

HIGHLANDER HIGHWAY

The official newsletter of the Oak Hills Alumni & Educational Foundation

The Oak Hills Alumni & Educational Foundation will enhance the achievement, heritage and educational opportunities for Oak Hills students and staff by providing alumni and community resources to promote unity and pride, and build a legacy for a stronger community.

Greetings Fellow Alumni,

Oak Hills is getting ready to graduate its 61st class. How exciting! Once part of our own graduating classes, we have since scattered far from inside the walls of Oak Hills High School. But our years there laid the foundation for our personal stories. Our time in the district has shaped who we have become and made us better family members, better colleagues, better neighbors, and better alumni.

Now that the troubled times of COVID have slowed, I am hopeful for what lies ahead for the **Oak Hills Alumni & Educational Foundation**. Our lives are currently filled with busy careers, raising children and grandchildren, attending sporting events and the arts, helping others, traveling, enjoying family and more. But now, I ask you to find a way to give back to the school district that helped you become the person you are today. Giving back comes in many ways.

- Attend and participate in school events
- Attend our annual recognition dinner: May 4th
- Attend the OHAEF golf outing: June 24th
- Volunteer/Attend the Food Truck Frenzy: October 1st
- Provide mentoring and career experiences for high school students
- Volunteer for alumni committees
- Support our football team at the Homecoming game: October 7
- Follow us on Facebook
- Update your contact information on our website
- Help plan and attend your reunion
- Consider a financial gift to OHAEF
- Display your pride by wearing Oak Hills spirit wear

Please email us at OHEdfoundation@ohlsd.org for information on any of the above.

Let's not forget from where we have come and giving back is how we grow our future!

*#OHBetterTogether
Kim Sims '81
President, Oak Hills Alumni and Educational Foundation*



STUDENT CAREER EXPLORATION



Do you remember what it was like to decide what you wanted to be when you grew up?

Everyday at Oak Hills High School, students are making decisions about their futures. It's part of why we're helping kids to be career and college ready, as they navigate job and college applications, training programs, financial aid and an ever changing labor market. To do that effectively, Oak Hills students need career exposure, meaningful experiences and employment opportunities.

That's part of my role as the Career Counselor at Oak Hills, to provide kids with these things throughout their four years at Oak Hills. They can learn about different career pathways through our weekly Career Exploration Series or do a job shadow for a day. They can sign up for certification courses that introduce them to in-demand career fields like construction, supply chain or nursing. They attend career fairs and field trips to sites all over the city. We offer students mentorship opportunities, hiring events with many of our business partners, and the chance to pursue internships in fields they're considering.

That's where you come in! Oak Hills has an incredible alumni network, full of professionals in every field that our students are considering and exploring. These students would benefit immensely from alumni filled with experience, wisdom and opportunities. If you're looking for a way to give back to your alma mater, what better way than to host a student for a job shadow? Or serve as a mentor for a kid looking to jump into your career field? Or speak to a class about all the things you've learned in your career? We would love to have you!! If you'd like to volunteer in one of these ways, please email me at faust_b@ohlsd.org and I will be in touch!

Brady Faust
Career Counselor - Oak Hills High School

WELCOME! New Trustees



Diane Weidner



Brian Duering

HIGHLANDER SPOTLIGHT

The Highlander Spotlight this issue actually shines on 6 very special people to the Oak Hills Local School District. We are recognizing the Distinguished Alumni, Distinguished Staff and the Hall of Honor recipients for 2022! There are so many people who over the years have done so much and meant so much to this District that selection of the winners is not easy.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

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After much review we are honored to honor, **Jeannie Schoonover '62** and **Mike Hill '69** as our Distinguished Alumni!! Jeannie Schoonover started her continuing love for education as an elementary student at Delhi Township School. Our Oak Hills community has been so fortunate to have Jeannie as a student, a teacher and a member of the Oak Hills Board of Education. Mike Hill's career has been a life shared in two worlds, military and civilian. His success in both worlds was working as a Civil Engineer.

Distinguished Staff awards this year are awarded to **Andy Schroeder** and **Jill Wolfe**. Andy Schroeder is the beloved Math Genius and teacher coach at Oak Hills High School! Jill Wolfe (who also is graduate of the Oak Hills District) is currently Assistant Principal at Bridgetown Middle School. Both of these staff members have been credited with High Highlander Spirit!!

HALL OF HONOR AWARD

The Oak Hills Board of Education will be honoring two recipients of the Hall of Honor Award. **Dan Roberts** and **Luann Ulrich**. Both are being honored for their selfless volunteering to the Oak Hills District.

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24th Annual Recognition Dinner

Wednesday, May 4
Western Hills Country Club

Additional information at ohaef.org.

OHAEF Annual Golf Outing

Aston Oaks Golf Course (Scramble)

Friday, June 24th

Lunch at 11:30 with Shotgun start @1:00pm

\$125 per player or \$500 for a foursome

Dinner, drinks & awards are all included after the golf outing

Baskets of cheer, Split the pot & golf course games



UPDATE YOUR ALUMNI CONTACT INFORMATION

Please take a minute to visit our website OHAEF.org and update your information:

Click on **Contact Us** tab, then **Click Here** to update your information now and stay connected!

Class Reunion Review

2022

1972: Friday, June 24 - "Seniors of '72" Night at Western Bowl on Glenway Avenue

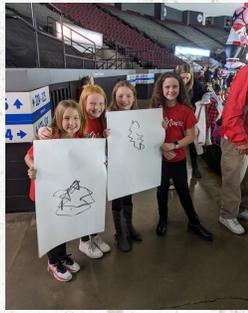
Saturday, June 25 - Aston Oaks Golf Club. More information on Facebook @ Oak Hills Highlanders Class of '72 50th Reunion or contact Cheri Chizer Misleah at soccer_stud12@msn.com.

1982: Saturday, October 8

If you don't see your class listed here and you are planning a reunion, please let the alumni office know by emailing OHEdfoundation@ohlsd.org.

OHAEF TEACHER GRANTS

One of the many things Oak Hills Alumni & Education Foundation does is grants for teachers in our district. Below are a couple of examples of what the teachers were able to do with their grant money:



4th and 5th Grade Choir students from CO Harrison Elementary School went to Heritage Bank Center on December 4, 2021 to represent COH, Oak Hills, and the Delhi community by honoring our Nation by singing the National Anthem at a Cincinnati Cyclones Game. Student tickets were provided by OHEAF. Students did a wonderful job representing our community with respect and pride through their actions as well as musical performance. Some students were selected to play a game during the show and they ended up splitting the prize!



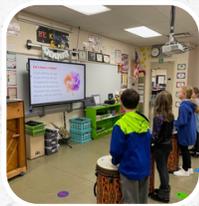
We are so grateful for the grant money OHAEF gave us to purchase books for books clubs this year in our classroom. We were able to use them for our book clubs unit in January. The students were so excited about the new books they were able to choose from for this unit. Here is a picture I snapped with one of the new books one of our books clubs chose to read together during the unit. Thanks so much for your continued support!



Mrs. Packer & Mrs. Perica
Oakdale Elementary School



In music classes at Oakdale and J.F. Dulles Elementaries, students are experiencing music through books that introduce them to composers, performers, music, & ideas from a variety of cultures, backgrounds, & abilities. Students have completed written reflections connected to the lessons in these books as well as played instruments and songs that go along with the books. Thanks to the generosity of the OHAEF, both schools received 15 amazing storybooks, as well as supplemental resources to help aide in the teaching of these lessons.



STORIES ON WHEELS

BUILDING THE JOY OF READING, ONE BOOK AT A TIME

"This is the first book I've ever had that is my very own!" "I love the bus! Can we live on the bus?" "I can't wait to get home and call my grandma and read her my new book over the phone." These are just a few of the comments the volunteers hear from the children who hop on *Stories on Wheels*, the newest educational initiative sponsored by OHAEF. Many children from CO Harrison, Delshire, and Oakdale have been hopping on the Book Bus since December. The children are enjoying stories read by former teachers, selecting books on their individual reading level and then spending time with a trained volunteer, who reads their new book with them. When the 30-40 minute visit is over, each child takes their book home to keep to help build their home library. Research shows a direct correlation between the number of books a child has in their home and their level of success in school.



We are also working with Luke Fickle, Mike Vrable, and Ryan Miller's foundation, 2nd & 7. We have been able to give every 2nd grader in our district a book from 2nd & 7 which has been read to every 2nd grade classroom by an athlete from Oak Hills. *Stories on Wheels* is so fortunate to be able to partner with this wonderful foundation to help us get books into our students' hands!

Stories on Wheels will be out in the Oak Hills community this spring where any child, regardless of where they attend school, will be able to get on the bus and take home a book to keep. Times and locations of our visits will be posted on the OHAEF website, along with our Facebook page, (Oak Hills Book Bus) and school websites and Facebook pages. Please reach out to us at ohbookbus@gmail.com if you have any questions and if you'd like to donate to help us provide books for our bus, visit the OHAEF website or use our QR code. **HAPPY READING!**



DONATE TODAY

The Oak Hills Alumni & Educational Foundation supports Oak Hills students and teachers by awarding grants for classroom projects which aren't funded by tax dollars. Murals, book clubs, science fairs, financial training, musicals, field trips and more are funded through the Foundation.

Your tax-deductible donation helps sponsor these teacher projects as well as other district projects and initiatives including:

- PTA after-prom
- The Book Bus
- community outreach projects
- renovations to the OHHS auditorium
- construction of the Scottie Yard Playground at Oakdale
- elementary school musical education
- OHHS Engineering and Robotics team

Donations can be made on our website @ OHAEF.org or mailed to:
Oak Hills Alumni & Educational Foundation
6325 Rapid Run Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45233
Tax ID: 31-1579120

In Memory Of

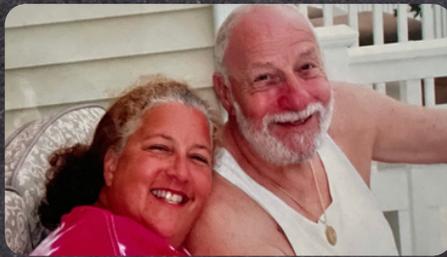
Do you want to honor a loved one, fellow Highlander or friend with a gift in their memory? Simply enter your donation information on our website (OHAEF.org, **Donations** tab) and indicate who you're memorializing in the "additional comments" section. Thank you for remembering them in such a kind way and thank you for your support of the work we do and our Highlander family.

Diane Heilmann

Why, who, or how were you led to education?



I loved school from kindergarten on, and I had many great teachers all along the way. Teaching as a career, however, was not on my radar. My father, who was a teacher and school administrator, strongly encouraged me to take as many electives the College of Education courses required for an Ohio teaching certificate. One of those required courses, which I took in the fall quarter of my senior year, was Student Teaching. I loved it. I decided then that a career in teaching is what I wanted to pursue.



Dee Delconte

What advice would you give to young people today?

I always told my students to enjoy life, live life with a positive attitude and remember what Dr. Seuss said,

"Don't grow up, it's a trap."

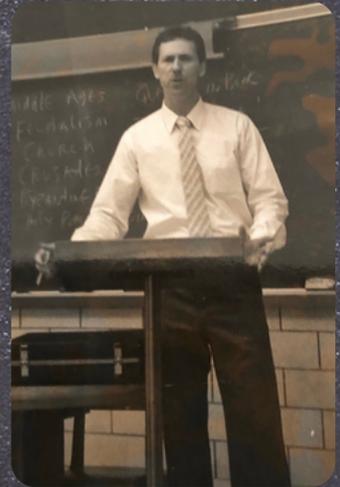


REMEMBER WHEN?

A HIGHLIGHT OF FORMER OAK HILLS STAFF MEMBERS

Tim Taylor

What have you been doing since you have retired?



After retiring, for several years I was employed with the Hamilton County Education Service Center. We were a group of veteran teachers who worked alongside young teachers in Cincinnati Public Schools. Then, for several more years, I was the Director of the Learning Center at the Friars Club. We tutored young students after school and in the evening. Now, I serve on the Oak Hills Alumni & Educational Foundation. My wife Joan and I have 4 "kids," all of whom went to Oakie High and now we have 6 very cool grandchildren!

Phil Sims

What advice would you give to young people today?

Coaching my two sons in football was extremely gratifying. Also, being voted Teacher of the Year for the district in 1981 and league Track Coach of the year, was very special to me. I enjoyed the time spent with several role models: Wil Rutenschroer, Steve Moore, Frank Chaney, and Willard Sweeder.



Truthfully, every day of instruction and coaching was memorable. I looked forward daily to instructing the OH students. I experienced outstanding fellow teachers, principals, and students for 37 years.



OCTOBER 1, 2022

OAK HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

The Oak Hills Alumni and Educational Foundation is hosting our 3rd annual **Food Truck Frenzy** on Saturday, October 1! Grab your family and friends and join the fun! Come for tasty treats from 18-20 food trucks, sudsy sips from local breweries, Cincinnati Circus Company performers, split-the-pot, BINGO, inflatables for the kids, entertainment from Oak Hills students, and a night filled with great music from the band GenX!

The Foundation's main purpose is to raise money to support educators within the Oak Hills district with funds so they can provide creative and "out of the box" educational opportunities that are not funded by taxpayer dollars. To date, we have funded over 400 grants totaling over \$300,000. At this time, Oak Hills has graduated over 36,000 students who have gone on to become successful individuals like yourself. That success began within the walls of an Oak Hills school and we are hoping that you or your company would help us continue to support the educational needs of the students within those same walls. We wouldn't have been able to support those students on their educational journeys without sponsors like you! We are asking you to take a minute and think to yourself, "This is a great opportunity for me to give back to the school district that helped shape who I am today with a sponsorship to this rip-roaring community event." If so, please see the sponsorship levels below. The Foundation and the students of Oak Hills would greatly appreciate your support! We look forward to hearing from you!

Hope to see you at "The Frenzy" and remember to stay Highlander Strong!

Sincerely,

Staci Lillis
Funding Committee Chairman



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Interested in sponsoring our event? Contact Staci (Brand) Lillis '81 | staci@ohaef.org | 513.659.4773

HIGHLANDER HEAVY HITTER: \$5,000
HEADLINE SPONSOR
 Company name on event banner
 2 tickets to the OHAB Sports Stag in 2023
 4 tickets to an OHHS drama production during 22-23 season
 Company name announced during event
 Company logo in event marketing pieces
 Company name on OHHS marquee for 2 weeks
 Free and reserved parking for the event
 Logo on all volunteer t-shirts
 Option for booth set up

HIGHLANDER HEAVY HITTER: \$5,000
STAGE SPONSOR
 Company name on event banner
 2 OHHS sports passes for the 22-23 school year
 2 tickets to an OHHS drama production during 22-23 season
 Company name announced during event
 Company logo in event marketing pieces
 Company name on OHHS marquee for 2 weeks
 Free and reserved parking for the event
 Logo on all volunteer t-shirts
 Option for booth set up

HIGHLANDER HOPS: \$3,000
BEER SPONSOR
 Company banner on beer booth
 2 OHHS sports passes for the 2022-23 school year
 Oak Hills branded barware and hospitality basket
 Company logo in event marketing pieces
 Company name on OHHS marquee for 2 weeks
 Free and reserved parking for event
 Logo on all volunteer t-shirts
 Option for booth set up

SCOTS TOTS: \$2,500
KIDS ZONE SPONSOR
 Company logo in event marketing pieces
 Company name on OHHS marquee for 2 weeks
 Logo on all volunteer t-shirts
 Oak Hills insulated picnic bag

SCOTS SQUEEZE: \$1,500
KOOZIE SPONSOR
 Company logo on the event koozie
 Company logo in event marketing pieces
 Company name on OHHS marquee for 2 weeks
 Free and reserved parking for event
 Logo on all volunteer t-shirts

OAK HILLS BILLS: \$750
SPLIT-THE-POT SPONSOR
 Company logo in event marketing pieces
 Company name on OHHS marquee for 2 weeks
 Free and reserved parking
 Oak Hills umbrella

TARTAN TAILGATER: \$500
PARKING LOT SPONSOR
 Company logo in event marketing pieces
 Company name on OHHS marquee for 2 weeks
 Free and reserved parking
 2 Oak Hills stadium blanket/ponchos

FOUNDATION FRIEND
 Make a cash donation in any amount to help us offset the cost of this event. Visit our website @ ohaef.org or call Staci Lillis at 513.659.4773 to make a donation.
 We are a 501c3 organization and all donations are tax-deductible. Our Tax ID is 31-1579120



Oak Hills Local School District
 6325 Rapid Run Road
 Cincinnati, OH 45233
 www.ohlsd.us

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 45233
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If you have received this publication in error, please call the alumni office at 513-574-3200 or email OHHSAlumni@ohlsd.org to remove your address



Calendar of events and activities

2022

5/4: Distinguished Staff & Alumni Dinner

6/24: OHAEF Golf Outing

10/1: Food Truck Frenzy



Connect your Kroger Plus & Amazon Smile

Visit the Kroger website, <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow> to link your Cincinnati Kroger Plus card to the Oak Hills Alumni & Educational Foundation today! We are #CV794



Visit the Amazon website, <http://smile.amazon.com/about> to link your Amazon account to the Oak Hills Alumni & Educational Foundation today, at no cost to you!



Connect with us!



Check out our website! ohaef.org

Please visit us to find class reunion dates, grant project summaries and updates, and event information.



Please update your contact information

Visit ohaef.org/contact-us/ to update your contact information so that we may stay in better contact with you.



"Watch" us on Vimeo

www.vimeo.com/ohalumniedfoundation
 See acceptance speeches from this year's award winners.



"Like" us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/OHHSAlumni
 Thank you for liking us and spreading our good news. Share your achievements so we can celebrate you!



"Network" with us on LinkedIn

Search group: Official group of Oak Hills High School Alumni

Network with other alumni professionals to connect and share your events, job postings and more.