



VIKING ALUMNI VOICE



Alumni Association Mission

The Normandy High School Alumni Association (NHSAA) supports the Normandy Schools Collaborative and the 24:1 community through vocational and college scholarships, student coaching and mentoring, and any resource support for student development. It raises funds for these three purposes.

It also supports volunteerism for students and alumni and the preservation of the spirit of our beloved district.

As the NHSAA continues to grow, it will strengthen the impact it has on the school and community as well as allowing it to become a strong resource for all students, alumni, and staff.

The NHSAA will develop and monitor annual goals related to its three fundraising responsibilities and other important activities.

History of Your Alumni Association

The Normandy High School Alumni Association (NHSAA) is a non-profit corporation (501C (3)) formed in 2002 by Normandy graduates from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. It is open to graduates of the district schools, teachers, administrators, and friends of the school. It is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who also staffs its activities.

Special thanks to all the past Presidents we are truly grateful for all their leadership which has provided a stable foundation

Greetings from NHSAA President



Jacqueline Buck-Horton
NHSAA President
Class of 78

Greetings Normandy High School Alumni,

Please allow me to introduce myself as the President of the Normandy High School Alumni Association (NHSAA). I am reinvigorated and it is my pleasure to represent you and serve as the leader of an amazing group of talented alums and to relaunch the NHSAA.

This year, we seek to build upon our strong foundation of the NHSAA and next year we'll celebrate our 20-year anniversary.

Also, we have worked very hard during this pandemic year to create a new mission statement guaranteed to "Meet The Students Where They Are" in a very holistic manner. In addition to college scholarships, we will provide scholarships to trade schools and provide mentoring programs and work to connect with alums and create a wall of fame at the school.

Although we may have journeyed far from these coordinates, they are part of our personal stories. Our Normandy High School experiences have shaped who we have become and made us better family members, better colleagues, better neighbors, and better alumni.

I am asking you to find a way to give back to the NHSAA, staff, friends, and student body—today and for the future. There are so many ways to give back. I ask you to find one or more that works for you:

- Become a member of the NHSAA for only \$10.00 per year
- Volunteerism for advisory boards and alumni committees
- Faculty and Staff Presentations
- Sporting Events
- Homecoming/Reunion
- Consider a financial gift

The work ahead of us is challenging. It will require everyone working together for the common good.

I'd love to hear from you. Please reach out to us at:

TheVikingAlumniVoice@gmail.com to share ideas and/or opportunities.

Red and Green United: It's time to give back

Jacqueline Buck-Horton, President

Class of 78

MEET ALUMNI BOARD



Jaqueline Buck-Horton
NHS Class of 1978
President

I joined NHSAA because I wanted to be involved with the school community. But, more importantly, joining the alumni association was the easiest way to give back to the school. I believe that alumni support is essential to keeping the Viking Pride alive!



Arica Avery
NHS Board Member, **Scholarship Committee Chair**, and **Fundraising Committee**

I'm a proud graduate of the Normandy School district and I've continued my support by being involved with the Alumni Association since 2012. Avery is currently pursuing her entrepreneurial endeavors through her photography and production company Beam Photos & Production while working as a Senior Digital Marketing Consultant for Vivial in St. Louis. In addition, she enjoys supporting the community and working with local business owners to help grow their brand.



Carol Riddick McCauley
NHS Class of 1975
Vice President

A year after graduation, I started at Normandy as the Secretary to the Director of Human Resources. Eight years later, I was promoted to Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education. I retired after 42.5 years and currently serves as the Secretary for the Friends of Normandy Schools Foundation Board and Vice President of the NHSAA.



Marla Smith
Board Member, Social Media, Newsletter Committee, and Fundraising

One of my most rewarding accomplishments outside of sitting on the Normandy High School Alumni Association board was seated on the 24:1 Engagement Committee directed by Beyond Housing. The engagement committee now works together fighting for our accreditation, wrap-around services, vocational training, scholarships, mentoring services in the schools, and adequate housing in our communities.



Karen M. Green
NHS Class of 1977
Secretary, Newsletter Chairperson

Normandy High School played an enormous role in my life. As an only child, I often arrived at school around 7:00 am and left around 10:00 pm. As a result, I was either very nerdy or very lonely. I want the high school to fill that role for others, plus being a member of the Alumni Association's board aligns with my mission of helping someone to help someone that helps someone. Green is the Associate Director of Leadership Giving at University of Missouri – St. Louis.



Nykea Watts Edwards
NHS Class of 1994
Board Member, Social Media, Newsletter Committee, and Charter

I have been a member for several years and will continue to work with the board and fellow alumni, striving to strengthen our impact on our school and community. I am very dedicated to being a dependable resource for all students, alumni, and staff.



Larry Porschen
Treasurer, Website Management, Alumni Database Management, and Investment Committee.

I lived in the Normandy district for 21 years and knew hundreds of friends and their families. My brother Ray ('59) and sisters Sue ('60) and Jeani ('61) graduated from Normandy. I had handled the database, website, and financial information for my high school alumni association for ten years and wanted to help Normandy.



Richard Hughes
NHS Class of 1955
Board Member, Scholarship Management, Fundraising, Publications, and Investment Funds

My 16-year NHSAA board involvement motivated my desire to give Normandy what it provided to me in terms of quality education, behaviors to model, and career development.



Tracy Y. Williams
NHS Class of 1984
Board Member, Co Treasury, and Scholarship Committee Member

For over thirty-five years, Williams has been an active alumnus through class activities and volunteering in the Normandy community. My passion is to aid and support organizations that promote education in my community, inspire my support for the Normandy High School Alumni Association's mission, to award college scholarships to deserving students. I have found a well-informed and active alumnus can be a powerful ambassador for scholarship fundraising, scholarship awareness, and community resources.



Robert E. Horton
NHS Class of 1984
Board Member, Membership Outreach Chairperson and Membership Selection Advisory Chairperson

Normandy High School was an important part of my formative years of education. It is where I made lifelong friendships. Inspired by my teachers and administrators, I was encouraged to learn beyond my 24:1 Normandy community. Thus, serving on the NHSAA Board has provided an opportunity to award deserving students with scholarships and connect with former graduates regarding our board mission and their opportunities to support the mission.



Anthony Clark
NHS Class of 1999
Board Member, Scholarship Committee, and Alumni Recruitment

I support Normandy High School Alumni Association because of its ability to bridge the gap between Normandy Alumni and the active administration. NHSAA provides scholarships for selected graduating students who plan on continuing their education. In addition, NHSAA delivers a fantastic blueprint for future Alumni organizations to follow.

2022/2023

NHSAA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP

The Normandy High School Alumni Association's primary purpose is to provide scholarships for graduating seniors. Each year, scholarships are awarded in memory of Superintendent Morris Blitz (\$3000 for up to four years-endowed); teacher and basketball coach John Masterson (\$1000-endowed); teacher Esther Goff (\$3000 for up to four years); Superintendent James E. Westbury (\$1000). Graduating seniors are interviewed and selected through an application process by alumni board members and high school staff. Students must be ranked in the top 50% of the graduating class and have at least a 2.5 GPA; is seen as a person of high integrity and character; highly motivated to succeed at a college or vocational school level, and a desire to give back to the community and future graduates. Yearly donations are needed to continue to provide student scholarships and help support high school students' needs. We are proud of the students who have received scholarships through this organization and have attended universities and vocational schools worldwide. To become a member of the alumni association and donate to the scholarship program.



✓ MORRIS BLITZ
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

✓ ESTHER GOFF
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Donate Today

✓ JOHN MASTERSON
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

✓ JAMES WESTBURY
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Pay it Forward
Please submit your \$10 annual dues which
supports our scholarship fund.

**Go to our website:
Normandyhighschoolalumni.net**



The Normandy Alumni Association is indebted to Wayne Brasler, NHS class of 1958. At least twice a year since 2001, he has dedicated himself to covering Normandy history and news of, as he likes to say, “the past, the present and the future” in the Alumni Courier.

Of course, the Courier was Normandy’s student newspaper full of articles, photos of campus events, issues on campus and even around the world, letters to the editor, humor, sports, clubs, and so much more. So, he wanted to emulate the award-winning student publication for the alumni version, and he certainly accomplished that goal, even using the same font that had been used for many years.

Topics included in the many issues were:
Historic photographs

NORMANDY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TRIBUTE TO WAYNE BRASLER, NHS CLASS OF 1958

from old Sagas, articles on many of NSD’s elementary schools, Junior High (later the Middle School), the High School, the history of Camp Viking, features on alumni and senior scholars, letters to the editor (often praising the Alumni Courier), sharing memories of our neighborhoods, people and places that were an important part of our lives from one end of the district to another. He loved every tiny aspect of the district’s history and the high school’s history.

Most important to Wayne were the people that makeup Normandy. The people who worked to make the district and the high school a reality. Students who were scholars, whether in 1924 (the first graduating class) through the years until today, 2021.

The students’ activities, clubs, Saga Kings and Queens, Snow Kings and Queens, Homecoming, fashions of the time, theater, campus changes, tearing down the Big Gym, the pool, building the spectacular Viking Hall, Industrial Arts,

Culinary School, Honor Society, beloved teachers, sports activities, the renowned basketball Christmas Tournament, the outstanding music program including the award-winning band, symphony, and choral groups.

The people and their stories made the Alumni Courier so much fun to read. He’s made great friends with



current faculty members, former alumni, and current graduates, to his delight. He is a great supporter of the annual Spring musicals and the Music Director, Duane Foster.

Why the long list? I haven’t touched on everything good about Normandy High School and what Wayne is so devoted to.

Because there was and is so much that is good and even outstanding about our Alma Mater and educators, counselors, certified staff, support staff, and administration who inspire, persuade and mentor. No different now than 'back in the day.' There's always talk about the students who strive for outstanding achievement. NHS has unique stories representing success for over 100 years and diverse eras from the 20th and 21st centuries. What a great story! Memories.

It was also crucial for Wayne to recognize and memorialize classmates that we have lost. He made sure to have the basic information that he had received and would research old Sagas and newspapers to find more details about the person's life, including their senior portrait.

Wayne was in on the very first alumni association planning meeting. He lives in Chicago, and any forum, Homecoming, alumni dinner, meeting senior scholars, attending Normandy plays, and more meant a drive or an airplane trip to St. Louis. He was most happy to be there and take photographs of the articles he wrote. Before he retired, he was the faculty leader of The University of Chicago High School newspaper.

Award-winning, of course. The initial meetings led to Brasler offering to do the two issues of the Alumni Courier each year. It was decided that it would serve as an incentive to alumni who paid their \$10 annual membership dues to join the alumni association. And it was a home run! Alumni loved it from the first issue to the final points in 2019. Many alumni told us it was 'the' reason they joined. In addition, he made some special editions; one was the History of Normandy Alumni Courier issue.

The gift Wayne has given our incredible association really can't be explained. He spent all of those years giving his heart, blood, and soul, time, patience, research skills, and plain ol' stubbornness (getting it to the printer even though a whole issue had disappeared on him.) So finally, I asked, "What are you going to do now?" He replied, "What else? Start rewriting."

The point is we'll never know how fast or large we would have grown as an organization without Wayne Brasler's tremendous contribution to the Alumni Courier. But we do know that because of the former grads that the newspaper enticed to join our cause, the Board of Directors (all volunteers) have met some lovely, interesting, generous,

genuine alumni from the 1930s through 2021. In addition, we've been able to help many Normandy graduates since 2002 with scholarships that made a DIFFERENCE.

My thanks to all of the beautiful people who have served on the Board through the years. It was my honor to serve with each of you. In addition, it was an honor to help plan and host significant alumni events -picnics, Homecoming lunches/football games, and dinner dances, and all that involves behind the scenes, and help provide scholarships to deserving students of NHS.

Wayne Brasler's significant contribution helped bring this vital work to fruition for twenty years.

The Normandy High School Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Alumni thank you, Wayne Brasler, from the bottom of our hearts for your outstanding dedication and hard work. We realize it was indeed a labor of love.

Written by:
Vickie Myers, class of 1972
NHSAA, past President



Viking Pride on Full Display for Homecoming!

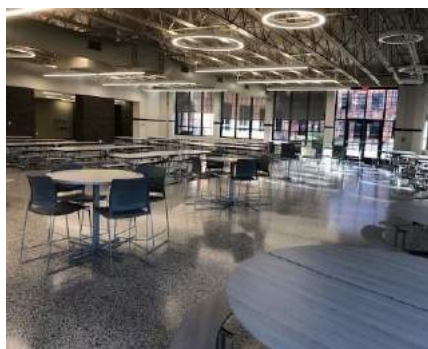
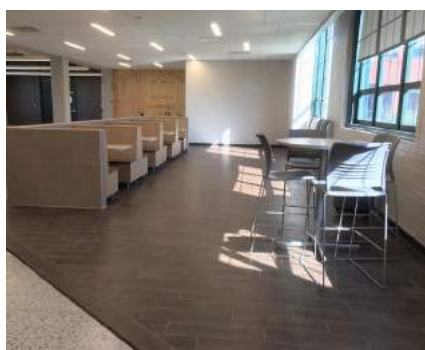
Special Shout out to the Class of 1982 for hosting the tailgate with FREE food and drinks! Check out these pictures of the parade, game and festivities.





2021 RENOVATIONS IN REVIEW

Renovations to West Hall are nearing completion. Take a look at the progress on projects, including the cafeteria and Culinary Arts Suite. Prop V provided \$26 million for improvements at Normandy High School.





Normandy Next

Normandy Schools Collaborative recently hosted a reconnection and conversation dinner for Alumni. Graduates represented each decade from the 1960s, and all had a good time. In addition to dinner, remarks from current district and alumni group leaders, student performances from the upcoming production of *The Wiz* and a stirring rendition of *O' Holy Night* by Viking alumna and nationally renowned vocalist De-Rance Blaylock were presented.

This dinner conversation was an opportunity to provide an update on current projects and help strengthen the ties between alumni and the district.

HOW CAN NORMANDY ALUMNI HELP?

Like any high school, Normandy is in need of donor angels to fund those programs and activities not supported by state and federal dollars.

WANT TO BE A FOUNDER?

NHS doesn't have a chess club, an equestrian society, or a debate team.

WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED?

We need volunteers to assist with sports, the arts, homecoming, prom, and the list goes on.

NEED A JOB?

Normandy desperately needs substitute teachers for our classrooms when our regular teachers cannot be at school.



Join the Movement Contact:

Regina Marsh

Chief Engagement Officer

Normandy Schools Collaborative

3855 Lucas and Hunt Road

St. Louis, MO 63121

rmarsh@normandysc.org

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Donates to Normandy Fine Arts Department

Normandy Schools Collaborative received a significant gift from the Omicron Eta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority Inc. to support the district's enduring legacy of fine arts excellence.

Chapter President Veronica Stacker and Rachel Burse, president of the chapter's Ivy Foundation, presented the check for \$4,000 at the November meeting of the Joint Executive Governing Board. Duane Foster, District Fine Arts Coordinator, accepted the gift.

During the presentation, Foster said the donation would be used for stage renovations at Jefferson School, which will benefit all NSC Elementary Middle students throughout the district.

"The Normandy Fine Arts program continues to thrive due to the talent in our district and the support from our community," said Foster. "We're grateful for supporters like the Normandy AKA chapter and their commitment to

keeping the arts alive for our students and district."

Normandy's fine arts program has received multiple honors and participated in various outreach programs. The district received the National Association of Music Merchants Best Music Community award for 2021, the second consecutive year the district received the honor.



“We're grateful for supporters like the Normandy AKA chapter and their commitment to keeping the arts alive for our students and district.”

- Duane Foster

VIKING HALLS
EVENT SPACE

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314.335.7081

CALLING ALL VIKINGS!

The Normandy High School Alumni Association seeks freelance writers to create articles that highlight the high school, alumni insights and successes, student accomplishments, poetry, and community news. Join the team! Get your write on!

send your copy to:
TheVikingAlumniVoice@gmail.com



Alwyn E Wolfarth, Class Of 1955
 Anthony Dorsey, Class Of 1981
 Babette Y. Gaffney (Wessel), Class Of 1953
 Barbara Edwards (Taylor), Class Of 1957
 Bonita E. Zurweller (Woerner), Class Of 1969
 Bonnie Woodard Hughes, Class Of 1978
 Calvin Williams, Class Of 1976
 Caroline Smith (Harris), Class Of 1971
 Cedric Cunningham
 Charles A. (Chick) Sigmund, M. D., Class Of 1951
 Chester Brown, Class Of 1989
 Christine A. Fortner (Heidenreich), Class Of 1971
 Claude R. Short, Class Of 1959
 Corrine Peterson (Tubbesing), Class Of 1942
 Dale W. Sanders, Class Of 1966
 Darrin Lamote Sims, Class Of 1984
 Daryl Randall, Class Of 1978
 Deloise Riddick McDougler, Class Of 1972
 Diane M. Blong (Stevens), Class Of 1965
 Donald E. Downes, Class Of 1954
 Donald R. (Don) Gaertner, Class Of 1946
 Donald R. (Don) Williams, Class Of 1953
 Donald R. Chapman, Class Of 1948
 Donna Renfro
 Dr. James (Jim) Furman, Class Of 1965
 Dr. Randall L. Heller, Md, Phd, Class Of 1960
 Dr. Robert J. (Bob) Mosby, Class Of 1945
 Dwayne Markward, Class Of 1982
 Eleanor J. Landgrebe (Reisenleiter), Class Of 1957
 Frank P. Stocks, Class Of 1964
 Garvin D. Marty, Class Of 1952
 Gary C. Nelling, Class Of 1967
 George M. Stealey, Jr., Class Of 1958
 Harold Graves, Class Of 1978
 Helen Griswall
 James D. (Jim) Brockman, Class Of 1965
 James E. Bratcher, Class Of 1978
 James Edward White Jr., Class Of 1985
 James L. (Jim) Hugger, Class Of 1972
 James R. Pendleton, Class Of 1968
 Jean L. Macdonald (Eatherton), Class Of 1945
 Jeanette Simmons, Class Of 1978
 Jim Dix, Class Of 1961
 Joan Ellerman (Goeckeler), Class Of 1959
 John A. Stewart, Class Of 1973
 John C. Rutherford, Class Of 1963
 John R. (Ray) Derrick, Class Of 1945
 Judy Hofmann (Way), Class Of 1963
 Kathleen (Kathy) Tyler (Dougherty), Class Of 1975
 Kathleen Kates-Abia
 Lena Grace Ancona Barkey, Class Of 1949
 Linda C. Holmes (Flynn), Class Of 1967
 Lisa D. Borowitz (Baumgartner), Class Of 1965
 Lorie K. Casteel (Bailey), Class Of 1971
 Marvin Brooks, Class Of 1978
 Melanie Days, Class Of 1978
 Michael R. Iver, Class Of 1967
 Michelle Bell (Harris), Class Of 1980
 Mrs. Bernard-Compson
 Natalie Kidd-Gardner, Class Of 1978
 Ned Gregory, Class Of 1958

Nicole Scott (Gregory), Class Of 1987
 Norman (Pat) Curtis, Class Of 1967
 Patricia J. Galvin, Class Of 1964
 Patricia L. O'leary (Hoffman), Class Of 1966
 Patrick (Pat) Davidson, Class Of 1963
 Paula J. Limberg (Clayton), Class Of 1952
 Ralph Edwards, Class Of 1952
 Rev. Melba J. Renfro, Class Of 1978
 Richard C. Papendick, Class Of 1962
 Richard E. (Rich) Talbert, Class Of 1960
 Robert (Bob) Westermann, Class Of 1958
 Robert E. (Bob) Chastain, Class Of 1966
 Robert J. (Bob) Langenberg, Class Of 1965
 Robert M. Hampe, Class Of 1962
 Robert W. (Bob) Holscher, Class Of 1958
 Robin E. Redd (Foster), Class Of 1989
 Ross Anderson, Class Of 1977
 Ruth I. Kelly (Chunn), Class Of 1962
 Sandy S. Sullens (Ziegenfuss), Class Of 1955
 Sherry Nicoles, Class Of 1978
 Shirley M. Garrison (Sheehan), Class Of 1950
 Stephen K. (Steve) Nixon, Class Of 1964
 Sterling K. (Kim) Burgess, Class Of 1970
 Steve Kneezle, Class Of 1974
 Susan Baker (Emory), Class Of 1967
 Terrell Howard, Class Of 1981
 Terye Huntspon, Class Of 1986
 Thomas E. Pierson, Class Of 1951
 Thomas L. (Tom) Stewart, Jr., Class Of 1951
 Walter M. (Walt) Bortosky, Class Of 1945
 William Houston
 Willie Lou Brooks, Class Of 1978
 Woodrow Deshay
 Yvonne D. (Von) Nicks, Class Of 1982

