

# Our YOUTH Senior Edition

LET THEM SPEAK:

## A Fun and Memorable Time At Nazareth Regional HS

▲ by Jean Lafleur



Lafleur

The idiomatic phrase, Times Flies When You're Having Fun, rings true as I have experienced this during my four years at Nazareth R.H.S, East Flatbush.

These past four years have been thus far the greatest four years of my entire life.

I've been able to learn, grow, mature and

experience many new things. I've become an open-minded person and much more willing to listen and accept new ideas and concepts.

### Five Important Virtues

Thanks to Nazareth, I was able to incorporate five important virtues into my life. Those five virtues were simplicity, trust, zeal, compassion and humility. High school made a real impact on my life, and I'm proud to say that I have no regrets.

Freshman year was the beginning of a new chapter in my life. I wanted to make

the most of it, especially because I had a rough middle school experience. When I first got into high school, I immediately put up a strong and confident facade.

However, deep down I was very nervous because I didn't know anyone. But thankfully, I was able to encounter a tremendous young math teacher who was also my homeroom teacher, Mr. Samerson.

Due to his unique personality and his dedication to students, in and out of the classroom, Mr. Samerson and I instantly formed a bond. He re-introduced me to chess and I fell in love with the game all over again. I was able to develop my character along with my academic skills. Through chess I became more self-confident, optimistic, detail-oriented and patient.

### Critical Thinking

Chess enabled me to develop my academic skills since it helped me to become more of a critical thinker and because I would always think two steps ahead.

I learned to socialize. I was able to better interact with my peers. I've made friends with certain people, not only because we made jokes and understood each other, but also because we all shared one common goal. The common goal that we shared was for each and every one of us to become successful as possible. Freshman year was great and I couldn't wait for what

sophomore year had in store for me.

Sophomore year was the toughest year for me as a student because I was academically challenged with courses such as geometry, AP world and etc.... Due to these courses, I began to realize that the rest of my time in high school wasn't going to be as easy as my freshman year.

Since the end of my freshman year to the beginning of my sophomore year, I became a very cocky person. Due to my arrogance, I ended up becoming a procrastinator since I thought that I could get anything done in the last minute. I even became mediocre since I would be content with any passing grade given to me.

However, through motivation from friends and family, I was able to turn everything around for the better. Sophomore year started off rough, but I managed to come back because it's not about how you start but rather how you finish.

### Impacted by Serving Others

Junior year went by smoothly. This was because junior year was my least stressful and most impactful year in high school. What made it so impactful was when me, a few friends and two chaperones got the opportunity to go on a service trip to Jamaica.

Throughout most of the service trip,

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For questions, please contact Eddie Mayrose '79, Director of Sports Camps, at [emayrose@xaverian.org](mailto:emayrose@xaverian.org)

