



April 13, 2023

A statement from Nardin Academy:

“Nardin Academy’s senior leaders, Board of Trustees, and the Daughters of the Heart of Mary take their stewardship of our school seriously, and continuously pay careful, collaborative attention to its well-being and direction.

“First and foremost, we care about the 769 children and 596 families who come into our school each day and trust us to provide the highest quality education and a safe and welcoming environment that will enable them to become creative, curious, and critical thinkers; lead with confidence, strength, and integrity; grow through faith and spirituality; champion equity and justice; and serve others with humility and compassion.

“We encourage and teach our students to use their voices, to think through issues critically and understand what truth and civil discourse mean, and how they can put that into action. We will continue to listen to and learn from all members of our community, including our faculty and staff. And we continue to do everything we can to understand and meet their needs.

“We are fully aware of the serious complaints shared in recent months, and we worked diligently together to respond swiftly and transparently with the school community. Nearly a year ago, the board hosted extensive listening sessions with faculty and staff to provide a forum to hear their views. We listened to them respectfully and thoughtfully.

“An independent legal team then thoroughly investigated all faculty input and found it factually wrong, comprised mostly of misunderstandings, baseless rumors, and born out of a reluctance to change. Complaints now shared publicly are therefore demonstrably false, and possibly defamatory.

“Several weeks ago, Nardin’s board initiated a third-party assessment of every level of the school’s operations and governance to determine the overall health of our school. That report and implementation of any resulting recommendations are forthcoming.

“We remain firmly committed to fostering a nurturing environment of connection and diversity. Led by our mission, board and the Daughters of the Heart of Mary, we will continue to work to ensure that everyone at Nardin in 2023, as we position the school for the future, is fully engaged in our mission.”

ABOUT NARDIN ACADEMY

Founded in 1857, Nardin Academy is the oldest independent Catholic school in Buffalo. Located in the heart of the Elmwood Village, it features Montessori education (toddlers, early childhood, including Montessori kindergarten; and grades 1-3); lower and middle school for girls and boys (grades K-8); and an upper school for young women (grades 9-12).



NARDIN ACADEMY

NARDIN.ORG

All three schools are accredited by the Middle States Association. Nardin's Montessori program, the oldest in Western New York, is accredited by the American Montessori Society (AMS).

The main campus on Cleveland Avenue sits on approximately four acres and houses the elementary and high schools, as well as the primary grade Montessori classrooms. The Montessori campus on West Ferry Street is on one acre and houses toddler, early childhood, and kindergarten classrooms.

###