



March 8, 2018

Dear Sophomore Parent/Guardian:

St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, wrote that *“the laborers in the Lord’s vineyards should have one foot on the ground, and the other raised to proceed on their journey.”* In many ways this is an apt analogy for sophomore year. Your son is a young man halfway through the journey of high school. This is a year of transition, preparation, and goal setting.

To help this transition, McQuaid Jesuit’s Office of Campus Ministry is initiating the Sophomore Conversations program. Sophomore Conversations is an opportunity to reflect with your son on the accomplishments of his first two years at McQuaid Jesuit, set goals for the next two years, and review and discuss these reflections with a McQuaid Jesuit teacher, administrator, or staff member. At McQuaid Jesuit, we see this is an important opportunity for us to show *cura personalis* – a characteristic of Jesuit education that essentially means “care for the whole person.”

Only one parent/guardian need take part in the conversation with the student and employee. To assist with the program, I have attached a “Sophomore Conversation Worksheet.” Please print this out and complete it before arriving at your appointment day and time. The context for the Sophomore Conversation Worksheet is taken from the Grad-at-Grad. Short for the Profile of a Graduate at Graduation, the Grad-at-Grad is a nationally recognized summary used to assess the impact of a Jesuit high school on its students. You can read more about the Grad-at-Grad on the website address listed below.

Due to the importance of reflection in your son’s formation and the critical transition in his time at McQuaid Jesuit, participation in Sophomore Conversations is a requirement for promotion to junior year. We ask families to select one 30 minute appointment on one of these dates:

- **Tuesday, April 10th: 3:15-5:30 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, April 11: 3:15-5:30 p.m.**
- **Thursday, April 12th: 5:00-8:00 p.m.**
- **Saturday, April 14th: 9:00-12:00 p.m.**

Please visit <https://www.mcquaid.org/ignatian-ministry/campus-ministry/sophomoreconversations> to schedule your Sophomore Conversation as soon as possible. Appointments are made on a first-come, first-serve basis. On the website you will find instructions on how to register and access the online scheduling calendar, including a video with step-by-step guidance.

During this unique time of transition, where your sons have *“one foot on the ground, and the other raised to proceed on their journey,”* we look forward to meeting with you and sharing a conversation. If you have any questions, please contact me via email at corr@mcquaid.org. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and participation!

Sincerely,

Colin Orr '01

DIRECTOR OF SOPHOMORE CONVERSATIONS
OFFICE OF CAMPUS MINISTRY