



Washburn High School Foundation

Fall 2025

201 West 49th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419-2588

Dear Friends,

It has been an absolute honor and pleasure to serve as President and Board Chair of the Washburn High School Foundation for the past fifteen years. During my tenure in this role we have truly accomplished great things! We have worked diligently to fulfill the Mission Statement of the Foundation: cultivating a support network for Washburn among alumni and the greater community; connecting financial and volunteer resources to the school in order to provide enriching experiences and an exceptional public education for its students, preparing them for a successful future; and celebrating Washburn's successes while creating awareness of its needs and opportunities for growth in academics, the arts, and athletics. In honor of Washburn's 100th year, we have increased annual programming support to Washburn up to \$100,000 for the next school year and worked to see the Endowment Fund grow to now just over \$1,000,000 to help ensure support for future Millers for generations to come!

I will remain a Board Member of the WHS Foundation, but it's time to transition to a new leader to help Washburn continue on its trajectory of success. Please join me in welcoming Mike Wedl, WHS '89, as the new President and Board Chair of the WHS Foundation! Mike is an alumnus, parent of former Washburn students, current Board Member, and has served in multiple roles at Washburn over the years, including Site Council President. Thank you for your continued support of the WHS Foundation, and Go Millers!!!

Mark Bachman, '91



FROM THE PRINCIPAL: DR. EMILY LILJA PALMER

Dear Friends,

Our new school year is off to a good start, despite the Annunciation shooting happening just a week prior to our first day. Of course so many of our Millers are connected with the Annunciation community, so our heartbreak increased as we learned of impacts affecting our Millers, neighbors, and loved ones. We continue to lift up impacted folks with care as we all navigate the aftermath together.

Know that Washburn's emergency management protocols are strong. We take all aspects of emergency planning - Prevention, Preparation, Response and Recovery - very seriously and have good support from MPS as well.

On a happy note, we are thrilled to welcome new Assistant Principal Terry Peña this year! Terry has stepped in with great energy and enthusiasm, and is doing a great job with our 9th graders and supporting academics, including International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program implementation.

A big thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate our 100th Anniversary with us in August! We had a wonderful time! From Grammy-winner Jimmy Jam Harris receiving an honorary diploma, to astronaut Bob Cabana sharing his memories as he was inducted into the hall of fame, to performances by current students, to a magnificent history display taking up the entire upper gym, the layers of Miller PRIDE were evident throughout. See photos on pages 2-3.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of our Millers. While city and state political leaders hash out school funding priorities, we depend on donors like you to fill the gaps! Thank you!



WHSF BOARD MEMBERS

Jared Brewington ('96), Jeremy Graff ('93),
incoming President Mike Wedl ('89) and
President Emeritus Mark Bachman ('91).

INSIDE:

- 2-3** 100 Year Celebration
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Terry Peña (new Assistant Principal),
Giovan Jenkins (Athletic Director),
Emily Palmer (Principal), Mark Stauduhar (AP),
Michelle Terpening (AP)

MILLERS CELEBRATE 100!





Two days of fabulous celebration! August 1-2, 2025

Give Today!



Mini Grants

This past school year, your generosity empowered the Washburn High School Foundation to award nearly 70 mini-grants totaling \$52,000! These funds supported a wide array of proposals from WHS teachers, staff, and coaches, each designed to enrich student life in ways that traditional budgets simply can't. From innovative classroom tools to inclusive extracurricular experiences, your donations helped bring bold ideas to life across academics, arts, and athletics.

Whether it was a molecular modeling kit, a guest artist residency, or gear for student athletes, every grant made a difference. Here's a glimpse into the creative and meaningful projects your support made possible:

- IB History field trip to a play by alum Stanley Kipper ('68) at the MN History Center
- Organic gardening supplies for Special Education students
- Laptop and software for stadium scoreboard graphics
- Home and away jerseys for the softball team
- Software for math, world languages, English language, and guitar classes.
- Tournament fees for Ultimate Frisbee
- A bowling field trip for autism spectrum disorder students
- Parkour equipment to engage non-traditional athletes in physical education classes
- Weekly workshops with Blackout Improv actors for theater classes

Here's what our teachers (and students) are saying:

"I'm so impressed with how supportive the Washburn Foundation is for our staff and our teachers. Y'all are amazing!"

"We are grateful to the Foundation for helping to expand the Games Club library and keeping us challenged!"

"Having guest artists is incredibly motivating and inspiring for me; seeing other people who have achieved their goals makes me believe I can, too"



Washburn's 2025-2026 Arts Event Schedule

OCTOBER

10.30 - Choir Concert, 7pm

NOVEMBER

11.06-11.09 - Fall Musical: Chicago (times TBA)

11.13-11.16 - Fall Musical: Chicago (times TBA)

11.22 - Washburn Whirl Fundraising Event, 6-10pm

DECEMBER

12.16 - Music Department Holiday Concert, 7pm

JANUARY

01.15 - Guitar Classes Concert (during the school day)

01.16 - Jazz Band Concert, 7pm

Date TBD - One Act Play Competition

FEBRUARY

02.11 - Bridging Concert with Justice Page, 7pm

02.05-02.06 One Act State Competition (if WHS moves on to state)

Date TBD - Theatre 24-hour Play Festival

MARCH

03.18 - Band & Orchestra Small Ensembles Concert, 7pm

03.25 - Choir Concert, 7pm

APRIL

04.17 - Eau Claire Jazz Festival

04.21 - Wind Ensemble, Large Group Contest

04.22 - IB Art Exhibition, 5-7pm

04.30 to 05.03 - Spring Play: Clue (dates and times TBD)

*Choir trip to NYC and Orchestra trip to Chicago

MAY

05.14 - Choir Concert, 7:30pm

05.19 - Orchestra Concert, 7:30pm

05.20 - Band Concert, 7:30pm

05.20-05.21 - Black Box, Washburn & Justice Page @ Rarig, 7pm

JUNE

06.04 - Jazz Band Concert

Check the Washburn calendar online to confirm. Details are subject to change. <https://washburn.mpschools.org/about/calendar>

Washburn Arts

As an integral part of a well-rounded high school experience, Millers can choose from a diverse selection of visual and performing art classes, music lessons, extracurricular activities, and clubs.

Visual arts: Guided by an accomplished faculty, visual arts classes offer drawing, painting, and ceramics, as well as mixed-media studies through an IB art class. Washburn also offers an extracurricular Arts Club for greater exploration.

Music: Miller musicians study and perform music with a variety of curricular instrumental and vocal groups led by Washburn's dedicated music faculty. Students can also study guitar or piano, take a class to develop songwriting skills, or join the extracurricular jazz band.

Theater: During the day, Millers can explore universal themes of human experience, like conflict, compassion and identity through Black Box Theatre. After school, the fall musical, one-act play competition, and spring play allow students to build confidence and collaborative skills, whether through performance or as part of a technical team.

All Washburn arts programs, both curricular and extracurricular, are supported by the **Washburn Arts Council** (WAC) a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization run by volunteers dedicated to ensuring that the arts remain available to all students. The ever-popular Washburn Whirl is WAC's annual gala fundraiser, showcasing student performances and projects from every area of Washburn Arts.



The Whirl is Washburn Art Council's annual fundraising gala; proceeds go toward supporting all arts programs at Washburn. This event brings together Washburn Arts supporters for a festive evening of mingling and entertainment with student art and performances and delicious food and drinks. Fundraising is accomplished through a silent auction, wine raffle, Great Gatherings, and live "Fund-a-Need" donations.

This year, we are excited to host the Whirl at a new venue! The event will take place **Saturday, November 22nd** from **6-10pm** at the Metropolitan Ballroom (5418 Wayzata Blvd, Golden Valley). Individual tickets and tables may be purchased online at washburnarts.org/whirl.



Metropolitan Ballroom





Girls Volleyball



Boys Soccer
3rd Place in State



Girls Tennis
City Champions



Girls Soccer
City Champions



Boys Swim State Relay Team



Madeline Kohel
State Diving Champ



Boys Football



Girls and Boys Cross Country

Fall 2024-2025 Winter



Girls Nordic Ski Team
State Champions



Boys Nordic Ski Team
4th in State



Sofia Ordaz
1,000 Career Points



Wrestling City Champions



Boys Basketball
City Champions



Sam Moore
State Alpine Qualifier



Winter Cheer Squad



Parker Stob
Vault State Qualifier



Girls Hockey



Boys Hockey
Section Runner-Up



Boys Hockey

Spring 2025



Girls Ultimate State Champions



Boys Tennis
City Champions



Girls Golf
City Champions



Boys Volleyball



Girls Softball
City Champs



Baseball



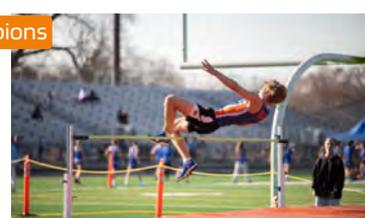
Baseball City Champions



Girls Flag Football



Track and Field - Boys and Girls City Champions



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HONORARIUM/ MEMORIAL

In Honor Of:

All of my classmates living
& passed January '47
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