



MEREDETH VOGLER, *educator par excellence*

Meredeth Vogler joined the faculty at Notre Dame Academy in the fall of 1970. For the beginning years of her career at NDA, she taught French I & II, World History, and Freshman English. From 1990-1997 she was responsible for student discipline, and now serves as the Vice Principal and Associate Principal. In these various roles, she has touched many lives as an educator par excellence.

As a longstanding member of the faculty, Meredith has seen many changes over the years. From her earliest memories at NDA, she fondly recalls the Sisters of Notre Dame walking along the walkway in front of the convent, looking up and smiling at her as she passed alongside them. She was always taken aback by the fervor of their deep prayer life. She says, “I remember their long habits brushing the toe of their shoes as they walked. Nowadays, I see giggling teenage girls skipping along these sidewalks, and I like to think they are following the spiritual footsteps of every sister who walked before them.”

Over Meredith’s years, she has experienced first-hand the work that the SNDs have done in and out of the classroom, affecting the lives of the young women they encountered in very personal ways. She expressed that she has had the good fortune to work with so many SNDs who have been a part of the NDA community. Her first SND experience was with Sr. Michael Claire Palenchar [Sr. Marilyn Palenchar]. Meredith proclaims, “Sr. Michael Claire will always be the quintessential sister in my mind...

serious, strong and attentive to both the outer and inner worlds.”

As a member of the NDA community for her nearly fifty-year career, Meredith’s memories of the previous and current SNDs mirror the same mission. When she sees the sisters on campus today, she says, “I have wonderful memories of so many sisters, including the two who are on campus this year. Sr. Frances Wahl takes such wonderful care of the freshmen, and Sr. Joann Schlarbaum inspires me to keep smiling, always reaching out to others with a spring in my step.”

Being an integral part of the NDA community, Meredith has demonstrated the importance of the SNDs willingness to, “Live an incarnational spirituality in response to meeting the needs of the times” [as stated in their 2016 General Chapter Vision Statement]. Meredith has had the privilege to know faculty members in other SND-sponsored schools. Her French counterpart at La Reina High School, Mary Anne Hedrick [now retired], thoughtfully thinks of Meredith as a dear friend.

Mary Anne articulates her friendship with Meredith, “Over the past years we have become very good friends, meeting up for lunch, or going to a play. We have had the opportunity to travel to France twice. Meredith is a wonderful person. She is kind, caring, and always upbeat and positive. I am blessed and grateful to call her one of my friends.”