If I had stayed two more years\*)



“Arts and athletics enhance our children’s education and add to the vibrancy of our community. With an active and engaged community comes the need for additional recreational facilities. This new Multipurpose Building is a much needed addition, and will provide our community access to a safe, state of the art facility for large gatherings and events.”

*Alicia Dicks,  
President/CEO of The Foundation.*



**THE FOUNDATION**

*Since 1952, The Foundation has invested \$55 million in Oneida and Herkimer counties. The Foundation partners with various nonprofits to make impactful investments in core areas, including economic development, education, health and culture.*

## Class of 2016 Graduation Stats:



**100%**

OF THE CLASS OF 2016  
IS COLLEGE BOUND



**77%**

OF THOSE STUDENTS GRADUATED  
WITH COLLEGE CREDITS

**\$4.8 million**  
**Dollars**

AWARDED IN COLLEGE  
SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

**95%** of the class will receive a  
Regents Diploma

**2** students received NYS  
Academic Excellence Awards

**21%** will receive a Regents Diploma  
with Advanced Designation

**5** graduated  
with Highest Honors

**6** will receive a Regents  
Diploma with Honors

**13** graduated  
with High Honors

**15** are members of the National  
Honor Society

**19** graduated  
with Honors