

Washburn High School Foundation

Fall 2021

201 West 49th Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419-2588



Dear Friends,

We're back! This fall has ushered in the return to in-school learning for all Washburn students. The return to a more normal school learning environment has been a breath of fresh air for Washburn students, teachers, and staff.

On October 8th, Washburn held its Homecoming football game vs. Park Center. Homecoming really did feel special this year, after the last 18 months or so of disruption and upheaval. The stands were full, the student section was jubilant, and scores of Washburn alumni sported their orange and blue in support of the Millers. The alumni "VIP" section in the south end zone was another big hit, with plenty of space for alumni to gather and share their memories of Washburn while perusing yearbooks from throughout Washburn's history and enjoying coffee and cookies.

While the pandemic continues to create varying levels of disruption in all of our lives, the fundraising at the Washburn High School Foundation has not been spared. Please see the article to the right from WHSF Treasurer Jeremy Graff ('93) about the effects of decreased donations over the past fiscal year. We will need to count on our loyal donors and supporters to help get things back to where they were pre-COVID in order to continue to increase our support at Washburn through Mini-Grants to teachers and coaches, scholarships, and administrative team grants. You can learn more about the very important impacts of these programs in this issue of the Legacy Newsletter. As always, thank you for your continued support, you can make secure online donations via the link on the WHSF website, WashburnConnections.org.

Go Millers,

Mark Bachman, '91 President, WHS Foundation

COVID-19 Impact on WHS Foundation - Fundraising Down, Financial Support Up

The WHS Foundation was not spared from the financial effects of COVID-19. Between our fiscal year 2020 and 2021 our fundraising fell 38% (or about \$58,000). Given the Foundation's commitment (and past budgetary planning) to always increase our annual support for the school, the Foundation was able to INCREASE our budgeted support for WHS in fiscal year 2021 by 7% (or \$5,000) in the midst of this fundraising decline. To do this, we used some of the Foundation's emergency cash reserves. We felt this was prudent given the unprecedented circumstances the school was experiencing over the past 2 academic years due to the pandemic. The Foundation's Board is very proud to have been able to step-up in a very trying time for the school. Our hope and plan is that our donors will help us to get our fiscal year 2022 fundraising back-on-track to pre-COVID levels.



Washburn is home! Homecoming Pep Fest!

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Principal Dr. Emily Palmer

From Your Principal Dr. Emily Palmer

We are thrilled to be back in person this fall with 1,656 students enrolled as of 9/20! Last year we spent 3 quarters in full distance learning, with teachers and students logging in by computer from home every day. Then, as teachers got vaccinated, we had one quarter of hybrid learning, during which 62% of our students chose to return in person, but to stay distanced they came back on a rotating schedule so that desks could be spaced 3 feet apart. Now this fall we are finally allowed to be back in person after 18 months apart. Vaccination rates in our area are high, all high school students are eligible for vaccination and we are still wearing masks when inside the school building, to continue to be safe.

Last year, the Foundation was instrumental supporting our shift to distance learning and then to hybrid learning. Your generous donations funded, among other things: new orange & blue picnic tables so students could eat lunch outside, an updated sound system in the stadium, WHS-logo masks & t-shirts for all incoming Freshmen last year, IB Authorized World School logo signs for outside each entrance, and "I survived teaching in a pandemic & all I got was this lousy t-shirt" shirts for the staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. These are things that our regular budget can't purchase but that really make a difference in the life of the school.

As I begin my 4th year as principal of Washburn, I am so grateful for the deep community support that surrounds our school. It means a lot to know that our Millers are surrounded with love from parents, alumni and neighbors every day. Thank you for all you do! We will always welcome you home to Washburn.

Mini-Grants for Washburn Staff Fund Creative Projects

This fall, with all staff and students back in the building, the Foundation received an unprecedented 70 applications for mini grants, totaling over \$57,000. Many departments combined their efforts demonstrating that working together benefits everyone. These awards will impact the entire Washburn community in academics, arts, athletics, along with the coaching, clerical, and custodial staff.

Some of the projects are a rolling cart mobile kitchen for nutrition learning, a choreographer for "Grease" and hosting of an immigrant artist for English Language Learners (ELL) department. Below are more examples of your donations at work:

- The Media Center will be upgrading video equipment to enhance the Washburn Weekly Webcasts. (See link on our website to watch the webcasts!)
- World Language teachers are using online resources such as Garbanzo, an interactive resource, and Gimkit, which will increase engagement and allow for question sets of vocabulary and grammar.
- Social Studies is purchasing several virtual reality headsets. Students will have the ability to travel the world, see the past, present or under the ocean. History will come alive.
- Coaches will be ordering t-shirts, uniforms, , competition leotards, neck strengthening harnesses, volleyballs, soccer tennis nets, yoga mats, 2 power drills and spirit wear.
- Model UN will be able to send 21 students to the MN fall conference.
- The Music department is completing recording studio spaces with guitars, stands and microphones.

"Thank you, WHS Foundation! With the mini-grant money, we are requesting 13 Pocket Lab Airs without the Notebook Pro software. These can connect via Bluetooth to the Chromebooks to allow for easy data collection. This project will bring real-time data into the classroom to be analyzed by either math or science classes. The Pocket Lab Air can measure real-time data on air quality index, humidity, temperature, ozone, carbon dioxide levels, particulate matter of various sizes and more. By showing students the data that they are collecting about their actual environment, we are making the learning relevant and more meaningful. We couldn't do this without your help!" - Teacher

Spring 2021 IB Art Show

The IB Art Show had great turn out last April, showcasing artwork from the entire school year.







Fall Musical

Students are really excited to participate in more live theater this fall, following the show last spring! The fall musical this year will be Grease! Auditions were held in September and rehearsals have begun! Show dates will be November 11th-14th and 18th-20th.

New Mural in Music Room

Mr. Ritsema, the piano and guitar teacher, worked with the art students to create a mural for his room last spring. The mural explores western musical notation as a coded art form, merged with other coded systems from around other cultures around the world.



Fall Art Events at Washburn High School

11/11-14 and 11/18-20 - Fall Musical, "Grease"

12/7 - Band & Choir Concerts

12/8 - Orchestra & Choir Concerts

12/10 - Jazz Band Concert

12/15 & 16 - Blackbox Theater Showcase at University of MN Rarig Center

Jan 11 - Guitar Program

Jan 20 - Blackbox Theater Showcase

Jan 26-27 - MSHSL (Minnesota State High School League)
One Act Play Sub Sections Hosted at Washburn

Mar 14 - Orchestra Small Group Concert

Mar 15 - Band Small Group Concert

May 3 - IB Visual Art Exhibition

May 17 - Band Senior Recognition

May 18 - Orchestra Senior Recognition

May 20 - Jazz Band Concert (with Justice Page Middle)

May 24 - Guitar Program

May 25-26 - Blackbox Theater Performances

Athletic Highlights

- Girls Soccer City Conference Co-Champs with Southwest. Sylvester Cup Trophy Winner. Advanced to the Section Semi-finals.
- Boys Soccer City Conference Co-Champs with Southwest. Defeated Wayzata in Section Semi-finals 2-1.
 Lost in the Section Final to Southwest 2-1 in double OT.
- Girls Cross Country Repeated as City Conference Champs (10th year in a row). Took 4th place out of 19 teams in the Victoria Lions Club meet hosted by Chaska and Chanhassen.
- Boys Cross Country Finished 2nd (behind 5th ranked Southwest). Took 2nd place out of 19 teams in the Victoria Lions Club meet hosted by Chaska and Chanhassen.
- Girls Tennis Won the City Conference Championship for the 3rd year in a row by defeating Southwest 5-2. Won the Twin Cities Championship for the 3rd year in a row by defeating St. Paul Central 5-2. Advanced to Section Quarterfinals.
- 4 state qualifiers for girls' swimming: Lillian Ramberg, Christine Kessens, Britta Lindgren, and Paige Moreen

Miller Open Golf Tournament Supports Washburn Athletics

The Miller Open Golf Tournament board approved a \$9,159 grant to the WHS athletic department this fall to purchase the following equipment:

- 2 new soccer goals with wheels, which will make it easier for all teams using the field to move them.
- New first down markers for the football team
- New mobile water cooler stands for the basketball and volleyball teams

Thank you to all past Miller Open participants and donors for making these grants possible. We hope to see everyone on the golf course again in 2022!

Homecoming 2021



Homecoming Royalty



Here we go Millers, Here we go!



Although the loss to Park Center High School was a disappointment, WHS Homecoming 2021 was an amazing event all around!





WHS Welcomes New Athletic Director

Giovan Jenkins is a Washburn alumnus, Class of 1996. He has served the Washburn community for 20 years, working with Special Education programs, as Dean of Students, and of course as a coach. This fall we are thrilled to welcome him as our new Athletic Director after the retirement of Reggie Perkins. Coach Jenkins has coached football at Washburn as both an assistant and head coach, for 14 years. During this time, the Millers

won 13 of 14 conference championships, compiling a 109-34 record.. In addition to his work at Washburn, he served 2 seasons as a volunteer assistant for Jerry Kill at the University of Minnesota. He also coached 2 seasons with the Hamline University Pipers, but he always stayed connected to Washburn High. In 2014 Coach Jenkins received his master's degree in Coaching from Ohio University. Coach Jenkins is a member of the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association, the American Football Coaches Association, and the National Football Foundation of Minnesota. Jenkins spends time in his off-season coaching in a variety of camps and clinics as well as participating in public speaking engagements. During the summer of 2013, Coach Jenkins was selected to coach the wide receivers for the South team in the Minnesota All-Star game and awarded the 2013 Leo E Lewis Jr. Practitioner Award. We are so happy to have Coach Jenkins in his new role as Washburn's AD!

Judy Yung — Teacher, Volunteer, Contributor, Life-Enricher

(to name a few!) If you have been around Washburn High School for the past 60 years, there is a good chance that you've at least heard the name of one of Washburn's greatest treasures, Judy Yung. While Judy passed away in August of this year, memories of her teachings, her love for students and learning, along with her many gifts to our community, will live on eternally.



Judy loved education. After receiving her undergraduate degree from St. Catherine University in St. Paul, she went on to receive her master's degree in English at Mankato State University. From there she began a career in teaching in Virginia, MN before finding her home at Washburn High School in 1963.

Mrs. Yung was a lot of things to a lot of people. Most students remember her as one of their favorite teachers. She had a way of making the mundane more exciting and finding ways to excite those who were otherwise disinterested. Many students have commented that she was the person behind their lifelong love of Shakespeare, while others simply remember her as someone who cared so much

Caring is what made Judy such an important role model. One student recalled being Mrs. Yung's aide in the 80's. She remembered Mrs. Yung giving her the keys to her car and telling her to go pick up students who hadn't made it to class. That's just one story that told so much about a woman who cared so deeply for those she taught.

After retirement in 1993, Judy Yung continued to grace our halls and to enrich our lives. From 1997 until her retirement from the Board in 2017, she was a major force in administering the Washburn High School Foundation Mini-Grant program which Washburn teachers, coaches, and staff have used for decades to provide so much for so many.

Finally, Judy served on the Washburn High School Foundation as both a Board Member and as the President for 15 years. She was so dedicated to being a Miller and to making sure students and teachers had the tools they needed to be the best.

Thank you Mrs. Yung; your generosity, grace, and dedication to our School has been felt by thousands and we will always be indebted to you. You were and will always be a Miller. GO MILLERS!

Thank you, donors!

The Washburn High School Foundation would like to thank the following people who made donations between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Because of you, we are able to continue our goal of making Washburn High School the top high school in Minneapolis with the best teachers, the best resource and the best-prepared students for the future. We have the best alumni and supporters! Thank you for your continuous support and donations!

Gold	Medalis	t \$1,0	00-5	,000
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Ellie Wells '21 In Honor Of

Brave Capital Police Officers In Honor Of Brent Meister '95

In Honor Of Cary Olson Percy

In Honor Of Daniel J. Diebold In Honor Of

Former Principal Rhonda Dean

In Honor Of Gerald E. Larson '50

In Honor Of

Jane Furber Becker '60 and

Jim Furber '58 In Honor Of

Jean Bodenman Joines '66

In Honor Of
Mr. and Mrs.
William G. Winfels
In Honor Of Vicki Bunker

In Memory Of

Alexis Coleman-Bacon

In Memory Of Bill McGoldrick, a good friend at Washburn &

Honeywell

In Memory Of Bob Romfo '58 (

by Tom Gruber) In Memory Of

Brendan Noel Rathman

In Memory Of Carl W. Anderson

- Principal 1958-73 In Memory Of

Carole McNeill Bell '49

In Memory Of Charles Todd Mettler January '45 In Memory Of David Botts '66, Vietnam KIA In Memory Of Dorothy H. Stevenson -**Business Education Instructor** In Memory Of Edgar (Ted) Mattson '50 In Memory Of Elaine Engelhard, Counseling Office In Memory Of Frank Ario In Memory Of Gary Stitz '58 (by Tom Gruber) In Memory Of Henry W. Cohen In Memory Of

Jack McCoy - friend of WHS

In Memory Of Jeffery Christman In Memory Of Joan Eckberg Johnson '58 In Memory Of Joan Eckberg-Johnson '58 (by Tom Gruber) In Memory Of Joan Lerol Eckberg '58 In Memory Of John Eric Moe '75 In Memory Of John Sylvester In Memory Of Joyce Hughes Scott '43 In Memory Of Karin Larson Nordstrom '58 (by Tom Gruber) In Memory Of Louise Everett King and Bill Everett

In Memory Of Lowell Webster '53 In Memory Of Marie Spong Mellgren In Memory Of Marilyn Whitten Johannsen & Donna Potretzke Sonnesyn In Memory Of Mary Bahr In Memory Of Matthew Johnson, Jr. '58 In Memory Of Norman Anderson '58 (by Tom Gruber) In Memory Of Patty Russell Dunne '46 In Memory Of Ruth & Stan Furber

In Memory Of Sanford M. Naiditch '39 In Memory Of Stephen C. Johnston '58 In Memory Of Steve Luers '62 and Douglass Addison '62 In Memory Of Steve Stoll '61 and Toni Stoll '59 In Memory Of Sue Reid '76 In Memory Of Vincent Conover '38 and Eloise (Nelson) Conover '36 In Memory Of Warren Wayne Larson '48 In Memory of Julie Sauer-Keim '58 (by Tom Gruber)

Thank you!

