Dear Parents of New Nazareth Students:

I’m so pleased to add my greetings to those you’ve already received this summer from other members of the Nazareth family, and I look forward to welcoming you and your daughters and sons to campus in just a couple of weeks. At the College, we are proud of our community where students engage in extensive learning opportunities both in and out of the classroom, enhance their personal growth through experiences and activities too numerous to mention, and prepare for lives of work and meaning after graduation.

This all happens in the context of a safe, secure, and supportive environment, and it is about this topic that I write today. Much has been communicated in the news recently about the federal government’s initiatives to address issues of sexual misconduct and relationship violence on college campuses. Those of you who live in New York are aware of the new state law, “Enough is Enough,” that is likewise designed to combat sexual assault in the higher education setting.

At Nazareth, we strive to create a campus environment where all students feel safe. One of the ways we accomplish this is by providing a wide range of education and prevention information and programs for our students. Another is by ensuring that when a report is made, we have a comprehensive plan to support and protect our students while giving them a variety of campus- and community-based resources and counseling. Our students are encouraged during the investigative process to consider all of their options to pursue matters on campus as well as through law enforcement channels.

Reports are investigated thoroughly, methodically, and expeditiously by experienced staff and referred to our Student Conduct Office for evaluation and resolution. Specially trained staff members and hearing boards make decisions about these cases. The extensive training of our hearing board members provides instruction on several topics, including information specifically tailored to sexual misconduct.

Staff members at the College work diligently to ensure that our comprehensive policies and procedures are reviewed every year to comply with the latest federal and state directives. Among other things, training for student leaders has been enhanced, educational programs for new and returning students have been redesigned, and updated communications materials have been prepared for all campus stakeholders.

We recognize the extreme sensitivity of these situations and make every effort to maintain confidentiality as well as to treat all parties with dignity and respect throughout the process. I appreciate the time you’ve taken to read this information and look forward to partnering with you and our students to strengthen our learning community at Nazareth.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me should you have questions about this information.

Sincerely yours,

Kevin D. Worthen
Vice President for Student Development
Title IX Coordinator