



# Boiler Update

an alumni newsletter  
published by the

**B.B.C.H.S.**  
**Academic Foundation**

Spring 2016

## Congratulations Class of 2016!

**Another Year** has passed. The 2016 seniors graduated on May 20 beneath the lights of the outdoor stadium with family & friends cheering them on. On behalf of the BBCHS Academic Foundation we wish each graduate success in their future endeavors.

Approximately 20,448 students have graduated from BBCHS since 1941. The total includes this year's class of 484.

Graduation is a memorable milestone. Below are some memories of graduations past.



1999



2008



1965



1988



1972



1971



# 2016 Seniors



Jenna Howard was awarded one of two **BBCHS Academic Foundation Scholarships**. Jenna will study studio art at Baylor University and plans to have a career in art therapy.

Jenna's favorite high school classes included art, athletic performance training and AP English. Jenna said that her orchestra teacher, Mr. McNulty was her inspiration. "I admire Mr. McNulty because he has done

so many interesting things! Not only has he been a teacher, he has written books and was even a businessman in China."

Jenna played cello in the BBCHS orchestra, was on the badminton team, National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society and a member of Tri-M. Outside of school she enjoys kayaking.

"I want to give a huge thank you to the Academic Foundation," said Jenna. The scholarship will really help me off-set some of my college expenses."



Adam Schroeder was awarded one of two **BBCHS Academic Foundation Scholarships**. Adam will study chemical engineering at the University of Cincinnati.

Adam says that his favorite subjects at BBCHS were chemistry, AP physics and AP calculus. He thanked Mr. White, his water polo and swim team coach for influencing him to work hard. He also thanked Mrs. Capriotti for helping to make chemistry fun

and easy for him to relate to.

Adam was captain of both the BBCHS swim team and water polo team. He was involved in Youth & Government, on the Math Team, National Honor Society Worldwide Youth in Science, and Engineering as well as Future Business Leaders of America. Outside of school Adam enjoys reading, swimming and the outdoors. "Thank you to all of the people who make this scholarship possible. Your financial support will be very helpful and I appreciate the backing of the donors."



Mitchell Mahnke was awarded the **Bryan Amiano Memorial Scholarship**. Mitchell will attend Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee. He will major in history education and minor in coaching. Mitchell hopes to combine the two in a teaching career.

History was Mitchell's favorite subject at BBCHS. He said he has always been interested in history and felt that he was good at it.

Mitchell said Mr. Koschnitzky, his history teacher was his most inspiring teacher. "I really liked his teaching style," says Mitchell.

Mitchell was a football player at BBCHS and enjoys all things related to the sport. Outside of school his favorite thing to do is hang out with friends or family.

"Thank you for awarding me this scholarship, said Mitchell. It will really be a boost in helping me reach my goals."



Sydney Ferris was awarded the **Marvin Gereaux, Class of 1950 Memorial Scholarship**. Sydney will enter Olivet this fall to study athletic training and exercise science. She plans to go to physical therapy school after college and become a physical therapist.

Sydney said her two favorite subjects at BBCHS were math because there is always a "for sure" answer and English because she

enjoys writing.

Sydney played soccer and volleyball at BBCHS. She admired Mr. Smothers, her soccer and volleyball coach. "He was our friend as well as our coach and helped our team get better."

She was also a member of National Honor Society, Best Buddies and an Illinois State Scholar. Outside of school she enjoys reading and watching movies.

"Thank you for this scholarship. Being recognized for my hard work during high school is really appreciated."



Bhavin Patel was awarded the **Joines Family Scholarship for Business Majors**. Bhavin will attend the University of Illinois at Chicago. He plans to major in business administration and law. His goal is to be a corporate financial analyst or a lawyer.

Bhavin's two favorite subjects at BBCHS were math and English. Bhavin stated that principal, Dr. Brian Wright helped to inspire him. "Dr. Wright taught me a lot about

leadership and I felt like I really grew as a leader myself, through his encouragement."

Bhavin was a member of Iron Clad, the robotics team. He was also a member of Best Buddies, Youth & Government, Future Business Leaders of America and Mathletes. Bhavin said his favorite activity outside of school is hanging out with his Best Buddy.

"I greatly appreciate this scholarship. It will lessen the financial burden and help reduce my loans. Thank you so much!"



Jordan Ritter was awarded the **Nicole Marie Sunberg Memorial Scholarship**. Jordan will enter Illinois State University in the fall to study nursing. Her goal is to be a nurse in either the neonatal or mental health areas.

Jordan said her favorite subjects were English and choir. Mrs. King, her choir teacher was her favorite teacher. "I had her all 4 years and she was like a second mom to me."

Jordan was on the BBCHS swim and water polo teams. She was a member of student council, National Honor Society and Tri-M. Outside of school she likes to swim and enjoys singing and making music.

"Thank you for this scholarship. I really appreciated being chosen and I know it will help cover some of my expenses."

# Earn Scholarships



Ashlyn Carnes was awarded the **Donald K & Dixie M Turner Scholarship**. Ashlyn will study music education at Western Illinois University this fall with plans of becoming a music teacher.

Ashlyn's favorite subjects at BBCHS were band, orchestra and percussion. She also enjoyed English and writing.

Ashlyn's said her most inspirational teacher was Mr. Dyche. She likes the way he challenges his students to explore different kinds of music and to find out what music really means to them.

Ashlyn played flute in the band. She was a member of SADD, National Honor Society, was president of Tri-M, student council, and on the soccer team. Outside of school she works at the Bradley Library, plays on a traveling soccer team and enjoys reading.

"Thank you for helping me to pursue my studies in music education. The scholarship will help me go farther than I could have without it."



Ryan Guerin was awarded the Academic Foundation's **Veteran's Appreciation Scholarship**. Ryan will be attending Illinois State University. Although currently undecided on a major, his goal is to have a career in business.

Ryan said his favorite subjects at BBCHS were physics and biology. He said Mr. White was one of his favorite teachers. "He taught me to appreciate physics. He was also my water polo coach and he is just cool!"

Ryan was on both the swim and water polo teams. He was a member of National Honor Society, Tri-M, Youth & Government, and cross country. He also played the euphonium in the band and orchestra.

Ryan says he enjoys spending his free time outdoors.

"Thank you for considering me for this scholarship. It was an honor to be chosen as the recipient."



Gabrielle Chinski was awarded the **Class of '66 & '67's Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Scholarship**. Gabrielle will be attending Butler University this fall to study communications. She hopes to have a career in public relations and advertising.

Gabrielle said her favorite high school subjects were English, communications and yearbook. Her yearbook teacher, Mrs. Bretzlaff, was the teacher who most inspired her. "Her support both personally and educationally helped me gain confidence as junior editor (last year) and as coeditor & chief of "the Bradleyan" this school year.

Outside of school Gabrielle works at a local retail store. When she has free time she enjoys spending time with friends, knowing they will all soon be going separate ways.

"Thank you for choosing me to receive this scholarship. My grandpa, John Skopik, was a soldier in the Vietnam War so it has special meaning to me and my family."



Danielle Drazen was awarded the **Joseph H. Wertz, Class of 1950 Scholarship**.

Danielle will enter Southeast Missouri State University to study nursing.

Danielle's favorite subjects at BBCHS were math, science and anatomy. She also enjoyed the CNA program at the Kankakee Area Career Center.

Danielle selected Mr. Smothers as her most inspirational teacher. "He always has a listening ear and was a big help when I was trying to figure out my career path.

Danielle was involved in various sports throughout high school including volleyball, soccer, basketball and cross country. She was also a member of SADD.

Outside of school Danielle volunteers at Riverside Hospital in the radiology department.

"I was truly speechless when my name was called for this scholarship. Thank you very much for choosing me!"



Brooke Frazier was awarded the **Charles Hawker Memorial Scholarship**. She will attend the University of Illinois to study molecular and cellular biology. Her goal is to become a dentist.

Brook said her favorite class in high school was AP Chemistry. "It was definitely the hardest and most challenging class I had, but when I got it, I was like...YES!" Her favorite teachers were Mrs. Cappriotti and Mr. Swafford. "Both are very supportive and helpful. I appreciated that they noticed when I improved and took the time to commend me when I did."

Brook was on the cross country team, student council, National Honor Society, Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering, and Spanish Club. Outside of school she enjoys running. She volunteers at Riverside Hospital as well as a local nursing home.

"Thank you for making a big difference in my education through this scholarship. It will really help a lot!"



Brianna Hollowell was awarded the **Kenn Klette Memorial Scholarship**. Brianna will attend Olivet this fall where she will major in engineering and minor in art. She's not exactly sure where this will take her, but she is definitely interested in working in third world countries and making a difference in the lives of others.

"My favorite classes at BBCHS were math, science and art. All of my teachers helped inspire me in one way or another and I thank them all."

Brianna was a member of the soccer team, SADD, Key Club, Mathletes, Science Club, National Honor Society and Art Club. Outside of school she plays club soccer and enjoys sketching and reading.

"Thank you for awarding me this scholarship. It showed me that if you dedicate yourself to something you love, there are definitely rewards!"



**Foundation Donations** are used to fund special academic based programs for the students of BBCHS. Programs funded by the Foundation are those that are *not in the regular school budget*. During the 2015-16 school year, the Foundation was able to donate almost \$20,000 in grant funding thanks to the generosity of its donors. Here are just a few of this year's experiences thanks to the grants.



**Above:** The Iron Clad robotics team is shown here demonstrating their robot during an open house at Olivet Nazarene University in the space the university has graciously provided them in their engineering building. This exciting first year for the team included an appearance at the World Competition in St. Louis this spring where the students gained experience competing against high schools from around the world!



**Above:** Photography students had an opportunity to tour and take photos of the B. Harley Bradley House located at 701 S. Harrison in Kankakee. The students took full advantage of Frank Lloyd Wright's unique architecture and the natural lighting. Family and friends were invited to view the photographs which were displayed at the Bradley House in a special exhibit on May 1. Pictured with their photographs are seniors Sara Travelstead (left) and Michaela Kieffer (right).



**Left:** David Stukenborg was the keynote speaker of Haylee Sissman's "Make Every Moment Matter" assembly. The program focused on disability awareness. Mr. Stukenborg is a deputy in the Kankakee County Sheriff's office who sustained life altering injuries as a result of an auto accident that occurred as he was answering a false 911 call. He spoke to over 1200 students and staff about the importance of acknowledging everyone as a person first, no matter what disabilities they may have. He emphasized with his audience that he is a husband and a father foremost and that his disabilities are secondary. Pictured with Deputy Stukenborg are Blake Bradley, junior and the MC for the program, Mrs. Sue Wolfe, educational interpreter and sophomore Haylee Sissman.

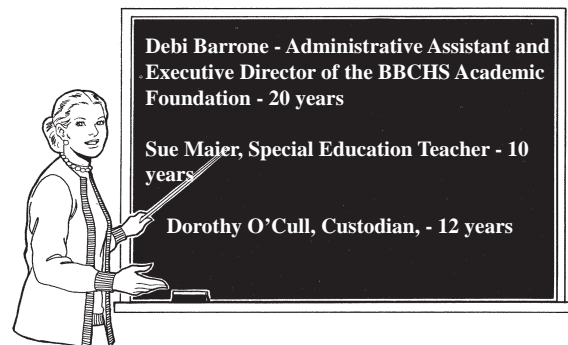


**Jane Sullivan** taught English at BBCHS from 1967-1985. Mrs. Sullivan passed away on April 10 of this year. Guy Arseneau, class of 1968 was one of her former students. She and Guy remained in contact throughout the years. Guy paid tribute to Mrs. Sullivan through an online article he titled,

"All the Way Home, Jane." You can read his tribute on the following web site.  
<http://www.guyarseneau.com/all-the-way-home-jane/>

## BBCHS 2016 RETIREES

Thank you for your service and dedication to the students.  
 We will miss you!



# 2016 Boiler Golf Classic!

The 2016 Boiler Golf Classic is right around the corner! Enjoy a day at the Elk's while supporting a great cause. All proceeds from this fund-raiser go to support classroom grants and student scholarships. Your \$100 entry fee includes lunch, golf plus cart, dinner and a golfer gift. You will also have a chance to win some great prizes! Someone this year will go home with a 7-day stay at a condo in Bonita Springs Florida!

The registration form is available online. Go to: [www.bbchs.org](http://www.bbchs.org). Under the "Communication" tab, click on "Academic Foundation". Don't delay! The deadline is July 1 or until all slots are filled.



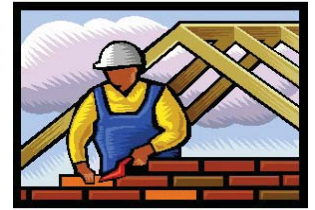
Pictured above are Jennifer Edmonds, Foundation Director, Jenna Howard, 2016 Scholarship Winner who will be studying at Baylor University, Mike Lehning, Athletic Director and Jacob Wakeley 2016 Graduate/Athlete who will attend West Point.

## Class Reunions - 2016

Class reunion committees are encouraged to contact the Foundation office. We can advertise your reunion in the alumni newsletter and on the Foundation's website. We can also share updated addresses from the alumni database.

Class	Event Information	Contact
1966	50 Year Reunion! Friday, September 23 - Dinner at BBCHS and Football game. Saturday, Kankakee Boat Club	Donna Karr - 815-933-2658 or <a href="mailto:peymak@comcast.net">peymak@comcast.net</a> Mary Ellen Harvell - 815-933-9060 or <a href="mailto:meharvell3@yahoo.com">meharvell3@yahoo.com</a>
1971	Saturday, July 9, 2016. School Tour, 9:00 a.m. Kankakee Boat Club, \$25 per person. 6 p.m. Social 7 p.m. Dinner Sunday, July 10. Family picnic and/or golf	Paula Hartman Sutter <a href="mailto:paulajsutter@gmail.com">paulajsutter@gmail.com</a> Roxanne Gagnon Reed
1976	Celebrating with the class of '77 next year.	
1996	Saturday, August 6, 2016 - School Tour, 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. at The Pub: 71 West First St., Manteno.	Natalie Barrone Schaefer - 262-510-1685 <a href="mailto:njschaefer78@gmail.com">njschaefer78@gmail.com</a> or Facebook: "BBCHS Class of 96"
2006	Plans are in the works for the 10 year reunion!	Jillian Gindy - <a href="mailto:jillian.c.gindy@gmail.com">jillian.c.gindy@gmail.com</a>

**Financial Supporters** are the “foundation” of The Foundation. We wish to thank each and every donor. Enhancements to the academic curriculum at BBCHS are made possible through their generosity!



### Entry Level

Dino Helopoulos '74

### Contributor Club (\$25)

Phyllis Arseneau '52 Beckner  
Katie & Pete Bretzloff  
Gerri Cote '88  
**Tammy Parece '77 \***  
**James Richter '77 \***  
Veronica Sims '63  
Nora Yeates \*

### Red & White Club (\$50)

Kerry & Pam Adams  
Steve & Linda Adrian  
**Kevin & Rhonda Carley '80 Arthur\***  
Steven Bisailon '73  
**John & Betty Heinze '58 Boatright \***  
Karla & Tom Breitenbucher  
Christopher & Suzanne Grise '75 Clark  
**John Fortino '62 \***  
Dennis Gagnon '63  
Jeff & Lisa Hammes  
**John Hassett '71 \***  
Karl Hildebrand '73  
Sherry Smith '69 Johnson  
Earl Kelly '59  
Steven McCoin '74  
Lisa Torkelson '85 Milton  
Charles Raef '98  
Dave & Madonna Maxfield '67 Raiche  
Pat Rogers '68 Rivera in Memory of  
Mark K. Rogers  
**Sharon Schiller \***  
**Mary & Larry Self \***  
Robin Tannehill '74  
**Leo Whitten '52 \*\***

### Boilermaker Club (\$100)

**Barry Amiano \*\***  
**Vera & A.J. Amiano \***  
**Doug & Sue Barclay \*\***  
Richard Bateman  
**Mike '83 & Margie Beach \***  
**Borschnack, Pelletier & Co. \***  
**Jim & Mary Schlenz '72 Bridgewater \*\***  
**Tom & Nancy Brooks \***  
Jim Brosseau Custom Roofing  
**Bunge North America Foundation \***  
**Charles Burke \*\***  
**Pat Buschette \***  
**Stu and Jerri Cann \***  
**Dick & Dorothy Carley \***  
Gordon W. Dawes Jr. '54  
Mark '76 & Jennifer Stubbs '77 Edmonds \*  
**Dan & Dianne Ferris \***  
John '76 & Michelle Meyer '85 Fitts  
Wayne '72 & Linda Cotsones '74 Flowers \*  
**Bart '76 & Kathi Noe '79 Frazier \***  
Brandon '75 & Lori Gadbois  
**Bill Gamble \*\***  
**Ken '65 & Diane Goodwin \***  
Gene Goselin '64  
**Scott Goselin '84 \***  
**Bruce Greenlee '68 \***  
**Jay & Paula Grimes \***  
Cynthia Hakes \*  
**Jacalyn Hawker \*\***  
**Ed '50 & Madonna Heinze '53 Hayes \***  
**Mike & Becky Hays '72 Heddins \***  
**Neil & Georganne Higgins \***  
Karlton Hildebrand '73  
**Mike & Nancy Hogan \*\***  
Harold & Kathy McCleary '64 Huber  
Eric & Jennifer Hays '84 Huggins  
**Judy Jepsen '58 Popel \***  
**Norene Andreina '63 Longtin \***  
Jolene Cote '74 Loudermilk  
Bob & Janet Meredith '62 Makkay  
**Marilyn Maropoulos \***  
Keith Maurer '84  
**Edward Moersch '57 \***  
**Joe & Janet Montalto \*\***

**Craig '78 & Lorna Page \***  
**Drs. Ken '54 & Kay Pangle \*\***  
**Vaughn Patterson '62 \***  
**Joan & Don Pierce \*\***  
Denny '76 & Vicky Morrell '89 Pommier \*  
Michael & Jayne Raef  
**Marla Boudreau '63 Rice \*\***  
Robert Rice Jr. '70  
Steven Rivard '74  
Jim Rowe  
Harold Scheller '76  
**Mayor Paul & Mary Kottendorf Schore '73 \***  
**Keith & Valerie Schweitzer \*\***  
**Maury & Patti Shumaker \***  
Christopher Stallman '02  
**Charles '59 & Barb Stinnett \***  
**Jim '56 & Carol LeBran '55 Travis \***  
**Jim '74 & Sandy Johnston '69 Travis (\$150) \***  
**Doug '84 & Kelli Wadley \***  
**Elaine Pilcher '52 Wertz \*\***  
**Doug '60 & Judy Arthur '61 Wilkins \*\***  
Donna Krick '74 Woolard

### Sponsorship Club (\$250)

**Rick '67 & Debi Shourd '69 Barrone \*\***  
Thomas Cooke  
Brian Gadbois '74  
**Mary Buser '54 Gandy \*\***  
**Phillip & Lynda Benoit '84 Kambic \***  
**Linda Klette \*\***  
**Rick '64 & Patti Manuel \***  
Shannon & Nicole Moore  
**Jennifer Parris \***  
**Kathleen Ponikvar '66 Pechauer \***  
**Richard '61 & Kathleen LaGesse '62 Weaver \***

**Alliance Club (\$500)**

Dennis & Cindy LaVoie '68 Bossinger \*\*  
 Darla Moldenhauer  
 Bradley Bourbonnais Rotary  
 David Stejkowski  
 Judy Davidson '63 Whitis in Memory  
 of Noel Whitis Jr.

**Foundation Club (\$1000 or more)**

Dr. Douglas '64 & Sheila Perry

**Rev. Jeanette Gerretse '56 Stevens  
 in Honor of Agnes Boulger's 95th  
 birthday \***

**Scholarship Donors**

Family of Bryan Amiano, Class of '78  
 Family of Marvin Gereaux, Class of  
 1950  
 The Joines Family  
 Family of Nicole Marie Sunberg,  
 Class of '04  
 Classes of 1966 & 1967  
 Family of Charles Hawker  
 Family of Joseph H. Wertz, Class of  
 1950  
 Family & Friends of Kenn Klette

\* Denotes 5+ year + Donor  
 \*\* Denotes 10+ year + Donor

*List is current as of 5/26/16*



The BBCHS Academic Foundation is a 501C3 non-profit organization, making your donation tax deductible. Donors of \$100 or more receive a pass to all regular home athletic events. All donors receive an auto window cling to proudly announce your support. Donor names appear on our website and in all printed Foundation material for the 12-months following their donation. If you would like to become a supporter, complete this form and mail it with your check made payable to:

BBCHS Academic Foundation  
 P.O. Box 843  
 Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Entry Level - Any Amount  
 Contributor Club - \$25  
 Red & White Club - \$50  
 Boilermaker Club - \$100  
 Sponsorship Club - \$250  
 Alliance Club - \$500  
 Foundation Club - \$1000 or more

**Please Indicate:**  
 Alumnus Class of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent \_\_\_\_\_  
 Faculty \_\_\_\_\_  
 BBCHS Retiree \_\_\_\_\_  
 Community \_\_\_\_\_



**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

# Parting Words....

July 1, 1996, was the day I started working in the Superintendent's office at BBCHS. Long time Superintendent Don Turner had just hired me as his Administrative Assistant. During that first week, he mentioned, "We just started an Academic Foundation and I would like you to sit in on their meetings, take minutes and help them get a little more organized." "Sure... fine....happy to help." What ELSE would one say during the first week of a new job?!

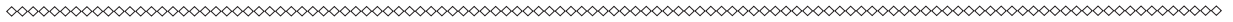
That was twenty years ago. It feels like five. I'm sounding like someone getting to retire - which I am, but before I go I wanted to share a few thoughts.

I loved working with the Foundation. I loved seeing how funding a teacher's creative idea in the form of a classroom grant could lift a lesson off the page of a textbook and make it a memorable, hands-on experience for the students. I loved interviewing the seniors that just received a scholarship and seeing the spark of optimism and determination in their eyes. I loved meeting hundreds of alumni, most of which still feel a strong bond to their Alma Mater. I loved working with the Foundation's board of directors. They volunteer their time at meetings and special events with one purpose in mind: To help the Academic Foundation be a useful resource for BBCHS as the school strives to provide a top-notch educational experience for the students of this community. And finally, I loved writing this newsletter. I hope some of the articles about the students have assured you that our future is in good hands. I hope your memories were resurrected through some of the stories and pictures from the BBCHS archives. Most of all I hope that the newsletter made you aware of the deep tradition of this great high school and gives you a sense of pride about being a Boilermaker.



As of July 1, 2016, Mrs. Laurie Blake will be at this desk, ready to assist you with all things related to the Foundation and alumni. She can be reached at 815-937-3707, ext. 6003 or [Lblake@bbchs.org](mailto:Lblake@bbchs.org).

Thank you all! Go Boilers!!!!



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