



Tentative Conference Schedule

Monday Nov. 16	Conference check-in, light breakfast.....	8:30 – 9:30 am
	Welcome, Introductions, Opening Session	9:30 – 9:50 am
	Katie Colin, Executive Director, Sponsorship Office, U.S. East-West Province	
	Prayer – Led by Mount Notre Dame High School	
	Keynote Session I	
	AI & Mission and Catholic Identity: Keeping Human Dignity at the Center	10:00 – 12:00 pm
	Adam Kronk, Director, DELTA Network & Michael Downs, Bay Area Director of DELTA Network	
	Addressing the topics of AI & Mission and Catholic Identity, Adam and Michael of the DELTA Network will help us understand our unique opportunity to look at the impacts of growing technological advances through the lens of Notre Dame de Namur Mission and Catholic Identity while discerning how we generate a thoughtful, just and human response in our learning communities and beyond. Adam will present on Monday and Michael on Tuesday.	
	What is DELTA: Dignity Embodiment Love Transcendence Agency	
	DELTA provides practical resources for scholars, faith leaders, tech leaders, teachers, journalists, young people, and the broader public to help navigate challenges posed by rapidly developing AI. Born out of hundreds of conversations and focus groups with theologians, technologists, faith leaders, students, educators, and parents, DELTA brings the deep tradition of Christian virtue ethics into direct conversation with industry leaders and the global public. We provide spaces for real, honest, and sometimes messy conversations about who we are becoming in this time of technological disruption.	
	Adam Kronk holds a doctorate of education, focused on how organizations operationalize values, from Vanderbilt University. With centering the dignity of the human person as its throughline, his career has involved leading and working with homeless families, rural Cambodian teachers, high school and college students, and C-suite executives at a publicly-traded manufacturing company. Firmly convinced that we are all wired to serve one another and “do the right thing,” Adam focuses on increasing the odds of that happening in whatever contexts present themselves. He and his wife, Jacqueline, have four young children and a dearth of free time, but when the opportunity presents itself, he savors great literature, fresh coffee, eclectic music, and cooking for loved ones.	
	Lunch	12:00 – 1:00 pm

2026 SNDdeN National School Leaders Conference

WHERE MISSION MEETS THE MOMENT

Discussion Groups (in cohorts)	1:00 – 2:30 pm
Topic TBD (talking points from Keynote)	
Break	2:30 – 2:50 pm
Board bus	3:00 pm
Depart for The Summit Country Day School	3:15 pm
Wine & Cheese Welcome Reception	
St. Julie Center of Distinction	3:45 – 4:15 pm
Presented by Mike Johnson, Lower School Director	
Tours of Campus	4:15 – 5:00 pm
Liturgy	5:00 – 6:00 pm
Board bus	6:00 pm
Depart for The Westin Hotel	6:15 pm
Arrival back at hotel - Dinner on your own	6:35 pm

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WHERE MISSION MEETS THE MOMENT

Tuesday

Nov. 17

Breakfast 8:15 – 9:00 am

Welcome 9:00 am

Donna Groene, Director of Mission Formation, Ohio Province

Opening Prayer 9:15 am

Notre Dame Mission Volunteers

Keynote Session II

AI & Mission and Catholic Identity: Keeping Human Dignity at the Center 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Michael Downs, Bay Area Director of DELTA Network

Addressing the topics of AI & Mission and Catholic Identity, Adam and Michael will help us understand our unique opportunity to look at the impacts of growing technological advances through the lens of Notre Dame de Namur Mission and Catholic Identity while discerning how we generate a thoughtful, just and human response in our learning communities and beyond.

Michael Downs serves as Regional Program Engagement Director based in California's Bay Area, where he helps to build the DELTA Network on the West Coast.

A teacher, retreat leader, outdoor educator, and coach, Michael brings extensive experience in Catholic education and the formation of young people. He was instrumental in establishing the Living Lab at Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland, California, where he served as Director of Justice and Kinship, fostering connections among faith, ecology, community, and experiential learning.

Michael earned his undergraduate degree and M.Ed. from the University of Notre Dame and an M.A. in Christian Spirituality from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. His graduate research focused on adolescent spiritual development and the ways young people discover meaning, belonging, and purpose.

Announcements 12:00

Katie Colin & Donna Groene

Lunch 12:15– 1:00 pm

Cohort Discussions 1:00 – 1:45 pm

10-minute Break..... 1:45 – 2:00 pm

Board bus 2:00 pm

Depart for Badin High School..... 2:15 pm

Welcome & Badin's History Presentation 3:15 pm

Student-led Tours 3:45 pm

Campus Ministers Panel Discussion 4:30 pm

Dinner at Badin High School 5:30

Board bus 6:45 pm

Depart for The Westin..... 7:00 pm

2026 SNDdeN National School Leaders Conference

WHERE MISSION MEETS THE MOMENT

Wednesday	Breakfast	8:15 – 9:00 am
Nov. 18	Welcome & Announcements	9:00 am
	Katie Colin & Sister Maria Delaney, SNDdeN	
	Keynote Introduction	9:20 am
	Donna Groene, Director of Mission Integration, Ohio Province	
	Keynote Session III	
	Imperfect, Talented, and Valued: Building CommUnity with Clifton Strengths	9:30 am – 12:00 pm
	Sister Kristin Matthes, SNDdeN	
	<i>Our greatest talents—those ways in which we most naturally think, feel and behave—represent our innate power and potential. When we tap into this source of wisdom and power, we act with more confidence, direction and hope; we are more efficient and productive; and we are happier! Having insight into our natural talents frees us up to create a strengths-based team, a group of imperfect but talented contributors who are valued for their strengths and who need each other to realize individual and team success. In our session we will deepen our understanding of our natural talents through interactive processes. We will explore ways to recognize the talents of those with whom we work and how we can bring our talents to our teams and our school communities.</i>	
	<i>Sister Kristin Matthes, SNDdeN, currently serves on the Leadership Team for the OH Province. As a Gallup-Certified Strengths Coach, Sister Kristin brings a unique blend of leadership, faith, and personal development expertise to her work.</i>	
	Closing Prayer / Reflection	12:00 – 12:30 pm
	Katie-Sue Scullin & Amy Jobin	
	Directors of Mission Integration, U.S. East-West Province Sponsorship Office	
	Closing Remarks	
	Katie Colin & Donna Groene	
	Lunch / End of Conference	12:30 – 1:00 pm