

— Spirit of Shelton —

THE HORIZON

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF SHELTON SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2023













2022-2023 Annual Report of Gifts

June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023

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The Horizon is published by Shelton's Communications and Marketing Department. This issue includes stories about the 2022-2023 school year and Shelton's 2022-2023 Annual Report of Gifts.

Suzanne Stell, M.Ed., CALT

Executive Director, Head of School

Lisa Kresl

Director of Communications and Marketing

Theresa Bruno, CRFE

Director of Development

Christi Contreras

Chief Advancement Officer

Kyle Belz

Digital Communications Manager









972.774.1772

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MISSION STATEMENT

Shelton is a school and resource center dedicated to —
making a difference — by serving and empowering
the lives of — students who learn differently —
Because Not All Great Minds Think Alike.

VISION STATEMENT

A world model in education — of individuals
who learn differently — through Education —
Evaluation — Therapy — Research — and Outreach.



In Memory of Anne-Marie Shiflet

This issue of The Horizon is dedicated to the memory of Anne-Marie Shiflet, a beloved administrative assistant for Shelton's Lower School and Upper Elementary, who died on March 11, 2023. During her 21 years and seven months at Shelton, she made the most of every day, loving and encouraging our students. In May 2022, Anne-Marie won Shelton's SPARK award, which stands for Shelton Parents' Association Recognition Kudos. At the time, she was described as "incomparable, joyful, and packs a punch in a small package." Head of Lower School Christine Davis told the Shelton staff at the awards ceremony, "She is the first to arrive and last to leave, and is dedicated to taking care of everyone in Lower School and Upper Elementary. She is an incredible supporter, encourager and friend, sharing with us her consummate smile, contagious laugh and servant's heart."

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Suzanne Stell. M.Ed.. CALT



Thank you to our wonderful families, staff, board members and alumni who do so much to support Shelton's mission and student experience. Our mission has never wavered. Shelton is the largest independent school worldwide for intelligent students with learning differences. No other school holds such expertise, experience, service and reputation under one roof. At Shelton, we want our students to know that to be diagnosed with a learning difference, you have to be intelligent. Our 285 teachers and

staff embrace and understand our students' learning differences in a way that helps them feel seen and accepted. As a result, our students are accomplishing incredible things.

We started the 2022-2023 school year with 1,060 students and ended with 1,088. Of those, 187 were new students. Our Shelton Parents' Association is like no other. We are grateful to the 2022-2023 Shelton Parents' Association, led by Co-Presidents **JoAnna Sudbeck** and **Gina Rangel Pena**. They presented a check for \$620,000 to our school at the SPA End of the Year Luncheon in May. Thanks, too, to the leadership of Stampede Auction Co-Chairs **Kari Grzych** and **Heather Shell**. JoAnna and Gina are continuing as co-presidents in 2023-2024, and the SPA president elects for 2024-2025 are **Kimberly Kahn** and **Leigh Erin Lund**. We are grateful to our wonderful parents.

Thank you to those of you who contributed to the Shelton 2022-2023 Annual Fund. We surpassed our Annual Fund goal of \$1 million and raised \$1.1 million. We appreciate Annual Fund Chairs Michelle Rivera and Chuck Marlett and Director of Development Theresa Bruno as well as the leadership of Chief Advancement Officer Christi Contreras and Development Officer Julie Griffith.

Student Accomplishments

Students are overcoming the odds and accomplishing great things at Shelton! The 92 members of the Class of 2023 received 376 acceptances to 162 different colleges and universities and earned \$9.6 million in merit scholarships. Thanks to the leadership and support of Director of College and Career Advising **Debbie Knox**, they are attending 50 different colleges, across 21 states.

- Valedictorian Callie Wakefield scored a perfect score of 36 on the ACT Reading and Science sections and attends the University of South Florida, where she is majoring in Marine Biology and running as a member of the Division I Track and Cross Country teams.
- Salutatorian Kendall Bernbaum attends Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minn., where she is considering majoring in Health Sciences and playing basketball.
- Ten of our seniors scored 30 or higher on ACT Composite, and 23 scored 30 or higher on the ACT Reading.
- Nine members of the Class of 2023 committed to play sports in college in five sports:
 - Tucker Bauer, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Baseball
 - Kendall Bernbaum, Macalester College, Basketball

- Clay Brandenburg, Hendrix College, Baseball and Football
- Hank Davis, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Baseball
- Spencer Orth, Southwestern University, Track & Field
- Charles Reeg, Emerson College, Cross Country
- Zac Robison, University of Puget Sound, Football
- Callie Wakefield, University of South Florida, Cross Country, Track & Field
- Grant Young, Colorado State University at Pueblo, Track & Field
- Maisie Doerr completed a year-long audition process that led to an acceptance into the prestigious Musical Theatre BFA program at Boston Conservatory at Berklee.
- Charles Reeg attends Emerson College to study film and media arts, which is one of the top programs in the country. In addition, our seniors contributed more than 3,997 hours of community service.

Fine Arts

Thanks to the leadership of Director of Fine Arts **Anné Hughes** and her team of talented teachers and staff, we had an incredible Lower School Spectacular and Week of the Arts with 45 choir students performing and 140 students participating in the spring band and drumline concert. Ninety Upper School art and photography students presented their work in the reception in the Gampper Art Gallery and 31 student films were screened at the Shelton Film Festival. Seventy-two students participated in the cast and crew in February's "The Sound of Music." In addition, 68 students participated in the ISAS Fine Arts Festival.

Athletics

Under the leadership of Athletic Director **Alan Burt** and Assistant Athletic Director **Michelle Rivera**, our Athletic Program had a successful year thanks to our team of coaches and support staff. Here are some of the highlights:

- We had 232 Upper School students and 215 Middle School students participate in at least one sport in 2022-23.
- Our cheerleaders won State for the second year in a row.
- The Golf team went to State for the third year in a row.
- The girls' Swim team, six Track & Field athletes and a Tennis athlete all competed at State.
- The Varsity Baseball team earned a playoff spot for the third straight year.
- The Middle School Baseball team won the TAPS Championship for the first time in school history.
- The Middle School D2 Volleyball team made the TAPS finals for the first time in Shelton's history.
- Middle School D2 Track won the TAPS Championship.
- Middle School D2 Boys and D2 Girls made the basketball TAPS semifinals.

Innovative programs

- Esports: Shelton's new esports team played Rocket League against other TAPPS schools. Our Shelton teams made the playoffs. The coaches are Corey Smith and Kyle Belz. Thanks to our Shelton Parents' Association for making the esports team possible.
- Words & Music Program: Seventh graders completed the 2023 Words & Music Program, which was created and facilitated by the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, Tenn. Seventh-grade English teachers taught this curriculum,

which helps students with the songwriting process from start to finish. Each class period had their own assembly to watch six to eight students' lyrics performed by Nashville songwriters **Chris Moyse** and **Savannah Keyes**. Thanks to Speech-Language Pathologist **Lauren Magee** for her work on this program!

- #WinAtSocial: Third-12th grades participated in #WinAtSocial, an initiative geared towards learning digital citizenship.
- Eleventh- and twelfth-grade students attended Shelton's 21st Ethics Symposium, "Evolving Ethical Standards in the Digital Age," on March 1. Thanks to our Upper School leadership team, including Zac Ladd, Jenny Cheatham and Christy Fowler, and our Director of Communications and Marketing Lisa Kresl for making that happen.
- Bass Fishing Club: We were excited to begin the Shelton
 Bass Fishing Club for Upper School students. Students met
 on Mondays at Bent Tree Country Club. The team sponsor is
 Tripp Givens and the coach is Ken Addington.

Summer at Shelton

Summer, The Shelton Way took place on June 12-June 30. Thank you to Summer School Director **Sara Harris** and Summer School Assistant **Jennifer Drake** and all the teachers and staff who helped make the program a success, whether it was an academic or enrichment class, the Scholars program, a speech course or a sports camp. More than 760 students attended summer classes, sports clinics and Scholars with 99 teachers and 20 assistants. Ninety-five students took part in Back-to-School Prep Week on July 31-August 4.

Shelton Speech & Language Center

Director of Speech & Language Center **Krista Norwood** and her team of six speech and language therapists, plus three traveling therapists, completed about 6,600 therapy sessions on six campuses and 2,000 screenings at 14 schools during the 2022-2023 school year.

Shelton Evaluation Center

Under the leadership of **Dr. Laure Ames**, the Evaluation Center completed close to 200 evaluations during the 2022-2023 school year. They worked with families from Tyler, Shreveport, Houston, Amarillo, Waco, Tulsa, Midland, Fayetteville, Austin, Little Rock, Oklahoma City, Texarkana, Tuscaloosa, as well as many public and private schools in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Shelton Outreach Training Program

Under the leadership of Director of Outreach Training **Christine Bedenbaugh, Joyce Pickering** and **Gulzar Babool**, Shelton Outreach reached 5,106 people in 2022-2023 through training, presentations, workshops and conferences.

Media Coverage about Shelton

Shelton was featured in Invest: Dallas-Fort Worth, which provides in-depth business intelligence through its annual print and digital economic reviews. In addition, Shelton was included in The Dallas Morning News 2023 Guide to Private Schools. Shelton's Director of Admission **Meghan Miller** was interviewed in the Guide to Private School's article "When Should You Apply to Private School" and Shelton's Chief Financial Officer **Kelly Van Den Handel** was interviewed in its article "11 Ways to



Make Private School More Affordable." Finally, **Anne De Haro**, Public Affairs Director with iHeartMedia, interviewed senior **Charles Mitts** and me on Oct. 12, 2023. This aired on all six iHeart radio stations in commemoration of Dyslexia Awareness Month.

Beckley Wilson Act for Dyslexia Education

We were thrilled when Gov. Greg Abbott signed into law the Beckley Wilson Act for Dyslexia Education, which is named for Shelton ninth-grader **Beckley Wilson**. The law improves a student's eligibility for special education services provided by a school district, including services for dyslexia and related disorders. Beckley, who used this platform for the past several years to speak out for dyslexic children in public schools, says she's grateful that she is able to attend Shelton because she knows that not all kids in Texas are able to do so. In her video testimony, Beckley said, "I am hopeful that this bill will pass and that every kid who is suspected of having dyslexia, regardless of their color and economic background, will receive a full and individual evaluation under IDEA. I am hopeful that when we are identified as having dyslexia that we are allowed to have an Individualized Education Plan that clearly states dyslexia. I am hopeful that the most qualified dyslexia therapists will be helping to do the evaluations and remediation. But mostly, I am hopeful that every kid can learn to read." We are grateful to Beckley and her mother, **Elizabeth Wilson**, for their representation and advocacy.

CHADD's ADHD Educator of the Year Award

Shelton's Instrumental Music Teacher **Ken Utz** won the 2022 CHADD ADHD Educator of the Year Award. CHADD, which stands for Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, is an organization that seeks to improve the lives of people affected by ADHD. Ken has worked at Shelton since 2003 with the Upper Elementary, Middle School and Upper School Band students. He began working with Lower School and Upper Elementary General Music in 2014. Ken received Shelton's SPARK (Shelton Parents' Association Recognition Kudos) Award for the 2020-2021 school year. In addition to his time at Shelton, Ken is the Vice President of the Music Learning Band Program, where he works closely with **Jerry Bishop** and their team providing instrumental, vocal and general music programs to more than 40 different schools.

Thank you for your support and partnership as we work together to educate our intelligent and resilient students so that they can continue to pursue their academic, athletic and artistic dreams.

DEVELOPMENT DOINGS

Theresa Bruno, M.A., CFRE, Director of Development



I hope you're enjoying the school year at the Shelton School, I'm excited to see what's ahead for our students.

Over the 2022-2023 school year, our Annual Fund focused on "Investing Today...Shaping Tomorrow." Not only did we surpass our \$1 million goal, we saw students thrive and succeed, whether through their academic accomplishments, artistic endeavors, athletic achievements or community service initiatives. Your contributions directly impact Shelton students and light the way to a brighter future.

Our parents look to Shelton as a beacon of hope, creating an environment tailored to the student. Learning differences are not viewed as obstacles to overcome but opportunities to empower differently. Our faculty teach the way our students learn. As a result, our students thrive and succeed.

Shelton students demonstrate determination, resilience and a thirst for knowledge. The school's website and Shelton's

Facebook page are filled with students' accomplishments from academics, community service and ACT scores to fine arts events and athletic games.

The 2023-2024 Shelton School Annual Fund "Lighting" the Way...For a Brighter Future" is about our students, and the opportunities we can avail to them like innovative programming, top-notch educators, personalized instruction and a strong, supportive community. It's about being the light. Throughout this edition of The Horizon, you will read even more about our students' many accomplishments and achievements made possible by the generous support and involvement of our Shelton community.

We are grateful for our community who help us continue to light the way for our students, families, faculty and staff. We encourage you to consider investing in Shelton students. Please visit www.shelton.org/support-shelton to make a gift or pledge online. We know you have many philanthropic choices and thank you for all that you do to make a difference for each and every Shelton student.

Thank you from our 2022-2023 Annual Fund Co-Chairs Michelle Rivera and Chuck Marlett "Investing Today....Shaping Tomorrow"

We are thrilled and humbled to complete our second year as co-chairs of Shelton's Annual Fund. During these past two years, we have witnessed firsthand the extraordinary generosity of Shelton's community.

Shelton's parents appreciate the unique and superlative education that the school provides to their children. A Shelton education provides opportunities that don't readily exist at other schools:

- Excellent teachers
- A low student-to-teacher ratio
- A state-of-the-art campus
- Specialized educational programs
- A full slate of extracurricular activities
- · And so much more!

We began the 2022-2023 school year with an Annual Fund goal of \$1 million. We are very excited to report that we exceeded the goal! Our Annual Fund Ambassadors provided critical support and energy and we thank them for all they did. We also thank everyone who supported the Annual Fund.



Michelle Rivera and Chuck Marlett

The theme for the 2023-2024 Annual Fund is "Lighting the Way...For a Brighter Future." The goal for the 2023-2024 Annual Fund is \$1 million. We know that the Shelton community will rise to the challenge and achieve this ambitious goal. It takes consistent and broad support from all corners of the Shelton family to sustain and nurture the Shelton experience. We are grateful to you all!

Thank you from our 2023-2024 Annual Fund **Co-Chairs Sandy Crosland and Celeste Zuch** "Lighting the Way... For a Brighter Future"

The 2023-2024 Annual Fund theme, "Lighting the Way... For A Brighter Future," is especially poignant to us. As parents of current Shelton students, we have experienced the darkness that can be felt when a child is struggling academically.

As a matter of fact, one of



Sandy Crosland and Celeste Zuch

the first thoughts a parent has when a child is diagnosed with a learning difference is, "What does his/her future look like?" Thankfully the Shelton School has been lighting the way for these children since 1976.

And the results are very bright. For example, the 92 senior graduates in the Class of 2023 received 376 acceptances to 162 different colleges and universities. In total, they received \$9.6 million in merit scholarships!

In order to deliver a high-quality education with a low student-to-teacher ratio, we rely upon our Annual Fund. Since tuition only covers about 85 percent of the actual cost to educate our students, the Annual Fund helps fill in the "gap." One hundred percent of your taxdeductible donation goes directly to support things like faculty salaries, student safety, campus maintenance and extracurricular programs.

So many of our students and alumni say that when they came to Shelton, "It was like a lightbulb came on." Please join us to support the Annual Fund and keep lighting the way for our Shelton students.



SPEECH & LANGUAGE CENTER NEWS

Krista Norwood, M.S., CCC/SLP, Director of Speech & Language Center



The mission of the Shelton Speech & Language Center has long been to serve students and families, at Shelton and in the community alike, by providing thorough and informative screens, comprehensive speech and language evaluations and speech therapy services of the highest quality. We could never begin to fulfill this

mission without our team of experienced and caring clinicians. Our greatest goal is to help our clients realize success by giving them the tools to better communicate.

The Shelton Speech & Language Center is available year-round to serve Shelton students, as well as to our clients who come to us from the community. Continuous therapy provided during the summer months is critical for many of our students

to prevent loss of skills and to facilitate the communication skills they have newly acquired. Camps provided by the Speech & Language Center are also unique in that they run for six to seven weeks, providing a level of intense therapy that is often required for children with significant articulation and language delays to make progress.



The seven-week Language Adventures Camp is the Shelton Speech & Language Center's longest running program, having been offered for more than 20 years. As teachers pack up and tidy classrooms in May, the Speech Center therapists transform space into a preschool area that is ready to host approximately 20 campers, ages 2 ½ to 6 years of age. Rooms are transformed into spaces that invite youngsters to engage with an environment that is immersed in language-rich opportunities.

For example, during Community Helpers week, a wall is decorated with vibrant orange and gold tissue to simulate flames near a pretend fire truck. Dress-up firemen uniforms, helmets and hoses hang nearby at the ready for campers to jump in and let their imaginations run wild. Each week, campers

enjoy activities, crafts, snacks and projects that are built around unique themes, including Dinosaurs, Camping and Bugs, Out on Safari and Blast Into Space. Each summer wraps up with Beach Week, which is complete with a splash day and sweet treats.



"I look forward to Language Adventures each year," says **Avie Nikolopoulos**, coordinator of the camp. "Since we're with our campers eight hours each week, we have a unique opportunity to not only get to know them, but to see them make incredible progress with their speech and language skills. It can be exhausting, but it's always

rewarding and fun!"

Parents consistently report favorable outcomes in their children's speech and language through participation in Language Adventures. "We have observed so many new sounds, increases in expressive language and improved ability

and improved ability to answer questions," says one mom.
Another camper's parent adds, "My child loved the themes and used the strategies at home. We are impressed with the staff and would highly recommend this amazing program."







~Student camper's parent

"My child loved the themes and used the strategies at home. We are impressed with the staff and would highly recommend this amazing program."

From left to right: Chelsea Maxey, Avie Nikolopoulos, Lauren Edwards, Krista Norwood, Lindsay Cobert, Melissa Powell and Stephanie Weatherford.

OUTREACH OFFERINGS

Christine Bedenbaugh, M.ED., LDT, CALT, QI, Director of Shelton Outreach & Training



Shelton's Outreach & Training department was created with the goal of sharing Shelton's teaching methods with the world. The goal is to train teachers in "the Shelton Way" — methods that are taught in Shelton classrooms. Outreach helps teachers obtain certifications and degrees in various remediation strategies so they can empower their students to learn how they learn best.

The Outreach & Training department also works to spread the word about Shelton to the world. Letting people know about Shelton and our mission helps increase our admissions, provide access to quality teachers and market our training offerings and programs.

Since 1990, the Outreach Teacher Training department has trained more than 3,547 teachers in the DuBard Association Method, Montessori, MTA-Multisensory Teaching Approach, Sequential English Education and Take Flight programs. Here are some facts about Outreach:

- In 2022-2023, Outreach impacted 5,706 individuals through training, workshops and presentations.
- More than 3,625 non-Shelton students have been helped through our Saturday Scholars Program. Shelton Outreach also has partnered with Wesley-Rankin Community Center to launch a Scholars program there. In August 2022, Wesley-Rankin expanded its Scholars learning difference program to serve students at St. Mary of Carmel Catholic School.
- The Outreach Teacher Training department oversees two large-scale literacy projects made possible by grants to help teachers and students in Texas and Mississippi.
- The Outreach Teacher Training Department has trained hundreds of thousands of teachers, parents and professionals in short-term workshops and presentations all around the world, furthering our mission to empower, enrich and engage the learning community.
- Members of Outreach serve on more than 20 national boards and committees. Staff participate in and help form new legislation, improve existing legislation and guide the future of services for children who learn differently.
- Outreach partners with Dallas Baptist University, which offers adult learners the opportunity to earn their Master's degree with training courses at Shelton. Currently, Chris Bedenbaugh, Joyce Pickering and John Hodges are all adjunct professors at DBU.

Meet the Outreach Staff Christine Bedenbaugh

MAE, LDT, CALT, QI, Director of Shelton Outreach Teacher Training and Educational Diagnostician

Christine "Chris" is the director of Shelton's Outreach Teacher Training department. You won't typically find her in her office, as she is usually out training teachers in Texas and Alabama. She is also the director of SALA/MTA (Shelton Academic Language Approach/Multisensory Training Approach) and SARA-Take Flight (Shelton Academic Reading Approach). For the 2022-2023 school year, Chris delivered more than 77 trainings and short-term workshops.

Dr. Joyce Pickering

SLP/CCC, CALT, QI, LDT, AMS-EC, HUM.D., Executive Director Emerita

As the creator of the SEE (Sequential English Education) program, Dr. Pickering has promoted several special projects utilizing the SEE method. These projects have brought the skill of reading to thousands of children across the world. She also established the MACAR (Montessori Applied to Children At Risk) program, which provides unique guidance to many children at risk. Dr. Pickering is a widely sought after keynote speaker and gives many presentations a year. As the founder of Outreach, Dr. Pickering is an unwavering advocate for students who learn differently.

Gulzar Babool

M.A., AMS EI-II, Administrator, NAMTA WSMC, Director, Shelton Montessori Training

Gulzar is passionate about Montessori and is an avid advocate for students with learning differences. This year, she guided more than 239 students through the MACTE and AMS Montessori certification process, graduating more than 266 students from our program. Gulzar develops content, establishes many virtual deliverables and continues to be a leader in the Montessori space. In addition to being a Montessorian for over 20 years, Gulzar is currently pursuing her Doctorate degree in Educational Leadership at Southern Methodist University, where she researches the utilization of a multisensory approach to teach reading to students with dyslexia. She is also a frequent speaker at the American Montessori Society (AMS) national conference and at schools across the country. Gulzar was a panelist at the last two AMS national conferences, where she shared her knowledge and expertise on the Montessori philosophy and learning differences.

Suzanne Crawford

M.Ed., LDT, CALT-QI, Educational Diagnostician and Outreach Instructor

After 11 years in Shelton's Middle School, Suzanne now works with adult learners who are passionate about making a difference in the lives of students with dyslexia. As an Outreach Instructor, she is responsible for training and supporting adult learners in MTA and all curricula developed by the Center for Dyslexia at Scottish Rite for Children.



Danyle Duke CALT-ICALP, LDT, SEE Program Training Coordinator

Danyle trains teachers in the SEE Program, expertly guiding them on the pathway to certification with IMSLEC, ALTA and/or IDA. She manages records for SEE Teaching, Therapy and Instructor Levels to ensure trainees meet certification requirements.



John Hodges

M.A., CALT, QI, Director of the North Mississippi Literacy Project

John serves as the director of the North Mississippi Literacy Project (NMLP). Now in its third year, this program has successfully conducted workshops and training sessions on early literacy and Sequential English Education (SEE). The 121 teachers who have benefitted from this training have gone on to share their knowledge with more than 700 students in Pre-K through second grade. John is also pursuing his doctoral degree at DBU.



Jessica Newman

CCC-SLP, M.A., CALT, QI, Shelton Scholars Program Coordinator, SEE & Association Supervisor

Jessica trains and observes teachers and provides feedback, helping teachers individualize their therapy. As the coordinator of the Scholars program, she benchmarks students, groups students, hires and trains tutors and more. Scholars serves students in our community by providing low-cost reading tutoring. Jessica started working as a tutor in the Scholars program when she was in high school 25 years ago. Jessica also helps Outreach by training and delivering short-term workshops in the community.



Consuela Teague

Outreach Teacher Training Programs Associate and Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator

Consuela supports the planning, implementation and evaluation of Take Flight and MTA programs. She also coordinates activities, manages logistics, and ensures effective communication among participants. In addition, Consuela handles billing, processes the Outreach storefront orders and coordinates website updates.



Finally, two members of Outreach help behind the scenes. **Andrea Reynolds** is Joyce's assistant and **Marisa Villarreal** works as Chris' assistant, helping with MTA and Take Flight trainings by documenting student hours, coursework and exams. She also assists with technology, helps coordinate off-site workshops and puts together training materials.











SHELTON EVALUATION CENTER

Laure Ames, Ph.D., Director



The Shelton Evaluation Center works with students who have dyslexia on a weekly basis. The International Dyslexia Association defines dyslexia in the following way: "Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language

that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge."

Despite years of research into what dyslexia is and how it can be remediated, as well as both state and federal laws requiring the identification and servicing of dyslexia, parents frequently struggle to get their child identified and served. I struggled for years to get my own son identified and served in his public school, and I hear the same frustration that I had from parents today.

Dyslexic students are not a small number of students in our population. According to Dr. Sally Shaywitz, co-director of the Yale Center for Dyslexia & Creativity, "Dyslexia affects one out of five people. Dyslexia is the most common reading disability - 20 percent of the population is struggling with this hidden disability. It crosses racial, ethnic and socioeconomic lines. With proper instruction and accommodations, it can be remediated. Many students remain undiagnosed and untreated. As a result, they struggle with the impact of their dyslexia. The diagnosis and treatment remain elusive in public schools, and even more so in urban school populations and African American and Latino communities."

Recent statistics show that only 15 percent of fourth graders read on grade level in a local public school system in Dallas. The results of reading failure impact students, families and society. Dr. Reid Lyon, chief of the Child Development and Behavior Branch of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) at the National Institutes of Health, addressed Congress in 2001 and stated that, "The educational and public health consequences of this level of reading failure are dire. Of the 10 to 15 percent of children who will eventually drop out of school, over 75 percent will report difficulties learning to read. Likewise, only 2 percent of students receiving special or compensatory education for difficulties learning to read will complete a four-year college program. Surveys of adolescents and young adults with criminal records indicate that at least half have reading difficulties, and in some states the size of prisons a decade in the future is predicted by fourth grade reading failure rates. Approximately half of children and adolescents with a history of substance abuse have reading problems. It goes without saying that failure to learn to read places children's futures and lives at risk for highly deleterious outcomes. It is for this reason that the NICHD considers reading failure to reflect a national public health problem."

Remembering my son's struggles, my attempts to advocate for him and students like him, and knowing how important it is to identify dyslexia and intervene early, I have watched in awe as a group of dedicated parents with Decoding Dyslexia, educational advocates and lawmakers have worked tirelessly over the last several years to clarify existing laws in support of dyslexic students. House Bill 3928, named for Shelton student Beckley Wilson, is the latest result of that dedication. Because of this new law, students with dyslexia and families have access to the unique educational rights of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Schools must offer evaluations for dyslexia via IDEA and include all areas of suspected disability (vs. the previous limited, dyslexia-only evaluations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973). Significantly, the identification of dyslexia (or any Specific Learning Disability) no longer requires a significant

> variance among specific areas of cognitive function or between specific areas of cognitive function and academic achievement, an invalid identification model used for years in our schools. Further, the IDEA multidisciplinary evaluation team must include a highly trained member with specific knowledge about the reading process, dyslexia and related disorders and dyslexia instruction. This person's signature is required to ensure dyslexia professionals are not excluded from new district evaluation practices under IDEA. And finally, the law requires school boards to create a policy requiring compliance with the Texas Dyslexia Handbook and subsequent TEA guidance.

Dr. Shaywitz has said that it is "inexcusable" to miss the diagnosis of dyslexia as it can "determine the course of a child's life." Maybe this is the real progress needed to resolve the inequity often experienced by our dyslexic students.



From left: Joni Williams, Debbie Ripchick, Stephanie McCain and Dr. Laure Ames.

FROM THE ASSOCIATE HEADS OF SCHOOL

Mellany Barnett and Amy Cushner, Associate Heads of School





Mellany Barnett

Amy Cushner

Shelton Celebrates Seniors All Year

Senior year is a special time for students and we want it to be extraordinary at Shelton. Upper School works with the senior liaisons from Shelton's Parents' Association to offer senior privileges and host special senior-only events throughout the year. Upper School teacher **Christy Fowler** serves as the Upper School Events Coordinator.

The fun begins in the summer, when a special logo is chosen for the senior class. Parent liaisons deliver signs with the Shelton senior logo to each senior's house. In August, seniors are treated to doughnuts and a time for fun photo ops on their last first day of school. Each senior receives a t-shirt and sweatshirt with the class logo.



Many seniors participate in the tradition of painting their parking spots. Parents and teachers enjoy time together in the parking lot watching the creativity and collaboration.

Early September brings the Senior Hero Night Ceremony, when each senior choses someone who has made a difference in their life as a hero. Students choose a family member, teacher, coach or family friend and read a short speech about this special person. This meaningful event deepens friendships and builds confidence as each one shares from the heart, speaking to an audience of more than 200.

The school-wide Adopt-a-Senior program involves all students from Early Childhood to eighth grade. Each advisory "adopts" a senior who will visit their class for a variety of activities. Teachers often choose a student they taught in class years earlier. Seniors visit the advisory for an interview and talk about their interests, school activities and plans for the future. The senior becomes a superstar to the younger students who love seeing them around campus. In the spring, the seniors plan and lead an activity for their advisory.

The year ends with advisories giving the senior a good luck basket with items related to their college or career.

Rally Days are another favorite tradition for the seniors. Our SPA parents choose a theme and organize games, bounce

houses, cake walks and a special lunch on four days of the year. Students earn points for their advisory by participating in the contests, and the winning advisory gets a prize.

The Senior Retreat is a special day held off campus at the home of one of the students. Students enjoy breakfast and team building activities, then receive special letters from friends and family members.

The Senior Lounge is a special place on campus for seniors only. Students spend their study hall periods there working, relaxing, playing games or working on college and scholarship applications with Director of College and Career Advising **Debbie Knox**. You often hear a loud bell ring as Mrs. Knox announces each time a student is accepted into a college.

Spring events include a Community Service Day when our seniors work as a group to give back to an organization in the Dallas area. After the day of service, the class spends a day at Trinity Forest Adventure Park. The park has an aerial obstacle course and zip lines and encourages each student to "face your fears, push your limits and experience a new kind of adventure!"



The year ends with Senior Shred Day, when students decorate their uniforms with their college colors and/or "shred" it in celebration of the last day it has to be worn. Seniors are treated to a final party to celebrate together and a special graduation ceremony for students, families and our teachers.

We hope seniors end the year feeling proud of their involvement and achievements, knowing that we truly celebrate each one of them and are grateful for the chance to do it. To the Class of 2024, future graduates and alumni, may you always have fond memories of your Shelton days.



Shelton Affiliates with National Organizations Shelton is a member of NAIS, the National Association of

Independent Schools. NAIS serves independent schools by offering research and trend analysis, guidance for leadership and governance and professional development opportunities for school and board leaders.

LOWER SCHOOL NEWS

Christine Davis, Head of Lower School



Dallas Zoo Visited Shelton

Dallas Zoo keepers visited Shelton on Sept. 22, 2022, and taught Pre-Primary and Primary students about a variety of animals, including a tortoise, parrot, anteater, Argentine Tegu and an African Penguin.

WeatherMinds Met with First and Second Grades

WFAA WeatherMinds Meteorologist Mariel Ruiz visited with Primary students in March 2023 to talk about the weather. First and second graders were engaged as they learned about the science behind tornadoes, lightning and the types of clouds.



Lower School Library Fun

Students enjoyed library fun with Elementary Library Media Specialist **Marissa Montgomery**.



Lower School's Second Annual Winter Parade

Lower School students and staff were the stars at the Lower School Holiday parade on Dec. 15, 2022. There were holiday songs, elves, ballerinas, super heroes, unicorns, Pokemon characters, MoMo the therapy dog and more! Families and friends enjoyed the sights, sounds and adorable floats.

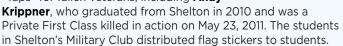
A Taste of the Texas State Fair in Shelton's Dining Hall

Chef **Christian Moreno** and the SAGE team treated Lower School students to Texas State Fair favorites, including corny dogs.



Veterans' Day Salute

Both Lower School and Upper Elementary students recognized Veterans' Day on Nov. 11, 2022, by thanking Shelton staff members who are veterans and playing "Taps" for fallen veterans, including **Andy**



Lower School "Spectacular"

Lower School students participated in the "Spectacular" performance. Students showcased their talents in drama, music, STEM and art in a variety of ways.



Montessori Methods

Lower School students used the multisensory Montessori materials to engage in their studies of the continents and mathematic operations.

Pumpkin Patch Fun

Pre-Primary students took a field trip to visit the pumpkin patch.

Boots and Bling

The Shelton Parents' Association created the Boots and Bling event for Lower School students and their parents.

Mother's Day Tea

Pre-Primary students hosted a Mother's Day Tea on Friday, May 12, 2023.

Lower School Celebrates National Library Week

The theme of National Library Week on April 23-29, 2023, was "There's More to the Story." In celebration of reading, all Shelton teachers and students, from preschool through twelfth grade, read stories in their classrooms from 8:30-8:40 a.m. on April 24. Middle and Upper School students read stories to the Lower School classes.



Lower School Awards Ceremony

Students each received awards at the Lower School Awards Assembly on May 24, 2023. **Davis Ferry** received the Shelton Parents' Association Lower School Scholarship Award.

Mayfest 2023

At Mayfest, Lower School students enjoyed a parade, pep-rally, inflatables, games, ventriloquist, hot dogs and hamburgers.



UPPER ELEMENTARY NEWS

Amy Cushner, Head of Upper Elementary

It's Book Report Time!

As annual as chicks hatching and flowers blooming, Shelton Upper Elementary students participated in reading, writing and crafting all things book report. This springtime event involved so many aspects of strong creative thinking as students shared their books with friends.

We've Got the Blues

Fifth graders studied Picasso and his Blue Guitar paintings, then did some painting of their own. This made for a beautiful display of talent and artistry in the Gampper Fine Arts area.

Togetherness Picnic

Everything is better together in Upper Elementary. For two weeks in October, students took turns reading a quote about what togetherness means to them. The project culminated with a togetherness chain made by linking students' favorite quotes. These weeks of thinking about what it means to be "together" ended at the Togetherness Picnic. At the event, students enjoyed team-building games, took part in tug of war and sang the school song.



Upper Elementary Awards Assembly

Congratulations to all the third- through fifth-grade students who received achievement awards at the Upper Elementary Awards Assembly on May 24.

- Ariyana Shaikh won the 2023 Adele Wolf Award, which
 is given to a student who strives to give 100 percent,
 displays good sportsmanship, is a team player, is respectful
 of teachers and peers, portrays good leadership, shows
 academic interest and desire to achieve and shows a
 cooperative attitude in the classroom.
- Olivia Outman won the Shelton Parents' Association Upper Elementary Scholarship Award.

Upper Elementary Spring Reading Celebration

Upper Elementary students had a blast at the Upper Elementary Spring Reading Celebration! They danced to fun tunes, had frozen treats and received a new book. The 14 participants who read all 25 books and turned in a project received a trophy and Barnes & Noble gift card.

Upper Elementary Visual Arts Showcase

Upper Elementary students showcased their work at the UE Visual Art Showcase on May 17.



Upper Elementary STEM

Upper Elementary STEM classes performed crash tests, explored two different types of lava and learned how to calculate pi.

Mayfest 2023

What a beautiful Mayfest on Friday, May 5! Students enjoyed the pep rally, senior salute, games, scavenger hunts and more.



Chef Christian Moreno

and staff treated students to burgers, hot dogs and cookies.

Poetry Jam

Students in **Ms. Lisa King's** and **Mrs. Cheryl Prince's** fifth-grade advisories participated in Poetry Jam. Throughout April, which is National Poetry Month, students wrote a variety of poems, including the use of Midjourney Al, to complement their haikus. Each student crafted a poem portfolio and presented their favorites.

Upper Elementary News

Congratulations to the Upper Elementary News team. Stories in the monthly student-produced Upper Elementary News team included a story about Milen Mathai corresponding with the president, profiles of UE advisories, jokes and a list of students' weekend activities. The UE News team members were Tucker Rhodes, Ariyana Shaikh, Enzo Wanderley, Isabella Sterlacci, Jaxson Placourakis and UE News Club sponsor Susmita Sarma.



Caleb Davis Was Chosen for Virtual Author Visit

Fourth-grader **Caleb Davis** was selected for a Scholastic Book Club virtual author visit with **Tami Charles** and **Bryan Collier**, the author and illustrator of "We are Here," on Feb. 22. Caleb was chosen because of his powerful observations and questions, as well as his respect for the author's writing.



Read Across America Day

Shelton students celebrated National Read Across America Day on March 2 by listening to Pulitzer Prize winner and author Alice Walker's "Sweet People Are Everywhere." In the book,

students take a trip around the world and discover sweet people in different countries. Mrs. Clare Stein's fifth-grade advisory was so inspired by the book that they located each country that was mentioned on their world map. After reading, they each shared about a sweet person in their lives.



WinAtSocial — It's a Win!

Upper Elementary participates in a program to teach digital citizenship to our students. This program also includes a component to help parents understand and participate in these critical conversations with their child.

Spoiled by Shelton Parents' Association

The Shelton Parents' Association (SPA) provided a great send-off into summer with a surprise: a popsicle truck! All smiles were coated with colored syrup and chocolate!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Patricia Gallaher, Head of Middle School

With 350 students in 2022-2023, the Middle School remained busy with academics, electives, class trips and special events, including the Texas Food Festival, the Interactive Cultural Garden, the Student Council Cake Walk, Valentine candy bar sales, spring sports and after-school clubs. Middle School students in our 36 advisories worked hard in their academic classes, electives and social skills program. Middle School teachers used multisensory instruction to reach all types of learners and supported students in developing organizational and study skills. Advisors utilized the WinAtSocial program to develop digital literacy and citizenship skills and work on conflict resolution and self-care.

Electives

Middle School students took Visual Art, Instrumental Band and Drumline, Drama, PE and Dance, Vocal Music, STEM, Coding, Life Hacks, Digital Photography, Woodworking and more. Eighth-grade woodworkers learned how to operate power tools, work safely in the shop and design and build a cutting board to take home. The seventh-grade Vocal Music class worked on solos and duets from popular Broadway musicals, including "Mamma Mia," "Waitress," "The Book of Mormon," "Hamilton" and more. In the eighth-grade Vocal Music class, students finished the year by performing scenes and songs from the musical "Little Women." In Visual Arts, students were



inspired by the work of Brazilian artist **Roberto Britto** and the way he uses patterns and bright colors in his paintings. Each student designed and painted a self-portrait in the style of Britto. Once completed, they added their portrait to a large collaborative painting. Hidden in the painting are fun references to other artists that students studied, including **René Magritte**.

Words and Music

The Words and Music Program is an engaging addition to our seventh-grade English curriculum facilitated by the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville, Tenn. After completing a 10-lesson Songwriting Unit, students wrote lyrics reflecting their experiences and perspectives. These student lyrics were then submitted to the Country Music Hall of Fame, where Nashville songwriters **Chris Moyse** and **Savannah Keyes** selected six to eight student lyrics per class period to put to music and transform into a real song. These songs were performed in an assembly broadcast from the Country Music Hall of Fame with various songwriters for the students to hear their songs performed live.





Seventh-Grade Texas History Trip

The seventh graders traveled to Central Texas for the Texas History Adventure Class Trip. Students toured the Texas State Capitol, the Bob Bullock Museum, San Antonio Missions, Natural Bridge Caverns and the Alamo. They also participated in community service at the San Antonio Food Bank and Haven for Hope and had fun on the Riverwalk Boat Cruise. It was a fun week that combined educational stops, team building and service.

Eighth-Grade Trip to the Great Smoky Mountains

The eighth graders traveled to the Great Smoky Mountains for their class trip. They hiked in the Tallulah Gorge State Park, visited Pigeon Forge and explored the Great Smoky Mountains

National Park. Students enjoyed a day of white-water rafting in the Pigeon River and zip lining. They ended the trip with a visit to the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta.



Middle School STEM

Middle School STEM students demonstrated their knowledge of the Engineering Design Process by completing a variety of hands-on projects this year, including the Hydraulic Judo Robots and Clothespin Crossbows. They also created iMovie trailers using the 3D program TinkerCAD. Students worked together to create 3D characters and settings, import them into iMovie and develop their own creative storylines. These projects helped to enhance students' problem-solving, teamwork and critical thinking skills.



The Middle School Student Council had an amazing year with 78 representatives and eight officers who met weekly. Students collected clothing items and blankets to



Students took on the Engineering Challenge to build a bridge from pencils.



Middle School students worked on a lab called "Flame and Freeze."

support the Austin Street Center, raised money benefitting the SADS foundation through our annual Valentine candy bar sales, organized a talent show during Mayfest and participated in other charitable causes. The Student Council finished the year with elections and elected eight new officers for the 2023-2024 school year.

Roller Coaster Physics Challenge

Eighth-grade Science students showed their knowledge of Newton's Laws of Motion, Kinetic and Potential Energy, Energy Conversion and Simple Machines



by creating their own roller coasters. They held a showcase for sixth and seventh grades to see their designs and vote for their favorite. This was a fun and educational way to wrap up the Physics unit and show their knowledge.

After-School Activities

After-school clubs continued throughout the spring, with students participating in activities that allowed them to explore interests and connect with classmates. On April 27, students in Band and Drumline performed a spring concert for parents and their middle school peers. Shelton Singers Middle School Honor Choir performed classic rock 'n' roll at its spring concert on April 28.

Sixth-Grade Awards Assembly

Congratulations to the 112 sixth graders who received awards at the Middle School Sixth-Grade Awards Assembly on May 16. **DeShawn McClelland** was the sixth-grade Shelton Parents' Association award winner.



Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Awards Assembly

Congratulations to the seventh- and eighth-grade students who received awards at the Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Awards Assembly on May 17. Some of the winners included:

- The Meredith Lyon Heart of a Lyon Award: Chloe Swan and Luke Denton
- The Nick Mentesana Heart of a Giant Award: Devyn Norton and Miles Schendle
- The Kierstin Eaddy Memorial Scholarship Award: Ava Wolf
- The 2023 Adele Wolf recipients: eighth graders Phoebe Rupp and Baron Pogir





Eighth-Grade Vocal/Musical Theatre Class Performance

The eighth-grade Vocal/Musical Theatre class performed scenes from "Little Women: The Musical." Student performers included:

- Sasha Fairman as Meg March
- Reese Olsen as Jo March
- Andie Yung as Beth March
- Miller Pailet as Amy March and Theodore "Laurie" Lawrence III.
- Special guest appearance by Mary Claire Melton as Marmee

Seventh-Grade Drama Class Performance

The seventh-grade Drama class performed "School of Nerds."



Robotics Team

Sixth-eighth graders joined the Middle School LEGO Robotics Team and participated in the First LEGO League Challenge. Students identified and researched a problem, then

designed and created an Innovation Project solution. They then coded a robot to complete their missions.

The Middle School Cake Walk Raised Money for Puddin' Pop

The Middle School Student Council sponsored a cake walk that raised \$3,789 for Puddin' Pop, an organization that supports children in foster care by providing new arrivals with care packages. Third- through eighth-grade students participated in the cake walk.





Interactive Asian Cultural Garden

Sixth-grade Geography classes researched various topics related to Asian culture. Students culminated their studies by showcasing what they learned with an "Interactive Asian Cultural Garden."

Middle School Athletics

Middle School Athletics includes cheerleading, volleyball, football, cross country, basketball, tennis, track and field, golf and baseball. Students also completed their first sixth-grade flag football season. The Middle School baseball team won its first TAPS Baseball Championship!



UPPER SCHOOL NEWS

Jenny Cheatham, Head of Upper School

Senior Events

Here are some of the special events and traditions celebrating seniors:

Senior Hero

Seniors choose a hero who is a mentor or has had an impact on their life. Seniors then write a description of the hero and why that person is a hero. At the ceremony, seniors read their description of their hero.

Homecoming Week Dress-Out Days

Students dress up according to a chosen theme for the day. A favorite is Dress Like a Teacher Day.

Senior Rally Days

These are special days when seniors gather during advisory and lunch to enjoy games, compete with other advisories and eat.



Adopt-a-Senior Program

The Adopt-a-Senior Program is an amazing opportunity for our seniors to interact with our younger students in Lower School and Middle School, helping to build the Shelton community and encourage senior leadership within the school. Lower School and Middle School advisories adopt a senior for the school year. The seniors then meet with their adopted advisory several times throughout the school year and participate or lead activities with the advisory.



Shred Day

In May, seniors shred and decorate their uniforms.

Senior Walk

Seniors wear their graduation caps and gowns and walk out onto the football field at Mayfest in front of the rest of the school.

College Reality Check

College Reality Check includes information about college, nutrition and fitness, scheduling classes and study time. It also includes

watching and discussing a video about college drinking and hazing.



Homecoming Dance

More than 350 students attended the Homecoming Dance.



Senior Brunch

Students in the Class of 2023 enjoyed a brunch with their parents followed by graduation rehearsal on May 19. Members of the class also received student-produced superlative awards.



National Honor Society

Since 2012, Upper School has had a chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS), a nationwide organization that recognizes students of high academic achievement. good character and strong leadership skills. NHS students volunteer, within the school and local community, to provide assistance and leadership by collecting items for food and sock drives and assisting with events at Shelton. Students offer assistance during

midterm and exam mornings to provide tutoring for fellow students to help them prepare for exams, which helps strengthen their academic and leadership skills. National Honor Society officers for 2022-2023 included:

- President John Bulmer
- Vice President Lily Attmore
- Secretary/Parliamentarian Ella Houstoun
- Historian Callie Wakefield
- VP Membership Hunter Padgett
- · Faculty Advisor Dr. Samantha Franklin



Student Council

Members of the Upper School Student Council partnered with the Shelton Spirit Organization to plan pep rallies. Student Council members also hosted the Homecoming Dance and a Halloween party for the fifth graders. Members of the Upper School Student Council included Tyler Primeaux, Ethan Proctor, Callie Wakefield, Kylie Gingold, Ella Trevino, Cade Bergus, Dylan Tompkins and Advisor Blythe Mundlin.

Former Dallas Cowboys Coach Jason Garrett Spoke at the 2023 Seniors & Parents Lunch

Former Dallas Cowboys Coach Jason Garrett spoke at the April 12 Seniors & Parents Lunch Celebration. He advised seniors to be mentally tough in the face

of adversity, not worry about the past and make a difference. "Shelton has a spirit that's palpable," he said. "Carry it into the world." Thanks to Mr. Garrett!



The Upper School Shelton Investment Club Hosted an Investment Panel

The Upper School Investment Club hosted an Investment Panel on May 1 with **Scott Cohen**, Founder and CEO of CD Wealth Management; Allen Custard, President of Pitts Oil Company, LLC; and Ronald Steinhart, Director of Penske Automotive Group, who served as an independent director of eight public companies and a Trustee of MFS/Compass Group mutual funds. The event was organized by Investment Club members Henry Hurt, Matthew Steinhart, Truitt Davis, William Chloupek and **Peter Gum**. Thanks to our panelists for taking time to speak with our students!

Shelton Alumni Panel 2023

Upper School students and eighth-grade parents benefitted from the Alumni Panel on Jan. 5. Seven Shelton alumni offered advice on transitioning from high school to college with tips on receiving accommodations, staying organized, getting involved and resiliency. The alumni panelists included:

- Hannah Harmon (Class of 2020), Texas Tech University, majoring in Sports Management
- JD Zasa (Class of 2020), University of Alabama, majoring in News Media/Sports
- Maddie Orendain (Class of 2021), University of Arkansas, majoring in Fashion Merchandising
- Parker Crumrine (Class of 2021), High Point University, majoring in Sports Media
- Shae Galardi (Class of 2021), Southern Methodist University, double majoring in Applied Physiology & Sports Management and Applied Physiology & Health Management
- Max Ralston (Class of 2020), University of Arizona, majoring in Psychology
- **Aaron Hoffman** (Class of 2019), Austin College, majoring in Business Administration and International Economics & Finance

Thanks to **Debbie Knox** for organizing and moderating the panel.

Monday Shirt Honored Will Holmes

Teacher Courtney Dios continued a Shelton tradition, guiding students to create a design for our Monday Shirt. The design winners take a field trip to a local design firm. Kendall Creative, for a tour and a round table discussion leading to the final product.



Congratulations to students

Zachary Cole, Jack Henry Grace, Ethan

Gulden and Luke Noller, who helped create the design for the 2022-2023 Monday Shirt in memory of Will Holmes, a Shelton ninth grader who passed away in November 2021. All four of these students said that they met Will "accidentally" and he became one of the most important people in their lives. Will was a student who encompassed what Shelton is all about. He was kind, enthusiastic about learning, active in drumline, was never afraid to try new things, always willing to help out with any event at school and was a genuinely all-around great person. When new students joined Shelton, Will and his mother reached out to their parents and met on a Sunday for dinner with other new families. Will wanted to make sure every new student had a familiar face and friend in the hallway at school as they got acquainted.

"We decided to design a shirt that honored Will and how he gave back to our community everyday," says Dios. "We made sure we included a fun fact, which was one of Will's trademarks. As we walk down the hallways each Monday morning as students wear this shirt. I hope it reminds us that kindness can go a long way and truly make an impact on each and every one of us."

Shelton Ethics Symposium

Eleventh- and twelfth-grade students attended Shelton's 21st Ethics Symposium: "Evolving Ethical Standards in the Digital Age" on March 1, 2023.



Shelton School

21st Annual **Ethics Symposium Evolving Ethical**



Activities included guided discussions, small group exercises and panel discussions with guest presenters. Keynote speakers and panelists engaged students with lessons learned from real-world professional experiences. **Leona Allen**, Deputy Publisher and Chief Talent and Diversity Officer at The Dallas Morning News, gave the charge for the day and spoke with students about the importance of ethical decision-making in their personal lives. **Kristin Kendrick**, Case Manager at Cafe Momentum, was the keynote speaker. She spoke about the value of second chances. Cafe Momentum has changed the lives of more than 1,000 teens by employing and providing lifeskills training to a staff of young women and men exiting the Dallas County juvenile detention facility. Panels included Ethics & Media, Ethics & Technology and Ethics & Sports.

Ben Stafford Gave His Engineering Project, a Video Game Cabinet, to the Senior Lounge

Congratulations to the Class of 2023's Ben Stafford. He gave his video game cabinet, built as part of the Upper School Engineering curriculum, to the Senior Lounge. As a part of the Engineering curriculum, students get to pick an independent project, called a "20% Project." The "20% Project" is based

on Google's idea that engineers could spend one workday per week pursuing an engineering "passion project." Building a video game cabinet was Ben's "20% Project." The cabinet has 60 classic video games for students and staff to enjoy. The cabinet has its own Instagram page where you can brag about your skills at Galaga, Dig Dug and many more old favorites. Ben studies computer engineering at the Rochester Institute of Technology.



Young American Talent Art Competition

Several Shelton Upper School students had artwork accepted into the Young American Talent art competition through Booker T. Washington High School in April, including juniors Jordan **Johnston** in jewelry and **Beckham Reid** in photography. The gallery reception and awards were held on Thursday, May 18. Jordan won third place in the jewelry category.

Upper School Trip to England

Some Upper School students and teachers enjoyed a 10-day class trip to London and Southern England during the summer of 2023.



FINE ARTS FEATURES

Anné Hughes, Director of Fine Arts

There is no doubt that involvement in Fine Arts promotes creativity, problem-solving, teamwork and self-expression from Early Childhood through Upper School. But just as importantly, engaging in the arts helps a student begin to understand the human condition in social, emotional and cognitive ways. These skills then translate into the academic realm, endowing Shelton students with greater confidence and perseverance in the classroom. Building resilience while fostering empathy for others serves not

only the student, but our school and greater community. It is a privilege and delight to work with our staff and students in this collaborative environment. Shelton Fine Arts continues to flourish in the expansive Moody Fine Arts Center. Here are some highlights.

Upper School Theatre presented the fall play, "Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare, Oct. 12-13 and 15-16, 2022, to near sell-out audiences. Sixty-three students participated in the cast and crew. In addition, more than 72 students were in the cast and crew of "Sound of Music" on Feb. 16-18 and Feb. 19.











The Gampper Art Gallery, located in the lobby of the Center, featured rotating works by Shelton art students of all grade levels. Gallery highlights included "Night of the Arts" in May, which featured 2D and 3D art and photography created by Upper School students. Artwork by Lower School students was displayed during the Lower School Spectacular in April while the third- and fourth-grade art showcase was held in mid-May, representing more than 30 works of art. Each of the gallery events included student tours of the artwork as well as a reception of light hors d'oeuvres.







Anné Hughes (left) and Lower School Art Teacher Gretchen Goldstucker



The Charger Daily News is produced daily in the Film Studio and editing rooms.

Upper School film students hosted the 2023 Shelton Film Festival at Studio Movie Grill-Spring Valley in early May. More than 35 films were screened to two full houses of movie theater patrons.

Vocal Charge, the Upper School Choir, held a fall concert on Oct. 26, 2022, featuring songs from Broadway shows. The choir was accompanied by piano, cello/guitar and drums. Vocal Charge joined Shelton Singers (the Middle School Choir) and Honor Choir (fourth-fifth grade) to perform their holiday concert on Dec. 6 in the Black Box Theatre.

Band and Drumline students continue to enjoy the spacious Schmidt Family Band Hall, where they rehearse for

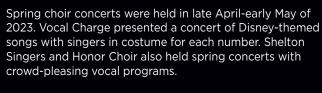
performances at pep rallies, sports games and Grandparents' Day. Their fall concert, featuring more than 100 band students, was performed on Dec. 1 in the large gym. The spring band concert was held in late April and again showcased more than 130 band students in fourth through twelfth grades.

Middle School drama and choir classes held performances at the end of each quarter. More than 24 second-quarter drama and choir students combined to perform the musical "Matilda, Jr." to two sell-out audiences.

Lower School art, music and drama ended each rotation with a video sent to parents highlighting the students' work. Lower School Fine Arts students combined to perform the Lower School "Spectacular" in April 2023. The performances included songs, dance and comedy skits by our youngest Fine Arts students.















SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

Alan Burt, Director of Athletics & Physical Education

Nine Athletes in the Class of 2023 Signed to Play College Sports

Nine members of the Class of 2023 committed to play sports in college in five sports.

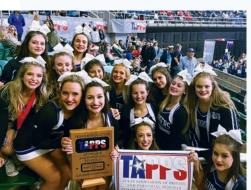
- Tucker Bauer, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Baseball
- Kendall Bernbaum, Macalester College, Basketball
- Clay Brandenburg, Hendrix College, Baseball and Football
- Hank Davis, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Baseball
- Spencer Orth, Southwestern University, Track & Field
- Charles Reeg, Emerson College, Cross Country
- Zac Robison, University of Puget Sound, Football
- Callie Wakefield, University of South Florida, Cross Country, Track & Field
- Grant Young, Colorado State University at Pueblo, Track & Field



Shelton Named Ed Barry New Varsity Football Coach for 2023

Ed Barry is Shelton's new Varsity Football Coach. He has been Shelton's Varsity Football Defensive Coordinator for eight years. He also coached the discus and shot put in Shelton's Track program. Previously, Barry was the Defensive Coordinator at Legacy High School

in Mansfield from 2007-2014 and Defensive Coordinator and Assistant Head Football Coach at Lake Highlands High School from 1993-2007. In addition, he was Special Teams Coordinator, Linebackers Coach and Track Coach at North Garland High School from 1981-1992. He received his Bachelor's degree in Education from Stephen F. Austin State University.



Varsity Cheer

Coaches: Britt Mitchell and Meredith Matthews Varsity Cheer won the TAPPS state competition on Dec. 6, 2022 for the second year in a row.



Varsity Football (TAPPS Division III-2)

Head Coach: **Marco Rivera** Shelton completed the 2022 season with a 4-6 record. **Clay Brandenburg**

earned TAPPS Second Team All-State as a kicker.

The team earned several District honors.

- Special Teams Player of the Year: Jake Riggs
- First Team: Jake Riggs, Linebacker
- Second Team: Zac Robison, Safety; Grayson Metz, Offensive Line; Taylor Ogden, Wide Receiver; Clay Brandenburg, Kicker
- Honorable Mention: Zac Robison, Quarterback; Grayson Metz, Defensive Line; Nico Rivera, Offensive Line; Henry Hurt, Linebacker and Wide Receiver; Jan Kruger, Linebacker; Jacob Woods, Running Back; Blake Fetters, Defensive Line



TO STREET OF SHELLOW

Photo courtesy of Sam Schachter

Varsity Volleyball (TAPPS 4A-3)

Head Coach: Danielle Dawson

Six students earned All-District Honorable Mention in 2022:

Kiwi Corrigan, Elinor David, Jesi Roberts, Lydia Stroh, Chloe Weiner and Kat Williams



Varsity Baseball

Head Coach: Ryan Fuentes

The Chargers finished in fourth place and qualified for playoffs in the TAPPS Division III-2. TAPPS Baseball Honors:

- 1st Team: Tucker Bauer, Brennon Uglialoro
- 2nd Team: Laker Lee, Joshua Schildcrout, Andrew Zuch
- Honorable Mention: Tucker Bauer, Hank Davis, Hansen Graham, Noah O'Conner
- Academic All-State: Joshua Schildcrout, Andrew Zuch

Middle School Baseball

Coaches: Gabriel Rojas and Elijah Gonzales

Middle School Baseball won the little TAPS Baseball Championship for the first time in Shelton history. MS Chargers won 13-2.



Shelton Spirit

Chargerettes Coaches:

Christina Rosen and Georgana Jinks

The Chargerettes had a great season, finishing third in the TAPPS State Championship. TAPPS State Honors:

- Lieutenant, 1st Team All-State: Makena Bice
- Lieutenant, 1st Team All-State: Summer Moreno
- Lieutenant, 2nd Team All-State, Academic All-State: Sydney Stewart



Varsity Golf

Head Coach: Adrain Hayes

Charger Golf competed at TAPPS State Golf for the third year in a row and finished sixth.

- Academic All-State: Alex Frank, Aaron Nowell
- All-District: Matthew Hebard (fourth), Gray Heneger (seventh),
 Luke Markey (tenth)
- All-Region: Gray Heneger (seventh)

Middle School Golf

Head Coach: Mark Lamoreaux

Middle School Golf had an overall good season while hosting our very own Shelton Championship. **Maddie McMahan** and **Merritt Wentworth** took home the overall prestigious Shelton Cup Championship.

Varsity Tennis

Coaches: Fred and Barbara Shlesinger

The team soared through the season as they competed in several local matches. **Bryan Selby** finished fifth in State. **Ford Myers** was a State qualifier and earned Honorable Mention and All-District honors.

Middle School Tennis

Coaches: Fred and Barbara Shlesinger

The team competed well all season, then participated in the TAPS championship.

Varsity Girls Track and Field

Head Coach: Cecil Young

Varsity Girls Track had a successful season, which led to second in TAPPS District 4A-2, sixth in North Regional and twelfth in State.

State honors:

- Callie Wakefield: fifth place, 3200 M; eighth place, 800 M; and third place, 1600 M
- Kathryn Johnson Pratt: fourth place, Long Jump; and eighth place, 400 M

Regional honors:

- Callie Wakefield: third in 1600 M, 3200 M and fourth in 800 M
- Kathryn Johnson Pratt: first in Long Jump and third in the 400 M

District honors:

- One 1st Team All-District
- Two 2nd Team All-District
- One Academic All-State
- Ten All-District Honorable Mentions



Varsity Boys Track and Field

Head Coach: Cecil Young

Varsity Boys Track had a successful season, which led to fourth in District 4A-2 and tenth in North Regional.

District honors:

- Two 1st Team All-District
- Five 2nd Team All-District
- One Academic All-State
- Three All-District Honorable Mentions

Regional honors:

- Henry Hurt, Taylor Ogden, Jacob Wood, Grant Young: fourth in 4x400 M Relay
- Grant Young: first in 800 M, third in 400 M

State honors:

- Henry Hurt, Taylor Ogden, Jacob Wood, Grant Young: seventh place in 4x400 M Relay
- Grant Young: third place, 400 M and second place, 800 M

Middle School Track and Field

Coaches: Autumn McCoy, Taiesha Olden, Devin Hinnant, Jeff Daverne and William Meloncon

Middle School Division II Boys won the TAPS MS Championship, bringing home 25 medals.

Shelton Chargers Relays Track Meet

Congratulations to the students and coaches who participated in the Shelton Chargers Relays Track Meet on March 4, 2023. Thirty-four public, private and charter schools took part in the meet with 1,300 on campus for the event. Congratulations to senior **Clay Brandenburg**, who won the triple jump and broke the school record. Thank you to the coaches and staff who made the meet possible, including Coach **Cecil Young, Phillip Carroll, Adrain Hayes** and **Hannah Morel**.

Lady Chargers Basketball TAPPS District Honors

Congratulations to the following Lady Chargers for their TAPPS District Basketball Honors:

- Kendall Bernbaum, 1st Team All-District
- Kathryn Johnson Pratt, 2nd Team All-District
- Kaitlyn Johnson Pratt, Honorable Mention All-District
- Jesi Roberts, Honorable Mention All-District

Swimming TAPPS State Honors

Congratulations to **Jordan Johnston** and **Lauren Johnston** for receiving TAPPS Academic All-State honors in swimming.

Charger Basketball TAPPS District Honors

Congratulations to the following Chargers for their TAPPS District Basketball Honors:

- Andrew Zuch, 1st Team All-District
- Carson Krumholz. Honorable Mention All-District
- Merrick Russell, Honorable Mention All-District

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OFF THE SHELF LIBRARY UPDATE

Kelli Yonker, Library Media Coordinator



The Shelton libraries are multi-faceted, full of stories, activities and connections. Students at Shelton visited our libraries to access information, collaborate on projects, study, meet or just relax. The librarians this year evolved with the needs of the staff and students. They collaborated with teachers to create inquiry-based projects, share exciting and new literature and share integrated library skills with the academic curriculum.

Authors Visits

Several authors visited Shelton throughout the year. **Dorayne Breedlove**, a Native-American storyteller, delighted Lower Elementary students with stories, music and artifacts during Native American Heritage Month.

Lower Elementary students were surprised with a virtual visit from authors **John Schu** and **Kate DiCamillo**. The big screen in the Black Box brought Schu and DiCamillo to life as they read aloud from DiCamillo's book about Mercy Watson, the pig with an appetite for buttered toast. During lunch, hot buttered toast was shared with the students.

John Schu, author of "This is a Story," "This is a School" and "The Gift of Story: Exploring the Affective Side of the Reading Life," visited Upper Elementary students in November. After sharing an energetic presentation about the gift of story and celebrating the work of several authors, he gifted each student a copy of "The One and Only Ivan."

Book Fair

The librarians held the Shelton Book Fair on Oct. 7-20. It was a huge success with more than \$28,000 in books sold, which means 4,500 books are in our students' hands! Upper School students helped Lower School students complete their wish lists. The coordinated events with dads and special friends were thoroughly enjoyed by all. A huge thank you to our parent volunteers who made everything run smoothly.

BY THE NUMBERS

56,057

Total cataloged items

56

Books per student (American Library Association recommends 18, Texas recommends eight)

28.485

Secondary books and cataloged items

27.572

Elementary books and cataloged items

21,787

Library materials circulated

386,694

Database searches

213.671

Digital pages read in the Learning Ally Reading Program

National Library Week

National Library Week was April 23-29. The theme this year was "There's More to the Story." In celebration of reading, all students and teachers from Early Childhood through 12th grade read stories in their classrooms from 8:30-8:40 a.m. on Monday, April 24. Middle and Upper School students read stories to the Lower and Upper Elementary classes.





Librarian Assistant Hali Garner, Library Media Coordinator Kelli Yonker, Elementary Media Specialist Mary Drexler, Upper Elementary Librarian Marissa Montgomery and Middle School Librarian Deanna Wallace.

Youth Creator Award Winners

The Shelton Upper School Library sponsored entries by 12 students in ninth-twelfth grades in the Texas Youth Creators Awards. This is an annual program through the Texas Library Association. Three students won with their submissions and were honored at the state library conference in April. The winning students were **River Evans**, who won second place in Black & White Photography, **Christina Cook**, who won second place in Video, and **James Chanez**, who won third place in Video. Thank you to the teachers of these students, **Evan Hampton** and **Hunter Duesing**.

Read Across America

Shelton students celebrated National Read Across America Day on March 2 by listening to Pulitzer Prize winner and author **Alice Walker**. Through the video, she shared her newest book, "Sweet People Are Everywhere," which is about students taking a trip around the globe and discovering how sweet people can be found worldwide. Middle and Upper School students learned about the author's book-writing process and her inspiration for writing the book.

Reading Celebrations

Lower School, from Early Childhood through second grade, participated in the Spring Trot Into Reading Adventure. One hundred and twelve students participated, reading a total of 1,107 books. Fifteen students read more than 20 books each. They were rewarded with a pizza and ice cream social, a certificate of achievement and a book of their choice. Ninety-five students participated in Upper Elementary's Spring Reading Challenge, and 14 of them reached the topmost goal of reading 25 titles. A total of 1,056 books were read by these 95 students. We celebrated by dancing to fun tunes, eating frozen treats, playing games and picking out new books. The 14 participants who went the extra mile received trophies and Barnes & Noble gift cards. Students in third-sixth grade were also given the opportunity to participate in the Texas Bluebonnet Program.

Library Staff

Kelli Yonker	Library Media Coordinator and Upper School Librarian
Mary Drexler	Early Childhood Librarian
Marissa Montgomery	Upper Elementary Librarian
Deanna Wallace	Middle School Librarian
Hali Garner	Library/Development Assistant

TECHNOLOGY TRENDS

Tina Larson, Director of Technology



The five-member Technology Team supports Shelton's four entities: the Shelton School, the Evaluation Center, the Speech & Language Center and Outreach & Training.

Traditionally, students begin daily use of a laptop at Shelton in fifth grade. In previous years, the laptops were stored on classroom carts, which resulted in fifth-grade students logging into a different device each class period. Beginning in Fall 2022, we piloted

the extension of Shelton's one-to-one laptop program to fifth-grade students as day users. (This means the fifth-grade laptops stayed at Shelton at night.) The students were taught how to use and take care of their MacBook Air. We were hopeful, but unsure of what to expect from fifth-grade students. Each and every student stepped up to the plate. Not a single laptop damage report was recorded for fifth grade — an outstanding accomplishment! In addition, valuable class time was not wasted logging in and out of classroom devices each period. Shelton deemed the pilot a success and will continue the fifth-grade one-to-one laptop program.

In Spring 2023, five lucky Shelton teachers (Jill Allessandra-Garza, Samantha Franklin, Laine Jones, Sara Brown and Meredith Moody) had the opportunity to participate in Apple Professional Learning. Over three days, these teachers were able to take a deep dive into native Apple apps and tools, including Clips, iMovie, Keynote, Pages and more. They also brainstormed ways to incorporate the apps into their curriculum. An Apple Professional Learning Specialist was on-campus to teach, coach and mentor the teachers. On Day One, the teachers honed in on which tools they would like to use with their classes. On Day Two, the teachers wove the technology into their lessons with the Apple Specialist as a team teacher. Day Three was used to review and unpack what went on in the classroom the previous day. Although the teachers were from different divisions, they were able to bounce ideas around and learn tips and tricks from each other. They were excited and invigorated and will share what they learned with fellow teachers. We hope to repeat this training with other teachers in the future.

New Role

In March 2023, **Stefan Babick** joined the Technology Team as a Computer Systems Specialist. With a B.A. degree in Arts and Technology from the University of Texas at Dallas, Stefan brings a new skill set to our team and thus allows us to further support our teachers and staff.

TECHNOLOGY AT A GLANCE

Service Tickets

2,696: the total number of Tekhelp tickets handled by the Technology staff

Email

25,000: average Shelton emails received daily

5,500: average Shelton emails sent daily

Hardware

1,335: number of Shelton laptops

218: number of Shelton iPads

Repairs

60: number of Shelton devices sent to Apple for repair between Aug. 8, 2022, and May 15, 2023

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about technology at Shelton, please visit **shelton.org**. After clicking on "The School," then "Technology," you'll find information on:

- Educational tech
- Policies
- Cyber safety
- Helpful how-tos
- Esports
- Third-party website operators

Technology Staff



Chris Brendel
Coordinator of
Educational Technology



Eddie MorenoComputer Systems Specialist



Corey SmithComputer Systems Specialist



Stefan BabickComputer Systems Specialist

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS BEYOND THE CAMPUS

Terri Wilson, Upper School Community Service Coordinator



One of the many beauties of volunteering is that there are endless ways to get involved and make a difference. Community service holds great significance to our students' educational experience here at Shelton. In 2022-23 our students volunteered more than 9,500 hours.

Here's a look at some of our students making a difference.

Aidan Jones, Perot Museum of Nature and Science: 120 hours

"I started volunteering at the Perot Museum last year. I am on the Teen Crew for the summer sessions. The Teen Crew at Perot exists to increase interest in STEMrelated careers for all teens. Being on the Crew also helps you develop skills needed to explore certain careers.



"A typical day can go like this. We meet in the mornings at 8:30 a.m. before the museum opens. This is the super fun part because we can explore while no one else is in the museum. We get 'top secret' information on the museum exhibits and we get to go behind the scenes. After this, we have assignments for the day. On some days, I was in the dinosaur exhibit and on other days, I was in robotics. Sometimes I helped with the elementary kids' camps.

"It has been a great experience for me to get hands-on instruction and to learn how to problem solve with other team members."



Kylie Gingold, Camp Champions: 100 hours

"For three weeks of no air conditioning. phones, or electricity, I did things every day like pick up trash all over campus and even on the highway. I served

breakfast, lunch and dinner to the campers. In the cafeteria, also known as the 'Fillin' Station,' I swept the floors, took out the garbage, cleaned the table and filled pitchers with Gatorade and water for the next meal. I also gave out snacks in the middle of the day. In addition, I organized the mail, set up many activities and led campers around all day. I will never forget how much work it was, but I'm so glad I did it!"

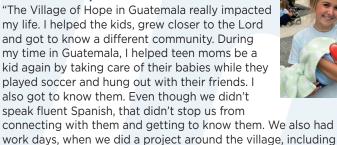


Feed My Starving Children, Juniors

Juniors volunteered at Feed My Starving Children on their Community Service Day. Feed My Starving Children is a nonprofit organization empowering volunteers to pack meals for the malnourished in nearly 70 countries.

Chloe Weathers, Guatemala: 50 hours

my life. I helped the kids, grew closer to the Lord and got to know a different community. During my time in Guatemala, I helped teen moms be a kid again by taking care of their babies while they played soccer and hung out with their friends. I also got to know them. Even though we didn't speak fluent Spanish, that didn't stop us from



painting a house or pouring concrete. I learned how grateful I

am to live in America in a lovely house with a lovely family."

Feed My Starving Children, Seniors

Seniors volunteered at Feed My Starving Children on their Community Service Day in the spring. Seniors made a



significant impact this year by serving more than 3,900 hours.

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden, Holiday at the Arboretum, Juniors Juniors volunteered at Holiday at the Arboretum.





Children's Hunger Fund, the Boys Basketball Team and Coach DeBryan Tyson

For the second year, the Boys Basketball team partnered with the Children's Hunger Fund to build boxes. The boxes were filled with food by the Children's Hunger Fund. This year the boys built more than 500 boxes. This has been a great opportunity for the boys to do something for those in need, but also a good time for the team to bond. This year was even more special because we also had parents and players from the Middle School team participate.

Nathan Spence, Camp Barnabas: 120 hours

"By working at Camp Barnabas, I learned how to work with people who have mental and physical disabilities. While I was there, I worked with twins. They could not speak so communication was limited. The twins were a joy to work with."







SUMMER, THE SHELTON WAY













Summer, the Shelton Way took place on June 12-30. The program had 760 students registered in academic or enrichment classes, sports clinics, speech camps and Scholars with 99 teachers and 20 assistants. Ninety-five students enrolled in Back-to-School Prep Week. The summer program featured Shelton's unique multisensory and discovery learning methods of instruction and was open to Shelton and non-Shelton students. Lower School courses included Lego Robotics, Broadway Kids Musical Review, STEM, Movie Making and more, while Middle School students participated in Drone Racers, Digital Animation, Esports, Minecraft, Computer Keyboarding and Organization Skills, among others. Upper School students opted for Essay Writing, Summer Reading, Algebra and Geometry Preview and Organizational Skills and Study Strategies. Thank you to Summer School Director **Sara Brown** and Summer School Assistant Jennifer Drake and all the teachers and staff who helped make Summer, The Shelton Way a success.





































STAFF STUFF

Shelton's 2022-2023 SPARK Winners

Eight Shelton teachers and staff members were the recipients of the 2022-2023 Shelton Parents' Association Recognition Kudos (SPARK) Award on May 25 at the End-of-the-Year Staff Appreciation Luncheon. This is the eighth year for the award to be presented by SPA. Awards were based on comments received in the spring parent survey. Each awardee received a crystal SPARK statue and a check for \$500. Thanks to parent **Emily Touchstone** for coordinating these awards and to parents for taking the time to send comments about our staff. Congratulations to those who were honored!

Lower School: Charlotte Fisher

Peers described Early
Elementary fourth-grade
STEM teacher **Charlotte Fisher**as "creative," "organized,"
"dedicated," "brilliant" and
"helpful." Students said,
"She is fun," "We learn about
teamwork," "She helps with
our mistakes." Charlotte is a
Shelton parent of two boys,



Charlotte Fisher (left) and Christine Davis

a Montessori-trained teacher, an Academic Language Practitioner and an engineer.



Cheryl Prince

Upper Elementary: Cheryl Prince

Upper Elementary's **Cheryl Prince** has generously given her gift to Shelton students for 35 years. One parent said, "Mrs. Prince is able to read my child, knows when she is anxious and instinctively knows exactly how to help." Others commented, "She is a true advocate and looks at all aspects of the child" and "Mrs. Prince brings out the best in our child. She got him to not only

want to read, but to love to read."

Middle School: Georgana Jinks

Middle School teacher **Georgana Jinks** is an avid reader who shares that passion with students. Parents described her as patient, kind and a good listener, and they appreciate the individual attention and support she gives to students.



Georgana Jinks (left) and Patricia Gallaher

Georgana has touched many lives not only through her reading and English classes, but also through Middle School Drama, Upper School Theatre and the Chargerettes.

Upper School: Kim Self

Upper School teacher **Kim Self** is described by her peers as "creative, enthusiastic, patient, kind and one of our favorite coworkers." Students and parents said, "Her expertise, knowledge, care, concern and overall instruction are unmatched." Parents also said, "She is a master teacher who holds students to a high standard." Kim started working in the Shelton Upper School 20 years ago and has



Kim Self (left) and Jenny Cheatham

taught Biology and now Reading. She is a Certified Academic Language Therapist and has tutored countless students over the years. Her daughter, Kennedi, graduated from Shelton in 2022.

All Around: Librarians Kelli Yonker, Mary Drexler, Deanna Wallace and Melissa Montgomery

Shelton's four librarians embrace connecting with students and encouraging a belief of self. Even though some Shelton students are challenged with the written word, our librarians have created a culture in which students flock to the area of the school where they are surrounded by written materials. The four have

cultivated a culture of joy within our libraries, allowing students to be transported by and immersed in books. The libraries are the heart of each division.



From left: Kelli Yonker, Mary Drexler, Deanna Wallace and Melissa Montgomery

Build-Your-Own Professional Development

Four Shelton staff members were selected for the Build-Your-Own-Development program. They received \$3,000 to pursue their development and share their experiences with their students.

- Mary Bashara, Upper School World History and Sociology teacher, traveled to Israel, including trips to Caesarea, Tel Aviv, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee, the West Bank, Jordan, Bethlehem, Jerusalem and more.
- Gwen Ziegler, Lower School third- and fourth-grade teacher, traveled to the Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Freedom Mine and Scandinavian Village in North Dakota.
- Anna Smith and Amy Delaney visited key science sites in Southern California for eighth-grade science and STEM, including Griffith Observatory, California Science Center, La Brea Tar Pits, Orange Coast Planetarium and the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles.



Gwen Ziegler





Amy Delaney

Anna Smith







2022 Shelton Staff Holiday Party

Shelton teachers and staff celebrated the season at a wonderful holiday party on Dec. 14, 2022. Thanks to **Christina Rosen, Laura Berend**, Director of Volunteer Relations **Shelly Lloyd, Chef Christian Moreno**, the Sage team and the Shelton Parents'



Association for making it happen. We appreciate the talented and generous staff members who donated door prizes, including Will Riemer, Kendra Murphy and Karen Shaw. There were treats, drinks, raffles and music from Shelton's DJ Ken Utz! Chuck Locke took a break from retirement to make an appearance as Santa and

read his annual holiday poem. **Courtney Dios** starred as Elf. Executive Director **Suzanne Stell** expressed her gratitude for the Shelton staff and community and wished everyone a happy holiday and restful break. SPA Presidents **JoAnna Sudbeck** and **Gina Rangel** thanked the staff. Staff members received

a Holiday Happiness check thanks to our wonderful Shelton Parents' Association. We are grateful for our generous parents for contributing more than \$102,000. Thank you to the SPA Holiday Happiness Chair **Heidi Snadon**.



Apple Professional Development Training

Congratulations to Shelton staff members Jill Alexandria Garza, Meredith Moody, Samantha Franklin, Laine Jones

and **Sara Brown** for completing the Apple Professional Development Training.



Shelton Staff Appreciation Lunch

Thank you to the Shelton Parents' Association End-of-the-Year Appreciation Luncheon Chairs **Nikki Ramji** and **Johanna Kern** and to Director of Volunteer Relations and Special Events **Shelly Lloyd** for organizing the lunch.



Gretchen Goldstucker

At the lunch, Lower School Art Teacher **Gretchen Goldstucker** won the Shelton Betty Glasheen Endowed Faculty Scholarship Fund Award. The Betty Glasheen Endowed Lower School/Upper Elementary Faculty Fund makes it possible for Lower School and Upper Elementary faculty to experience unique professional development opportunities. Known affectionately as "Mama G" in the Shelton community, Betty was active in every aspect of

Shelton life from 1979 to 2019. Betty often said to others, "If you're lucky enough to go to Shelton, you're lucky enough."

Congratulations to staff members who earned longevity bonuses, which are given to employees who have worked at Shelton consecutively starting at 10 years.

TEN YEARS

Chris Brendel
Glen Brown
Krystal
Cunningham
Donna Gonzalez
Lori Johnson
Avie Nikolopoulos
Dyana Payne
Peggy Purser
Taylor Smith

FIFTEEN YEARS

Melissa Dodd Sara Golieb

TWENTY YEARS

Laura Ashwill
Margaret Ball
Susan Collins
Joni Harris
Lisa King
Peggy Krug
Kim Self

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Mellany Barnett Amanda Dockweiler Eddie Moreno Elena Murillo Karen Shaw Deborah Shelton

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS
Cheryl Prince









Glen Brown

loni Harris

Peggy Purser

Pam Brockway

Shelton Celebrated Four Staff Members Who Retired in 2023

Best wishes to the following staff members who announced their retirement:

- Glen Brown, Administration, 10 years
- Joni Harris, Lower School, 20 years
- Peggy Purser, Middle School, 10 years
- Pam Brockway, Outreach & Training, 10.5 years













2023 End-of-the-Year Staff Appreciation Lunch

The Shelton student band Codicil helped teachers and staff kick off summer at the End-of-Year Staff Appreciation Lunch on May 25. Thanks to guitarist **Nate Milhizer** (junior), drummer **Charlie Raynaud** (junior), bassist **Trevor James** (junior) and vocalist **Dylan Tompkins** (sophomore).



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STAFF Q&As

Associate Head of School Mellany Barnett Loves Shelton Students and Staff

How long have you worked at Shelton? "I have worked at Shelton since 1998, for 25 years."

What are your academic qualifications?

"I have a Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M and a Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction from Dallas Baptist University."

What do you like about your job?

"I enjoy working with a team to solve problems and offer new programs and opportunities for students and teachers. In addition, I love the people I work with."

What do you like about working at Shelton?

"It is a blessing to work at a school that has had consistency in our leadership and our mission for many years."

What is one of your favorite memories about working at Shelton?

"The incredible eighth-grade graduation party at AT&T Stadium."

How has Shelton impacted your daughter?

"Lilly has been here one year and she is a different person. Now that she's a senior, she is happy and confident. She feels like she is seen and that she matters. It is amazing to see this from the other side after years of hearing it from parents in my office. It is the recognition, the compliments and the encouragement that teachers have given that helped her overcome anxiety and have the confidence to speak up and get involved. Our teachers are champions. My family is forever grateful."

Which of your Shelton colleagues do you admire?

"I admire the teachers who support each other like family and take the time to acknowledge the positive, helpful acts of their colleagues. I love reading the Sunshine Shout Outs and seeing the real friendships among our staff."

Fifth-Grade Teacher Jean Huddleston Loves Shelton Kids

How long have you worked at Shelton? "This is my 31st year at Shelton."

What are your academic qualifications?

"I graduated from SMU with a degree in Education (K-8). Later at Shelton, I received training to become a certified Montessori instructor."

What do you like about your job?

"I love the positive response I get when I tell people I'm a teacher at Shelton. They are always so impressed. As a frustrated actress, I love being 'on stage' and being able to relay stories of my life when they are relevant to our discussions. I love the challenge of looking for ways to improve my curriculum. But, most of all, it's all about the kids. Every year I think I can't possibly love the next year's kids as much as I did

this year's, but I always do."

What do you like about working at Shelton?

"One of the greatest things about working at Shelton is that I am so privileged to work with my fellow fifth-grade teachers. We respect and deeply care about each other. We are there for each other in the hard times as well as the happy times. We are all eager to share with each other, whether it's a suggestion for a lesson or advice on how to deal with a challenging situation. We are more than a team — we are a family."

What is one of your favorite memories about working at Shelton?

"Dancing/singing in the Shelton show for our annual fundraiser. I can still recall hearing **G-g Shryer's** beautiful voice and watching **Joyce Pickering** tap dance."

Upper School English Teacher Shelly Whitfield Likes Learning from Young People

How long have you worked at Shelton?

"I've worked at the Shelton Upper School for three years."

What are your academic qualifications?

"I received my B.A. in English at the University of Texas at Austin and my M.Ed. in English Curriculum and Instruction at Arizona State University."

What do you like about your job?

"I like learning from young people and re-visioning the world through their eyes. Teaching literature and writing gives us many opportunities to talk about a variety of issues and it gives me hope about our future when I hear young people discussing some of the most complicated challenges we face as a society. Our students often sound more innovative, rational and inspirational than the voices we hear on the news."

What do you like about working at Shelton?

"Our students and their wonderful brains! Shelton values the individual, whether that be teaching style or learning style. We strive to put best practices first, and this also includes having the flexibility to discover what works best for us as teachers and for our students. Like I tell my students and my son, learning-different students make learning better for all students, and they definitely make me a better teacher."

What is one of your favorite memories about working at Shelton?

"One of my favorite memories was during my first semester teaching at Shelton. It was the early fall of 2020 and we were still online and the students in one of my lively tenth-grade World Literature classes decided to all log in wearing funny, oversized hats. They didn't say a word, just jumped into the class warm-up, trying not to laugh. However, we soon were all laughing. Shelton nurtures those kinds of moments."

What teacher had the most impact on you?

"My 9-year-old son, Knox, has been my most inspirational and challenging teacher. I didn't know what I didn't know until he came along."

Director of College and Career Advising Debbie Knox Loves Guiding Students Through the College Application Process

How long have you worked at Shelton? "I started in January of 2016."



"I graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a B.S. in Education, then went to Southwest Texas State University (currently named Texas State University) to earn my M.Ed."

What do you like about your job?

"I love that I get to work with kids every single day, guide them through the college application process and spend time with them as they transition to young adulthood."

What do you like about working at Shelton?

"I like working with our students. They are appreciative of my help and tell me so every single day!"

Which of your Shelton colleagues do you admire and why?

"I admire each and every one of our Upper School teachers. I teach college preparation and planning classes to all of the ninth, tenth and eleventh grade classes. Every class period requires patience, encouragement, reinforcement, repetition and constant checking for understanding. Our teachers show up every day, every class period ready to teach their students and provide support to every single one of their students."

What's a fun fact about you?

"My husband, Tobin, and I have worked together in the same school for the past 20 years. He currently teaches Psychology and Honors World Geography in the Upper School."

Assistant Head of Middle School Will Riemer Enjoys Connecting with Students and Teachers

How long have you worked at Shelton?

"I have worked fulltime at Shelton for 19 years."

What are your academic qualifications?

"Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Therapy Level SEE Teacher, Montessori trained."

What do you like about your job?

"I most enjoy connecting with students and teachers."

What do you like about working at Shelton?

"I like watching students on their educational journey as they grow, learn and excel in both academics and extracurricular activities."

What is one of your favorite memories about working at Shelton?

"During my first year, I was head coach of the high school Cross Country team. The boys' team took third at state and the girls' team came in fifth."



"I've had the pleasure of working closely with **Amy Cushner** over the years when I was in Upper Elementary. She has been an amazing coach and mentor to me in all of my many roles at Shelton."

What's a fun fact about you?

"During the summers of my college years, I worked in East Texas as a rodeo clown at rodeos!"

Director of Testing CiCi Davis Enjoys Working with Colleagues Across All Four Divisions

How long have you worked at Shelton? "Nine months."

What are your academic qualifications?

"I am a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (LSSP) and a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP). I attended Abilene Christian University, where I received my Bachelor's in Psychology in 2009 and my Specialist in School Psychology degree in 2012."

What do you like about your job?

"I love that I am in one of those rare educational leadership roles that allows me to continue working directly with students. I couldn't possibly understate the joy and pride I feel working with my staff. I also enjoy the ability and opportunity to get to know and partner with all members of our community, across all four divisions."

What do you like about working at Shelton?

"The resources and support that Shelton is able to provide faculty, staff and families is truly out of this world. And, knowing that Shelton is such a pioneer and influential leader in our community and field, it truly fills me with such pride to say I work here."

What is one of your favorite memories about working at Shelton?

"My favorite memory so far has been the overwhelming support I've received from the community. Every day I walk into these doors, I do so with a happy heart."

Which of your Shelton colleagues do you admire?

"Director of Admission **Meghan Miller** is the best person on the planet! She is kind, knowledgeable, beyond helpful, keeps a smile on her face and is always so fashionable! She has been instrumental in helping me transition into this position."

What's a fun fact about you?

"I played basketball in college and have continued to play off and on in local adult recreation leagues. Basketball is a huge part of my life, whether I am working the clock, keeping the books, coaching a Special Olympics team or attending a local college/pro game. When basketball is involved, I am happy!"



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PARENTS' PAGE

Presidents of the 2022-2023 Shelton Parents' Association Gina Rangel Pena and JoAnna Sudbeck led SPA events from back-to-school parties, tailgates and a dinner for new parents to student social events for each grade and parent coffees. They also provided teacher appreciation lunches during parent-teacher conferences and hosted the Parent Mixer in the Shelton Courtyard on Oct. 1, 2023, and the Stampede Auction on March 31. The SPA Executive Committee meets monthly. Weekly

e-communication of SPA activities are featured in The

2022-2023 SPA Executive Board

Scoop, posted by Corrie Shores.

Presidents Gina Rangel Pena and JoAnna Sudbeck

Secretary Brandy Stafford

Treasurer Michelle Coppolino

VP Communications Corrie Shores

VP Lower School Leigh Erin Lundy

VP Upper Elementary Kimberly Kahn

VP Middle School Renee Johnson

VP Upper School Darcy Preheim

Corral Chair Michelle Rivera

Dads' Group Chair John Lynch

Stampede Chairs Kari Grzych and Heather Shell

SPA Liaison Shelly Lloyd

Shelton Parents' Association Presents Check for \$620,000 to the School

Thank you to the 2022-2023 Shelton Parents' Association, led by Co-Presidents JoAnna

Sudbeck and Gina Rangel

Heather Shell and Kari Grzych. Pena. They presented a check for \$620,000 to Shelton Executive Director **Suzanne Stell** at the SPA End-of-the-Year Luncheon on May 9. Thanks, too, to the leadership of Auction Co-Chairs Kari Grzych and Heather Shell and Director of Volunteer Relations & Events Shelly **Lloyd.** We are grateful to our wonderful parents! JoAnna and Gina are

by to the Shelton School

:123456789: :12345678901:

From left: SPA Co-Presidents JoAnna Sudbeck and

Gina Rangel Pena and Stampede Auction Co-Chairs

Six Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars-

\$620,000

Shelton Parent Association

continuing as co-presidents in 2023-2024, and the SPA co-presidents for 2024-2025 will be Kimberly Kahn and Leigh Erin Lundy. Jeremy Edge, LPC, IGDC, spoke at the luncheon about "Healthy Screen Use for Teens."







The Shelton School Parents' Association (SPA) raised money at the 2023 Stampede benefit auction on Friday, March 31, at the Frontiers of Flight Museum. Attendees enjoyed the evening with Shelton's "Summer Beach Party" as a theme. The evening included a cocktail reception, seated dinner, live and big-board auctions and musical entertainment by DeeJay Shelly.

Auction proceeds go toward improving academics, curriculum programs, arts, athletics, technology, professional development for teachers, our wellness program, security enhancements and tuition assistance. Proceeds also go to the Shelton Endowment Fund and the Shelton Scholarship Fund.

The 2023 Stampede benefit co-chairs were Kari Grzych and Heather Shell. Gina Rangel Pena and JoAnna Sudbeck are co-presidents of the 2022-2023 Shelton Parents' Association, which sponsored the event. Shelly Lloyd is Shelton's Director of Volunteer Relations and Events.



Executive Director Suzanne Stell thanked the parents, volunteers, sponsors and staff who helped make the Stampede a success. "We're here this evening for our students, who inspire us every single day," she said. "There is no school with more dedicated parents than Shelton, and we thank

you for that. Our Shelton Parents' Association knocks it out of the park every single year."

Shelton Board member Chase Evans welcomed attendees. Keith **Conlon**, a member of Shelton's Board who attended Shelton for middle school beginning in 1995 and is president of Allie Beth Allman & Associates, helped kick off the Stampede. He credits his years at Shelton for his success in college and life. "My beloved grandmother used to say that the Shelton School saved my life," he said. "It truly did save my life and I'm honored to be on the Board."







Shelton Parents' Association Events

Back-to-school parties

New parent dinner

Back to School Dads' BBQ

Fall Parent Mixer

Lunch with Dads

Book Fair

Sky Ranch

End-of-Year Luncheon

Staff appreciation lunches

Food trucks

Boots and Bling

Moms' Book Club

Monthly Zoom meetings

Division coffees in the courtyard

Thankful Thursdays

Teacher Appreciation Week

Stampede

Holiday Happiness

Dads' Group

2024 Stampede Save the Date

Let's get funky and blast...
Back To The 80s! Join us to celebrate everyone's favorite decade on Friday, March 1, 2024, at the Frontiers of Flight Museum for the annual Shelton Stampede Benefit Auction. The night kicks off at 6 p.m. and includes dinner, drinks, a live auction and a high-energy performance by the famous Emerald City Band.











Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 2022 Shelton Book Fair a success. We sold more than \$28.000 in books, which is more than 4,500 books in our students' hands. Through your generosity, you helped purchase new library books and expand many classroom libraries for our teaches. We appreciate our Shelton Parents' Book Fair Organizer Melanie Townsend. The Shelton librarians Kelli Yonker, Mary Drexler, Marissa Montgomery and Deanna Wallace thank Shelton parents and staff for encouraging the love of reading.





ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Stay Connected with Shelton!

Christi Contreras is Shelton's Chief Advancement Officer. You can keep up with Shelton alumni on shelton.org/ alumni, on the Shelton School of Dallas Alumni pages on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, or you can contact us by emailing sheltonalumni@shelton.org.

Allen Smith (Shelton Class of 2007) is an Air Quality Regulation Development Coordinator in New Mexico



Allen Smith attended
Shelton from first through
twelfth grade, then earned
a Bachelor's degree in
Environmental Studies and

Communications from Southwestern University in 2011. In 2015, he graduated from Vermont Law School, where he helped get legislation passed in Rhode Island addressing climate change. Allen now lives in Albuquerque, N.M., where he works as the Air Quality Regulation Development Coordinator for the City of Albuquerque Environmental Health Department.

Cody Olschwang (Shelton Class of 2017) is an Investment Analyst and Book Author



Cody Olschwang received his Bachelor of Science in Finance at the University of Texas at Dallas in 2021. During his time at UT Dallas' Jindal School, he completed six

internships, founded two organizations and was president of three organizations. He also participated in the Colloquium for the Advancement of Free-Enterprise Education. After graduating, he joined Meketa Investment Group as an investment analyst. Cody recently published his first book, "Mainline Business Cycle Theory."

Shy Anderson Jr. (Shelton Class of 2014) is a Football Scout for the Dallas Cowboys



Shy Anderson Jr. attended Shelton from third-twelfth grade, then earned a degree in Sports Management from the University of Arkansas. After graduation, he worked

with the University of Arkansas football team as a recruiter for a few years before moving back to Dallas to work as a Scout for the Dallas Cowboys. In January 2023, he proposed to his girlfriend, Tori Evans.

Will Kresl (Shelton Class of 2017) Works as an Engineer at Spirit AeroSystems



Will Kresl received his Master's degree in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Oklahoma State University. The title of his thesis was "Absorption

Characteristics of Flexible Wall Acoustic Liners." His research was on how acoustic liners can make jet engines quieter. He now works as an engineer on the Boeing 777 at Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita, Kan.

Preston Paine is Corporate Chef at Exxir Hospitality and was on the Food Network's "Ciao House"



Preston Paine attended
Shelton from fourth through
eighth grade, then graduated
from the Jesuit College
Preparatory School in 2011.
Next, he graduated from

Tulane University with a degree in Business Management and Development after playing college football for all four years. After working internationally for a year, he worked in New York City for the restaurant Eleven Madison Park, which has three Michelin stars. He then moved back to Dallas and opened Shug's Bagels. He was the Corporate Chef for Exxir Hospitality when he was cast to be on Food Network's "Ciao House." He is now executive chef at The Crescent Hotel in Fort Worth.

Mary Ruth Murphy (Shelton Class of 2014) is an Interior Designer for RH



Mary Ruth Murphy came to Shelton in second grade and stayed through high school. She graduated from the University of Arkansas in Interior Design and studied

abroad for two months in Rome. During an internship with Studio 11, she was a part of a team that designed the W hotel in Atlanta, Ga. Mary Ruth currently lives in Dallas and works as an Interior Designer at RH, where she has had the opportunity to design homes for celebrities and CEOs.

Paul Johnston (Shelton Class of 2009) is a Cook and Butcher



Paul Johnston attended Le Cordon Bleu Institute of Culinary Arts and works as a cook and butcher for Cooper's Meat Market and Steakhouse.

Lindsay Bock (Shelton Class of 2000) is a Reading Specialist at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School



Lindsay Bock attended St. Edward's University in Austin then transferred to the University of Texas at Dallas, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in

Sociology. She then earned a graduate degree in Education with a certification in Language Therapy from SMU. She currently lives in Dallas and works at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School as a Reading Specialist.

Ashton Wyatt (Shelton Class of 2013) is a Teacher at the Episcopal School of Dallas



Ashton Wyatt graduated from Texas Woman's University with Bachelor of Arts in Dance Studies and a Master's in Dance Lighting Design. She currently lives in Dallas and

works as a teacher at the Episcopal School of Dallas. On the weekends, she works the front desk at Contemporary Ballet Dallas. She is currently working on her certification in Montessori Early Childhood Education.

John McClure (Shelton Class of 2005) is a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones



John McClure graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor's degree in Communications in 2010. After college, he went on a National Outdoors Leadership School

trip to Australia, where he kayaked in the Dampier Archipelago and hiked through the King Leopold mountain ranges. When he returned home, John started his own business in the medical equipment industry. He now works as a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones in Enid, Okla. John and his wife welcomed their first child in 2022.

Bryce Henderson (Shelton Class of 2017) is a Film Lighting Freelancer



Bryce Henderson graduated with a BFA in Film and Television from Savannah College of Art and Design. He currently lives in Dallas and is a freelancer working with

film lighting. One of his favorite gigs was working as a rigging electrician for the "Yellowstone" series prequel "1883."

Kobe Boyce is Shelton's Assistant Football and Baseball Coach



Spectrum News did a story on Shelton alumnus and Shelton assistant football and assistant baseball coach **Kobe Boyce**. Kobe, who attended Shelton from sixth-tenth

grade and graduated from Lake Dallas High School in 2017, signed to play football at the University of Texas. In high school he was ranked by Rivals as the No. 45 cornerback nationally. At UT, he played in six games as a freshman and all 13 games as a sophomore. When he wasn't playing football, he was busy working on his major in Youth and Community Studies and was a two-time member of the Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. As a Shelton coach, Kobe has been a huge influence and inspiration to our athletes. "For them to listen to you, for them to run through a brick wall, you have to show that you actually care," Kobe says.

Madison Carrier (Shelton Class of 2011) is a Financial Advisor who Mentors Young Adults



Madison Carrier earned a degree in Public Relations from the University of North Texas. She currently lives in the Dallas area, where she works as a Financial

Advisor for Northwestern Mutual. One of her greatest achievements has been becoming a member of the Million Dollar Round Table, a premier group for financial advisors who are top producers in their industry. In just three years of being in the industry, she was named one of the Top 5 women in the southern region and Top 10 women nationwide.

Liam Samuel Benzvi is a Talent Acquisition Specialist for Perimeter Global Logistics



Liam Samuel Benzvi attended Shelton from sixth-eighth grade from 2007-2009 and then graduated from Centennial High School in Frisco, Texas. In 2019,

he earned a degree in Hospitality
Management from the University of
North Texas. He currently lives in Euless
and works for Perimeter Global Logistics
(PGL) as a Talent Acquisition Specialist.
Liam is also a motivational pop musician/
songwriter who focuses on writing positive
music to bring people together and help
them cope with adversity.

Adam Webb (Shelton Class of 2000) is a Real Estate Agent for Briggs Freeman Sotheby's International Realty



Adam Webb attended Schreiner University, where he played tennis and was undefeated his junior and senior years. He graduated with a degree in Business

Management and currently works in the Dallas area as a Real Estate Agent for Briggs Freeman Sotheby's International Realty. Adam was also the Upper School coach with Bill lau for the Shelton Tennis team from 2004-2010, winning many State Championships. He married his best friend in 2019 and they have a 2-year-old daughter named Birdie.

Britta Ward Works as a Sales Administrative Assistant at The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel



Britta Ward attended Shelton from fourth through eighth grade, graduated from Richland Collegiate High School in 2014 and then earned her Hospitality degree

at the age of 20 from the University of Houston. She currently lives in Orange, Calif., where she works as a Sales Administrative Assistant at The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel.

Kevin Wainscott is a Teacher and Wrestling Coach at Lake Highlands High School



Kevin Wainscott attended Shelton from second through eighth grade and then went to Bishop Lynch High School, where he was a four-time State Champion Wrestler.

After graduating in 2005, he received a degree in Education from Oklahoma State University, where he continued his career in wrestling and was a part of the National Championship team in 2005. He is now a high school teacher and wrestling coach at Lake Highlands High School.

Simone Shrell Noble (Shelton Class of 2011) is a Speech Language Pathologist



Simone Shrell Noble graduated from Indiana University with a Bachelor's degree in Speech and Hearing Sciences. After graduation, she received a Master's

degree in Communication Disorders from the University of Texas at Dallas Callier Center in 2017. Simone currently lives in Richardson and works in Frisco ISD schools as a Speech Language Pathologist for LifePath Systems specializing in Early Childhood Intervention.

Brian Sweet (Shelton Class of 2011) is a Sports Writer



Brian Sweet graduated from Abilene Christian University with a degree in Journalism. He currently lives in McKinney and is a sports writer for The Southlake Independent School

District at Carroll High School and is the Site Expert for the Dallas Stars FanSided social media page called Blackout Dallas. He also covers the Texas Legends for The Smoking Cuban, the Dallas Mavericks FanSided page, and is a contributor for the Texas Rangers FanSided page.

Penn Eichorn (Shelton Class of 2017) is Working on his Master's of Divinity at Abilene Christian University



Penn Eichorn graduated from Abilene Christian University with a focus in Biblical Literature, English Literature and Communication Studies. He is currently working on his

Master's of Divinity in World Religions and Christian Leadership at ACU.

Jamie Goldstrich-Thomas Advocates for the Disabled



Jamie Goldstrich-Thomas attended Shelton from 1989-1994. She graduated from Bishop Lynch High School in 1998, then attended Brookhaven, Cisco and Hardin

Simmons University, where she earned her degree in Early Childhood Education. Jamie lives in Abilene and is the Regional Coordinator for Partners Resource Network PEN Project. Last January, Jamie was appointed by the governor as a council member on the nominating committee for the Texas Council of Developmental Disabilities. She is also the vice chair for her local mental health authority, Betty Hardwick, and president of Abilene Spectrum Connection, a nonprofit that serves local families who care for an individual with autism.

2023 GRADUATION



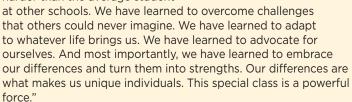
Shelton celebrated the graduation of 92 students on May 20, 2023, on the school's football field. Members of the Class of 2023 received 376 acceptances to 162 different colleges and universities and received \$9.6 million in merit scholarships. They attend 50 different colleges, across 21 states.

Valedictorian Callie Wakefield scored a perfect score of 36 on the ACT Reading and Science sections. Callie attends the University of South Florida, where she majors in Marine Biology. She studies in the USF Honors College and is a member of USF's Division I Track and Cross Country teams. Ten other students scored 30 or higher on ACT Composite and 23 scored 30 or higher on the ACT



Reading. Salutatorian Kendall Bernbaum attends Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minn., where she is considering majoring in the Health Sciences field and plays for Macalester's women's basketball team. Members of the Class of 2023 contributed more than 3,997 service hours in our community.

In her speech, Callie said, "I believe that the members of the Shelton Class of 2023 are going to succeed in the next steps of life. We have learned to work harder than the average student



Kendall said, "Shelton has provided incredible learning opportunities throughout my attendance. This community of supportive, caring and kind faculty and fellow students has given me the confidence to pursue my academic and athletic dreams. Shelton has prepared me with a strong learning skill set and has taught me the importance of persistence, perseverance and hard work to help me achieve my goals. Shelton has made a tremendous difference in my life, and I would not be the person I am today without this phenomenal school."









Harvard Prize Book Award: Kathryn Brockette

High Point University Book Award: Jen Jen Dayton

Outstanding Freshmen: **Hudson Ramsey** and **Trilby Schmidt**

Outstanding Sophomores: Katie Guerra and Ethan Gulden Outstanding Juniors: Layton Woodruff and Zoe Degani

Outstanding Seniors: Erik Behar and Kendall Bernbaum

Will Holmes Memorial Scholarship: Dylan Tompkins

Shelton Parents' Association Scholarship: Avery Macha and Noah O'Connor

June Shelton Awards: Sydney Carter and Molly McSorley















Shelton Top 10: Class of 2023

Valedictorian Callie Wakefield attends the University of South Florida, where she studies Marine Biology and runs on the Division I-level Track and Cross Country teams.

Salutatorian Kendall Bernbaum attends Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minn., where she plays for the women's basketball team. Her major is undecided, but she is considering Health Sciences.

John Bulmer attends Texas A&M and majors in Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management, with plans to be a Texas Game Warden.

Anna Marie Camiolo studies Studio Art at the University of North Texas.



Members of the Class of 2023 celebrate on graduation day.

Ella Houstoun plans to major in Business or Elementary Education at Baylor.

Oliver Ortiz majors in Computer Science at Santa Clara University in California.

Hunter Padgett attends Texas Tech, where he is pursuing his Bachelor's degree in Business and his Master's in Architecture.

Tyler Primeaux attends SMU, where he is double majoring in Film and Broadcast Journalism.

Luke Rasmussen majors in Sports Management at Texas A&M.

Avery Viracola attends the University of Notre Dame Gateway Program.













GRANDPARENTS' DAY 2022

Thank you to all of the grandparents and special friends who made Grandparents' Day so meaningful for our students. Our students, teachers and staff were so excited to show off their school. Grandparents enjoyed a presentation with 178 student performers, including performances from the Upper School Band, Upper Elementary Music, Middle School Cheerleaders, Eighth Grade Musical Theatre Cast, Varsity Cheerleaders, Fourth-Twelfth Grade Combined Choirs, Chargerettes and Drumline. More than \$32,000 in raffle tickets for a free tuition were sold. The Shelton Parents' Association coordinated the special day.

Senior **Sydney Carter** was the student speaker on Thursday, Nov. 17. "Shelton has helped me grow as a student, athlete and person," she said. "Shelton has helped me realize that I have learning challenges, but I am not defined by them." Sydney was accepted to the University of Arizona, University of Arkansas, University of Kansas, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University and Texas Tech, and she received a scholarship to each school.

Senior **John Bulmer** was the student speaker on Friday, Nov. 18. "The aspect that I believe has helped me to succeed to the level I have today is the personal relationships I have built with my teachers, as well as the confidence they have in me," he said. He attends Texas A&M, where he majors in Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management with an emphasis on aquaculture and fisheries.

Upper Elementary and Lower School Grandparents' Day































Middle School and Upper School Grandparents' Day



















































SHELTON'S FACILITIES





Shelton's facilities provide a safe environment and inspire academic success, athletic and artistic dreams and friendships. A panel of architects and educational facility experts selected the Shelton School as an Outstanding Project in the Fall 2021 Learning by Design Architectural and Interior Design Awards of Excellence in the Renovation/Adaptive Reuse/Restoration category. CaCo Architecture designed the conversion of the 30-acre, 330,000-square-foot singlestory 1970s office campus to provide a "welcoming environment supporting the school's pedagogy in a student-centered and technologically rich setting."

The campus boasts:

- 125 classrooms
- 12 hands-on science labs
- one robotics lab
- four STEM rooms
- a dedicated teacher training classroom for adult learners

In addition to the school operations, Shelton includes an Evaluation Center (housed nearby the school), offices for the Speech & Language Center and offices for the Outreach Training Center.



Dining Hall

The Shelton Dining
Hall is a bustling and
communal space
where students come
together to enjoy
meals and socialize.
Large windows allow

natural light to flood the room, creating a welcoming atmosphere.

Lower School Library

The Lower School Library is an inviting area designed to foster a love of reading and learning in young students.

Upper School and Middle School Library

The Upper and Middle School Library is a versatile hub of knowledge and learning, offering a quiet space for focused study as well as cozy reading nooks.

Playgrounds

Shelton has two playgrounds. One is outside the Early Childhood and Pre-Primary classes. A second is named in honor of seventh-grader **Whit Emanuelson** and is designed for 5- to 12-year-old students. Featuring swings and age-appropriate equipment, it's a

safe haven for fun and adventure.

Senior Lounge

Shelton's Senior Lounge is designed to provide a comfortable and inviting space for the graduating class. The lounge is a place where seniors can study, relax and reflect on their last moments in the school before embarking on new adventures.

Shelton's Athletic Facilities



Football Field

Shelton's football field is a sprawling expanse of well-manicured turf, surrounded by sturdy bleachers that offer a prime view of the action.

Baseball Field

The baseball field features a carefully maintained infield with bases and a pitcher's mound and a perfectly groomed outfield.

Fitness Path

A fitness path encircles the school and provides a place for student athletes and staff to run and walk.

Gyms

Shelton's Big Gym is designed to cater to a wide range of physical activities and games. A second, smaller gym provides room for Physical Education classes and serves as a meeting place.



Dance Studio

The dance studio is a well-lit and spacious area adorned with full-length mirrors, a ballet barre and a floor designed to meet the needs of dancers.

Athletic Training Room

The Athletic Training Room is a facility designed to provide a comprehensive space for injury prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

Weight Room

The weight room serves as the epicenter for strength and conditioning training for students and coaches.

Athletics Wall of Fame

Shelton's Athletics Wall of Fame is a gallery that pays homage to the outstanding achievements and legacies of past student athletes. The display serves as a source of inspiration for current and future athletes.



Moody Fine Arts Center

The Moody Fine Arts Center features the Black Box Theatre, the Gampper Art Gallery, a band hall, choir room, scene shop, labs for digital photography and music, a broadcast and film studio and studios for art, ceramics, sculpture and more. The main theater in the Moody Fine Arts Center will be completed in the second phase of construction.

Black Box Theatre

The Black Box Theatre is an intimate and versatile space designed for the performing arts.

Art Gallery

The Art Gallery hosts a diverse range of exhibitions, featuring an array of art forms, from paintings and sculptures to photography, digital installations and mixed media pieces.

Art Rooms

Shelton's art rooms are bathed in natural light, providing an inspiring atmosphere for budding artists.



Class of 2023



ANNUAL REPORT OF GIFTS

Shelton School and Evaluation Center June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023

Annual Fund Heritage Society Designated Gifts
Endowment Matching Gifts In-Kind Gifts
Financial Aid Parents' Association Gifts Delphi Society

Since 1976, Shelton has been blessed with gifts that have helped us make a difference in a student's life. We are grateful to all who have given a gift of any type. No return on investment will ever be greater than that of a child's education. Your gifts make it possible for our amazing students to achieve greater goals.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022-2023



Bottom row, left to right: Rachel Rucker-Schmidt, Jennie Cox, Renee Jansen, Heather Hunt Graham, Sandy Crosland, Suzanne Stell, Joyce Pickering

Second row: Susan Griffiths, Diane Byrd, Shanon Leonard, William Rapier, Kelly Van Den Handel Third row: David Martineau, Win Bell, Celeste Zuch, Ira Matsil

Fourth row: Holly Vitullo, Clifford Hahne, Chase Evans, Holt Foster Fifth row: Ken Hughes, Sam Paulos, Paul Neubach, Gary Webb, Chuck Dannis



I offer a heartfelt thank you to all Shelton staff, administration, board, and parents for your dedication to Shelton during this unprecedented time in

our history. Our staff, administration and board have been amazing in working together to make Shelton a better place. We are the largest school in the world for children with learning differences, and you are the heart and soul of Shelton. I am awed by all you have done and am proud to be associated with you and this amazing school.

Please know, the entire board salutes and supports you and thanks you for making Shelton the great school we are today!

Gary L. Webb Chairman of the Board

Executive Commitee

Chairman of the Board **Gary L. Webb**

Vice Chairman

Paul Neubach, M.D.

Chairman Emeritus

James B. (Boots) Reeder

Executive Director/CEO Suzanne Stell

Executive Director Emerita

Joyce S. Pickering, Hum.D.

(ex-officio member)

Secretary **Leon Kaplan**

Treasurer

Kelly Van Den Handel (ex-officio member)

Additional Members
Greg Delagi
David Martineau
John Newby
Holly Vitullo
Terri West

Trustees

Edwin S. Bell Shanon J. Leonard
Bert Blair Benton W. Markey
Diane Byrd David F. Martineau
Keith Conlon Ira Matsil

Bill Corrigan Paul Neubach, M.D.

Jennifer Cox John Newby
Sandy Crosland Patricia A. Pace
Charles G. Dannis Sam Paulos

Greg Delagi William F. Rapier

Jennifer Dix, Ph.D. James (Boots) Reeder

Chase Evans Chuck Rubin

Holt Foster Rachel Rucker-Schmidt, M.D.

Heather Hunt Graham Janice C. Ryan Susan Griffiths Suzanne Stell Clifford Hahne Holly Vitullo Tim Harrigan Gary L. Webb David T. Helffrich, Jr. Teresa L. West Kenneth J. Hughes Phillip F. Wiggins Keith Williams Renee Jansen Leon Kaplan Celeste Zuch

Shelton is grateful to Board members for their vision, service and countless expressions of support.

REPORTS OF GIFTS AND SOURCES 2022-2023

The Return on Investment:

Shelton Alumni Achieve Academic Success

Congratulations to the Shelton alumni who continue to strive for academic greatness even after they leave our school. Through the generous gifts of many, we provide an outstanding education to Shelton students, who continue to achieve academic success after they graduate from Shelton.



Kaitlyn Waters (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from the University of Texas-Austin with a degree in engineering. She will work in structural engineering in Atlanta, Georgia.



James Nayfa (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from The University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. He's studying for the LSAT.



Etan Cohn (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Machine Learning and a minor in Computer Science. He plans to work in software engineering.



Bella Vitullo (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a Bachelor of Arts in Theology. She spent July on an archaeological dig in Israel.



Tyler Mitchell (Shelton Class of 2018) graduated from Texas A&M-Commerce with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Marketing. He currently works at Preferred Business Solutions.



Jenna Fonberg (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Marketing. She plans to work at an advertising real estate company in New York City.



Lizzie Cleveland (Shelton Class of 2018) graduated from the University of Arkansas with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design and a minor in Art History.



Andre Francis (Shelton Class of 2018) graduated from Tarleton State University with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology.



Blake Ghali (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from Baylor University with a Bachelor of Science in Apparel Design and Product Development and a minor in Entrepreneurship.



Type of Donation	Amount
Annual Fund	\$1,134,055
Endowment	\$125,319
Parents' Association	\$620,000
Capital Contributions	\$347,047



Brianna Ealey (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from Texas Tech University with a Bachelor of Arts in Marketing and Management. She's pursuing a career in project management.



Joe Manna (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from Texas Tech University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Energy Commerce. He plans to work for Energy Transfer in San Antonio.



Elizabeth Dzina (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from Abilene Christian University with a Bachelor of Science in Multimedia and a minor in Theatre Production. She plans to backpack around the world.



Cat Carson (Shelton Class of 2018) graduated from Sam Houston State University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geography and a minor in Geology.



Aaron Hoffman (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from Austin College with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and International Economics and Finance.



Mason Dropkin (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Science in Finance. He will work in Dallas at Texas Capital Bank.



Griffin Baird (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from the University of Mississippi with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Intelligence. He plans to enlist in the Navy.

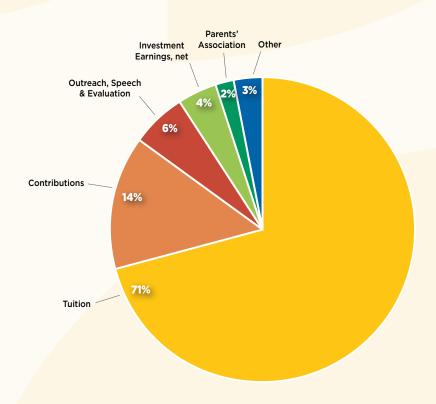


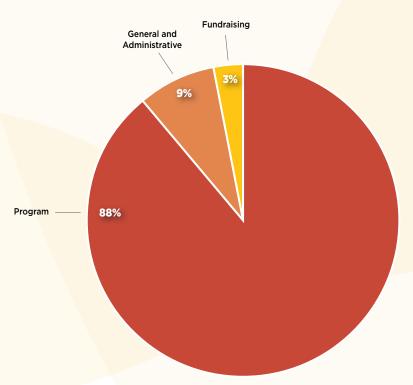
Grace Orth (Shelton Class of 2019) graduated from the University of Denver with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and a minor in Theater. She plans to stay in Denver to get her Master's degree in Education.

REVENUES AND EXPENSES 2022-2023

Revenues

Tuition	71%
Contributions	14%
Outreach, Speech & Evaluation	6%
Investment Earnings, net	4%
Parents' Association	2%
Other	3%





Expenses

Program	88%
General and Administrative	9%
Fundraising	3%

SHELTON PARENTS' ASSOCIATION BOARD 2022-2023

Presidents

Gina Rangel Pena JoAnna Sudbeck

Past Presidents

Emily Sarche Brandy Wayne

Secretary

Brandy Stafford

Treasurer

Michelle Coppolino

VP Communications

Corrie Shores

VP Lower School

Leigh Erin Lundy

VP Upper Elementary

Kimberly Kahn

VP Middle School

Renee Jansen

VP Upper School

Darcy Preheim

Corral Chair

Michelle Rivera

Corral Assistant Manager

Karon Jones

Corral Volunteer Chair

Gina Rangel Pena

Dads' Group

John Lynch

Stampede Chairs

Kari Gryzch
Heather Shell
Heather Weathers

Stampede Week Chairs

Lauren Belcher Mahie Ghoraishi Adrienne Outman

Annual Fund Chairs

Chuck Marlett Michelle Rivera

Book Fair Chairs

Katie Wells Melanie Townsend

Charger Pen Chair

Tina DeLeon

Holiday Happiness Chairs

Heidi Snadon Heather Shell

Community Spirit Chair

Prudence Graham

End-of-Year Luncheon Chairs

Julie Visconsi Ashley Romo

Food Truck Chairs

Dina Brantman Staci Rubin

Grandparents' Day Chairs

Jennie Jones Chuck Marlett Emily Sarche **Lunch with Dads Chairs**

Amie Brunner Carol Sperry

Princess Ball Chairs

Amber Wallock Heather McGehearty

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Carolyn Strickfaden Amber Wallock

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Grade Level Liaisons 2022-2023

EC/PP

Brooke Payton

Primary-1st/2nd Grade

Chrissy Mantzuranis Katie Wells Brettne Hemley Kerry Douglas

3rd/4th Grade

Garnett Holmes Melanie Townsend Mica Hopkins Lauren Medina Heather McGehearty 5th Grade

Amy Morris Mock Diana Hatfield Kimberly Kahn

6th Grade

Corrie Shores Chaitalee Arora Lindsay Feldman

7th Grade

Anila Sundaram Heather Shell Christine Danuser 8th Grade

Julie Anne McDowell Joanna Cunningham Dorothy Wolf

9th Grade

Kristin Elvebak Jenny Dougherty Eleise Weisberg

10th Grade

Garnett Holmes Freida Wilson Barbara Milhizer 11th Grade

Deborah Cuzalina Amy Dodson Abbie DeBlank

12th Grade

Laura Hurt Amber Carter Cindy Slavin Amy Houston

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Delphi is a small town in the mountains of Greece where the famous oracle of Apollo supposedly took place, announcing the future. It is a symbol for seeking to know and shape the future.

To honor those individuals who seek to shape the future of Shelton School, the Delphi Society was established in 2003. The Society recognizes and thanks alumni and friends of Shelton who have created provisions in their wills or estate plans to benefit Shelton School.

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We are thrilled and humbled to complete our second year as co-chairs of Shelton's Annual Fund. During these past two vears, we have witnessed firsthand the extraordinary generosity of Shelton's community.

Shelton's parents appreciate the unique and superlative education that the school provides to their children. A Shelton education provides opportunities that don't readily exist at other schools:

- Excellent teachers
- A low student-to-teacher ratio
- A state-of-the-art campus
- Specialized educational programs
- · A full slate of extracurricular activities
- · And so much more!

We began the 2022-2023 school year with an Annual Fund goal of \$1 million. We are very excited to report that we exceeded

the goal! Our Annual Fund **Ambassadors** provided critical support and energy and we thank them for all they did. We also thank everyone who supported the Annual Fund.



Michelle Rivera and Chuck Marlett

The theme for the 2023-2024 Annual Fund is "Lighting the Way...For a Brighter Future." The goal for the 2023-2024 Annual Fund is \$1.2 million. We know that the Shelton community will rise to the challenge and achieve this ambitious goal. It takes consistent and broad support from all corners of the Shelton family to sustain and nurture the Shelton experience. We are grateful to you all!

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Bobbi & Ted Hart Brooks Hart 2023

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Suzanne & Sanders Hearne Reeves Smith 2030 Robert Smith 2026

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Ben Stafford

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Mr. Johnny Stewart

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Meredith Touchstone

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Scott Cooley

Danny Cummiskey

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Claudia Hayes

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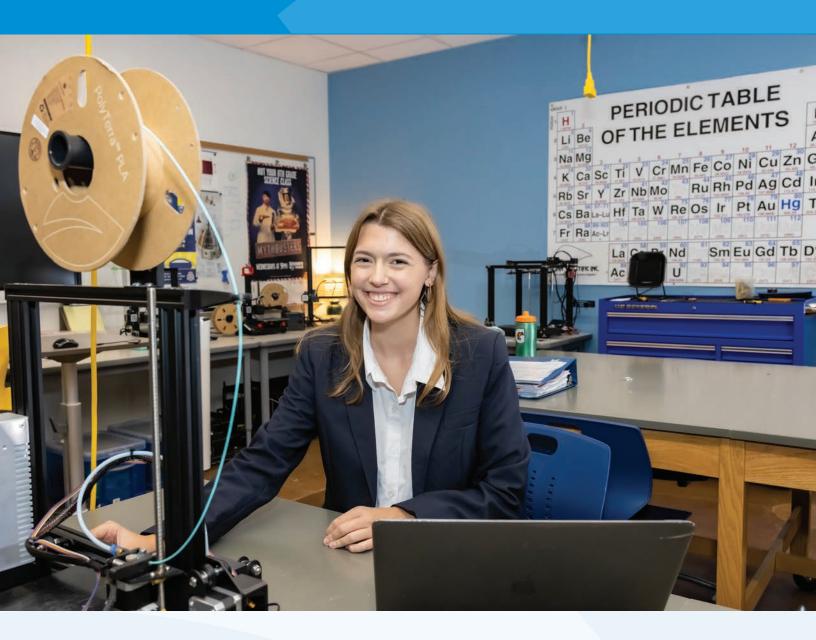
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Dianne & Hardin Sztamenits Megan & Jake Taber Nathan Taylor Josie & Schaefer The Thompson Family Touchstone Family Bill Tovell Melanie & Sean Townsend Son, Chin & Austin Tran Max Treiber & Family Mr. & Mrs. Rene Trevino The Turners The Twomey Family Alana Unterberg Zhaoying Urquhart The Utz Family Van Wagenen Family The Vannuccini Family The Venable Family Anthony Ventura Christy & Jason Vickery The Vij Family The Visconsi family Andrea & Mark Vitek Carrie & Billy Wade The Waldeck Family Gemma & Mia Wallock Jonathan Walter Family (Aida, Bill & Jonathan) Molly & Jeff Wangsgaard LaDana & Daniel Washburn Stephanie & Matt Watson The Waugh Family Mark, Brandy & Ava Wayne The Weathers Family Brandon, Katherine & Allen Weaver The Weegar Family The Weidenbaker Family Lauran & Steve Weiner Eleise & Rick Weisberg Family of Greyson Wells Alyssa Welwood The Wentworths Michael Wetherington The Whaley Family Cory, Jennifer & Alex Whitaker Jen & Mark White Shelly & Jeff Whitfield John, Daya & Will Whitham Beth, Len & Ryan Wierzbicki Matt, Kim, & Katherine Williams Declan Wilson Elizabeth & David Wilson Mary & John Wilson Will Winkler & Family Angela & Bret Winterle Dorothy Toothaker Wolf Gary, Libby & Sef Wright Erin & Coler Yoakam Andie Yung The Zasa Family Cicelyann Zoccola & Chad Henderson Andrew & Connor Zuch Hudson Zummo 65

CLASS OF 2023 PROFILES

Name: Sef Wright (Class of 2023)

Started at Shelton: Tenth grade Clubs/Sports: Vocal Charge,

Varsity Soccer

Favorite experience at Shelton: "My favorite experience at Shelton was

participating in the ISAS Festival with the Vocal Charge. It was fun and enlightening as we got to experience art from students throughout the DFW Metroplex."

How Shelton impacted his life: "Shelton has shown me that with understanding and the proper instruction everyone is capable of succeeding."

College plans: "My goal is to become a pilot, initially flying in the Armed Forces followed by a career with a major carrier. I study aviation at Hampton University."

Name: Avery Viracola (Class of 2023)

Learning differences: ADHD, dyslexia and auditory processing Started at Shelton: Seventh grade

Clubs/Sports: Varsity Cheer, National Honor Society, Student Council, Bowling Club, Photography Club and Performing Arts Club

How Shelton impacted her life: "Shelton provided me with a platform to carry into college. Not only did I learn skills for the classroom, but I learned to express myself confidently."

Her advice: "I would recommend Shelton to students who are not only struggling with a learning difference, but feel as if they don't fit in at their school. Shelton welcomed me into a safe environment, which allowed me to enrich my social, personal and academic skills."

Best advice she received: "Some of the best advice I received from a teacher was that no matter what college I attend, I need to stay focused on advocating for myself and putting my best foot forward."

College plans: "I study psychology and neuroscience in Notre Dame's Gateway Program."

Name: Ben Stafford (Class of 2023)

Learning difference: ADHD Started at Shelton: Third grade

Clubs: Esports, Young Men's

Service League

Favorite Shelton experience: "My favorite

experience at Shelton was getting to know the Technology team and working with them to solve problems."

Favorite class: "My favorite class was Physics I with Dr. Samantha Franklin. I could apply math to real-world problems."



How Shelton impacted his life: "Shelton taught me to advocate for myself, be confident in my abilities and stay organized." College plans: "I study computer engineering at the Rochester Institute of Technology."

Name: Maisie Doerr (Class of 2023)

Learning difference: Dyslexia Started at Shelton: Sixth grade Clubs/Sports: Theatre, Cheer, Student Council and National Honor Society

Favorite experience at Shelton: "Being

cast as Fiona in "Shrek the Musical." I loved being painted green in under a minute, all while putting on a fat suit, tap dancing with rats and singing some of my favorite songs. It was something I'll never forget!"

Favorite teacher: "Mrs. Julie Niederer was my geometry teacher during my sophomore year. I have always had a hard time in math. However, Mrs. Niederer made me feel safe making mistakes as long as I was trying my hardest. She was so kind and understanding of my learning challenges."

How Shelton impacted her life: "Without Shelton, I don't think I would have been as confident as I am today. Shelton made me feel accepted for my learning difference and happy about going to school. Shelton encourages its students to be involved in more than one activity. I also loved the small class sizes, the accommodating teachers and the welcoming environment."

College plans: "I am pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee in Boston."

Name: John Bulmer (Class of 2023)

Learning differences: ADHD and dvslexia

Started at Shelton: Fourth grade Clubs/Sports: President of National

Honor Society, Shelton Charger Daily News Anchor, Theatre, Performing Arts Club

Favorite Shelton experience: "My favorite experience at Shelton was the eighth-grade field trip to San Antonio and the Hill Country. The whole experience brought the class closer together."

Favorite teacher: "Mrs. Beth Riggs taught me in eighth grade. She helps with the school plays and musicals and is enthusiastic and fun. The effort she puts in to make each day better shows."

How Shelton impacted his life: "Shelton taught me to be independent and take pride in my work."

College plans: "I attend Texas A&M University and major in Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management. I aspire to be a Texas Game Warden."





Name: Mary Claire Melton (Class of 2023)

Learning differences: ADHD, dyslexia, dysgraphia

Started at Shelton: Second grade

Clubs: Vocal Charge, Theatre, Mascot, National Honor Society, Bowling Club,

Recycling Club, Photography Club, American Sign Language Club, Podcasting Club, Performing Arts Club and Shelton Ambassadors

Favorite Shelton experience: "My favorite experience was the equine therapy in eighth grade. It was a fantastic opportunity that allowed me to take a break from stressors in my life."

Favorite teacher: "Mrs. Hannah Morel always went above and beyond to help me and other students with math. She also listened to our problems."

How Shelton impacted her life: "Shelton gave me self-confidence and an accepting community that has inspired me to reach my goals."

College plans: "I study engineering and marine biology at Rollins College."

Name: Tyler Primeaux (Class of 2023)

Learning difference: ADHD

Started at Shelton: Freshman year

Clubs/Sports: Track, Theatre, Charger Daily News, Podcasting Club, Student Council and National Honor Society

Favorite experience at Shelton: "My

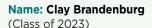
favorite Shelton experience was overcoming the odds to become Student Council President during my senior year. It taught me to never give up and that hard work always prevails."

Favorite class: "U.S. History with **Mr. Sam Crabtree** and Broadcast Journalism with **Mr. Hunter Duesing**. Mr. Crabtree made History class very memorable and exciting. Mr. Duesing helped me discover my passion for filmmaking and editing and was supportive of all my projects."

Why he recommends Shelton: "Shelton provides the resources needed to allow students to achieve their dreams and discover new passions and gain confidence."

How Shelton impacted his life: "As a freshman, I was shy and struggled in social situations. Director of Fine Arts **Anné Hughes** and the other fantastic teachers, students and faculty at Shelton gave me the confidence I needed to transform into a very social person who loves spending time with friends."

College plans: "I am double-majoring in Film and Broadcast Journalism at SMU. Out of college, I plan to become a film screenwriter."



Learning differences: Dyslexia and dysgraphia

Started at Shelton: Ninth grade Clubs/Sports: Football, Baseball

and Track

Favorite experience at Shelton: "My favorite experience was when our baseball team went to Lubbock for a baseball playoff

Favorite class: "Engineering with Mr. Tripp Givens."

How Shelton impacted his life: "Shelton gave me the opportunity to hold leadership roles on teams and in social groups because of the smaller environment."

Why he recommends Shelton: "I would recommend Shelton because it is small enough so you have the confidence to try a lot of new things, but it is big enough to allow you to have multiple friend groups."

College plans: "I play football and baseball at Hendrix College."

Name: Callie Wakefield (Class of 2023 Valedictorian)

Learning differences: Dyslexia, dysgraphia and anxiety

Started at Shelton: Sixth grade

Clubs/Sports: Co-Captain of Varsity Cross Country, Track, Senior Class President for Student Council, National

Honor Society Historian,

Photography Club and Performing Arts Club

Favorite experience at Shelton: "Getting to go with my cross country team to Waco to run in the TAPPS State meet. I loved being able to be with my teammates and help the girls' team to place third in 2019 and fourth in 2021."

Favorite teacher: "Dr. Samantha Franklin taught me in Physics and Physics II. She has enthusiasm when she teaches and she's very accommodating with everyone's different styles of learning."

How Shelton impacted her life: "It taught me different tools to help overcome my dyslexia and reading struggles and be successful in school. Some examples are learning how to utilize read and write software, keeping myself organized and teaching me how to advocate for myself, such as asking for a reader or extra time on tests."

Why she recommends Shelton: "Yes. I think it's a good balance of having the small classes and accommodations needed for students with a learning difference to be successful, but it also has all of the great things that come with a large school, such as football games, lots of clubs, pep rallies and school dances."

College plans: "I study marine biology at the University of South Florida and I am a member of USF's Division I Track and Cross Country team."



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CLASS OF 2023 PROFILES CONTINUED

Name: Nico Smith (Class of 2023)

Started at Shelton: Junior year Learning differences: Dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia and ADD **Clubs/Sports:** Varsity football, Theatre Eagle Scout project: "I interviewed 10 combat veterans for the Library of Congress Veterans Oral History Project."



Favorite teacher: "Mr. Clay Houston's Tech Theatre class focused on the technical things that go on behind the scenes of a great show."

How Shelton impacted his life: "Shelton helped me understand how to work with my learning differences, not to avoid them. Coming to Shelton for my last two years of high school gave me confidence in my ability to learn."

Why he recommends Shelton: "Shelton not only helps with dyslexia, but it allows students to enjoy the school experience and not be stressed out all the time."

College plans: "I attend Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and plan to study Mechanical Engineering, Technology and Ocean Engineering."

Name: Kendall Bernbaum

(Class of 2023 Salutatorian)

Learning differences: Sensory processing and visual processing

Started at Shelton: First grade Clubs/Sports: Girls Varsity Basketball,

National Honor Society, Ambassadors Club, Chargers 4 Change



Favorite experience at Shelton: "During freshman year, our basketball team won our District and made it to Regionals." Favorite class: "My favorite class was Mrs. Gwen Jensen's math class in middle school. She taught me what I needed to know to be successful in high school math."

How Shelton impacted her life: "Shelton taught me the importance of hard work, perseverance and persistence." Why she recommends Shelton: "I would recommend Shelton because the teachers are very supportive, yet they also challenge you academically."

College plans: "I attend Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minn., where I play for the women's basketball team. Eventually, I want to find a career opportunity within the health sciences."

Name: Hunter Padgett

(Class of 2023)

Learning differences: Dyslexia and

ADHD

Started at Shelton: Early Childhood Clubs: National Honor Society and

Photography Club

Favorite experience at Shelton: "Sky

Ranch in Middle School."

Favorite teacher: "Ms. Sophia Van Den Handel was able to make writing papers easy and fun."

How Shelton impacted his life: "It allowed me to overcome my learning differences and put me in a good position to tackle college."

knowledge you need to make your learning differences less Advice for new students: "Branch out from what you think you may enjoy and you may find your lifelong passion."

Why he recommends Shelton: "Shelton gives you the

College plans: "I attend Texas Tech and plan to get my Bachelor's degree in Business and my Master's degree in Architecture."

Name: Lillie Richardson

(Class of 2023)

Learning difference: Dyslexia Started at Shelton: Ninth grade Clubs: National Honor Society, Photography, Performing Arts Club and Shelton Ambassadors Club

Favorite experience at Shelton:

"Participating in the ISAS Festival with other talented artists in the Dallas-Fort Worth area."

Favorite teacher: "Mrs. Blythe Mundlin. I never loved reading or writing and struggled in English throughout middle school. In her class, I grew more confident in my abilities and myself." Best advice she's received: "A learning difference is just a different way of thinking and should not be an obstacle to achieving your dreams."

How Shelton impacted your life?: "Shelton taught me reading and writing strategies to overcome my struggles with dyslexia, with teachers who are patient and willing to help me succeed." Why she recommends Shelton: "Shelton may be a small school, but it has all the fun activities that a big school has. More importantly, it has caring teachers who equip their students with the tools they need to be successful, regardless of their learning difference."

College plans: "I attend Abilene Christian University."

Name: Oliver Ortiz

(Class of 2023)

Learning difference: Dyslexia Started at Shelton: First grade **Clubs:** National Honor Society and

Student Council

Favorite experience at Shelton: "Being a part of Student Council and helping prepare for many of the school events."

Favorite class: "All of my math teachers have been great, encouraged me and made a positive impact."

Advice: "Work hard, stay organized and reach out to your

teachers whenever you need help." How Shelton impacted his life: "Shelton helped me manage my

dyslexia and excel as a student." Why he recommends Shelton: "I would definitely recommend

Shelton. The classes are small and the teachers are supportive and always available to help."

College plans: "I attend Santa Clara University in California, where I major in Computer Science."





Name: Kasch Bergus (Class of 2023)

Learning differences: ADHD, dyslexia Started at Shelton: Fifth grade Clubs/Sports: National Honor Society, Baseball, Young Men's Service League Favorite experience at Shelton: "The Freedom from Chemical Dependency program involved wearing drunk goggles while tennis balls were thrown at me."

Favorite teachers: "**Elizabeth Willis** was life-changing when I came to Shelton. In Upper School, **Dr. Samantha Franklin** and **Mr. Sam Crabtree** inspired me and made me laugh."

How Shelton impacted his life: "Shelton has shown me I can focus and get my work done."

Why he recommends Shelton: "My old school only said bad things about me. Shelton built me back up."

Advice: "Once you realize your disability isn't a disability, it's a gift. It changes everything."

College plans: "I attend Texas Christian University and major in Engineering and minor in Business."

Name: Sydney Carter (Class of 2023)

Learning differences: Dyslexia, ADHD and auditory processing

Started at Shelton: Second grade Clubs/Sports: National Honor Society, Ambassadors Club, Cross Country, Track and Soccer

Favorite experience at Shelton: "Getting to know my teachers, making friendships that will last forever and receiving support on a daily basis."

Favorite teacher: "Ms. Shelly Whitfield made British Literature enjoyable. English was not my best class, but she guided me and supported me."

How Shelton impacted her life: "Shelton showed me that I'm not alone and that it's OK to have a learning difference."

College plans: "I attend the University of Oklahoma, where I study Education. I want to be a teacher for pre-K or elementary kids."



Class of 2023 Heads for New Horizons

Shelton students are overcoming the odds and accomplishing great things! Our 92 students in the Class of 2023 received 376 acceptances to 162 different colleges and universities and received \$9.6 million in merit scholarships. They are enrolled in 50 different colleges, across 21 states. Here are some of the Class of 2023's accomplishments:

- Valedictorian Callie Wakefield scored a perfect score
 of 36 on the ACT Reading and Science sections. Callie
 attends the University of South Florida, where she majors
 in Marine Biology. Callie is in the USF Honors college and
 is a member of the Division I Track and Cross County
 teams at USF.
- Ten other students scored 30 or higher on ACT Composite and 23 scored 30 or higher on the ACT Reading.
- Salutatorian Kendall Bernbaum attends Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minn., where she is considering majoring in the Health Sciences field and plays for Macalester's women's basketball team.
- Shelton's Maisie Doerr completed a year-long audition process that resulted in an acceptance into the Boston Conservatory at Berklee School of Music, one of the top Musical Theatre BFA programs in the country.

- Nine members of the Class of 2023 committed to play sports in college in five sports:
 - Tucker Bauer, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Baseball
 - Kendall Bernbaum, Macalester College, Basketball
 - Clay Brandenburg, Hendrix College, Baseball and Football
 - Hank Davis, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Baseball
 - Spencer Orth, Southwestern University, Track & Field
 - Charles Reeg, Emerson College, Cross Country
 - Zac Robison, University of Puget Sound, Football
 - Callie Wakefield, University of South Florida, Cross Country, Track & Field
 - Grant Young, Colorado State University at Pueblo, Track & Field
- Members of the Class of 2023 also contributed more than 3,997 service hours in our community.

In her graduation speech, Callie said, "I believe that the members of the Shelton Class of 2023 are going to succeed in the next steps of life. We have learned to work harder than the average student at other schools. We have learned to overcome challenges that others could never imagine. We have learned to adapt to whatever life brings us. We have learned to advocate for ourselves. And most importantly, we have learned to embrace our differences and turn them into strengths. Our differences are what makes us unique individuals. This special class is a powerful force."

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Shelton School and Evaluation Center 17301 Preston Road Dallas, TX 75252

SHELTON SCHOOL 2023-2024 CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER

22 Start of Winter Holidays

JANUARY

Classes Resume

15 Martin Luther King Day, No School

FEBRUARY

15-16 Parent Conferences, No School Presidents' Day, No School

MARCH

11-15 **Spring Break** 29 No School

APRIL

19 In-Service for Staff, No School

20 Prom

MAY

Mayfest 10 18 Graduation 24 **Last Day of School** 27 **Memorial Day**

JUNE

12 **Summer School Starts** 19 Juneteenth, No School

28-29 Parent Conferences

JULY

Summer School Ends July Fourth, No School

29 **Back to School Prep Week Begins**

AUGUST

Back-to-School Prep Week Ends

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