UPPER ST. CLAIR

2024

HALLS OF FAME

Celebrating achievements in

ACADEMICS, ARTS & ATHLETICS

for

25 YEARS

UNITY • SUCCESS • CHARACTER

ALMA MATER

All Hail, Alma Mater
All Hail, The Black and White
All Hail, Alma Mater
Our sign of truth and right.

Her strength and honor shall last
While future triumphs are cast.

So hail to the Panther's reign,
And to dear old Upper St. Clair.

WELCOME

DR. JOHN ROZZO

Superintendent of Schools

Congratulations to our Upper St. Clair High School 2024 Halls of Fame inductees! These 10 individuals distinguished themselves in academics, the arts, and athletics – bringing tremendous pride and prestige to our school and our community.

As a lasting tribute, the names of our newest inductees will be added to their respective plaques, which are proudly displayed at each of our entrances. All of our Halls of Fame inductees serve as notable role models for our students and as stark reminders of their own unlimited potential.

In many ways, our Halls of Fame event represents and celebrates the actualization of our district's mission and vision. Thank you to our inductees for sharing your talents and accomplishments; to friends and family who have joined us in support and celebration; and to our many staff and volunteers who make this annual event possible.

AGENDA

5 p.m. Arrival & Social Hour, Arts Entrance

6 p.m. Dinner & Ceremony, LGI Room

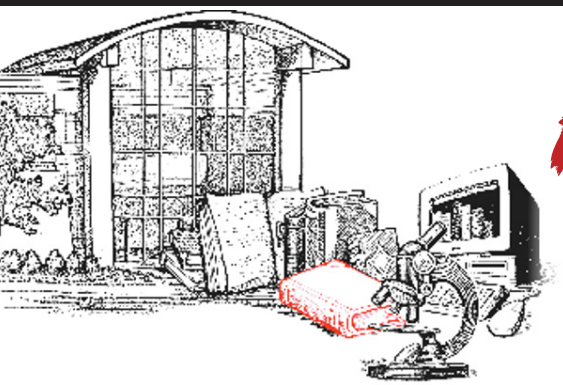
- Chanteclairs - Star Spangled Banner & Alma Mater
  Laura Surguine, Choral Director
- History of Halls of Fame
  Student Leaders
- Welcome & 25-year Recognition
  Dr. John Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools
- Inductee Introduction & Recognition
  - Academics Hall of Fame
  - Arts Hall of Fame
  - Athletics Hall of Fame
- Closing Remarks

DR. TIMOTHY WAGNER

Halls of Fame Chairperson
USCHS Principal

I am very proud to celebrate our 25th Annual Halls of Fame with our newest class of inductees. Throughout a quarter century, our Halls of Fame has recognized 347 individuals who have distinguished themselves in academics, the arts, or athletics and who have contributed to the pride and prestige of Upper St. Clair High School.

We strive to continue the mission of the Halls of Fame and to make an even greater impact on the current students at the High School.



ACADEMIC HALL OF FAME

Founding Member: Jane Hollman

Committee Members: Ben Edwards & Kristin Pardini, Co- Chairs • Ed Callahan • Steve Miller • Melissa Tungate • Dr. Timothy Wagner • Gavin Williams

DAVID CARSON

USCHS Class of 1975

- Graduate of the Northwestern University Medical School, Respiratory Care Program
- All-State Football in high school
- Currently serves as a teacher in the Collier County Public Schools in Naples, Florida and a mentor to educationally at-risk populations
- Author of the "Survival Guide for College-Bound LD Students"
- Has served as a conference presenter for the national Learning Disabilities Association of America and its state associations including Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey and Pennsylvania; state transition conferences for Pennsylvania, Arizona, Delaware and Ohio; the Council for Exceptional Children National Conference; 16 of 29 Pennsylvania Intermediate Units; the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association; and the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Delivered the commencement address at Beacon College in Leesburg, Florida.

VIJAY KAPOOR

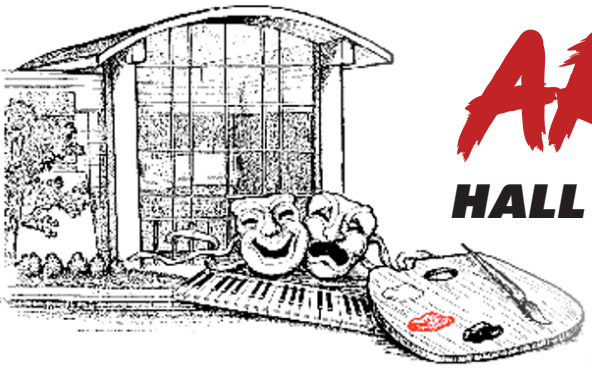
USCHS Class of 1995

- Graduate of the University of Chicago and University of Pennsylvania Law School
- USCHS Class President; Four-year letterman in tennis; Participated in choir
- Founder and owner of The Kapoor Company, a public sector workforce consulting company specializing in economic analysis for labor negotiations and interest arbitration, pension and retiree health care mediation, workforce costing, and operational analysis.
- Received the labor law prize and was Symposium Editor for the Journal of Labor and Employment Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School
- Current interests are centered around raising his children, who are age 10 and 13.
- His fondest memories at Upper St. Clair High School include spending time with friends at the tennis hut.

SARA WELLS (TWERDOK), DVM

USCHS Class of 2006

- Graduate of Cornell University and St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine & University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine
- Serves as Senior Emergency Veterinarian, Veterinary Hospitalist, and Veterinary Mentor at MedVet Pittsburgh. She will be starting at Pittsburgh Veterinary Emergency Group October 2024.
- Trained/screened therapy dogs for elderly patients; tagged/tracked leatherneck sea turtles on the beaches of Grenada; helped to perform emergency surgery on a rare white Bengal Tiger; and provided foster care and placement for over 50 animals.
- Interests include Special Needs Feline Rescue, Ornithology and Conservation, Music, Vintage Novel Collection (Agatha Christie)
- Her fondest memories include participating in all aspects of the USCHS music department, including high school musicals, marching band, Pantherettes, auxiliary captain, Wind Ensemble/ Symphony, Pantheon Choir and Chanteclair Choir



ARTS HALL OF FAME

Founding Member: Jim Bennett

Committee Members: Matt Cosgrove, Chair • Dr. Dan Beck • Claudia Benack • Paul Fox • Thomas Kikta • Laura Moeller • Shari Shriver Opferman • Angela Petersen • Dr. Steve Torquato • Susan Hofrichter-Watts

JUN IIDA

USCHS Class of 2009

- Graduate of Case Western Reserve University with degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Aerospace Engineering
- Professional Trumpeter/Composer/ Educator; performed at national festivals including South by Southwest, Earshot Jazz Festival, Angel City Jazz Festival, PDX Jazz Festival, California Worldfest. Toured throughout United States and Japan.
- Debut album “Evergreen” (Origin Records) was released in 2024 - acclaimed by DownBeat Magazine, reached No. 12 national JAZZWEEK chart rankings.
- Interests include cooking, chess and music
- Fondest USC memories include the “Pride of Upper St. Clair” Marching Band.

PAUL H. PAGE NANCY J. PAGE

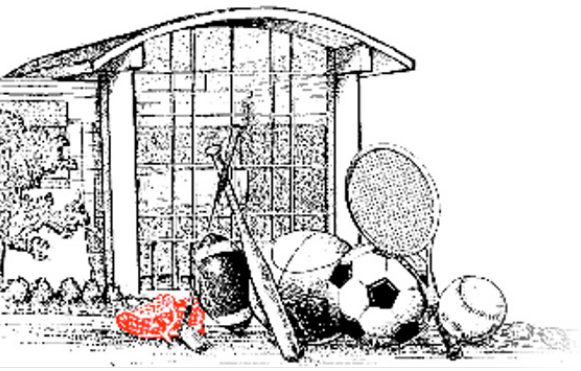
Retired Staff, Posthumously

- Nancy is a graduate of the Westmoreland School of Nursing and Paul earned a degree in political science from the University of Alabama.
- Paul and Nancy served as the Artist Director/Scenery Designer and Costume Director/Designer respectively for more than 25 USCHS plays and musicals.
- Both actively participated in several community organizations, incluing Westminster Presbyterian Church, Citizens for Land Stewardship and the Audubon Annual Bird Count.
- Many of their drawings, scripts, clothing patterns and costumes are archived at the Heinz History Museum.
- They cherished their time working with all three of their children as they participated in the USCHS theater program.

BENJAMIN REICHER

USCHS Class of 2012

- Graduate of California Institute of the Arts
- A 15-year animation/video effects industry veteran who has worked at 30+ companies. With a passion for innovation in animation, he is the founder of Valor Cat Studios.
- He has worked on movies that include The Mandalorian (2019), Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle (2017) and Pokémon: Detective Pikachu (2019).
- He earned Best Animation honors at the 2019 Skiptown Playhouse International Film Festival
- Current interests include Spectral Pathtracing, and Skeletal Physics Enhanced Character Animation
- His fondest memories include Lorraine Milovac’s choir room and all that came with it!



ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Founding Member: Jim Render

Committee Members: Dan Holzer, Chair • Mary Lou Einloth • Scott Hawkins • Jeff Joyce • Jerry Malarkey • Suzie McConnell-Serio • Matt Mellinger • Jim Render • Uwe Schneider • Cara Senger • Greg Wagner

JOSH HELMRICH

USCHS Class of 2005

- Graduate of Yale University.
- All-conference quarterback and punter for USCHS and Ivy League Champion at Yale University. Inducted into the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame of Western Pennsylvania
- NFL employee for 15 seasons. Projects have included helping to move the draft out of New York City for the first time in 50 years, creating the NFL schedule, and creating the NFL's Veteran Combine
- Two-time winner of the Commissioner's Award. Earned an Emmy Award for the Toy Story animated alternative broadcast between the Jaguars and Falcons in 2023.
- Co-founder of Next Gen Stats - the NFL's player and football tracking initiative, which leverages technology to improve player safety and performance, fan engagement, media presentation and more.
- Enjoys spending time with his wife and daughters, cooking, trying new restaurants, and exploring new (and old) cities.
- Fondest memories include the energy of game days, breakfast sandwiches in the cafeteria and USCHS staff.

LANDY MERTZ

USCHS Class of 2019

- Graduate of the University of Pittsburgh
- Standout high school soccer player who was selected as a United Soccer Coaches High School All-American and the Post-Gazette Player of the Year after producing 20 goals and 15 assists as a senior. Earned All-Section honors every year and All-Area, Almanac Elite 11, All-WPIAL and All-State in her senior season. Helped the Panthers win the PIAA 4A Championship as a freshman.
- Collegiate honors include Academic All-American (2022); United Soccer Coaches All-Atlantic Region (2022); All-ACC Academic Team (2021, 2022 and 2023; ACC Academic Honor Roll (2022-23); ACC All-Tournament Team (2023); All-ACC Third Team (2023); United Soccer Coaches All-Atlantic Region (2023).
- As the first-ever Pitt Panther drafted to the NWSL, currently playing professional soccer as a rookie forward for the North Carolina Courage.
- Fondest memories include winning the PIAA state championship; Mr. Hoburg's class, and Mr. Yochum's class.

MIKE QUEALY

USCHS Class of 1990

- Graduate of Harvard University, where he played both baseball and football, and Duquesne University
- Earned seven high school varsity letters and All-Conference/All-Section honors in football, basketball and baseball. A two-time Pittsburgh Post-Gazette South Fab 22 (football) and a Diamond Dozen (baseball). Named Post-Gazette Athlete of the Week following the 1989 WPIAL Championship game - with two touchdowns and three interceptions Set school records for interceptions in a season (11); career interceptions (20); home runs in a season (6); and runs scored in a game (5).
- Currently serves as Director of Cloud Computing and DevOps for Federated Hermes, Inc.
- Helped establish charity golf event that has raised over $40,000 in memory of USC teammate Kevin McKeever.
- Enjoys golfing, playing softball and basketball with other USCHS grads, and spending time his family running back and forth between baseball, soccer and basketball games.

SELECTION CRITERIA

USCHS ALUMNI

A former student must meet the following criteria to be considered for one of the three Halls of Fame.

- The individual must be a graduate of Upper St. Clair High School.
- Must have graduated from USCHS a minimum of five years ago.
- The individual must have made a positive contribution during high school as well as significant achievements after leaving USCHS.

Alumni can be nominated by members of the high school staff, other Upper St. Clair alumni, or members of the Upper St. Clair community. Nominees must earn a 75% vote of a quorum of the respective Halls of Fame committee.

During and after high school, the student could have excelled in one or more of the following:

Academics

- Valedictorian
- National Honor Society
- Class officer
- Activity service and/or leadership
- National Merit Recognition
- Student of the year
- Special scholarship/academic honor
- Citizenship recognition
- Collegiate recognition
- Post-graduate recognition
- Professional accomplishments
- Leadership in career field
- Contribution to Society
- Publication of work
- Overcame obstacles

Arts

- Service and/or leadership
- Band award
- Chorus award
- Orchestra award
- Art award
- USC League of Arts award
- Director's Award
- Thespian Society
- Collegiate recognition
- Post-Graduate recognition
- Professional accomplishments
- Contribution in career field
- Benefactor of the Arts
- National recognition of work

Athletics

- Service and/or leadership
- School record
- WPIAL champion
- PIAA champion
- Athlete of the Year (USC)
- Media athlete
- Multiple sport athlete
- Citizenship
- Post-season recognition
- Collegiate recognition
- Professional accomplishments
- National recognition

STAFF / VOLUNTEERS

A staff member or volunteer must meet the following criteria to be considered for the three Halls of Fame.

The individual must no longer be employed by Upper St. Clair High School.

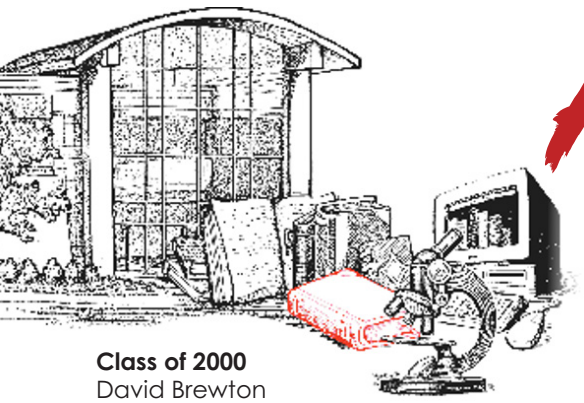
The individual must have made a significant and positive contribution during his/her association with Upper St. Clair High School.

Staff members or volunteers will be nominated by members of the high school staff, one or more Upper St. Clair alumni, or members of the Upper St. Clair community. Nominees must earn a 75% vote of a quorum of the respective committee.

The individual's association with USCHS could have been as one or more of the following: administrator, teacher, activity adviser, coach, support staff member and/or school board member.

During his/her association with USCHS, the individual could have contributed in one or more of the following ways:

- Gave outstanding service in his/her position
- Made a positive impact on students' lives
- Made innovative contributions
- Initiated new programs
- Provided leadership in the development of facilities, curriculum, programs, etc.
- Earned local, state, and/or national recognition
- Represented USCHS in local and/or national educational groups
- Published work



ACADEMIC HALL OF FAME

Class of 2000
David Brewton
Ed Chekan
Ray Bandi
Tricia Hwang Connerly
Mark Katlic
Trisha Meili
Brian Phillips
Jack Phillips
Karen Swartz
Robert Christiana
John DeBlassio
Donald Eichhorn
Niles Norman
Carl Streams*

Class of 2001
Raj Chakrabarti
Lori Cherup
Jeffrey Cooper
Melisa Wenna Lai
Donald Lund
Kenneth Lund
Stephanie Fulmer Smentek
Robert Swartz
Joe Argiro*
Robert Brosnahan
Frank Carr
Rosemarie Rocher
Don Stoicovy
Vic Zuraw

Class of 2002
Lynn Digby Baxter
Jonathan Bickham
Joseph Wesley Coltman III
Daniel Cooper
George Davis
Amy Snyder Kaminski
Simona Pautler
Linda Decker Steindorf
Norman Wagner
William Warren
Kathy DeBlassio
Joseph Ferderbar*
Ann Gladden
Jane Hollman
George McClintock
Alex Perinis
Paul Pryor
John Small

Class of 2003
Kavita Babu
William F. Froehlich
David Kimmel
Sean P. McHugh
Deirdre O'Connor
Jack W. Radke
Heidi R. Vollmer Snarr
George Betcher*
Bruce N. Carney
Charles Fleming
D'nis L. Lynch
William A. Pope
Stanley A. Zingle*

Class of 2004
Jennifer DePalma
Alan T. Popp
Richard St. John
Donnan Stoicovy
Barbara Carney
Herbert C. Kirkwood
James Saunders

Class of 2005
Shawn Douglass
Jack W. Elliott
Lesley Retallick Lee
Andrea Spadaro Morrison
Amy Purdy
James Purdy
Catherine Luke

Class of 2006
Joseph J. Buggy
Cheryl Bruno Gambler
Scott Hahn
David J. Lind
Catherine Moraytis Ulicny
Edward Callahan
Susan N. Hughes
Paul A. Schlachter

Class of 2007
Terrence Hammons
Rebecca Norman Harbaugh
David Mathews
Sarah O'Brien Zirwas
Walter Henricks

Class of 2008
Kelly Doran
Paul Savidge
Carissa Tener
Patricia Dunkis
Kathleen Kirsch

Class of 2009
Arlene Brown Baratz
Melanie Brown Fukui
Julia Scheib Martin
Christina Greenwell Mullins
Anne Newman
Vida Tyc
Terrence Kushner

Class of 2010
Jennifer Bell
James Eshleman
Aimee Hernandez
Brendan McGuire
David Seidenfeld
Thomas Smedley

Class of 2011
Alicia Avick
Michael Barnard
Michelle Boss Catucci
Nicholas Beck

Class of 2012
Amanda Stehura Dishong
Robin Williard McGovern
David Spagnoli
Linda Swartz
Gavin Williams

Class of 2013
Tara Babu
Eric (Rocky) Feuer
Noah Gray
Joseph Pickel
Jessie Ramey

Class of 2014
Susan Froetschel
Lisa Hernandez
Laura Rosenberger
John Irwin

Class of 2015
Jonathan Bayat
Barbara Spotz Johnson
Bill Maher
Michael Rees
Jeffrey A. Rudolph

Class of 2016
Todd Ollendyke
Karen S. Ho
Mahesh Krishnan
J.J. Plecs

Class of 2017
Deanna Baird
Kristen Clendaniel Clark
Richard D. Crowley
Lindsay Orchowski

Class of 2018
John M. Bornyas
Jean Kogut
Melissa A. Lentz
Karen M. Pillar
Shailesh Rao
Glenn C. Rice

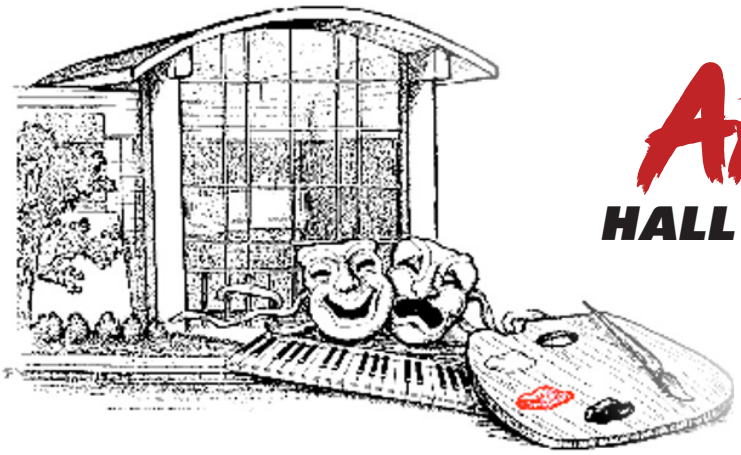
Class of 2019
Akshaya Kumar Chakravarthy
Dennis Chao
Dr. Dominick Frollini, Jr.
Elizabeth Wellington Jeffords
Melanie Wellington

Class of 2020/21
Ben Burns
Dr. Roy Phitayakorn
Karl Zelik

Class of 2022
Douglas Gibson
Natalie Hernandez DePalma
Matthew A. Lentz
Lisa R. Volpatti

Class of 2023
John Hellerstedt
Patricia Palazzolo
Eva Roy

**Posthumously*



ARTS
HALL OF FAME

Class of 2000
Stephen Chbosky
John Graulty
Laura Schrock
Ann Talman
Michael Werner

Class of 2001
Claudia Curley Benack
John Edkins
Wynn Harmon
Thomas Kikta
Preston Simpson
Tom Harshman
Linda Serene

Class of 2002
Ed Driscoll
Sean Garnhart
Martin J. Smith
Robert J. Gielas
George McClintock
Paul Pavlov

Class of 2003
Joseph A. Bonasso III
Caryn Wunderlich Gott
Randall Morgan Newsome
David E. Norton
Heather Page
Margaret Shortridge Werd
James Bennett
Obbie McClintock

Class of 2004
Jonathan Baker
Samuel R. Hazo
John F. Sholl, Jr.
Robert Truver
Charles Wood
Donald Mincher
Sandra L. Stein

Class of 2005
Meredith Bell
Gail Deibler Finke

Class of 2006
Dwight Kennedy
David Lander
Susan Forry Locke
Shari Shriver Opferman
Jessica Spencer
Karen Sommer Turnbull
Rick Valicenti

Class of 2007
Jacqueline Bayne
Marcia Froehlich
Ponny Conomos Jahn
Daniel Mazzarini

Class of 2008
Camile Hulin
Kristin McClintock-LeBeau
Tim Meehan
Douglas Williams

Class of 2009
Douglas Roth
Rhonda Schaffler

Class of 2010
Timothy Hobbs

Class of 2011
Matthew Mehaffey

Class of 2012
Kristi Olds Sogofsky
Glenn Ward

Class of 2013
Alexandra Mayr-Gracik
Megan Zediker Mullen
Paul Fox

Class of 2014
Amelia Guarino

Class of 2015
Tim Federle
Lisa Wunderlich Wetzel
Denise Wunderlich

Class of 2016
Earl "Bud" Marlett
Chelsea Baratz
Benny Benack III
Anthony M. Jeselnik
Mike Kopp

Class of 2017
Susan Matteson Carringer
Duppy Demetrius
Leanne Ford
Eleni Romanias

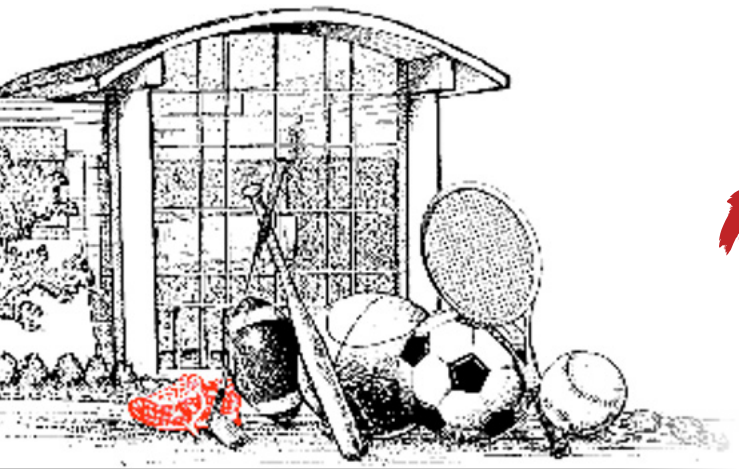
Class of 2018
Susan Lynn Castriota
Chuck Rea

Class of 2019
Sean McDowell
Emily Ann Reason

Class of 2020/21
Tom Griffith
David Moskowitz
Brian O'Hare

Class of 2022
Stacey Chbosky
Stephen Clink
Stephanie Maloney

Class of 2023
Jubal Battisti
Aditya (Adi) Rao
Susan Hofrichter-Watts



ATHLETIC
HALL OF FAME

Class of 2000
Missy Berteotti
Joey David
Jeff Delaney
Bob Johnston
Jeff Joyce
Marty Sieckmann
Dave Vanchina
Frank Vancin
Mandy West
Doug Whaley
Mark White

Class of 2001
Mark Battaglia
Sean Casey
Craig Dunaway
Mark Hondru
Scott Hawkins
Kathy Tomko Kappert
Laura Koerner
Jack Maitland
Marty Moran
Gary Schick
Nancy Tomich

Class of 2002
Kirk Ferentz
Cullen Hawkins
Joseph Luxbacher
Kevin Orie
Kristen Elias Pakela
Joseph DePalma
Willard Hartley

Class of 2003
John Bruno, Jr.*
Tom Cherry
Rebecca Desman
Lonny W. Harrison
William McArdle

Class of 2004
Tom Bogan
Katherine Haddox Clark
Nick Cullen
Beth Friday
Steven Tazza
John Welch
Joe Moore*

Class of 2005
Beth Babbitt Bales
Dave Barzler
Peter Smith
Sheryl Klick Strobl

Class of 2006
Gary DePalma
Philip Michael Dunn
Zachary Ellis

Class of 2007
Amy Lienhardt Hochanadel
Merel Hommen Wilson
Nathan Meerstein

Class of 2008
Lori Harris
Kyra Kaylor
Kurt Keller

Class of 2009
Douglas Harmon
Chris McIntyre
Leigh Sulkowski

Class of 2010
Sean Lee
Kevin Slowey

Class of 2011
Amy Balsinger
Daniel Cafaro
Bobby MacWhinnie

**Posthumously*

Class of 2012
Scott Dillie
Conor Lee
Catherine Talarico

Class of 2013
Alex Gensler
Todd Haley
Richard Saccani

Class of 2014
Scott Freund
Elizabeth Kline
Amanda Lohman

Class of 2015
Cameron Griffin
Jeffrey A. Rudolph
Aly Walker

Class of 2016
Oren Eschenasy
Michael McHugh

Class of 2017
Dean Astorino
Ernie Koontz
Mack McGuire

Class of 2018
Jerry Berteotti
Austin Wilding

Class of 2019
Nimit Bansal
Peter Coughlin
Coach Jim Render
Thomas Steve

Class of 2020/21
Dane Conwell
Emily Mueller Ciobota
Ryan Dudzinski

Class of 2022
Dakota Conwell
Brian Drechsler
Kyle Dudzinski
John Mascaro, Jr.
Robbie Mertz

Class of 2023
Emma Hasco
Dylan Reese
Savannah Shaw

Special Thanks

- Mr. Tim Briggs & the Custodial Staff
- Ms. Karen Chisholm & the USCHS Orchestra
- Ms. Kristie Dawson
- Mr. Ben Edwards
- Mr. Paul Fox
- Ms. Mary Beth Harkleroad
- Mrs. Kim Sullivan & the Nutrition Center Staff
- Ms. Laura Surguine & the USCHS Chanteclairs
- Mrs. Brooke Tarcson
- Ms. Melissa Tungate
- Mrs. Tina Vojtko

Student Leaders

- Harrison Barker
- Grant Casciato
- Dylan Childs
- Max Dietrick
- Natalia DiSora
- Bella Donnelly
- Gianna D'Orazio
- Lucy Dowds
- Robert Elliot
- Peter Markovitz
- Maddox Orendi
- Braidyn Recker
- Ellie Simons
- Lily Simons
- Emi Sobarzo
- Gigi Spina
- Cooper Stutzman
- Josh Wang

School Board

- Mrs. Jennifer A. Schnore, President
- Dr. Danielle Z. Wetzel, Vice-President
- Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas
- Dr. Daphna Gans
- Mrs. Kelly P. Hanna
- Mr. Justin Lamber
- Mr. Michael R. Mascaro
- Mrs. Angela B. Petersen
- Mrs. Hallie H. Snyder

USCSD Administration

- Dr. John Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools
- Dr. Amy Pfender, Deputy Superintendent
- Dr. Lou Angelo, Director of Operations & Facilities
- Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology
- Mr. Sean Bryson, Chief of School Police
- Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Curriculum & Professional Development
- Mr. Scott Burchill, Director of Business & Finance
- Dr. Lauren Madia, Director of Pupil Services
- Dr. Sharon Suritsky, Substitute Director of Special Education
- Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Strategic Initiatives

USCHS Administration

- Dr. Timothy Wagner, Principal
- Dr. Dan Beck, Assistant Principal
- Ms. Cara Senger, Assistant Principal

- Mr. Danny Holzer, Director of Athletics
- Mrs. Brooke Tarcson, Head of Activities