

Your Child is Their Family

Natalie Sultze

Dear Parents,

My name is Natalie Sultze and I am a proud alumna of Bishop Kelley Catholic School (class of 2003). When my parents enrolled me at Bishop Kelley, they were hoping that I would receive a good education, but I received so much more. I am honored to share with you how the eight wonderful years I spent at BKS have shaped the person I am today.

At Bishop Kelley, our basic Christian values are at the heart of every lesson taught. My faith was strengthened and nurtured during my schooling here. I know that throughout my time at BKS, God planted seeds in my life that are now blossoming in my adult life. One of the greatest lessons I learned was to accept the trials that I encounter, because spiritual growth occurs through these challenges (James 1:2-4).

Moreover, as a student, I learned to use my gifts and talents to become an active member in my Christian community. When I reached 6th grade, the teachers recognized that I enjoyed playing the piano and encouraged me to use the gift God had given me to play the keyboard for our school masses. Some of my fellow classmates would bring their instruments and we would all play for mass, while the rest of the class would sing in the choir. Playing for mass as a child at Bishop Kelley planted seeds in my heart that would later blossom into an incredible passion for music. Even today, I still enjoy playing piano for mass from time to time.

Bishop Kelley also provided me an excellent education, which aided me in excelling in high school and ultimately college. The teachers at Bishop Kelley ensure individual time is spent with each student and they modify their approach based on individual learning needs. Discipline and diligence are also at the crux of the student learning curve. The teachers set high standards for the students because they want them to succeed. Because of this, when I went to high school, I was much more advanced in my academic knowledge as well as my critical thinking skills, than most of the other students.

When you enroll your child at BKS, you will quickly realize that your child is not only receiving an excellent education,—_ he/she is also gaining another family. They become a support system for your child during every phase of his/her life, even after your child graduates. This has strongly been the case for me. After I graduated from college and received my nursing license, I followed God's call and journeyed to Kenya, where I am currently serving at a rural hospital for a year. A month into my journey, I was struck with

appendicitis and required emergency surgery. When I was finally able to call home, my mom told me that the wonderful staff and students at Bishop Kelley had learned of my circumstances and were continually praying for me. Moreover, I received numerous emails from many of my former teachers, enveloping me with love and support during this trying time. I was shocked and humbled by this experience. That is Bishop Kelley. Your child is much more than a name to them; your child is their family. Enrolling your child at Bishop Kelley Catholic School, is giving him/her the opportunity to achieve to the highest and become a well-rounded individual.

God Bless,
Natalie Sultze