

Washburn High School Foundation

Fall 2022

201 West 49th Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419-2588



Dear Friends.

As I write this, our state's Give To The Max Day has just finished. This day of online philanthropy has continued to grow in popularity, despite the economic pressures of recent times. I'm happy to report another very solid round of contributions by you, our donors, during this event, with just under \$6,000 contributed to the WHS Foundation via GiveMN.org. Washburn High School itself raised over \$25,000.

This is great news, but we still need your help. The budget cuts of the past year meant that Washburn's budget was allocated almost entirely to "talent," or staffing, and the school is relying on outside support for its needed supplies for this school year. While we will continue to provide support via Mini-Grants and Scholarships, our other funding will most likely be allocated toward this goal of providing the needed supplies to support students and teachers throughout the year.

Please enjoy this Fall/Winter edition of the Legacy Newsletter. There is once again a plethora of great stuff in here, with stories of achievement in Academics, Arts, and Athletics, and a nice piece in memoriam of Paul Zollar, beloved counselor at WHS for many years.

Homecoming was a big hit this year, with full stands and lots of support for your Millers. Washburn recently had a State Champion! Senior Aidan Jones was able to break the ribbon at the finish line at the Class 3A Cross Country State Championship in Northfield.

The Fall Musical, Spring Awakening, recently completed its run, with outstanding performances once again showcasing our talented Millers. The Washburn Whirl (formerly the Washburn Arts Gala) took place on Saturday, November 19th, after a three-year hiatus. This fantastic event, which showcased performing and media arts, serves as the main fundraiser for the Arts at Washburn (and is also a lot of fun!).

Most importantly, THANK YOU for your continued for your support of the WHS Foundation. You can donate securely online via our website, WashburnConnections.Org, just click on the "Donate Now" button.

Go Millers!

Mark Bachman, '91
President, WHS Foundation

2022 HOMECOMING



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Homecoming was on a beautiful Friday on September 30th. The festivities started with a pep fest on the football field during the final hour of school. There the homecoming court put on individual dance performances to a packed student section. The performances electrified the crowd. Later that night the football team took the field vs Richfield in the Battle for Highway 62. Unfortunately, the Spartans were victorious in a hard-fought, high-scoring game 47-36. The student section was covered in white flour, a renewed tradition. At halftime the homecoming royalty was crowned: Ryan Rowell and Paige Gruenhagen. The homecoming dance started with group pictures at The Rose Garden and Lake Harriet band shell. After that about 900 Millers danced the night away on the football field. The Millers are back!



Homecoming Royalty



Flour Power at Halftime

Letter from The Principal

I am starting my fifth year at Washburn this year, and I am happy to say that we've had a wonderful start to the school year this year. And it feels amazing to say that! After the trauma of the last few years, just "doing school" seems like a huge accomplishment.

We are holding steady at about 1,600 students. Although the Comprehensive District Design (CDD) appeared that it was going to shrink all the high schools, Washburn has not decreased much from the 1,650 students enrolled when I arrived in 2018. And we like it that way. I believe that we are at a good size:



Principal Dr. Emily Palmer

large enough to offer lots of different courses, (four world languages, for example,) but also small enough to have a community feeling of everyone belonging.

Community is definitely a theme at Washburn. We take pride in being a diverse school that embraces all learners as important to the whole. Racial diversity is a big part of Washburn's history. I recently spoke with a 1973 graduate on the planning team for their upcoming 50th reunion, and she recalled the challenges of the spring of 1973 and the work the school did to grow past that. We know that integration has had a rocky history here in Minneapolis just like across the country, and I am proud that we are working hard to give our students of color the best possible experience at Washburn. If you want to learn more, go to the Washburn website, click "About" and then "Racial Equity at WHS".

COVID is still with us, but making less of an impact. As I write this, Hennepin County is down to 24 cases per 10,000 residents. (Last year's Omicron peak when we went back to Distance Learning in January was 359/10,000!) Masks are still optional. Our School-Based Clinic (SBC) offers free vaccinations and boosters every Thursday to the whole Washburn community. We are fortunate that the vast majority of our WHS community is vaccinated.

I am very proud of how well Washburn has come through the challenges of the last few years. The help and support from the WHS Foundation has been critical to our ability to do that. Thank you so much to every donor for your care for our current Millers. Your gifts make a difference and we are grateful!

Dr. Emily Palmer, Principal

Paul Zollar – Beloved Counselor at Washburn Passes Away



Paul Zollar, former
Washburn Counselor from
1988 to 1998 passed away
recently. Paul deeply
cared about people
and his contributions
to Washburn and the
community are best
stated by those who knew
him and loved him most.

His son and WHS alumnus Andrew shared:

"Before Washburn, dad served many years at Central High and Roosevelt. He had a positive impact on so many students and families among the Minneapolis public schools that we had a kind of running joke in the family that whenever we went out to dinner or somewhere in public with him we'd make a bet on how many people he'd run into that would say hello. The thing is, they never just said hello, but always said thank you and how good it was to see him."

His son, Peter, another Washburn grad, recounts when Paul started at Washburn:

"When I learned that Dad would be transferring over as a new guidance counselor, I was worried that he would discipline and upset kids to the point that it would make my school life harder. Instead, I had kids I never spoke with coming up to tell me what a great guy my Dad was and I was able to make new friends thanks to him."

Guest book entries from the Star Tribune obituary echo these sentiments:

"My son loved this man and was most recently looking for him to tell him how much impact he had in his life and thank him for his support and encouragement during his high school career."

"He was a counselor when my children attended there. He was a very sweet, gentle man. Always had a kind word for others"

"That was my dude!! He was so cool and most definitely one of the ones who actually cared about us at Washburn!!"

Thank you for all that you gave us Mr. Zollar! You will be missed by all!

Mini Grants Enrich Education and Build Community

You might be surprised by what a teacher can do with a Mini-Grant. This fall, coaches and teachers alike requested funding from the Washburn High School Foundation to support their programming with new and creative ideas, including:

 A guest yoga teacher for a physical education class to help students better manage their emotions

 Extra safety equipment for the clay target team to ensure students stay safe

 Organisms for the saltwater fish tank for the zoology elective

 Subscriptions to online learning platforms to help students enjoy learning in Spanish



A 12-string guitar and requinto guitar

 (a smaller guitar often used in traditional
 Mexican music) to provide students
 with the fretted instruments on
 which they really want to learn

This year, 63 Mini-Grants were awarded for a total of nearly \$55,000. Mini-Grants bring learning to life and help education become more relevant to students. They allow teachers, coaches and staff to explore new or more fulfilling areas of teach. As always, applicants expressed their deep appreciation for the funding.

"We appreciate the Washburn High School Foundation for supporting and bolstering our World Language Department. Your generosity has helped many students find success in our language classrooms. Thank you for your support and time."

Jill Leary; Mitchell Fettig, Spanish

"Our department is grateful to all that you have given us the last nine years that we have been applying for the Foundation grants."

Patty Hanson, Physical Education

"Last year was the first year of the club (Games Club) and we started our collection of available games to play. I would like to expand the repertoire of games available and round out our collection to include both simpler and more complex games to appeal to more types of people, adding in some games that are rich two-player games. The goal is to reach out to more students that may not currently feel connected to school activities. We provide a space for a wide variety of students, some of which don't see themselves fitting into sports or other more academic clubs. In these cases, we hope to build community and connect students with other like-minded people while fostering successful social skills."

Derek Olson, Math





Games Club

Arts

Fall Musical – Spring Awakening

Millers kicked into fall with Minnesota's first-ever high school production of the highly acclaimed musical Spring Awakening. This incredible show held a mirror to the audience and educated us all on the needs and wishes of our treasured community members.

Performing seven shows and earning standing ovations the 80+ person production shined a light on the universal and timeless truths of adolescence. The multi-age cast and crew brought humor and sadness to the theater using their voices and creative talents, making it an unforgettable evening for all.

Directed by English and theater teacher John Lynn the message of Spring Awakening, "whatever you're going through, whoever you are, whoever you love, it's okay. It is all part of growing up", was celebrated.

Congratulations to the cast, crew and production team - you make all Millers look great!



Sprina Awakening

The Washburn Whirl

The

Washburn Arts Council (WAC) was thrilled to bring back the Washburn Arts Gala under the new name Washburn Whirl, an annual fundraiser for the Arts held on November 19, 2022 at St. Mary's Event Center. This year we expanded awareness about the Washburn Whirl with a new website www. washburnarts.org. We surpassed our fundraising goals by increasing donors and sponsors, including: Otogawa-Anschel Design + Build + Architecture, Murdoch Orthodontics, Washburn Alumnus Jeff Arundel, and Nate Marsten - Bell Bank Mortgage. Thank you to all who contributed to this important fundraiser.

WAC funds support arts program needs such as classroom materials/ equipment, guest artists, field trips, a technical director for theater, etc. Washburn High School is known for providing highly regarded arts programs that keep students engaged in school and in the community.

Athletics



Thank you, donors!

The Washburn High School Foundation would like to thank the following people who made donations between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. 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

ORANGE \$0 - \$249

Karin Blomberg Ahlgren

Jeff Alberts

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Roger C. Anderson

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Stuart Arey Jr.

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Kari Ball

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Kathryn Burnside

John Burton Jr.

Jane Anderson Callahan

Larry Carlberg

6 Dayton C. Carlson

Ralph J. Carlson

Dianne Catapano

Marilyn Miller Chapman

George Christoferson

Linda Gross Cohen

Megan Conners

megan conners

Corey Conover

Bonnie Swanson Daniels

Bruce Danielson

Donald Davies

Ronald Davis

Michael DeVaughn

Dirk Deyoung

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M 10 11

Mark Gagstetter

Dan Galbraith

Kathy Garmezy

Frank Garner

Tom Garton

Susan Hirsch Gerhard

James Gibson

Brent Giebink

Bruce Graff

Kathryn Grambsch

Anne Ludcke Greer

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D. . . . II.

Dean Hansen

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-

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Barbara Porter Hestness

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HONORARIUM/ MEMORIAL

In Honor Of All of my classmates living and passed January '47

In Honor Of
Ann Marie Olson Riley '87,
Laurie Olson Wells '90,
Cooper Wells '18,
Ellie Wells '21"

In Honor Of Augie Bent '20 & Lewie Bent '22

In Memory Of Bette Awes Gray '69

In Honor Of Bill Ludcke '72 &

In Memory Of George Ludcke '70

In Memory Of Bruce Kath '64

In Memory Of Bud Moll

In Memory Of Carl Rundquist '63

In Memory Of Charles "Todd" Mettler '45

In Memory Of Dan Galbraith

In Memory Of David V. Hiden and Diane C. Hitchcock '63

In Memory Of Diane Winters '63 and Joyce Winters '48

In Memory Of Dorothy Dosse Metzger '62

In Memory Of Dorothy H. Stevenson, Business Education Instructor

In Memory Of Earl Davis '59

In Memory Of Frank Ario, Teacher

In Honor Of George Wemier In Honor Of Georgean Moe Mettler's 90th birthday '50

In Honor Of Gerald E. Larson '50

In Memory Of Gordy Sundin '55

In Honor Of Isaac Hoyt-Niemiec '20, Jessica Niemiec '92, Sara & Randy Niemiec '89, Winnie Hoyt-Niemiec '22

In Memory Of Jacqueline H. Scheibe Evans '53

In Memory Of Jane Fleming Lincoln '49

In Memory Of Jane Galbraith

In Memory Of John Jocko Honmyhr

In Memory Of John Warren

In Memory Of Judy Yung, Former Teacher

In Memory Of Lisa Harley '75

In Memory Of Lois A King

In Memory Of Louise Everett King and Willard Everett

In Memory Of Marie Spong Mellgren

In Memory Of Mary Sue Hanson Taylor '65

In Memory Of Mr. Dunn

In Memory Of Newt Fuller

In Memory Of Parker Cramer '55

In Memory Of Pat Stubbs '61 In Honor Of Paul Zollar, WHS Counselor

In Honor Of Peggy Park '57

In Memory Of Rev. Paul M. Youngdahl

In Honor Of Rev. Tom Nyman

In Memory Of Roger Cersine, History Teacher

In Honor Of Stan Furber '62

In Memory Of Steve Luers '62 and Douglass Addison '62

In Memory Of Steve Stoll '61 and Toni Stoll '59

In Honor Of Stuart & Gail Hanson '55

In Memory Of Susan Welbaum Berwald Lichleter '58

In Memory Of Taunee Beekman '65

In Memory Of Todd Harley '65

In Memory Of Todd Henderson '67

In Honor Of Vicki Bunker

In Memory Of William Lydell, Choir Director

Thank you!

