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*Inside* **THE KADENS FAMILY HEALTH & WELLNESS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:**
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**SALUTING the Class of 2019**

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Ottawa Hills has never been stronger.

We live in a community that values education and supports students during every step of their educational journey. Over the generations, we have established traditions of excellence that define our district and the Village we call home.

The deep and abundant presence of these traditions is the reason we are excited to embark on the Foundation’s first-ever capital campaign. The $1.5 million Kadens Family Health & Wellness Capital Campaign is a new adventure that will enrich opportunities for students and our community.

The campaign’s goals, established through the leadership of the Campaign Committee and Board of Education, are to create spaces for students to engage in healthy living with outlets to relieve social stresses. The project includes the construction of a 4,000-square-foot fitness center and extensive renovations to the Multipurpose Room and varsity locker rooms. Construction on the fitness center begins in June, with a ribbon-cutting planned for December.

It is with excitement and gratitude that we invite our alumni, residents, and community supporters to support excellence and tradition by making a gift to the campaign. More information about the campaign can be found on the Foundation’s website: www.ohschoolsfoundation.org.

Supporting the OHS Foundation is easy!

Visit the Foundation’s website at ohschoolsfoundation.org to contribute online or use the attached giving envelope.
For the second consecutive year, Ottawa Hills High School has been ranked a top-five high school in Ohio by U.S. News & World Report. As important, the building moved up significantly in the national rankings. It is now ranked as the 136th best high school in the United States, up from 258 last year.

“We are delighted to be recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of America’s best high schools,” said Principal Ben McMurray. “Our faculty and staff work incredibly hard to ensure our students feel valued, challenged, and supported. We are extremely grateful for the strong partnership with our parents and community.” The high school has 316 students in grades 9 through 12.

U.S. News collects data on more than 23,000 public U.S. high schools; it then uses that data to rank 17,245 schools in five categories, including performance on state-required tests, graduation rate, and college preparation. This year, 736 Ohio high schools were ranked. Among all schools ranked, our high school finished in a tie for first place nationally in the “Math and Reading Proficiency” category, which uses aggregated scores on state assessments that students may be required to pass for graduation.

“We are excited about Ottawa Hills’ continued success in the U.S. News & World Report’s ranking of the top high schools in America,” said Superintendent Kevin S. Miller. “For the past decade, we have always been ranked in the top 2 percent of high schools in the nation, and our rise in the rankings is very pleasing.”

Dr. Miller said the recognition and continued success of the high school – and entire district – depends on four factors: a supportive community; engaged parents who are partners in the education of their children; amazing educators committed to continuous improvement of teaching and learning; and incredibly hard-working students who take challenging classes and rise to the challenge in those classes. “This is a high-school honor, but it reflects a rigorous curriculum from kindergarten through 12th grade,” Dr. Miller added.

NEWS BRIEFS

BOARD HIRES DR. FINESKE AS SUPERINTENDENT
The Ottawa Hills Board of Education has hired Adam Fineske as its new superintendent effective Aug. 1, 2019. “I am extremely honored by the board’s selection and very excited to join one of the great school districts in Ohio,” said Dr. Fineske, the current superintendent of Sylvania Schools. The five-member board made its decision at a special meeting in May; the unanimous vote culminates a search that lasted more than two months and was conducted in partnership with Finding Leaders, a national executive search company.

‘NEWSIES’ STEALS THE HEADLINES
The district and surrounding area were treated to another spectacular spring musical from the Theatre Arts Department. “Newsies” was packed with brilliant choreography, solid acting, and beautiful singing. “We have never had this level of dancing in an Ottawa Hills production. We worked incredibly hard over the last few months. I am so proud of everyone,” said junior Priya Bhatt, the production’s associate director.

QUIZ BOWL TEAM FINISHES AS NATIONAL RUNNER UP
Answering the call for the ninth year in a row, the Ottawa Hills High School Quiz Bowl Team competed in the National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT), held this year in Chicago. Ottawa Hills competed in two divisions: Very Small School and Small School. The team finished third in the nation in the NAQT Small School division and runner-up in the Very Small School division. Senior Mazin Omer received individual recognition for most points scored by placing fifth in the Traditional Public School Division.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, MRS. RYAN
School staff and students helped Mrs. Virginia (Ginger) Ryan celebrate her 100th birthday May 2. Mrs. Ryan taught fourth grade at Ottawa Hills Elementary from 1956 to 1986. Though retired from teaching, Mrs. Ryan is still an Ottawa Hills resident, living close to the elementary school where she taught for so many years. To mark the occasion, Superintendent Kevin S. Miller delivered flowers on behalf of the district; the Choraliers sang “Happy Birthday.” Mrs. Ryan received cards sent by former students from across the country.
With the turn of a few shovels of dirt, Ottawa Hills Local Schools has started building a healthier future for its junior and senior high school students.

The May 23 groundbreaking for the Kadens Family Fitness Center marked another milestone in the project. When completed, the Kadens Family Health & Wellness Capital Campaign will deliver to the district not only the new fitness center, but also upgraded varsity locker rooms and a remodeled and more versatile Multipurpose Room.

The groundbreaking ceremony signaled the start of the public phase of the $1.5 million fundraising campaign. The Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation, through the work of volunteer committee members, already has raised $1.34 million.

“Ottawa Hills Local Schools and the Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation are excited to undertake their first-ever capital campaign,” said George Lathrop, Foundation president. "Together as parents, community members, and alumni, we can make a difference and create spaces for all students to engage in healthy living.”

CAMPAIGN TIMELINE

- **May 23, 2019**: Kadens Family Fitness Center groundbreaking ceremony
- **May-Dec. 2019**: Construction is under way for the Kadens Family Fitness Center
- **Dec. 2019**: Fitness Center ribbon-cutting; opens for students
- **Aug. 2020**: Upgrades completed on Multipurpose Room, men’s and women’s varsity locker rooms

*tentative

THE FOUNDING DONORS

In October 2018, alumni Pete ('96) and Amy (Robbins) ('99) Kadens announced plans to donate to the Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation. Their leadership gift helped propel the Foundation forward and commence the Health & Wellness Capital Campaign.

“We are incredibly indebted to the teachers, coaches and community members in Ottawa Hills for helping us become who we are today,” said Pete and Amy. “We are making this gift to show our gratitude for their support and to continue the Ottawa Hills tradition of developing the whole student – mind, body, and spirit.”

The Kadens family firmly believes in philanthropy and they have donated generously to organizations that aid the homeless and underserved over the last decade in their current hometown of Chicago. Pete is the longtime Chairman of the Board of Streetwise, one of the largest homeless aid agencies in the Midwest. In 2011, Amy founded Share Our Spare, an organization dedicated to fulfilling the needs of low-income families in Chicago by collecting and distributing new and gently-used baby and toddler items.
NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

» Health and Wellness Sponsor (general interior with prominent signage): Reserved
» Multipurpose Room Sponsor: $250,000
» Strength and Conditioning Sponsor: $100,000
» Mind, Body, and Spirit Sponsor: Reserved
» Women's Locker Room Sponsor: Reserved
» Men's Locker Room Sponsor: Reserved
» Athletic Training Room Sponsor: $50,000
» Fitness Office Sponsor: $25,000

Campaign pledges can be made over three years. Donor naming will be in place for a 20-year period. All donors of $1,000 or more will be acknowledged on a donor recognition wall.

ABOUT THE KADENS FAMILY FITNESS CENTER

The 4,000-square-feet center was developed with input from a 13-person committee, including faculty, residents, coaches, and school board members. The facility replaces the existing 400-square-foot weight room and adds much-needed space for cardio and weight-training equipment; an open area for classes and floor exercises; an athletic training room; an office for the center supervisor; and handicap-accessible restrooms. Half of the floor space will be used for activities such as yoga, dance team practice, and STEM-related projects (open spaces are needed for robotics and other large-scale displays).

The facility will support the district’s curricular and extracurricular priorities. Those include a robust physical education and health curriculum; a highly competitive and successful athletics program; health and wellness programs; and community programs through the Office of Village Life.

ABOUT THE LOCKER ROOMS AND MULTIPURPOSE ROOM PROJECTS

During the early months of the campaign, committee members were asked about other spaces that also serve students’ health and wellness needs; specifically, the varsity locker rooms and Multipurpose Room. The locker rooms are in a space original to the 1939 construction of the high school; the Multipurpose Room was added in 1955. Other than paint and basic maintenance, neither has received the attention needed because other projects have taken priority.

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Campaign Honorary Chairs: Pete ('96) and Amy ('99) Kadens
Campaign Chairs: Jackie (Hylant) ('93) and Bubba Berenzweig
Campaign Committee: Julie Anderson, Rob Gnepper ('91), Chris Hardman, George Lathrop, Mike McCullough ('93), Ben McMurray, Kevin S. Miller, John Roemer ('99), Phillip Rotman, Erica Silk ('89), Judd Silverman ('74), Katie Talbott ('89), Tammy Talmage ('82), Summer Hardman Vanni ('95)

GROUPS ENDORSING THE CAMPAIGN

Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation
Ottawa Hills Board of Education
Ottawa Hills Athletic Boosters

Both spaces are used by athletes throughout the year. The current weight room is accessed primarily through the Multipurpose Room. In addition to serving as winter practice space for spring sports and basketball leagues and practices, the Multipurpose Room also serves as the junior/senior dining area and is the most public space in the district outside of our sports facilities. The room serves as the lobby for our theatrical productions, a gallery for the annual smART show, and event space for events such as the annual Rummage Sale (benefitting the International Student Exchange Association and high school band program) and the Pancake Breakfast (benefitting After Prom).

Renovating those spaces always made the annual list of permanent improvement projects, which are funded by a special tax on village property. But always rising to the top of the funding list were items focused on safety and classrooms, such as replacing sidewalks, funding the OH Global one-to-one computer program, and purchasing new radios to enhance safety.

Committee members agreed to add both spaces as fundraising priorities with the fitness center. Together, the new construction and renovations will give the district health and wellness spaces that are more functional and aesthetically pleasing. Through the campaign, the Multipurpose Room windows and floors will be replaced and the varsity locker rooms will receive electrical and plumbing upgrades, including new showers for both the boys and girls.
Saluting the Class of 2019

PAYING IT FORWARD

Every year, our high school students receive scholarships and awards named in honor of Ottawa Hills alumni, teachers, and residents. THANK YOU DONORS for making these awards possible. This year’s recipients are:

STEVE GORDON AWARD: Presented to the senior who has exhibited oral and written literary acuity, stylistic sophistication, and intellectual curiosity. Recipient: MAZIN OMER

KATHRYN H. SAXBY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Based on the criteria of academic excellence, a demonstrated interest in music, an involvement in school activities, and a commitment to community service (selected by the Music Department). Recipient: LAUREN ROWND

NANCY AND TOM KABAT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Presented to a senior who is known to be an uplifting person, who makes a positive contribution to his or her class, and is well respected by fellow classmates. The honored senior demonstrates leadership, a good work ethic, high academic achievement, and community and school volunteer service. Recipient: KATHERINE WILMORE

CHAD LAYNE FOREIGN LANGUAGE AWARD: Presented to the senior who has consistently demonstrated curiosity, enthusiasm, and excellence in a world language class. This student possesses a unique drive to communicate in other languages and is fascinated with other cultures. Recipient: KATHERINE WILMORE

DION RAFTOPOULOS AWARD: Presented annually to a college-bound senior who most represents the lofty ideals of musical accomplishment, scholarly attainment, and moral integrity. Recipient: KATHERINE WILMORE

ROSS TREVHAFT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Honors a senior who welcomes diversity, shows compassion toward students with special needs, has an interest in special education, demonstrates a desire to include others different from themselves, and possesses kindness and joy. Recipient: JOSEPH BOESEL

KAREN KLEIN MUSIC AWARD: Presented to a senior who shows leadership, character, and musicianship. Recipient: NORA AYAD

JON S. DAVIS STRIVING TO ACHIEVE AWARD: Recognizes a senior who nurtures and encourages hard work, perseverance, sound judgment, and a strong moral compass in others so they can improve their own lives and serve to improve the lives of others. Recipient: GABRIELLE MCCLUSKEY

PEGGY THOMAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Presented to the senior who best exemplifies the characteristics of affability, happiness, and enthusiasm for life, and who puts forth a determined effort toward his/her school work. Recipient: MADELINE CUMMINS

PHILLIP W. LONGNECKER SCIENCE AWARD: Awarded by members of the Science Department to a senior excelling in the field of science. Recipient: DANIEL LIU

LINDY REDMANN SPORTS AWARD: Presented to a junior female field hockey player who exemplifies a love for all sports, enjoyment of team competition, quiet and persuasive leadership, modesty, strong feelings for fair play, loyalty to family and friends, independent thinking, determination, and a keen sense of humor. Recipient: KAIJA WALLIN

KRISTJAN GISIONSON AWARD: Presented to the senior who has given unselfishly of his/her time and talents and who possesses a positive attitude for the benefit of Ottawa Hills High School. It is given in honor of 1973-74 exchange student Kristjan Gislonson by his father, “in appreciation for the school friendship shown to his son.” Recipient: KARL KASCH

CONGRATULATIONS, NATIONAL MERIT STUDENTS!
National Merit Finalists: Neha Kazmi, Daniel Liu, Mazin Omer, Gabrielle Thurston, and Katherine Wilmore National Merit Commended Student: Amaris Sun

New in 2019:

THE BRIAN NICHOLAS HOEFLINGER MEMORIAL AWARD

Brian Hoeflinger was a member of the Class of 2013 who died during his senior year shortly before graduation. Brian was known as much for his hard work and academic excellence as he was for his positivity, kindness to others, and his quirky sense of humor. This new award is presented to a graduating senior. Inaugural Recipient: HUNTER HESSE

Class of 2019
By The Numbers

100% 82 graduating seniors with 100% graduation rate
156 Scholarships valued at more than $10.8 million
1 National Merit Scholar
5 National Merit Finalists
20 Students receiving summa cum laude recognition
7 Students receiving magna cum laude recognition
11 Students receiving cum laude recognition
50 Recipients of an Ohio Honors Diploma
53 Recipients of The President’s Award
29 Members of the National Honor Society
4 Perfect ACT scores
PHOTO CREDIT: YARKO KUK, VILLAGE VOICE OF OTTAWA HILLS

CONGRATULATIONS Class of 2019!

WHERE GRADUATES WILL BE ATTENDING COLLEGE IN 2019

Sarah Abdouni  University of Toledo
Zara Ahmed  University of Michigan
Corinne Aubry  Miami University, Oxford
Nora Ayad  The Ohio State University
James Becker  University of Toledo
Zoe Behnfeldt  Oberlin College
Abigail Berk  The Ohio State University
Joseph Boesel  Kenyon College
Anna Brandstatter  The Ohio State University
Spencer Brookman  University of South Carolina
Catherine Buehrer  The New School - Parsons School of Design
Kaleigh Carson  Bowling Green State University
MayaChandar-Kouba  Bowdoin College
Tysen Chappell  The University of Toledo
Austen Charles  Wittenberg University
Thomas Coil  Saint Michael's College
Peyton Contreras  The University of Toledo
Eliot Cummings  Trine University
Madeleine Cummins  University of Cincinnati
Catherine Dangler  California Polytechnic State University
Caroline Dayton  Loyola University Chicago
Grace Dunbar  Cleveland Institute of Art
Nicholas Durfee  Elon University
Samantha Fischer  University of Michigan
Josephine Harders  The Ohio State University
Elise Harmon  The University of Toledo
Christian Heidenreich  The Ohio State University
Hunter Hesse  Northeastern University
David Heuring  The University of Toledo
Kevin Hileman  The United States Naval Academy
Christie Hoeflinger  The Ohio State University
Jillian Hupp  The University of Toledo
Isabella Iorio  Miami University, Oxford
Karina Jindal  Case Western Reserve University
Sari Judis  The Ohio State University - Newark
Carl Kasch  Holy Cross College
Jana Kassem  The University of Toledo
Neha Kazmi  The Ohio State University
Caroline Koury  University of South Carolina
Ethan Krupp  Adrian College
Bradley Lay  Owens Community College

Daniel Liu  University of Toledo
Andrew Lyon  Ohio Northern University
George Maney  Miami University, Oxford
Shelley McClure  The University of Toledo
Gabrielle McCluskey  The University of Toledo
Michael McGee  University of Cincinnati
Kyle Mensior  Bowling Green State University
Shawn Michel  The Ohio State University
Matthew Mintun  The Ohio State University
Connor Muse  Miami University, Oxford
Najwa Nassif  The University of Toledo
Michael Nichols  The University of Toledo
Mazin Omer  Harvard University
Nolan Paterwich  Wright State University
Connor Pellegrini  Miami University, Oxford
Elizabeth Ponder  The Ohio State University
Elise Porter  University of Cincinnati
Benjamin Roller  The Ohio State University
Lauren Rownd  The Ohio State University
Dylan Schrader  University of Cincinnati
James Schwan  Columbia University
Robert Seifried  University of Cincinnati
Mary Shawaker  Kenyon College
Edward Shimboroke  University of Michigan
William Sigler  University of Cincinnati
James Silk  Elon University
Nicholas Sitter  Middlebury College
Ashleigh Smirnov  University of Pennsylvania
Preston Smith  Miami University, Oxford
Emma Stout  College of Charleston
Sophia Summers  North Central College
Amaris Sun  The Ohio State University
Samuel Szyperski  The Ohio State University
Gabrielle Thurston  Fordham University
Hunter Weaver  University of South Carolina
Culver Whitehead  University of Toledo
Katherine Wilmore  Middlebury College
Darian Wimmers  The University of Toledo
Maxwell Wray  University of Kentucky
Jike Zhong  The Ohio State University
Eli Zinck  The Ohio State University
Class of 2025 Gives Back

For nearly 15 years, sixth graders have said goodbye to the elementary school by purchasing a farewell gift.

This year, the 86 members of the class of 2025 raised $3,158 after expenses from ice cream sales during the lunch hour. With the money, they are purchasing 12 chairs and four half-round adjustable-height activity tables for the sixth-grade hallway to enable students to work together in groups outside their classrooms. Past purchases by classes include a Gaga Ball Pit, lab tables and stools for the sixth-grade science lab, and benches both inside and outside the school. Thank you to parent coordinators of the sale Paula Sweeney and Tina Brandstatter and our sixth-grade teachers Jennifer Griffin, Cheri Palko, Jonathon Siebenaler, and Andrea Williamson. Good luck students as you make the transition to the Junior/Senior High School.