

Sandusky Home Town News

Spring 2021

**Sandusky High School
Alumni Association**

March 2021

Message from the SHSAA President:

My name is Trevor Hayberger and I am the newly elected President of the Sandusky High School Alumni Association. I am a life-long resident of Sandusky and my wife (Wendy) and I are 1994 graduates of Sandusky High School.

I look forward to serving this great organization in any way that I can. We hope to get back to having fundraising events in the near future in order to award the annual scholarships that are given to graduating seniors. Additionally, we plan to continue to provide you with the newsletter that so many of you look forward to. Please contact us with updates such as class reunions or other relatable news.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not thank our previous President, Mr. Corso. Mr. Corso was a beacon of light for our organization. His Blue Streak pride and commitment to Sandusky High School was unparalleled. As we start to be able to attend sporting events in person please remember to shout a big "Go Blue" in his honor.

Sincerely,

Trevor M. Hayberger, Class of 1994



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Have News to Share?

Planning a Reunion?

Let Us Know!

The deadline for articles for the next issue of the newsletter is June 1, 2021.

Send articles to:

SanduskyAlumni@gmail.com

or
Alumni Association
PO Box 2401
Sandusky, OH 44870

 Sandusky High School Alumni Association
Group · 2551 Members

Treasurer's Report – 3rd Quarter 2020

Checking Account Balance	\$266.37
Savings Account Balance	\$2,654.66
Shirt Sales Account Balance	\$223.95
All Class Reunion Account Balance	\$971.32
Main Alumni Scholarship Fund at Erie County Community Foundation	\$97,201.89
Seitz Scholarship Fund at Erie County Community Foundation	\$21,124.04

Welcome New Members!

Life Members		Year
December 2019	Richard Twardzik	1964
February 2020	Terri A. Bowens	1968
July 2020	Talon R. Flohr	2011

New Members		Year
September 2019	Joyce Lombardy	1949
December 2020	Richard Twardzik	1964
	Thomas Patterson, Jr.	1992
	David Gibson	1961
July 2020	Talon R. Flohr	2011

Donations:

	From	Class
December 2019	Scott Wilkins	1967
February 2019	Terri A. Bowens	1968
October 2020	Richard Stradtman	1974
January 2021	Scott Wilkins	1968

Scholarships Recipients:

The 3rd Annual SHS Senior Scholarship Night award recipients for 2020:

SHS Alumni Scholarship – **Jai'Shanti Hicks & Jude Gribben.**
Ralph B & Helen C Seitz
Memorial Scholarship - **Aaliyah Oba-Thomas.**

It won't be long before the 2021 scholarship awardees are chosen. If you know a deserving SHS senior, encourage him/her to visit the counselor's office for a scholarship application.

Meet Your Officers:

Trevor Hayberger, President
thayberger@gmail.com

Matt Martin, Vice-President
Mjmartin@scs-k12.net

Lisa Wilson, Secretary
lisauofm@gmail.com

John Nejedly, Treasurer
sanduskyalumni@gmail.com

Trustees:

Ron Cantelli
cabinetmaker1992@hotmail.com

Roberta Collins
collinsroberta@att.net

Joe Hayberger
amdream@bex.net

Jeff Krabill
jeffnk@bex.net

Kathy Loris
ksloris@sbcglobal.net

Matt Martin
mjmartin@scs-k12.net

John Mears, Past President
judym42@gmail.com

Tom Patterson
tp13diver@gmail.com

Stephanie Schlett
missfootball97@aol.com

John Schumm
jeschumm63@gmail.com

David Volz
davev@bex.net

Sandusky High School Alumni Association Update

The 2020-2021 school year has proven to be unlike any other for Sandusky City Schools. This school year, we made the largest student transition in the history of Sandusky City Schools. We also have gone through a shift in the way we teach due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have created new programming, released our 2030 vision, and continued our Building Better Dreams facilities project. Through all of the changes, Sandusky City Schools has remained true to our roots of pride, tradition, and excellence.

This school year, we transitioned students in grades Preschool-6th to new building configurations. We opened two brand new state-of-the-art schools, Sandusky Primary School and Sandusky Intermediate School. The Sandusky Primary School now houses students in 1st and 2nd grade and the Sandusky Intermediate School houses students in 3rd through 6th grade. In addition to opening two new buildings, the Regional Center for Advanced Academic Studies has moved to our Adams building. The Sandusky Early Learning Academy serves Preschool and Kindergarten students and is temporarily located at our Mills building, and the Sandusky Digital Academy moved to the Jackson Street side of our Jackson building. The last phase of our Building Better Dreams facility project is the construction of the new Sandusky Early Learning Academy on our Hancock building site. This project is well underway and will be completed in early 2022.

Additionally, we are moving forward with the vision of a new aquatic facility at Sandusky High School. The Sandusky Aquatic Center Project is a collaborative effort between Sandusky City Schools, the Sandusky Education Foundation, and donors who strongly believe in the benefits of aquatic education and programs. The goal of this project is to transform the current single pool at Sandusky High School into a larger aquatic center with a competition pool. The Aquatic Center at SHS will serve both Sandusky City School students and community residents. As part of this plan, all Sandusky City School third grade students will be required to learn how to swim. The district is currently in the process of hiring an architect for this project. You can find pictures of our facilities projects and additional updates at www.scs-k12.net/SchoolFacilities.aspx.

In addition to students and staff transitioning into new buildings this school year, the district had to adjust to teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic. In March of 2020, the district transitioned to virtual learning and had to shift to a 21st century digital learning model. Sandusky City Schools has now provided every student in the district a technology device, and we have made major transitions to teach effectively in this digital age. The safety and security of district students, faculty, staff, families, and the community is our top priority. It is our intention to continue with our current in-person model through the remainder of the school year. For more information and to view our COVID-19 updates please visit <https://www.scs-k12.net/CoronavirusHub.aspx>.

Even through a pandemic, Sandusky City Schools has continued to be innovative by creating new programs, outlining future plans, and continuing to provide students with the best educational opportunities. This year, the district has created a “Parent University” program to help guide and educate parents through this new learning environment. We also released our ten-

year strategic plan, Envision 2030. The 2030 Initiative is a comprehensive plan that details next steps and future planning for major aspects of Sandusky City Schools for the next 10 years. This initiative is an extension of the transformation plan and will guide the district in decision making for the future. As we conclude this school year, we look forward to releasing education and engagement plans for the summer and next school year.

Sandusky City Schools values and welcomes the feedback of our Alumni. I encourage you to visit our district website to stay up to date on district initiatives and events. If you have any questions, you can contact me directly at ASKDRSANDERS@SCS-K12.NET or 419.984.1000.

Go Streaks,



Dr. Eugene T.W. Sanders
Chief Executive Officer and Superintendent
Blue Streak Class of 1976



Sandusky Early Learning Academy
Grades PK-K – Former Hancock Site – Opening 2022



Sandusky Primary School
Grades 1-2 – Former Ontario Site



Sandusky Intermediate School
Grades 3-6 – Adjacent to SHS

SANDUSKY AQUATIC CENTER PROJECT - LEAD BY SHS ALUMNI

The Sandusky Aquatic Center is being built through a collaborative effort of the Sandusky City Schools, the Sandusky Education Foundation, and donors who see this project as an opportunity to transform the current single pool at Sandusky High School into a larger aquatic center serving both students and community residents throughout Erie County.

Foundation meetings sometimes feels like a class reunion. Nine of the eleven members of the Sandusky Education Foundation Board of Directors are Sandusky High School graduates. Jim Hart, Board Chair (Class of 1969), Judy Corso, Secretary (Class of 1965); and Tessa Steinemann, Treasurer (Class of 2008) serve as officers of the Foundation. Sandusky City Schools CEO and Superintendent Dr. Eugene Sanders (Class of 1976), retired Superintendent Bill Pahl (Class of 1963) provide leadership to our discussion and deliberation, as does School Board President Martha Murray (Class of 1980). Rounding out our Blue Streak bench are David Amerine (Class of 1962) and Ron Cantelli (Class of 1978).



The foundation is conducting a capital campaign to raise \$7.5 million for the project. We are at 68% of the goal currently with Sandusky City Schools' commitment of \$2 million, and private donations of \$3.1 million. The foundation hopes to reach its fundraising goal within the next 18 months, at which time construction of the new facility will begin, with the grand opening to occur in 2023.

COMMUNITY ACCESS

The Sandusky Aquatic Center is owned and operated by the Sandusky City Schools for the benefit of its students, faculty, and for school-sponsored programs and activities. Sandusky City Schools has agreed to offer use of the facility for community accessible programming, as much as is practical and feasible. Sandusky City Schools will manage all community programming, and strive to address the recreational, educational and health promotion needs of Erie County residents.

“Community” is defined as the public, without restriction related to residency. “Accessibility” refers to inclusive programming and open swim opportunities for individuals of all ages, all abilities, and all income levels, at times that are convenient for participants.

With community access comes community responsibility. A fee-based structure that is affordable for all community members who use the pool will be developed to help offset additional costs associated with community-based programs.

ACCESS TO A PUBLIC POOL: BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN

The #1 reason to build the new Sandusky Aquatic Center is to teach children how to swim, and to prevent drowning and near drowning accidents. In 2020, Ohio ranked 4th in the nation in

childhood drowning. Drowning is the leading cause of accidental death among children under the age of four. Youth under the age of 14 account for 25% of all deaths by drowning in the U.S. Three out of four children who drown are boys.

A study by the National Recreation and Parks Association notes that perhaps the greatest benefit of access to a public pool for children is the opportunity to learn a vital and potentially life-saving skill. As a part of their physical education program, all Sandusky City Schools' third graders will learn to swim.

The risk of drowning for a child increases in certain circumstances. A child with autism is 160 times more likely to drown or experience a near drowning accident than other children. About 79% of children living at poverty level do not swim. About 64% African American children and 45% Hispanic children do not know how to swim. The Sandusky student population is 58% minority which means many of our students do not swim. As close as our young residents are to a Great Lake, learning to swim and to stay safe in the water is essential.

ACCESS TO A PUBLIC POOL: BENEFITS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

USA Swimming reports that public pools are often widely used by older adults. In a comparison of other communities like ours, about 50-60% of participants using public pools are senior citizens. By 2030, 20% of US citizens will be over the age of 65. Erie County's population of individuals age 65 and older is 31% (already higher than the national average) and expected to increase to 35% by 2030. Staying healthy is directly related to independent living for older adults. The Sandusky Aquatic Center plans to offer programs for seniors such as lap swimming, water therapy and exercise, fall prevention, learn to swim, and strength training.

AQUATIC CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A portion of donations to the Sandusky Education Foundation will be invested in a Sandusky Aquatic Center Endowment Fund to support long-term major maintenance, repair and replacement. An Advisory Committee to the fund will include members from Sandusky City Schools, Sandusky Education Foundation and the swimming community. The Advisory Committee will oversee the fund and monitor community programs (schedules, activities and utilization data).

HOW TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT

SEF Board Chair Jim Hart feels "optimistic and very confident we will be successful in our fundraising efforts." To reach the goal of \$7.5M requires a significant financial investment with participation throughout the community and across the miles to many alumni who no longer live in the area. All Blue Streaks, near and far, are encouraged to please consider joining us in our efforts to build the Sandusky Aquatic Center, a wonderful community asset to benefit students and community for years to come. With our community access policy in place, all Blue Streaks, near and far, are welcome to JUMP IN once the facility is complete. To donate, please contact Barb Hanck by phone at 419-370-3770, by email at bhanck@sanduskyef.org or by mail at Sandusky Education Foundation, 135 E. Washington Row, Suite B, Sandusky, OH 44870.

For continued updates, follow us on Facebook at "Jump In Sandusky."

Lifetime Achievement Awards to Blue Streak Leaders

On March 18, 2021, Superintendent Eugene Sanders recognized four individuals for their lifetime commitment to making a difference in the Blue Streak community. Congratulations to Lifetime Achievement Awardees: Daniel Leavell (Class of 1952, Community Leader), Faith Denslow (former SCS Board Member), Bobby Langdon (Teacher, Administrator), and James Hart (Class of 1969 and former SCS Board Member).



Class News

Class of 1985 - The SHS Class of 1985 would like congratulate Todd Stephens on his movie "Swan Song"! This wonderful film was written and directed by Todd and filmed right here in Sandusky. His movie will make its long-awaited debut at South by Southwest (SXSW) virtual festival March 16-20. It stars Udo Kier, Jennifer Coolidge, Michael Urie, and Linda Evans. The film is the final installment of his trilogy, "Edge of Seventeen" and "Gypsy 83".



Class of 1994 – Jalen Pace, the son of Ohio State legend Orlando Pace, has committed to the Buckeyes as a preferred walk-on spot. "I'm so proud of all the work that he's put in, because the process is a lot tougher than most people think," Orlando Pace told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch's Benjamin Hochman.



Class of 2001 – Jessica Nycole Ralph was recently selected to be honored at the "11th Annual Heroines of Excellence Award. This DJ Jon Quick event will be held virtually on June 20, 2021.





Sandusky High School Alumni Association
 PO Box 2401
 Sandusky, OH 44871-2401

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SANDUSKY HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
 PO Box 2401, Sandusky, OH 44871-2401

Your Name _____ Year Graduated SHS _____
 (Please print) First Name Middle Initial (Maiden Name) Last Name

Spouse's Name _____ Is spouse SHS Alumni? Yes / No
 First Name Middle Initial (Maiden Name) Last Name Year Graduated SHS _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone () _____

E-Mail _____

Marital Status: Married Widowed
 Divorced/Separated Single

Activities: A Cappella Choir Band

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

New Membership Renewal

Single: Annual \$10.00 Life \$ 75.00
 Couple: Annual \$15.00 Life \$100.00

OTHER:

Email Directory (\$5.00) \$ _____
 Scholarship Donation \$ _____
 Memorial Contribution* \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

 *Memorial Name and Class Year