



# 2020-2021 A YEAR IN REVIEW

Herron Classical Schools  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## A Note from the President and Board Chair



Dear Friends and Families,

The Herron Classical Schools 2020-21 school year was truly unprecedented. As we reflect back on a year that challenged our schools in unimaginable ways, we can absolutely say that the challenges inspired us to live out our mission in new and meaningful ways.

Once we realized that our in-person structure of teaching and learning was in peril, we quickly adapted to virtual methods while accommodating students who needed one-on-one instruction. Our team took advantage of funding that allowed all of our students access to computers and the internet. We personally delivered computers and hot spots to students' homes.

Our results were impressive by state and national standards; yet, we had more work to do. Many of our seniors took jobs to allow their families to sustain their homes and food supplies, requiring them to continue their education through this past summer. We are so proud to say that we have celebrated many graduations for these committed students beyond the end of the 2020-21 school year.

Thank you to each of you for joining us in supporting all three schools in the Herron Classical network.

We are providing a transformative, rigorous, and quality urban education – our data supports this even in this most challenging of times.

Through your support of HCS, you are fostering relationships, creating connections, and building community.

*Thank you for helping us make a difference in the lives of our scholars. Together, we are changing lives.*

In thanks,

John Watson  
Chair

Janet H. McNeal  
President

- Patrick Chittenden
- Mindy Cunningham
- Meggie Dials
- William McWhirter
- Adrian O. Miller, Treasurer
- Carolyn Mosby
- Mark Nottingham, Vice Chair
- Miguel Rodriguez
- The Honorable Brenda Roper
- Dan Roy, Secretary
- Livia Russell
- Peggy Sabens \*In memoriam
- David Steele
- Keith Steiner
- Dave Sternberg
- Mary Ann Sullivan
- John Watson, Chair
- Caryl West
- Joanna Taft, Chair Emeritus



**HERRON CLASSICAL SCHOOLS**  
P.O. BOX 881134  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46208



## SAVE THE DATES

### DECEMBER

- Monday, Dec 6** | Herron Winter Holiday Instrumental Music Concert
- Tuesday, Dec 7** | Herron Winter Holiday Choral Music Concert
- Wednesday, Dec 8** | Herron Holiday Jazz Ensemble Concert
- Wednesday, Dec 15** | Herron-Riverside Winter Choir and Dance Performance
- Mon, Dec 20-Tues, Jan 4** | SCHOOL CLOSED – Winter Break

### JANUARY

- Wednesday, Jan 5** | Classes resume at 9:00 a.m.
- Monday, Jan 17** | SCHOOL CLOSED – MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY

### FEBRUARY

- Tuesday, Feb 1** | Herron-Riverside Junior Parent College Night
- Friday, Feb 4 - 6** | HCS Theatre Department Winter Production
- Fri-Mon, Feb 18-21** | SCHOOL CLOSED – PRESIDENTS' DAY
- Thursday, Feb 24** | Herron Freshman/Sophomore Parent College Night

## MORE FIRSTS FOR HERRON CLASSICAL SCHOOLS!



- **Herron High School** earns national Blue Ribbon School award.
- **Herron Preparatory Academy** begins enrolling our youngest scholars.
- **Herron-Riverside High School** graduates its first senior class.
- Achaean Senior **Ty Brown** is honored for scoring 1K points in his IHSAA career.
- **Argonauts** persevere and found the first HRHS softball team.

**BE THE FIRST TO KNOW!  
GET SOCIAL WITH US!**

- @HerronHighIndy  
@RiversideHSIndy  
@HerronPrep
- @herronhigh  
@schoolriversidehigh  
@herronprep
- @HerronHighIndy  
@RiversideHSIndy  
@AcademyHerron



## 2020-2021 IMPACT STATEMENT

### Our Mission

*Herron Classical Schools is a community of scholars that advances timeless ideas and content, builds a culture of respect and trust, and engages in an urban environment in order to prepare students to be world-class citizens.*

[herronclassical.org](http://herronclassical.org)

## “REFLECTIONS & CELEBRATIONS of 2020-21 from our hallways:”

*“I am so proud of how the Riverside community responded to the challenges of last school year. We had to adjust our instructional model six times throughout the year. We took on the name of the historic Mars rover as our own mantra, and it paid off: Perseverance. We are so glad to be back together in person this year, but I look back on 2020-2021 with pride for our community.”*  
-Katie Dorsey, HRHS, Head of School

*“Through a year when there was a lot of unusual chaos in students' lives, we were able to be flexible and find new strategies for teaching and delivering content in such a way that students still moved ahead in their educational journey.”*  
- Kevin Harris, HRHS faculty

*“I celebrate the Ethics Bowl winning their 5th Regional/ State Championship and representing HHS at the National High School Ethics Bowl once again. The 5th time in 7 years.”*  
- Dave Pappas, HHS faculty



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## DAWIT CRONIN *Herron High School, Class of '21*



**D**awit Cronin, HHS '21, has a dream to work in professional sports, but not as an athlete! Now a freshman at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana, Dawit is pursuing his passion of Sports Marketing. Dawit was awarded an Act Six Indianapolis scholarship to TU, which not only provides tuition assistance but also leadership courses for emerging urban leaders. There's a lot on Dawit's college plate right now, but he says his Herron experience prepared him well. "I can truthfully say that all the Advanced Placement classes and dual credit courses I took just put me on track to be successful. I also think the teachers and their persistence to teach us like college students really set me up for success." Dawit hopes to connect professionally with the Indianapolis Colts, in addition to putting his new leadership skills to use.

## MEGGIE DIALS

*Herron Classical Schools  
Board Member and Parent*

**M**eggie Dials, AVP with Salesforce, isn't only a Herron Classical Schools board member, she's also a HCS parent. When Meggie and her husband moved downtown, they made a commitment to stay even after they started a family. She says Herron Classical Schools aligns wonderfully with that commitment. "Supporting Herron Classical Schools is a no-brainer for me, because we're passionate about not just giving back to the community but to making sure that excellent educational opportunities exist for everyone in our zip code." Dials has a founding scholar in the new Herron Preparatory Academy and wants to make sure her children are grounded in a



public school education like she was. "I want my kids to experience the organic diversity of public school with the top-notch curriculum of HCS. Giving my energy and support to that in all three of our HCS schools could mean more families can continue to have great education options while staying in their neighborhoods."

**MAKE HERRON PREP YOUR FIRST CHOICE FOR K-3RD GRADE FOR 2022-23!**

First round enrollment is open NOW – seating is limited, so don't wait!

Choose Herron Prep first at [enrollindy.org](https://enrollindy.org) or contact [lhouse@herronclassical.org](mailto:lhouse@herronclassical.org) for more information.

## LISSANIA PEREZ

*Herron-Riverside High School Founding  
Scholar, Class of 2021 Graduate*

**L**issa Perez graduated from Herron-Riverside High School in May of this year and says she's already felt the impact of her HRHS experience in terms of confidence, especially in her decisions. "I started this fall at a university in Illinois and realized almost right away that it was not a good fit," she says. "That change in path so early on as a freshman was drastic, but I wasn't nervous because Riverside prepared me for such changes." Lissa was a member of the Marion County Prosecutor's 2020 Youth Violence Prevention Fellowship. She is now in Legal Studies at Ivy Tech and plans to continue pursuit of her passion for chemistry as well. "From my experience at Riverside, I learned that every opportunity is worth taking, and if later you realize these decisions may not be right for you, you are allowed to change your mind."



## — 2020-2021 — BY THE NUMBERS

Herron High School (HHS)

*Established 2006*

Herron-Riverside High School (HRHS)

*Established 2017*

### Total # of SCHOLARS

HHS 949 | HRHS 349

### GRADUATION Rate

HHS 97% | HRHS 84%

### % of HONORS

Diplomas Earned

HHS 58% | HRHS 37%

### COLLEGE Acceptance

HHS 100% | HRHS 100%

### \$ Grants & Scholarships AWARDED

HHS \$16,615,700 | HRHS \$5,025,284

### CUM LAUDE DISTINCTION

according to Indianapolis Public  
School academic standards

HHS 40% | HRHS 31%

**862** scholars from HHS and HRHS enrolled in Summer Academy 2020-2021. In total, **1,110** credits were earned by our scholars!

You can help our Herron Classical School scholars achieve greatness. Please make a gift in support of our mission.



Donate online at  
[herronclassical.org/give/](https://herronclassical.org/give/)  
or scan the QR code to  
make your gift online.



### THE HERRON LEGACY LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

All schools in our network are now aligned under the nationally-recognized Herron brand, complete with our new (yet classical!) logo. Herron Classical Schools will continue to employ our proven liberal arts and sciences curriculum and support through all grade levels to meet the challenge of developing world-class citizens.