



The...*

August 2023

***PLEASE PARTICIPATE:** We need your help **naming our newsletter**. Click this [link](#) to submit your ideas.

Welcome New Students



5th and 6th graders mix it up on the court on the first day of school.

Welcome New Faculty



Devon Pires

Devon graduated from Nativity with the Champion class in 2014 and will be teaching history, English and science. Because of



Brendan Bonner

Brendan is starting his first year at Nativity after graduating from College of the Holy Cross this past spring. Brendan has a passion for reading and writing that he plans to



Noah Avelar-Fortes

Noah is a Nativity alum from the class of 2015. He has been welcoming folks at the front desk since November of 2022. For the coming school

Nativity, Devon enrolled at St. Andrews School in Barrington, RI. Devon studied Communications and Writing at Bridgewater State University, served as a Resident Assistant, as well as led new students during the summer orientation. Devon is committed to giving back what he once received; love, guidance, and a proper education inside and outside the classroom.

bring to the classroom this upcoming school year. Aside from teaching English to the 7th and 8th grades, Brendan will also be assisting in advising duties, several after school activities, along with planning the community service aspect that is so core to Nativity. Brendan is beyond excited to be a part of this community and is looking forward to getting to know the students!

year, he has taken on the role of health teacher and will be coordinating the health office. Noah graduated with an Associate's Degree in science and general education in 2022 from Bristol Community College. Currently, he is pursuing his nursing career with the ultimate goal of obtaining his Bachelor of Science in Nursing. He is excited to be back at Nativity; a home away from home.

Staff Update



Farewell

Garrett Gryska, Director of Advancement, will be leaving Nativity at the end of this month to work at Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole as Senior Director of Individual and Planned Giving. She has served in Nativity's advancement office for six years. Garrett worked on the school's capital campaign, and she organized and managed the successful Golf & Tennis Fundraiser, engaged volunteers, ran the cooking club with students, and lead Nativity's overall fundraising efforts over



Welcome

Nativity Preparatory School is excited to announce the appointment of **Beth Mello** as our new Director of Advancement and External Relations. Beth has more than 20 years experience in independent and international schools. In addition, she began her professional career as a VISTA (Volunteer in Service to America - currently named Americorps) volunteer and, with family roots here, she has a deep appreciation for New Bedford. Beth will be responsible for fundraising, community outreach and garnering support for Nativity

the past two years. On behalf of all of the faculty and staff, it has been a pleasure working with Garrett over the years. We are grateful for her friendship and wish her the very best in her new role.

Prep's future through its recently developed Strategic Plan. Please join us in welcoming Beth!

Register for **Nativity's Annual Golf and Tennis Tournament 2023** [HERE](#)



Expanding Music & Visual Arts Program

We are thrilled to be expanding our Music & Visual Arts Program. Colin Bradley will be working fulltime at Nativity to expand the music program to include a band and to develop a visual arts program. And, of course, he will continue to develop the keyboarding program that was started with such success last year.

If you would like to contribute to this growing program, please contact Beth Mello at emello@nativitynb.org.

We are hiring. Please see our postings [here](#).

Check out this interview with [Beth Mello and Helena DaSilva Hughes](#) on her program Vida Luso-Americana on the Portuguese Channel.



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