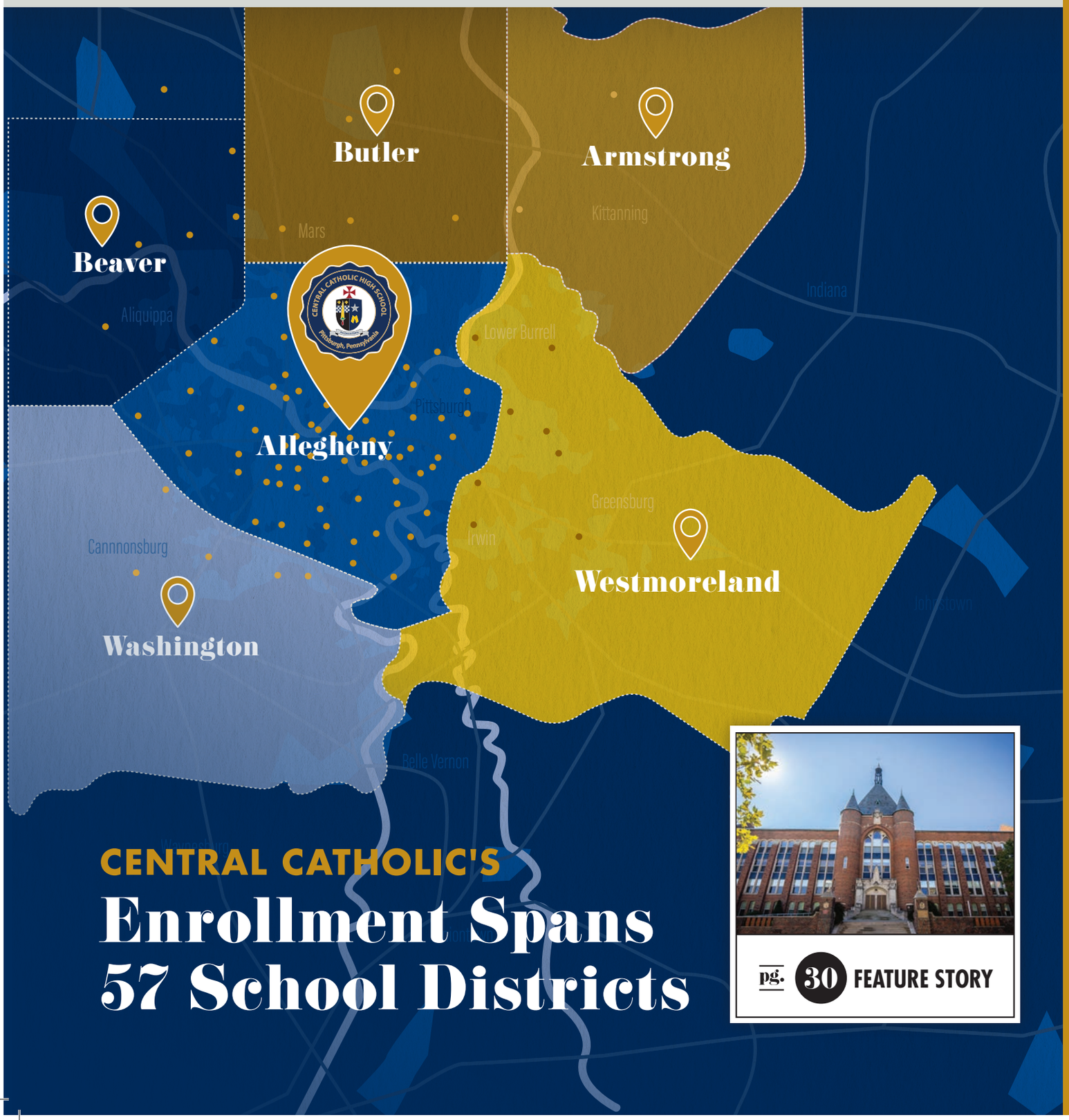
FALL/WINTER 2023

THE QUADRANGLE

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



CENTRAL CATHOLIC'S

Enrollment Spans 57 School Districts

pg. 30 FEATURE STORY



CELEBRATING THE WOMEN *of* CENTRAL CATHOLIC

34th Annual Viking Victory Auction

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024

THE WESTIN PITTSBURGH
1000 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

AUCTION CHAIR – MELISSA MADURA ANDERSON, P '24

Since the first auction in 1990, the event has raised over $6.3 million to benefit the young men of Central Catholic High School.

For more information or to join the auction committee, contact: 412.208.3443 | Events@CentralCatholicHS.com.

SIGNATURE SPONSOR
as of May 30, 2023

HIGHMARK.

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

TABLE OF CONTENTS

04 Message from the Board of Directors

10 Honors Convocation

12 Student Spotlight

20 Faculty Spotlight

24 Athletics

30 Cover Story

44 News from Viking Nation

54 In Memoriam









EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98

EDITING:

Beth Chu

Barndon Haburjak, '06

Andrew Macurak

Claudia Steffey

DESIGN:

Candice Londino
www.starringdarla.com

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Andrew F. Adomitis, Esq., '80

Matt Carlson

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98

Barndon Haburjak, '06

Garrett King, '26

Karen Kolenik

Simply Sisters Photography

IMAGES COURTESY OF:

Atlanta Falcons

Pro Football Hall of Fame

Serra Catholic High School

CONTRIBUTORS:

Andrew F. Adomitis, Esq., '80

Matt Carlson

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98

Brandon Haburjak, '06

Dylan Deasy, '24

Deacon Greg Jelinek

Karen Kolenik

Mark Krotec, '73

Bill Mitchell, '65

John Rende, '10

Cassie Sirockman-Bell

John Staley, V, '84

Have news to share for the next edition of The Quadrangle?

Send it to us via email at: Quadrangle@CentralCatholicHS.com

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Matthew J. Stoessel, '95 - *President*
Kevin Sheridan - *Interim Principal*
Steven S. Bezila, '99 - *Dean of Students*
James Donahue, '03 - *Assistant Principal for Student Affairs*
Karen Kolenik - *Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Daniel Donahue, '98
Mr. Edward Friel, '84 - Treasurer
Mr. Michael Kelly, '78
Fr. Thomas Kunz, '91
Dr. Ronald Layton, '83 - Vice-Chair
Mrs. Dara Mancini-Henne
Mr. Anthony Martini, '81
Mr. Michael McGonigle, '85
Mr. James Meyers, '88
Mr. Casey Mullen, '92
Mr. Robert Pusateri, '68
Mr. Graham Rihn, '05
Dr. Edward Scott, Sr., '83
Mr. Edward Seserko, '70
Mr. Christopher Smith Jr. '94 – Secretary
Mr. John Staley V, '84 - Chair
Mr. Jarrod Turner
Mr. Jeffrey Wlahofsky
Br. Martin Zewe, FSC, '59

Ex Officio Members
Mr. Matthew J. Stoessel, '95, President
Mr. Kevin Sheridan, Interim Principal

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

Sandy Grushesky - *Development Specialist/Database Manager*
sgrushesky@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.622.6183

Brandon Haburjak, '06 - *Director of Alumni Engagement and Giving*
bhaburjak@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3488

Claudia Steffey - *Director of Annual Giving and Stewardship*
csteffey@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.622.6171

COMMUNICATIONS

Matt Carlson - *Web and Multimedia Producer*
mcarlson@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3400 x4145

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98 - *Director of Communications and Marketing*
bcook@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.622.6181

ADMISSIONS

Brian Miller - *Director of Admissions*
bmiller@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3492

Andrew A. Macurak - *Executive Director of Enrollment Management*
amacurak@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3417

Ashley Salamacha - *Associate Director of Admissions*
asalamacha@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3407

LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE QUADRANGLE FALL/WINTER 2023

TO THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

We welcome this opportunity to share the exciting news at our beloved Central Catholic High School, from student accomplishments to transitions in our administration's leadership and Alumni milestones. As we close the first half of the 2023–24 academic year, we hope you enjoy this edition of *The Quadrangle*.

First, a President-Principal model of school governance has been re-implemented to enhance the school's overall operations and ability to meet the opportunities and challenges associated with education in the present day.

At the end of last school year, our principal, Brother Michael Andrejko, FSC, '86, embarked on a sabbatical. In conjunction with this, the Board of Directors adjusted the leadership structure of Central Catholic to spread the responsibilities of leading the largest Catholic school in the Diocese of Pittsburgh beyond one person.

The school moved to an interim President-Principal leadership structure in June of 2023. Matthew J. Stoessel, '95, who had been serving as Executive Director of Advancement, was appointed as Interim-President. Kevin Sheridan, who had been serving as Assistant Principal of Faculty and Curriculum Development, was appointed as Interim Principal. The Board's next action was to launch a search for a new President. After a six-month search, the Diocese of Pittsburgh and the school's Board of Directors were pleased to announce, on November 1, 2023, the appointment of Matthew J. Stoessel, '95 to President. With a rich background in non-profit leadership, a steadfast commitment to our school's Catholic and Lasallian values, and a vision for Central Catholic's future, Stoessel is poised to lead our school into its next one hundred years.

The school is grateful for Kevin Sheridan's academic leadership with the support of fellow Assistant Principals Karen Kolenik and James Donahue, '03. This team of educators has done an amazing job in service to Central Catholic during this time of transition. The Board would like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Brother Michael Andrejko, FSC, '86, to the Central Catholic community. We are excited to share that he will return to Central as Vice President of Lasallian Mission. His role will officially commence at the beginning of the 2024-25 academic year.

Central Catholic is truly blessed to have the presence of the De LaSalle Christian Brothers since 1927. It is critical for the school to have Br. Michael serve in his new role and be an integral part of molding our students, faculty, and staff in the Lasallian charism. The Board is grateful to Mr. Sheridan, Mrs. Kolenik, and Mr. Donahue for their dedication in serving as interim leaders until the end of the 2023-24 academic year. The Board intends to initiate a nationwide search for the next Principal, commencing in early 2024. The goal is to have the new Principal of Central Catholic assume their position on July 1, 2024.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US IN SUPPORTING THE EXCITING FUTURE AHEAD. TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD ON THE BROTHERHOOD AND SERVICE THAT DEFINES THE LEGACY OF OUR SCHOOL WHILE ENSURING THAT OUR STUDENTS CONTINUE TO THRIVE ACADEMICALLY, PERSONALLY, AND SPIRITUALLY.

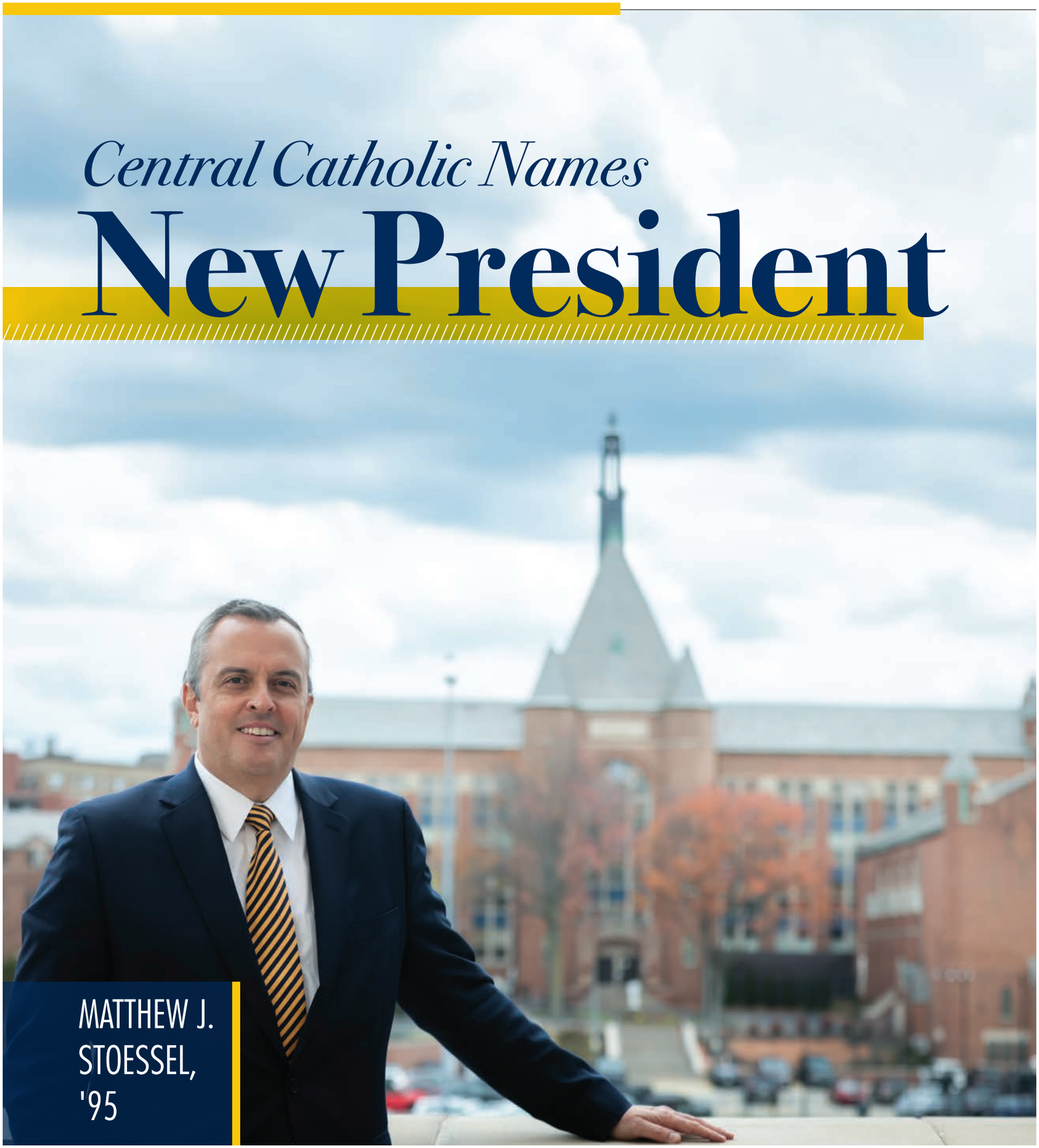
St. John Baptist de LaSalle, Pray for us!
Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever!

Sincerely,

John Staley, V, '84
Chairman, Central Catholic Board of Directors



Central Catholic Names New President



MATTHEW J. STOESSEL, '95

MATTHEW J. STOESSEL, '95, A PROUD ALUMNUS OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, HAS BEEN NAMED THE SCHOOL'S NEXT PRESIDENT.

THE APPOINTMENT IS A HISTORIC MOMENT IN CENTRAL CATHOLIC'S NEARLY ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

Following a search led by Central Catholic's Board of Directors and the Diocese of Pittsburgh's Secretariat for Education, under the leadership of Superintendent of Catholic Schools Michelle Peduto, the Board voted unanimously in favor of appointing Stoessel to the position. The Most Reverend David A. Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh, and the board of the Catholic High Schools of the Diocese of Pittsburgh made the official decision, with a start date of November 1, 2023.

IN STOESSEL'S OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT LETTER, BISHOP ZUBIK REMARKED,

"MATT WILL CONTINUE TO BUILD UPON THE FINE TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A HALLMARK AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL." BISHOP ZUBIK CONTINUED, "I KNOW THAT MATT UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE OF FORMING YOUNG MEN IN THE FAITH AND GUIDING THEM TO EXCEL IN SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP."

The process of searching for a President commenced this past spring when a message was sent to parents and guardians about changes to the school's leadership structure. It read in part, "Central Catholic High School will return to the President-Principal model to enhance the efficiency of the school's operations. Central Catholic is now in line with most other schools within the Diocese of Pittsburgh that follow this administration format."

"WITHOUT HESITATION, THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR BECAUSE WE BELIEVE MATT IS FULLY COMMITTED TO THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC'S SUCCESS AND IS DETERMINED TO LEAD US INTO OUR 100TH YEAR AND BEYOND,"

SAYS JOHN STALEY V, '84, CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The President's primary purpose is to provide institutional leadership of the school to achieve the fullest attainment of Central Catholic's mission statement. The President bears responsibility for the school's operation and policies, concentrating primarily on its Catholic and Lasallian identity. In his role, Stoessel is responsible for ensuring sound fiscal management and the school's long-term financial stability through direct oversight of the business operations, facilities, fundraising/development, marketing, alumni and community relations, student recruitment, and enrollment management activities.

Returning to a President-Principal model is designed to streamline day-to-day operations and enhance connections with alumni, stakeholders, and partners.



BROTHER RICHARD G RZESKIEWICZ, FSC, '62
(B. 1944 - D. 2012)

TEACHER
1974-1977

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT/ ADMISSIONS
1993-2000

PRINCIPAL
2000-2009

PRESIDENT
2009 - 2012

The school's first president was Brother Richard Grzeskiewicz, FSC, '62, who passed away in 2012.



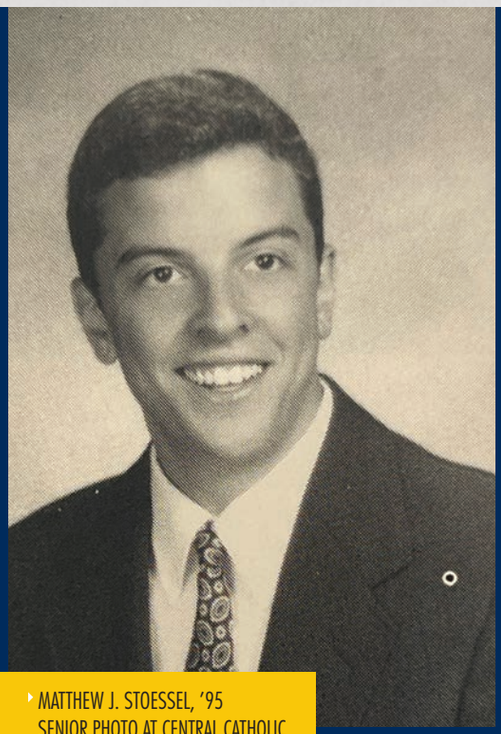
MATTHEW J. STOESSEL, '95, RECEIVES A BLESSING ON HIS FIRST DAY AS CENTRAL CATHOLIC'S PRESIDENT BY FATHER MICHAEL DARCY IN FRONT OF THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY, FACULTY AND STAFF ON ALL SAINT'S DAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023.

Brother Robert Schaefer, FSC, a former faculty member who also served as Principal of Central Catholic from 2009-2016, had the following remarks from his written message to the Bishop of Pittsburgh:

"MATT IS A COMMITTED CATHOLIC, DEVOTED HUSBAND, AND A LOVING FATHER, WHO IS PERFECTLY SUITED TO TAKE ON THE ROLE OF PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC."

SCHAEFER FIRST CAME TO CENTRAL CATHOLIC IN 1991 AS A TEACHER, WHERE HE MET STOESSEL AS A FRESHMAN.

"AS A GRADUATE OF THE SCHOOL AND LONG-TIME FRIEND OF THE BROTHERS, MATT DEEPLY UNDERSTANDS THE LASALLIAN CHARISM AND SPIRITUALITY THAT HAS ANIMATED CENTRAL CATHOLIC OVER THE YEARS, AND HE IS WELL-EQUIPPED TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH OUR DISTRICT (DISTRICT OF EASTERN NORTH AMERICA) TO FOSTER AND SUSTAIN THE CHARISM INTO THE FUTURE."



MATTHEW J. STOESSEL, '95
SENIOR PHOTO AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC

Stoessel, who holds a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Master of Arts in Strategic Communication from Seton Hall University, has served as Executive Director of Advancement. Since 2017, he oversaw the school's annual fundraising/development efforts and alumni programs. Under Stoessel's leadership, the school has consistently achieved record yearly fundraising results, established creative strategies to meet current challenges, and prepared for the future while being deeply committed to the students, alumni, and the Central Catholic community.

Matt was raised and resides in the South Hills area of Pittsburgh with his wife, Clarinda, and their three children: Victoria, William, and John. Before attending Central Catholic, he attended St. Thomas More Catholic School (now Ave Maria Academy) in Bethel Park, PA. Matt's children attended Ave Maria Academy in Bethel Park from Pre-K through the 8th grade. Matt and Clarinda's daughter, Victoria, recently graduated from Oakland Catholic High School as a member of the class of 2023. She received a full scholarship to attend The Conway School of Nursing at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Stoessel's sons, William and John, are a junior and freshman respectively, at Central Catholic.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

LETTER FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT



The brotherhood we share as students at Central Catholic High School is unmatched, and we are blessed to be a part of this fraternal bond that will last a lifetime. As we close the fall semester and enjoy the Christmas holiday and the turn of the new year with our families and friends, we reflect on our accomplishments over this past semester. In the spring, we plan to celebrate the success of our school and the accomplishments in athletics, clubs, and other extracurricular activities.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK HARD, PUSH EACH OTHER IN VARIOUS WAYS, AND CREATE A FUN, CHARACTER-BUILDING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS.

Some examples include the Lenten Mission Drive and Canned Food Drive, which creates a competitive, way for students to help raise money and show support for those in need. There are also exciting science competitions like the PJAS Regionals, which challenge our students and allow them to display their skills. And how could I forget the dodgeball tournament, which gets the entire student body involved and passionate, battling to see who the best team will be.

Whether it's raising donations, solving problems, or on the court, the atmosphere at Central is competitive and nothing short of awesome. All these activities help to create connections and carry out themes of brotherhood by which Central's foundation was built upon.

- DYLAN DEASY, '24, STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT





Honors Convocation

















ANNUALLY, CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

RECOGNIZES ITS STUDENTS FOR ACHIEVING HIGH ACADEMIC TEST SCORES AND GRADES FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

In September,184 students in grades 10-12 were honored for their achievements from the 2022-23 school year.

The students recognized at Honors Convocation met one or more of the following academic achievements during the 2023-24 school year: high honors during both semesters, subject award winner, or National Honor Society inductee.





THE STUDENTS WHO ACHIEVED THE **HIGHEST QUALITY POINT AVERAGE** RECEIVED SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT



John Beeson, '24



Andrew Koes, '25



Brian Lemon, '26



Christian Williams, '26

TIED AT #1 FOR THEIR CLASS



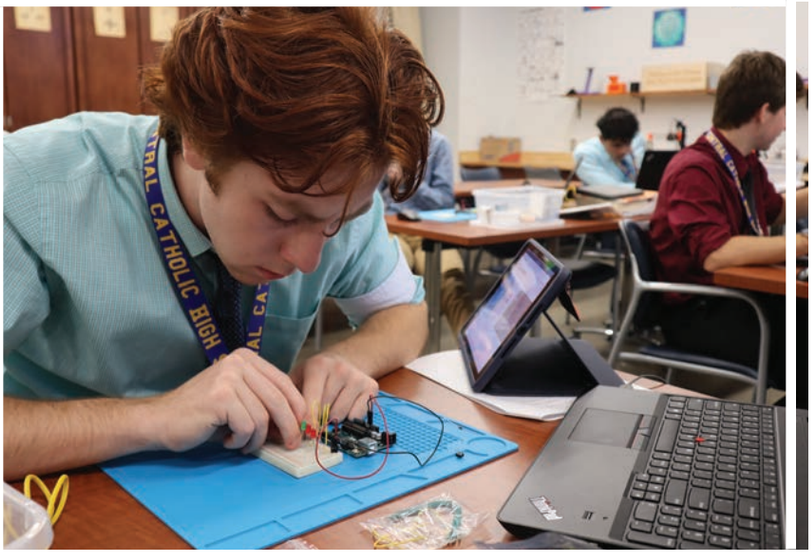
NEW TRADITION OF ENGINEERING BEGINS AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC

YEARS OF PLANNING BROUGHT THE VISION TO FRUITION.

The new Central Catholic Engineering Institute (EICC) has been productive this fall, bringing together students who have aspirations of becoming professionals in the field. After building a solid curriculum, the inaugural year has a solid start with tremendous potential to grow.

"KNOWING THAT THE VALIANT EFFORT TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK IS DONE AND THAT THE PROGRAM OFFICIALLY STARTED ROLLING, MORE STUDENTS WILL HEAR ABOUT IT, AND WE ANTICIPATE AN UPTICK IN ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT TO SERVE AS MENTORS. THIS WILL ULTIMATELY ATTRACT PROSPECTIVE PARENTS AND STUDENTS TO SEE HOW GREAT AN OPPORTUNITY IT IS FOR THEIR SON,"

SAID MARK SALAMACHA, CO-DIRECTOR OF EICC.



Central Catholic's state-of-the-art Zupancic Family STEM Center is the perfect place to launch the Engineering Institute. Through the generosity of alumni and friends, the building was outfitted with resources for designing, developing, simulating, prototyping, and testing projects. The workspaces support traditional classroom learning while allowing room to collaborate in project-based initiatives. Additionally, the program's faculty members have industry and academic engineering experience, allowing for unique insights into the practical application of theories and models.

EICC CO-DIRECTOR STACIE BALL EXCLAIMED,

"CENTRAL CATHOLIC STUDENTS NOW HAVE AN INCREDIBLE CHANCE TO SEIZE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY. THEY CAN NOW LEARN DIRECTLY FROM PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND GAIN VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO THE FASCINATING WORLD OF ENGINEERING! WE HAVE RECEIVED EXCELLENT FEEDBACK ABOUT THE PROGRAM FROM BOTH THE STUDENTS AND PARENTS."

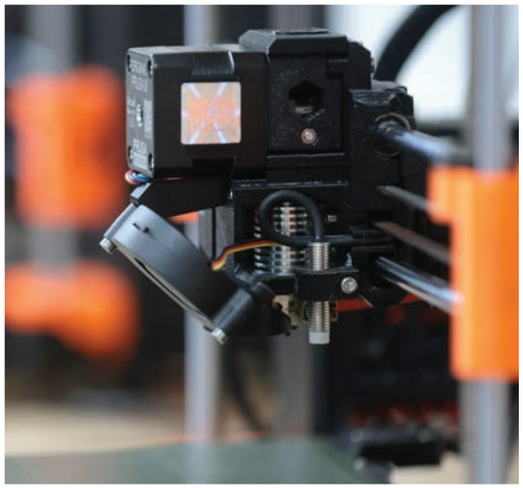
DAN SWEENEY, '81, IS ONE OF SEVERAL ALUMNI MENTORS IN THE EICC PROGRAM SAYS,

"THE EFFORTS TO FOSTER EXPLORATION INTO ENGINEERING ARE INVALUABLE TO BOYS. THE EICC OPENS UP DREAMS AND POSSIBILITIES THAT WOULDN'T HAVE EMERGED OTHERWISE. As a Vice President of Software and digital engineer, Sweeney believes that contributing to his alma mater is an easy choice, "I LOVE THIS POINT IN MY CAREER, TO BE ABLE TO OFFER INSIGHTS TO YOUNGER PEOPLE AND I'M ESPECIALLY HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO OFFER IT TO CENTRAL."









STUDENTS ARE COMPLETING 4 DIFFERENT DESIGN CHALLENGES USING THE ENGINEERING DESIGN PROCESS.

Through the program, guest speakers were brought to campus and field trips were organized to introduce students to the various engineering disciplines.

"I HAVE REALLY BEEN INTERESTED IN AEROSPACE ENGINEERING AND FIND EXPLORING SPACE AN INTERESTING SUBJECT OVERALL. WE LEARN THE ENGINEERING DESIGN PROCESS THROUGH TRIGONOMETRY AND HOW TO USE VECTORS WHICH WILL HELP ME."

"IT'S A REALLY INTERESTING CLASS, AND I LOVE HOW IT LASTS THROUGHOUT THE REST OF HIGH SCHOOL," **SAID MARCO PETRUCCI, '26.**



Central Catholic's Engineering Institute checks all of the boxes to allow students to learn and explore engineering at a high level.



H2O2 EXPERIMENT

A demonstration of the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide was presented by Brother Eric's Chemistry II students. The procedure involved combining detergent and potassium iodide and adding a peroxide solution to a graduated cylinder. The hydrogen peroxide decomposed, producing water and foam in the form of oxygen gas. This experiment triggered an exothermic reaction, and the temperature of the foam was measured using thermometers.



SCHOLARS TRAVEL THE LAND

Annually, the seniors in The David S. Baginski, FSC Scholars Program take a break from one of the busiest semesters of their high school career to enjoy a day of fellowship and fun as a class. This year, they traveled to Cleveland, where they toured the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and the Cleveland Art Museum. During their travels, the students and chaperones enjoyed a very special family-style Lebanese lunch in the city's historic center.



LAB EXPLORATION

Mark Krotec's AP Biology and Bioengineering classes visited Carnegie Mellon University's Biomedical Engineering Teaching Lab to engage in a stem cell laboratory experience! Students took part in an experiment designed to examine the effects of either an anti-inflammation drug or alcohol on the replication rate and differentiation behavior of myoblastic stem cells. In addition, they were able to test the cell seeding efficacy of a poly-lactic acid scaffold material.

FINANCIAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

John Rudzik, '55, returned to Central Catholic in November and shared his expertise and experience as the chief financial officer of the industrial roofing company Centimark Corporation with health classes on campus.



As a product of Catholic education (Holy Rosary Elementary, Central Catholic High School, and Duquesne University, respectfully), he spoke to students about character values and business principles while helping to build Men of Faith, Scholarship, and Service. We are grateful for his inspirational presentation, words of wisdom, and unwavering support of Central Catholic!

FRESHMEN ON DAY ONE

The annual Freshmen Day of Recollection at St. Paul Cathedral was held in September to welcome the Class of 2027. The retreat provided an opportunity for the freshmen to contemplate their lives and establish connections with their peers. The day concluded with the students composing a letter to their future selves, engaging in scripture reading, and partaking in a Q&A session with the senior class.





COLLEGE FAIR AT PNC

The annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) fair at PNC Park was well attended by members of the Central Catholic Black Student Union. The Pittsburgh Pirates, in collaboration with the Western Pennsylvania Council of Historical Black Colleges and Universities Alumni, extended invitations to nearly 50 esteemed institutions from across the nation. These institutions, along with various affinity groups, share direct ties to colleges and promote higher learning.

THE ROAD TO CANTON

Students from Karen Kolenik's Sports in America class, which studies Sociology in American sports, visited the Pro Football Hall of Fame.







Students were given a presentation on dual sport athletes and the number of successful pro athletes who played multiple high school sports. During the tour, students visited exhibits and watched films on the history of the NFL, its impact on American culture, and life lessons learned through sport.

Dan Marino, '79, (Miami Dolphins) is the only Central Catholic alumnus enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.





THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Black Student Union joined with the men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and took part in their annual turkey drive for the Thanksgiving holiday. Donated turkeys, side dishes and canned goods were distributed to members of Pittsburgh's East End community. Students from both Central Catholic and Serra Catholic High Schools assisted in this continuous push to give back through service in Pittsburgh's inner city neighborhoods.



SALUTE TO SERVICE

Students from Central Catholic and Oakland Catholic High Schools marched in the Veteran's Day parade through the streets of Downtown Pittsburgh. We personally send special thanks you to all who have bravely served our country! We salute you!



STANDING IN PRAYER DURING A TIME OF SORROW

During the fall semester, the Central Catholic Community stood with Serra Catholic High School, a fellow school within the Diocese of Pittsburgh. This support came after a tragic automobile accident that took the life of one of Serra Catholic's students. We pray that those affected can find healing in the time of sorrow.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all out affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."
- 2 Corinthians 1:3-4



Central Catholic organized a fundraiser by selling numerous t-shirts to support the family of Serra Catholic High School student Samantha Kalkbrenner. Students wore the shirt to a Central Catholic football game.

100% OF THE PROCEEDS WENT TO THE KALKBRENNER FAMILY.



The day following a memorial service on the Serra Catholic campus, students from Central Catholic volunteered to break down chairs and staging while Serra students mourned their fallen classmate.





CAPTIVATING CARNIVAL ON CAMPUS

The Central Catholic Student Council hosted its annual Fall Carnival in the Quadrangle! Students spent their lunch periods ordering mouth-watering bar-b-que from a food truck, remained physically active playing cornhole, and even caricatures were drawn on the spot. The day brings the campus closer together during the academic day and allows students to play yard games and support our clubs on campus.

WE HAVE A VERDICT

On November 16th, the University of Pittsburgh School of Law hosted Central Catholic's Law & Ethics Class. Included with this unique immersion experience for aspiring Central lawyers was the opportunity to serve as jurors for a mock trial conducted by Pitt's intensive trial advocacy program.



BIG WINNER

$10,000 GRAND PRIZE RECIPIENT KRISTIN STAUNTON

PHOTOGRAPHED WITH HER SON JACOB KELLEHER, '27. KRISTIN WON THE GRAND PRIZE, AND JACOB WON $100 FOR SELLING THE WINNING TICKET.

Annually, Central Catholic students will raise money by selling raffle tickets. The proceeds go towards activities for student organizations and activities. The initial financial goal was $85,000. The total amount of money raised this year was $96,720!



HOMECOMING DANCE 2023

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church was the venue for the 2023 Central Catholic Junior/Senior Homecoming Dance. The event didn't disappoint as 265 students filled the Cathedral Ballroom and enjoyed a night of dancing, an open buffet complete with s'mores in abundance, and, of course, selfies!





CLOSER TO CHRIST

With his family in full support, Michael Muto, ’25, was fully received into the Catholic Church. The Holy Spirit was at work leading and strengthening him in his decision and Muto’s mentor, Deacon Jelinek (pictured), was in attendance for the ceremony during a vigil at Saint Stanislaus Church.

Since Michael had been baptized in the Presbyterian Church as an infant, he did not have to be rebaptized. After renewing his baptismal promises with the entire congregation, Michael then made his profession of faith in the Catholic Church and went on to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist.

MEN OF MERIT

Central Catholic takes great pride in recognizing James Sweeney, '24, and John Beeson, '24, as the Semifinalists of the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Competition. Furthermore, we would also like to acknowledge Jack Kaczmarski, '24, and Tate Helms, '24, for their achievement as Commended Students.

It is worth noting that the National Merit Scholarship program attracts an impressive number of participants, with over 1.5 million students from around 21,000 high schools taking the PSAT each year. Out of these, a remarkable fifty thousand students qualify for program recognition.







CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Central Catholic High School takes pride in providing support to our partner charities. This year, The Little Sisters of the Poor received a donation of 18,187 canned goods from the 2023 Vikings' Canned Food Drive for the Thanksgiving holiday. This yearly event has been highly successful in providing support to those in need.

HOLIDAY STAGE PERFORMANCE

The Central Catholic - Oakland Catholic Masque Drama Society presented its annual musical revue - *"We Need a Little Christmas!"*

The show featured holiday classic music from recent movies and Broadway hits, from *"Mame," "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," "Anastasia," "A Christmas Story," "A Year without a Santa Claus," "Frozen,"* and *"White Christmas,"* with a full-staging of the beloved TV special "*A Charlie Brown Christmas!*"







CHRISTMAS ON CAMPUS

Students spread holiday cheer by adorning the school with festive decorations, aiming to get the Central Catholic community into the Christmas spirit.





















FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

BROTHER MIKE'S RETURN TO CENTRAL CATHOLIC



We are excited to welcome Brother Mike Andrejko, FSC, '86, back to Central Catholic as our new Vice President of Lasallian Mission. His return to campus signifies a tremendous homecoming, as he will undoubtedly bring a positive influence to our community. Brother Mike has a continuous and strong commitment to Lasallian values and an understanding of our mission.

In his new role, he will be the key strategist for the infusion of Lasallian identity, including visioning, planning, and implementation for Central Catholic.



THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Prior to the beginning of the fall semester, we said farewell to Mark Burnett, '00, who served as an integral part of Central Catholic's Advancement team as the Director of Special Projects and Events. We wholeheartedly thank him for his contributions to our school over his many years of service. Burnett was pivotal in leading the charge with the annual Viking Victory Auction. In addition, he provided critical support to the Lettermen's Club, Mothers' Guild, and the various booster organizations here at the school.

Burnett's impact extends far beyond the events he helped to organize, and his departure leaves behind a legacy of distinction. We wish Mark all the best in his new position with the Sarah Heinz House and thank him for his service and dedication to the Central Catholic community!

WE WELCOME OUR NEW FACULTY MEMBERS TO THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY!



Andrew F. Adomitis, Esq., '80
Accounting & Business Law



Benjamin Connor
Biology



Tucker Helms, '17
Freshman Music



Matthew Kizior, '11
World History & Human Geography



Wanda Petersen
Spanish



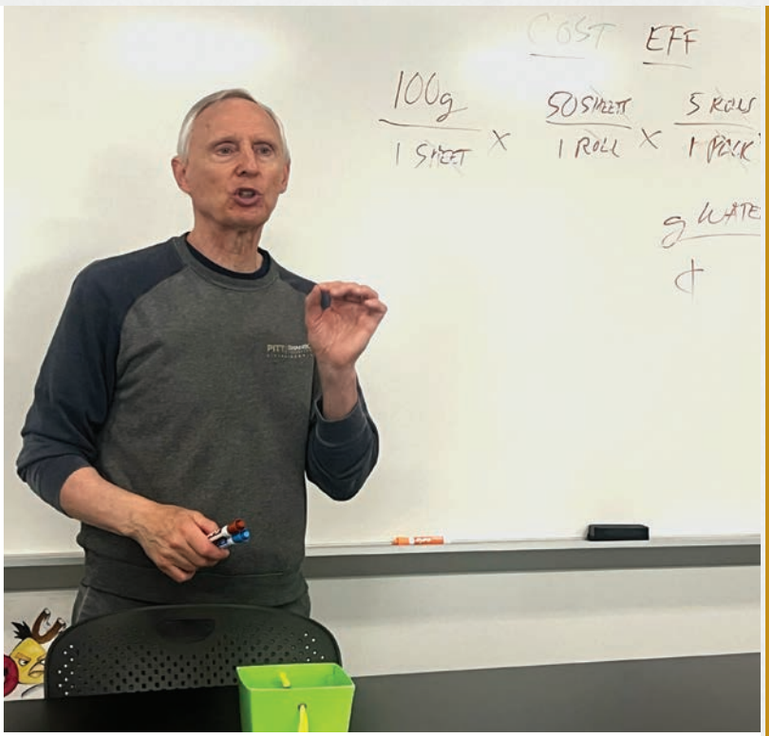
Jared Weyers
Accounting

"To be entrusted with the teaching of the young is a great gift and grace of God."

– St. John Baptist de La Salle

STEM OUTREACH PROGRAM

Mark Krotec, '73, Central Catholic biology and bioengineering science teacher, established two programs to enhance STEM education throughout the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Since 1995, Krotec has directed a teacher scholarship program, which funds K-12 educators to attend the National Science Teachers Association's (NSTA) yearly convention. Roughly 90 teachers have been funded, with over $150,000 donated by Central Catholic Alumni. These teachers and Krotec have been tasked with sharing their newly gained teaching strategies and resources at summer workshops held yearly at CCHS. The Diocese of Pittsburgh, in turn, has supported teacher workshop attendees with equipment grants.



A second program was initiated in 2016, wherein Krotec and a group of student ambassadors traveled to Diocesan grade schools to engage classes in advanced science experiments. Schools have a variety of science topics o choose from, including Enzymology, Environmental Science, Regenerative Medicine, DNA Technology, Bioengineering, and Invertebrate Behavior.







TOGETHER AGAIN

The retired educators of Central Catholic convene every month for a lunch where they recall their time spent working at 4720 Fifth Avenue. Each month, a different venue is selected for their gatherings, and the group of individuals who have shaped the minds of countless students who have passed through the school's halls never fail to make the occasion lively.

FIRST ROW L-R

Rick Walker, Dave Bodrog, Tom Zunic, John Fischetti, Joe Emanuele, Father Robert George, Joe Cupelli

SECOND ROW L-R

Harry Sirockman, Dan McKinley, Mike McGrath, John Cope, Bill Lloyd, Harry Tuminello, MaryAnn Lloyd, Tim McVeagh, Russell Brown, Deacon Bill Strathman, Vince Ciaramella, Joe Roche, Glenn Campbell

ATHLETICS



CENTRAL CATHOLIC AT-BAT WITH
THE MIRACLE LEAGUE

THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC BASEBALL TEAM HAS BEEN WORKING WITH AND ESTABLISHING A GREAT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MIRACLE LEAGUE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA IN MURRYSVILLE, PA, FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS.

Founded on Christian values, complete with an opening prayer before each game, the Miracle League was formed to serve young adults with special needs by allowing participants to engage in competitive sports. Everyone involved in this program gets to experience the true spirit of America's favorite pastime.

Central Catholic's student-athletes assist with the Miracle League's Fall Ball season, which runs from late August until the beginning of October. The students assist volunteers with setting up the equipment, water, and scoreboard, as well as assisting the athletes during games with coaching, pitching, announcing, running the scoreboard, and helping the Miracle League athletes enjoy the game of baseball.

REV. HAROLD HICKS IS THE PRESIDENT OF ATLANTIC CODE CONSULTANTS AND ASSISTANT PRIEST AT PITTSBURGH DIOCESE OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA.

"YOU JUST FALL IN LOVE WITH THE KIDS. I TELL EVERYBODY, YOU COME OUT TO THE FIELD, AND YOU WATCH THE GAME. YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE GAME. YOU CAN'T HELP BUT LOVE OUR KIDS," said Hicks, who is the founder of the Miracle League. "WE LOVE HAVING CENTRAL CATHOLIC VOLUNTEERING WITH US. THE PLAYERS, THE PARENTS, AND THE COMMUNITY APPRECIATES THEIR PRESENCE."

- HICKS IS ALSO THE CO-FOUNDER OF THE ROTARY MIRACLE SPORTS COMPLEX: **BILL MAZEROSKI MIRACLE FIELD**.







JOHN RENDE, '10, SOPHOMORE THEOLOGY TEACHER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS MINISTRY, AND CENTRAL CATHOLIC HEAD BASEBALL COACH, says he is proud of how Central Catholic students continuously step up...

"IT'S A TESTAMENT TO THE BOYS' WILLINGNESS TO SERVE, NOT ONLY AT THE MIRACLE LEAGUE BUT JUST IN GENERAL, HERE AT SCHOOL, AND IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. IT'S SOMETHING THEY LOOK FOR AND SOMETHING THAT THEY ENJOY."



JOHN RENDE, '10

CARSON PETTYJOHN, '26'S VERSATILITY ON THE FIELD IS APPARENT, AS HE PLAYS TWO DIFFERENT POSITIONS ON THE FIELD, AT BOTH PITCHER AND SHORTSTOP.

"IT FEELS REALLY GOOD TO GIVE BACK, TO BE WITH MY FRIENDS AND PLAY WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE MIRACLE LEAGUE." He says he and his teammates will never stop short of being an intrinsic part of the process of volunteering for the greater good of the Miracle League.



CARSON PETTYJOHN, '26

PRESENTLY THERE ARE 250 MIRACLE LEAGUE ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY INCLUDING PUERTO RICO, CANADA AND OUR NEWEST MEMBER IN AUSTRALIA.

SOURCE: MIRACLE LEAGUE OF MURRYSVILLE, PA

THE MIRACLE LEAGUE IS PROUD TO SERVE

OVER 200,000

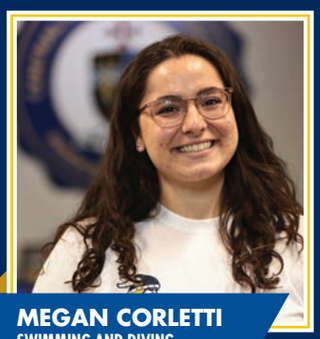
CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.

CENTRAL CATHOLIC WELCOMES *NEW COACHES*

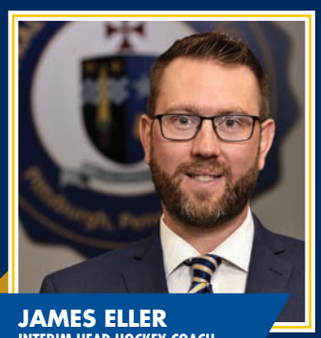
CENTRAL CATHOLIC VIKINGS



JOE AUTH, '16
HEAD JV GOLF



MEGAN CORLETTI
SWIMMING AND DIVING



JAMES ELLER
INTERIM HEAD HOCKEY COACH



JAKE SMITHCO, '17
HEAD VARSITY GOLF

SCORING POINTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Over the Thanksgiving holiday break, the Central Catholic Basketball Varsity and Junior Varsity teams dedicated their time to volunteering at the Red Door Homeless Shelter located in Downtown Pittsburgh. During the visit, team members and coaches actively participated in various tasks such as preparing and serving meals to those in need, ensuring cleanliness by sweeping floors, cleaning bathrooms, and engaging with the local community. This valuable experience allowed students to showcase their commitment as individuals who embody faith, scholarship, and a strong sense of service.













1ST TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS

TEAM RECORDS

CENTRAL CATHOLIC VIKINGS

FOOTBALL RECORD: **9 WINS | 2 LOSSES**
6A CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS RECEIVED SPECIAL RECOGNITION AROUND THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC LEAGUE (WPIAL)

OFFENSE:

Sam Brackney, '24 - Center
Tanner Fuchs, '24 - Guard
Payton Wehner, '24 - Quarterback
Elijah Faulkner, '24 - Running Back
Peter Gonzalez, '24 - Wide Receiver
Vernon Settles, '24 - Wide Receiver
Jacob Sassic, '24 - Athlete

DEFENSE:

Ty Yuhas, '24 - Defense Line
Anthony Speca, '24 - Linebacker
Cole Sullivan, '24 - Linebacker
Amari Shields, '25 - Defensive Back
Xxavier Thomas, '25 - Defensive Back

2ND TEAM:

OFFENSE

Roman Kane, '25 - Offensive Line
Anthony Shovlin, '24 - Offensive Line

DEFENSE:

Carmen Petraglia, '24 - Defensive Line
Colsen Gatten, '26 - Linebacker
Gavin Stanek, '24 - Defensive Back

SPECIALIST:

Billy Lech, '25- 2nd Team Kicker
Paul Koupiaris, '24 - 2nd Team Punter

HONORABLE MENTION:

Grayson Nugent, '24 - Offensive Line
Da'Ron Goodwine, '25 - Defensive Line
Dylan Deasy, '24- Linebacker
Larry Moon, '27- Defensive Back

ALL WPIAL:

Logan Pappert, '25

COACH OF THE YEAR:

Ryan Lehmeier

GOLF RECORD: **17 WINS | 1 LOSSES**
SECTION CHAMPIONS

SOCCER RECORD: **7 WINS | 11 LOSSES**

RAISE THE BANNERS

The victory banners in the gymnasium, located in Alumni Hall, have been updated to display the newest championships from our Golf (2022 PIAA and WPIAL) and Basketball (2023 WPIAL) teams!

#ROLLVIKES





COLLEGE SIGNINGS

During the fall semester, the following students have committed to play sports on the next level and carry on the Central Catholic name as they pursue their dreams in the NCAA. **PLAY HARD, GENTLEMEN!**



GEORGE HOREY, '24
Swimming and Diving
PennWest Clarion



GAVIN KELLY, '24
Baseball
West Virginia University



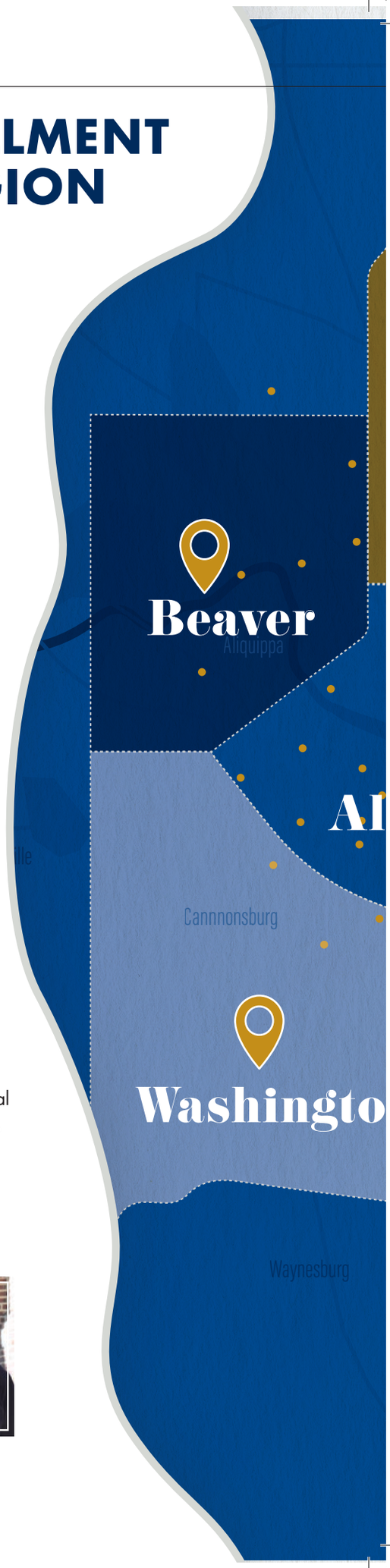
MIKE KISTLER, '24
Lacrosse
Florida Southern College



VICTOR ROSSI, '24
Lacrosse
Seton Hill University

CENTRAL CATHOLIC'S ENROLLMENT SPANS THE PITTSBURGH REGION

BY: BRIAN A. COOK SR., '98



"Tradition never graduates"

is a phrase often expressed at Central Catholic High School, exemplifying alumni's enduring love and appreciation for their rich upbringing. Dating back to the school's founding in 1927, before the prevalence of school buses and the regularity of carpooling, students would journey to school by any means, embarking on their quest for knowledge at what was originally known as Central District Catholic High School.

"WHEN I WAS A STUDENT IN THE 1950S, 98 PERCENT OF US ARRIVED AT SCHOOL ON FOOT, BY STREETCAR OR BUS. MOST OF US HAD TO LIVE CLOSE TO SCHOOL," said Br. Martin Zewe, FSC, '59. "BACK THEN, THERE WAS NO BUSING BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS. YOU HAD TO GET A PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BUS PASS THAT WAS 50 CENTS PER WEEK THAT ONLY INCLUDED THE GENERAL PITTSBURGH AREA."

Over the years, Central Catholic began attracting students from all over the Pittsburgh region. "WHAT MAKES CENTRAL CATHOLIC SO UNIQUE IS THAT THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF PITTSBURGH AND THE REGION HAVE CHANGED OVER THE DECADES, AND SO HAVE THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF OUR STUDENT BODY," said Andrew Macurak, Executive Director of Enrollment Management.

"AS THE POPULATION HAS SHIFTED FROM THE CITY NEIGHBORHOODS AROUND OAKLAND TO THE SUBURBS OVER THE LAST 90-PLUS YEARS, CENTRAL CATHOLIC HAS SEEN THE SAME SHIFT WITH A STUDENT BODY COMPRISED OF STUDENTS FROM FIFTY-SEVEN DIFFERENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS."

The diverse composition of students shapes the school's exceptional educational environment and continuously aims to explore how Central's student body complements its distinctive social milieu.

Central Catholic High School has a student body distinguished by a blend of cross-cultural pupils and a group of young individuals who embody the essence of what it means to be part of the school's fabric.

"IT OPENS UP THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE TO A MORE DIVERSIFIED POPULATION WHILE AT THE SAME TIME CONTINUING TO BUILD THE SAME SPIRIT THAT WAS ALWAYS THERE SINCE 1927," said Br. Martin Zewe, FSC, '59.





57 SCHOOL DISTRICTS	6 COUNTIES

1 CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Students attending from six counties in the Greater Pittsburgh area make Central Catholic the region's most diverse cultural and socioeconomic high school, fostering a vibrant and dynamic learning environment..

Central Catholic has long been recognized for its outstanding education, close-knit community, and commitment to instilling core Catholic and Lasallian principles in its students. However, the number of students coming from Catholic feeder schools has recently decreased, which has presented challenges. Central's real strength, however, lies in its student body's resilience, adaptability, and potential.

"The closures and mergers of Diocesan elementary schools are no secret, especially for those within the City of Pittsburgh. Longtime feeder schools like St. Rosalia's in Greenfield and St. Raphael's in Morningside sent generations of students to Central Catholic are no longer open. The largest elementary schools in the Diocese are at a considerable distance from Central, with many of their families residing in school districts that do not provide transportation to Central. The declining number of students is not just a Diocesan problem. The Pittsburgh Public School district has seen a consistent drop in its enrollment over the last few years. The population has certainly shifted further away from the center of Pittsburgh, forcing Central Catholic to get creative with transportation and parking."



Andrew Macurak,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

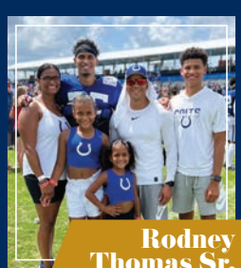
Central has acknowledged the significance of embracing change and continues to concentrate on the strengths it has fostered throughout time. Central deeply values its students, ensuring they're the foundation of its success. With this in mind, the school greatly emphasizes offering a comprehensive education. By maintaining small class sizes, Central Catholic cultivates an atmosphere that allows individual attention and instruction, all in its mission for its students to become "***Men of Faith, Scholarship, and Service.***"

Families enroll their sons in Central Catholic High School, despite the sometimes lengthy (upwards of 40 miles) commute, because they firmly believe in the school's positive reputation and curriculum. Central Catholic molds character and fosters life-long friendships that transcend the confines of the classroom.

The following families have expressed their unwavering faith in a Central Catholic education and how it is a testament to their sons' growth and maturation:



"Central Catholic checked all of the boxes as far as what we were looking for as a family—the education, the discipline, the dress code, and just being a great college preparatory school. Being from Washington County, we looked at numerous schools in our area, including Wheeling, WV., to different parts of Pittsburgh, and we just explored the different options and tried to find out what would be the best environment, including the best situation for our student-athletes. Central was just overwhelmingly the best environment. Before applying, I spoke with other parents, and everyone highly regarded Central. When it came time for us as a family to send our two sons, it was a no-brainer. We would do it all over again."



Rodney Thomas Sr.

FATHER TO RODNEY II, '17, AND XXAVIER, '25

"It was important for us that our sons receive a high-quality education as well as the religious and spiritual nurturing we knew they'd get at Central. It's an awesome feeling knowing your kids are surrounded daily by prayer, including right before an AP exam! I love that my son goes off every morning dressed like a guy who's serious about where he's headed and what he's going to do once he gets there. He has such great respect for his teachers, and I love the influence they've had on both our boys. It's not uncommon for one of them to draw upon and share some words of wisdom or a lesson they've learned from teachers over the years. The quality of teachers, both from an academic as well as a character standpoint, is unmatched."



Stephanie Lewand

MOTHER TO RAMSEY, '20
AND CHRISTIAN, '24

"We currently have two sons at Central, class of 2024 and class of 2027, and both have done extremely well at Central. Our world is changing so fast and in so many ways, some good, some bad, but no matter how those changes manifest, we still need faith-centered, respectful, chivalrous men, and Central helps guide these boys to become that," says **Sarah Smith**."

"I am a 1994 graduate of Central Catholic - following in the footsteps of my grandfather, Dr. Francis A. Smith - early 30s, and father, Chris Smith - 1965. I feel very privileged to share Central Catholic with my sons. Central has evolved over the years. However, its best traditions and traits have remained. It has been a joy to watch my sons experience Central, and it has given us a relatable bond that will last forever. I would strongly encourage any Central graduate who has sons to send them to Central." - **Christopher Smith, '94**



Sarah & Christopher Smith, '94

PARENTS OF MICHAEL, '24
AND ALEX, '27

"When I was investigating high schools for my oldest son Bradley, who is currently a Junior, I asked myself, 'What kind of education do I want him to have?' We live in an award-winning school district which seemed to offer every program and activity we could imagine. When I looked at Central Catholic, I learned about "the journey" Central would offer. Central promised they would focus on helping my son become a Man of Faith, a Man of Scholarship, and a Man of Service. I currently have two sons at Central. Bradley is a Junior, and Charlie is a freshman. I am hopeful my third son, Sam, will be accepted into Central's class of 2028. As a Catholic mother striving to raise good men, I knew this was the place for us."



Kim Gompers

MOTHER TO BRADLEY, '25,
CHARLES, '27 AND SAM, '28

A Welcome Mass and Picnic is the Culmination of Summer Break

Each year, school administrators, faculty, and staff host incoming Central Catholic students and families for a special Mass and gathering in the Quadrangle for a picnic and fellowship.









CORDIA EIUS IN PROGENIES ET PROGENIES TIMENTIBUS









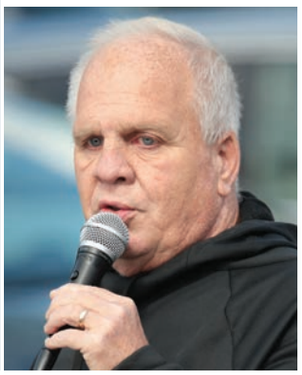





TERRY TOTTEN, '76

"THAT LIGHT, AND THAT HOPE WAS ALWAYS THERE IN THE LETTERMEN'S CLUB AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC. YOU LEAVE CENTRAL CATHOLIC, IT NEVER LEAVES YOU. I AM GRATEFUL FOR THIS HONOR AND I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR WORK OVER THE YEARS."

Central Catholic High School
Lettermen's Club
EST. 1993






COREY O'CONNOR, '02

"IT WAS REALLY HUMBLING TO HAVE COACHED AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC FOR 17 YEARS. THIS WAS A VERY SPECIAL JOB THAT I HAD."

31ST ANNUAL LETTERMEN'S CLUB GOLF OUTING

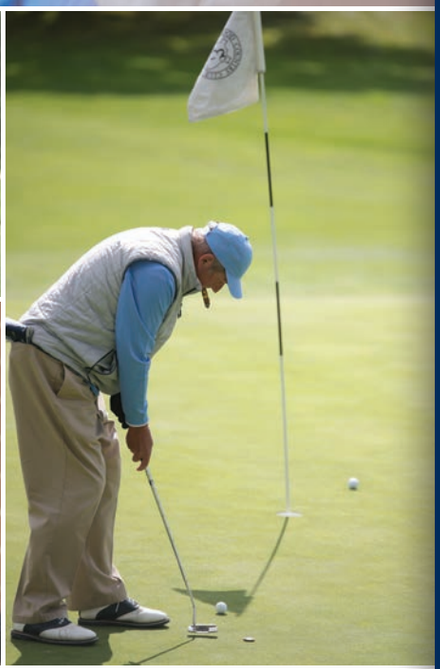
PLAYING THE LONG GAME

The day was short, but the friendships last forever! The annual Lettermen's Club Golf Outing was a tremendous success and brought together alumni from various classes, friends, and family of Central Catholic to enjoy a round of golf while supporting our school!

This year, we honored three alumni who have made significant contributions to the legacy of Central Catholic. Retired football coach Terry Totten, '76, Corey O'Connor, '02, Retired golf coach, and a touching tribute in memory of Michael Donahue, '84, a long-time supporter of the Lettermen's Club.











PLATINUM SPONSOR

DYNAMO FREIGHT

SILVER SPONSOR

Kolias Tabaka Wealth Management at Confluence Financial Partners
UPMC

BRONZE SPONSORS

Community Bank
Diversified Storage Solutions
HDG Architects
A. Martini & Co
Massaro Corporation
Jack McGinley, '61 & Family
Jim Sadowski, Class of 1969
System 4

EVENT SUPPORTERS

HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSOR

Henne Jewelers

BEVERAGE CART & STATION SPONSOR

Thomas H. Ayoob III, & Associates, LLC
Echelon Risk & Cyber
Dynamo Freight

DRIVING RANGE & PUTTING GREEN SPONSOR

Dynamo Freight
Fazio Mechanical Services, Inc. & FMS Construction, Inc.
(Anonymous Sponsor) In loving memory of Mike Donahue, '84,
Steve Lauble, '82, & Mossie Murphy, '82
(From Steve Massaro) In loving memory of Mike Donahue, '84
Kelly-Rielly-Nell-Barna Associates
McGann and Chester, LLC
Original Oyster House
Poillucci Plumbing, Inc.

HOLE SPONSORS

Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.
Dr. Bern Bernacki, '70, Golf Heritage Society
Dynamo Freight
Grant Bacharach, '03, Howard Hanna Mortgage Services
M.J. Kelly Realty Corporation
McGann and Chester, LLC
McNees Law Firm
Mullaney's Harp & Fiddle
NexTier Bank
Poillucci Plumbing, Inc.
Schneider Downs
William & Silvaggio, LLP Joseph Silvaggio, 84
Smith Electric Services
Stantec Architecture & Engineering
Frank Tigano,'01-Superior Sign Service, LLC
Vortec Coil Finishers, LLC
The Wymard Scholarship Fund

PRIZE SPONSORS

Allegheny Fence Construction, Inc.
Century Sports, Inc.
Eat'n Park Hospitality Group, Inc.

MOTHERS' GUILD FASHION SHOW



THE ANNUAL FASHION SHOW ORGANIZED BY THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC MOTHERS' GUILD WAS A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS!

The runway was ablaze with models donning Central Catholic paraphernalia and fashions from the latest trends.

Held at the Pittsburgh Field Club, witnessed the participation of numerous supporters, mothers, students, and friends of Central.

The program was hosted by **SUSAN KOEPPEN**, a news anchor from WPXI-TV (11).

THE EVENT RAISED MONEY TO SUPPORT CAMPUS SAFETY

"My son, George, is a senior, and I've been involved with the fashion show all four years since he was a freshman, and we had to hold it virtually, It's such a fun event! I love fashion, connecting with other Central moms, and supporting a worthy cause while giving back to Central Catholic. With all of our seven boutiques that we spotlighted this year, we were proud to offer fashion for everyone. We had so many generous donations from moms, families, and the community, and so many of our attendees were able to win something special. As a Mothers' Guild, we are proud to host such a fabulous event and to be able to help keep our school a little bit safer. We thank everyone involved for making it a truly wonderful event."

MICHELLE CARNES,
CO-CHAIR, MOTHERS' GUILD FASHION SHOW



PRESENTING SPONSOR

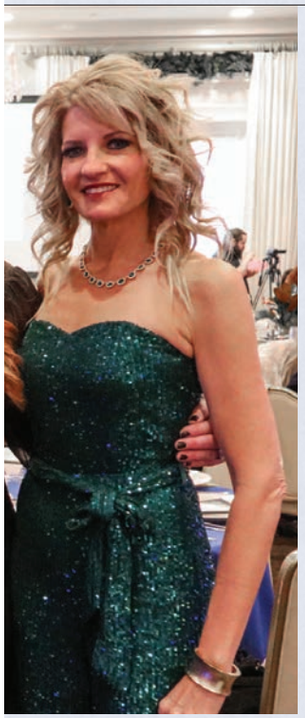
UPMC
LIFE CHANGING MEDICINE

EVENT SPONSORS

THE DECUIR FAMILY OF DEALERSHIPS

WASHINGTON CHEVROLET
RIVERVIEW CHEVROLET
RIVERVIEW GMC













"The Fashion Show is a beloved Central community event. As a mother of four, the focus of this year's event, enhancing campus safety, is personal to me. Ensuring that our children are loved and safe is my priority, and a priority of all of the moms that I so proudly worked alongside on the Fashion Show."

JAMIE MURPHY,
CO-CHAIR, MOTHERS' GUILD FASHION SHOW

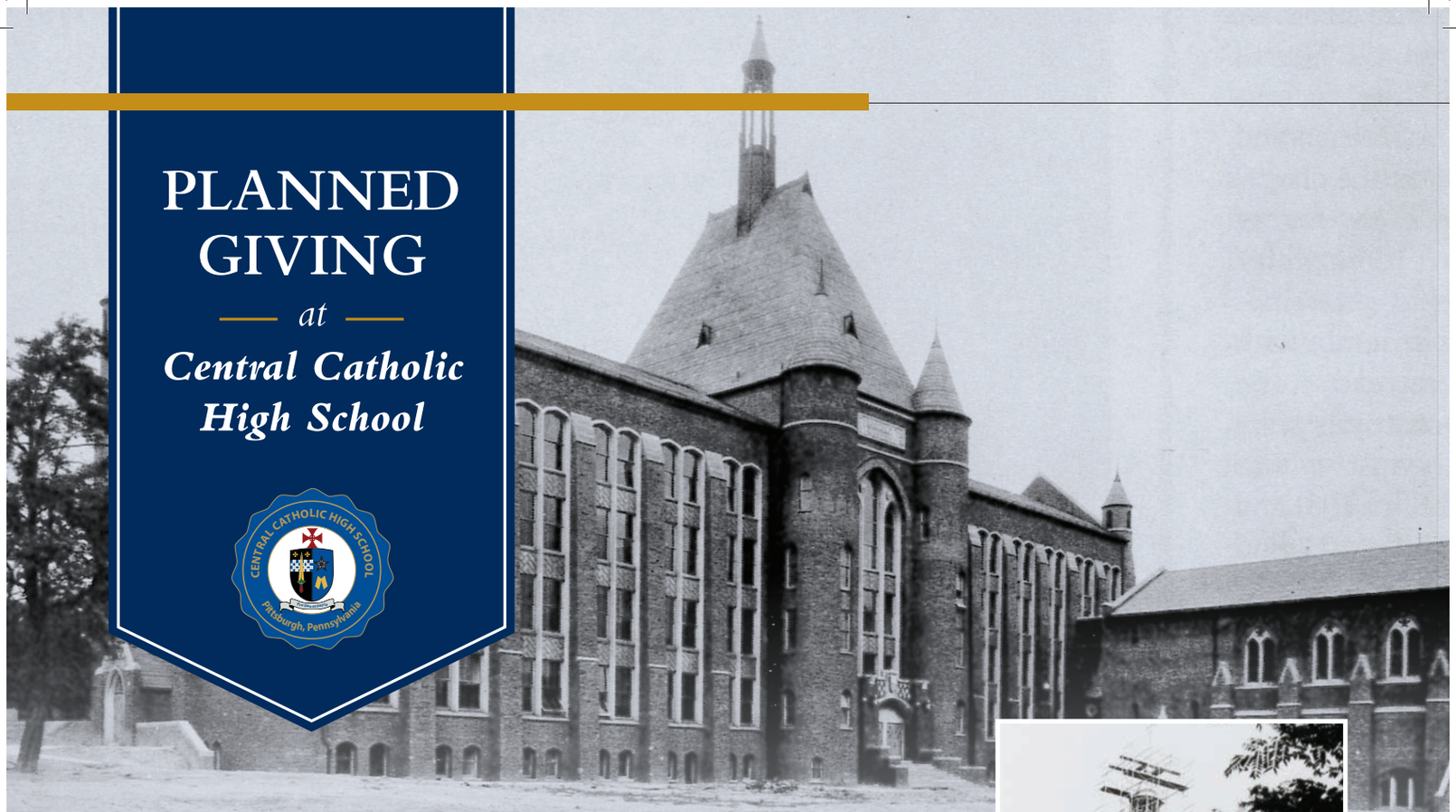


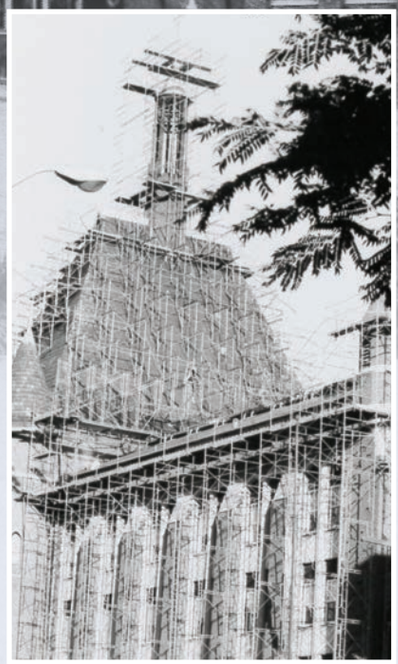
NISHA BLACKWELL, A LOCAL FASHION DESIGNER AND THE OWNER OF KNOTZLAND BOWTIE CO., DESIGNED CUSTOM BOW-TIES MADE FROM CENTRAL CATHOLIC FOOTBALL JERSEYS FOR THE STUDENTS WHO VOLUNTEERED FOR THE FUNDRAISER.

PLANNED GIVING

at

Central Catholic High School





Have you considered joining the Legacy Circle?

The *Legacy Circle* was created to honor donors who have named Central Catholic High School as a beneficiary through their estate plan.

Current members of the Legacy Circle have made a planned gift(s) for the benefit of Central Catholic High School via their:

- *Wills*
- *Retirement Accounts*
- *Charitable Gift Annuities*
- *Charitable Trusts*
- *and/or Life Insurance Policies*

This extraordinary group of benefactors can make their giving a perpetual legacy for themselves and an example for alumni, friends, and family to follow. It also creates a means of support that makes Central Catholic stronger and better prepared to thrive for generations to come.

If you have already made this provision through your estate plan, please let us know so that Central Catholic High School can include you among the *Legacy Circle* members. If you have any questions, please contact Matthew J. Stoessel, '95, President of Central Catholic, at *412-622-6184* or *MStoessel@CentralCatholicHS.com*. You can also visit our website at *www.CentralCatholicHS.com/pages/planned-giving* for more information and to download/complete the Bequest Intention Form.

Live Jesus in our hearts ... Forever!

LEGACY FAMILIES



CENTRAL CATHOLIC LEGACY FAMILIES

Each fall, we honor our legacy families with a special reception and group photo on the front stairs of the school. This image comprises current students along with their fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and brothers who have also walked the halls of Central Catholic and are a part of our life-long community!

We want to thank everyone for making the Central Catholic experience part of your family tradition.

LEGACY FAMILIES:

ROW 1

ANTHONY TROVATO, '87
RAYMOND TROVATO, '27
CARMEN TROVATO, '82
CAMERON COX, '27
MATTHEW COX, '24
MICHAEL ANGELL, '27
PAUL ANGELL, '56
MICHAEL ACQUILINE, '27
MATTHEW ACQUILINE, '87
MASON ACQUILINE, '27
ANTHONY MARIANO, '24
ROBERT MARIANO, '67
PATRICK DOHERTY, '27
JACK DOHERTY, '52
VINCENT LIVORIO, '27
JAMES IRMER

ROW 2

MARK FARISS, '27
MICHAEL FARISS, '84
ROBERT COX, '89
PAUL EVANS, '27
JACOB VIDIC, '27
WILLIAM VIDIC, '27
CHRIS SMITH, '94
ALEX SMITH, '27
JOSH SKEBA, '27
TOM WOODS, '55
PATRICK SKEBA, '13

ROW 3

PATRICK HALFERTY, '83
JOHN EVANS, '21
TOPHER LEE, '27
KEVIN HART, '76
MATT HAZEL, '98
CHRIS HAZEL, '27

ROW 4

MICHAEL MURPHY, '81
JACK GOISSE, '27
NICO DESANTIS, '27
JOE DEASY, '81
NICK HATALA, '27
MIKE MERCOLINI, '96
LOUIS MERCOLINI, '27
SEAN GOETZMAN, '27

ROW 5

DAVID MURPHY, '27
DECLAN O'TOOLE, '27
JAMES O'TOOLE, '90
MATTEO MISITI, '27
ANTONIO MISITI, '16
WILLIAM COURTRIGHT III, '23
JOSEPH COURTRIGHT II, '27
JOHN HUTCHISON, '25
ROBERT HUTCHISON, '91
ROBERT L. HUTCHISON, '66

ROW 6

SA'NIR BROOKS, '27
TERENCE JOHNSON-HART, '17
ROMAN LEVY, '27
RYAN LEVY, '21
MATTHEW STOESSEL, '95

ROW 7

GABRIEL BELGROVE, '27
MARCOS ZEGARRA, '18
CHARLIE WERNER, '27
BRIAN WERNER, '86
WILLIAM STOESSEL, '25
JACK STOESSEL,'27

ROW 8

ROBERTO SANTAGUIDO, '80
JAMES ZDARKO, '25
ANDREW CARROL, '27
MARCO FORNI, '05
GIANLUCA GIORGI, '27
LUCA GIORGI, '93
THOMAS OCHWAT, '91
JAKE OCHWAT, '24

2023
REUNION GATHERINGS

THE FOLLOWING CLASSES HELD REUNION CEREMONIES AT CENTRAL THIS DURING THE SUMMER AND FALL SEMESTER



50 YEAR CELEBRATION!
CLASS OF 1973



Class of 1953



Class of 1958



Class of 1963



Class of 1968



Class of 1978



Class of 1983



Class of 1988



Class of 1993



Class of 1998



Class of 2003

ALUMNI

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS INAUGURAL EVENT IN THE QUADRANGLE

Central Catholic's Young Professionals Network was created to continue the Central experience well after graduation. There are two primary goals that the newly formed group plans to accomplish. One of the main objectives is to keep recent alumni engaged with the brotherhood that makes Central Catholic unique. The second is to provide professional development to fellow alumni from those who have been successful and who could provide guidance on growing a career. For those who have graduated within the past 25 years and for those planning to become a mentor, please contact Evan Frazier Jr. to become a part of the network. This year, the organization held its first "Welcome Back" event, where over 70 young alumni were in attendance.

Contact Evan Frazier, Jr., '17
Frazierevan21@gmail.com







JAM ON THE QUAD: CIGAR AND BOURBON NIGHT

Alumni, family, and friends of Central Catholic gathered for the annual "Jam on the Quad, Cigar & Bourbon" night.







Central Catholic High School

Reunion Leadership 2024

We invite you to mark your calendars as we celebrate classes ending in 4s and 9s in 2024!

The Alumni Relations office is recruiting committee members from upcoming reunion classes to help classmates prepare for these celebrations.

Make your reunion a success by taking an active role to ensure a great turnout for your class!

Contact Brandon Haburjak, '06
BHaburjak@CentralCatholicHS.com
to learn more.

NEWS FROM VIKING NATION



1

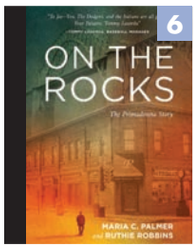


2


3


4


5



6


7


8


9


10

1950s ⌇ ***Michael Rosella, '51,*** released a book of collection of photographs showcasing the images he took while he was a young man exploring Pittsburgh neighborhoods and as a student at the University of Pittsburgh in the 1950s. 1

John Erario, '53, & Mike Kiefer, '70, competed in the National Senior Games. 2

Congratulations to Bill Hillgrove, '58, for being inducted into the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters' 2023 Hall of Fame. 3

1960s ⌇ Duquesne University Board of Directors Chair ***John R. "Jack" McGinley, Jr., '61,*** was presented with a 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award by The Legal Intelligencer at its June 14 Pennsylvania Legal Awards ceremony in Philadelphia. 4

Brother V. Kenneth Curley, FSC, '69 (left), and Brother Bob Schaefer, FSC, at Mont LaSalle in Napa, taken this past June. 5

1970s ⌇ *On the Rocks'* tells the story of the Primadonna restaurant owner ***Joe Costanzo, '71,*** is now available for purchase online. 6

Rich Fitzgerald, '77 (center), was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Hometown Heros event on Thursday, October 19th. 7

Longtime TNT *'Inside the NBA'* producer ***Tim Kiely, '78,*** retires after nearly 30 years. Kiely became producer of *"Inside the NBA"* in 1995, overseeing the additions of Charles Barkley, Kenny Smith, and Shaquille O'Neal to the program that Ernie Johnson has hosted since 1990. 8

G. Marcus Cole, '79, has been reappointed as Dean of Notre Dame Law School. He will serve another 5 years in the position. Cole is the 11th dean in the history of Notre Dame. 9

Dan Marino, '79, is named one of the greatest high school quarterbacks of all time by USA Today High School Sports. Marino was inducted into Central Catholic's Hall of Fame during his time playing with the Miami Dolphins and he was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2005. 10

1980s ⌇ Classmates ***Deacon Michael Fekete, '87*** (Christ Our Savior Parish) ***and Fr. Terry O'Connor, '87,*** (Mary Mother of God Parish). This was the first time together on the altar since their ordinations. Deacon Fekete was the homilist at St. Angela Marici Church for their Marian Novena this past October. 11

1990s ⌇ ***Cornell Jones, '93,*** was awarded the Fred Rogers Institute Helper Award for his outstanding contributions to the community. 12

Marc Bulger, '95, nominated for the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Bulger's name is on the initial list of 173 Modern-Era Nominees for the Pro Football Hall of Fame's class of 2024. 13

Brian Cook, '98, and ***Melvin Cherry, '00,*** received the 2023 Pittsburgh Courier 50 Men of Excellence Award, which celebrates professionals who achieve greatness in their respective fields and significant contributions to the community by way of service and advocacy. 14



JOHN RENDE, '10, RECOGNIZED BY POSITIVE ATHLETE.

Positive Athlete is an organization that aims to reward players, coaches, and schools that have overcome adversity and had a positive impact on their communities and athletic programs. Mars Area High School girl's lacrosse coach Abby Latona and Central Catholic High School baseball coach John Rende were recognized as the most positive coaches.

2000s ***Adam Luiso, '01,*** has been nominated for Best Chef in West Virginia. Adam and his wife Brandy own Chef N Company in Wheeling, WV. 15

Christopher Cavendish, '03, is named a 40 Under 40 Honoree by Pittsburgh Magazine, which recognizes achievement and service in the Pittsburgh region. 16

Bill Connelly, '04, has been named interim head hockey coach at Chatham University. Connelly served as head coach for Central Catholic's hockey program from 2011 - 2023. 17

Peter Greb, '06 named 2023 Forbes *"Top Next-Generation Wealth Advisors Best-in-State"* list Pennsylvania. 18

2010s ***Arnold "Tre" Tarpley III, '14,*** signed with the Atlanta Falcons. After Central Catholic, Tarpley played defensive back with the Vanderbilt Commodores and then for the USFL's Pittsburgh Maulers. 19

Warren Austin, '15, a medical student at the University of Pittsburgh, participated in the National Football League's fellowship program. He served in clinical


11

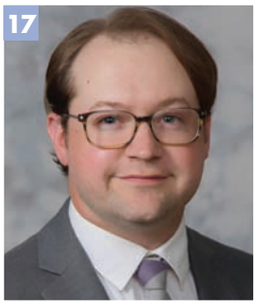

12


13


14


15


16


17


18



19

NEWS FROM VIKING NATION


20


21

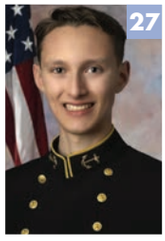

22


23


24


25


26


27


28


29

rotation with the Pittsburgh Steelers during the 2023 Training Camp in Latrobe, PA. 20

Michael Grady, '15, a member of the U.S. men's four rowing team, qualified for the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. 21

Austin Lemieux, '15, wins 38th annual WPGA Mid-Amateur Championship at Nemacolin. 22

John Petrishen, '15, signs with the BC Lions of the Canadian Football League. 23

David Green, '18, was named one of three Pitt football captains for the 2023 season. 24

The Missouri Valley Conference released its Men's Soccer Weekly Awards on Tuesday, and for the first time this season, ***Andres Vasquez, '18,*** was named The Valley's Defensive Player of the Week. Vasquez is a redshirt senior goalkeeper at the University of Illinois Chicago. 25

Neal Shipley, '19, placed 2nd in the country at the U.S. Amateur Championship at Cherry Hills Country Club in Colorado. 26

2020s ***Owen O'Malley, '21,*** was one of two students to be awarded the Best Student Award at the Optica Imaging Congress with his paper *"Systematic Study of Optical Turbulence in Rayleigh-Bénard Underwater Convection."* More than 500 students attended the conference, *"Propagation Through and Characterization of Atmospheric and Oceanic Phenomena,"* and O'Malley was the only undergraduate. 27

Blake Neiderlander '24, recently completed a ten-week-long biomedical ethics research internship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, as one of the six candidates selected for this highly competitive program. 28

Brandon Sweeney, '24 (left) and ***Joseph Paviglianiti, '24*** (right), were the 2023 recipients of the Joseph J. Rogers Memorial Scholarship at Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week, established by ***Joseph Rogers, '14*** (Center), in memory of his late father. 29

JACK SABO, '23,

PARTICIPATED IN THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE OF FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA, INC. (FBLA).

He received the prestigious Future Business Leader and Who's Who Award awards! Jack was a four-year member of the Central Catholic High School FBLA chapter and held many leadership roles at the chapter, regional, state, and national levels. Sabo is photographed with former Central Catholic business teacher Kelly Maxwell.



CENTRAL CATHOLIC GIFTS





THE BOOKSTORE IS OPEN ON REGULAR SCHOOL DAYS:

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR STORE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. or by appointment.

412.208.3498
bookstore@CentralCatholicHS.com

SHOP ONLINE AT CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM/BOOKSTORE







TALK WITH YOUR ACCOUNTANT
or tax advisor to ensure a Viking education today!





Decide how your tax dollars are used. Through the EITC/OSTC programs you can give the money you owe to the State of PA to Central Catholic students instead!

More than 200 students receive need-based scholarships from tax dollars designated to Central Catholic through contributions to the Diocese of Pittsburgh's SOS Fund.

When you make a 2-year commitment, **90% of your gift is applied as a credit to your state tax liability.** Your tax dollars, invested in young Vikings, have the power to change lives.

A WIN FOR YOU.
A WIN FOR CENTRAL STUDENTS.

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Pro Deo et Patria
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

"We are happy to support Central Catholic through this program. Receiving tax credits for a contribution to the school is a "win-win", and we get the satisfaction of knowing exactly how our state tax dollars are being used. We love knowing that young men are benefitting from a Central Catholic education thanks to our support."

- Mr. & Mrs. James Meyers, '88, P '19, '21

For additional details and to find out how to participate, please visit **www.centralcatholichs.com/taxcredits** or email **csteffey@centralcatholichs.com**.



TRADITION TIES US ALL TOGETHER

The ties that bind nearly one hundred years of Vikings together come from shared traditions. Students and alumni of all ages have common experiences: in the classroom, on the field, in the theater, and with their Viking brothers. At Central Catholic, we intentionally hold on to the best of our traditions as a nod to the past and to teach our young men a sense of respect for those who came before them.

One of our most important traditions is ensuring that Central remains accessible to all young men, no matter their financial circumstances. Central has a long history of providing tuition assistance to help families afford our experience. This support comes directly from our alumni and friends. We hope you'll carry on the tradition of philanthropy with a gift to our students!

56%

This year 56% of students are receiving tuition assistance made available by contributions from alumni, like YOU.

Gifts of all size make an impact! 100% of your gift stays here at Central to support financial aid and student programming. Complete, detach and mail the form below or make a secure gift at **CentralCatholicHS.com/give**

Please call the Office of Advancement at 412-622-6171 for additional information.

SCAN CODE to give securely online

Contribution Amount:

Make checks payable to **Central Catholic High School**

- ❑ $1,200
- ❑ $250
- ❑ Other $
- ❑ $500
- ❑ $100
- ❑ I'd like to make a monthly recurring gift of: $

ENTER GRAD YEAR

- ❑ I'm a Central Catholic VIKING!
- ❑ I'm a Parent of a Viking Grad
- ❑ I'm a Parent of a Viking Student

Detach, fold, and mail

FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL LAST NAME

EMAIL

STREET ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

MOBILE PHONE

Complete the following information ONLY if using a credit card:

Please charge my gift to: ❑ VISA ❑ Mastercard ❑ AMEX ❑ Discover

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Signature: _____

CONSIDER A RECURRING GIFT!

STATE OF THE SCHOOL REPORT

JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023

STUDENTS

NEARLY 100 YEARS OF EDUCATING young men from across Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Our student body consists of **730 STUDENTS**.



TUITION

2022-2023 TUITION - $13,675

ACTUAL COST PER STUDENT - $15,272

NEARLY 40% OF STUDENTS RECEIVE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID

AVERAGE FINANCIAL AID AWARD - $6,000

ACADEMICS

150 DISTINCT CLASSES
- **29 HONORS COURSES**
- **16 AP COURSES**



FACULTY-STUDENT RATIO – 13:1

STUDENT LIFE:

19 ATHLETIC TEAMS

40 CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

OVER 5,000 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE COMPLETED ANNUALLY



FAST FACTS

OVER 25,000 ALUMNI SINCE 1927

VALUABLE NETWORKING ENCOURAGES STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH

ASSISTANCE WITH EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES,

MENTORING, AND

HELP WITH INTERNSHIPS AND JOBS

ADVANCEMENT REPORT

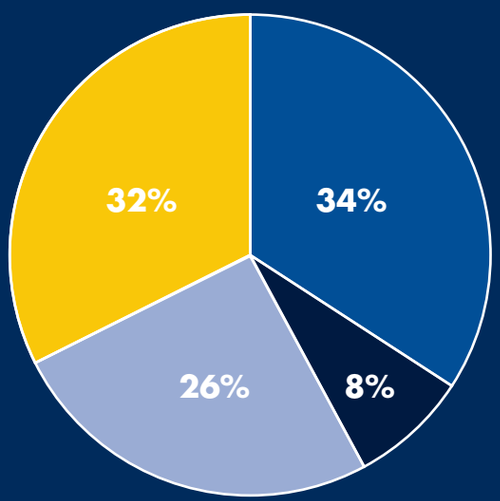
NUMBER OF DONORS
3,025

LASALLIAN SOCIETY MEMBERS
(annual giving totals $1,000+)
439

ADVANCEMENT REPORT OF INCOME:
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Annual *(Unrestricted and Restricted)*	**$1,366,476**
Auction	**$320,000**
EITC/OSTC *(State Tax Credit Program)*	**$1,023,430**
New Endowment Contributions	**$1,296,007**
Total	**$4,005,913**

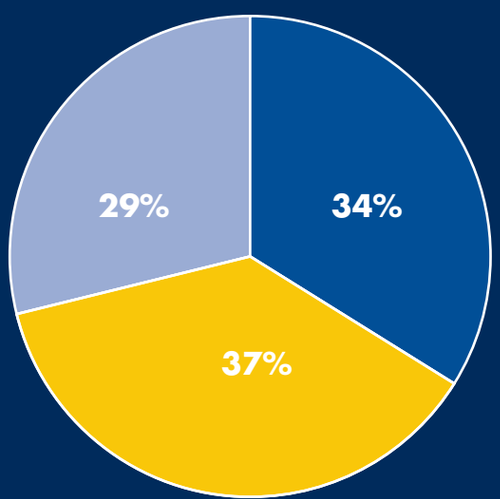
- Annual (Unrestricted and Restricted)
- Auction
- EITC State Program
- Endowment Contributions



SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID & MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS:

Annual Giving	**$795,000**
Endowment Distrbution	**$1,300,000**
EITC/OSTC *(State Tax Credit Program)*	**$850,000**
Total	**$2,945,000**

- Annual Giving
- Endowment Distrbution
- EITC/OSTC (State Tax Credit Program)



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THESE RECENTLY DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY.

1942
Cyril Emmerich, '42

1945
Lawrence Petrilli, '45

1947
Donald O'Rourke, '47

1948
Thomas Maines, '48
Raymond Muckian, '48

1949
Dr. Charles Libell, '49
Frank Modrak, '49

1950
R. Rudy Filek, Sr. PhD, '50
Robert Ruppel, '50

1952
Regis Blutas, '52
Brother William Winter, '52

1953
Robert Cloherty, '53
John Staiger, '53

1955
Carl Henn, '55
Joseph Kilkeary, '55
Edward Monroe, '55

1956
Thomas P. Lauth, Jr. PhD, '56
Lawrence McManus, '56
Douglas Stefanko, '56

1957
David Boslett, '57

1959
Thomas Maher, '59
William Miller, '59

1961
Anthony Ciufi, '61
Joseph Scheuble, '61

1962
Martin Wielechowski, '62

1963
Daniel Smaglo, '63

1964
Lawrence Kirchner, '64

1965
Victor Papale, '65
Ronald Renna, '65
William Silberman, '65

1968
Joseph DeRiggi, '68
Robert Pardi, '68
Robert Wolff, '68

1963
Joseph DiStazio, '63
Daniel Smaglo, '63

1965
Leonard Matuszewski, '65
Ronald Renna, '65

1968
Joseph DeRiggi, '68
Robert Pardi, '68
Robert Wolff, '68

1969
Ronald Ditillo, '69

1970
James Schreiber, '70

1972
Charles Davis, '72
Daniel O'Hara, '72

1973
Louis Francescon, '73
Eugene Rossi, '73
Armand Scarano, '73

1974
Albert Statti, '74

1975
Terrence Crimmins, '75

1982
Marrice "Mossie" Murphy, '82

1983
Brendan Laffey, '83

2000
Andrew Turak, '00

*As of October 31, 2023



I Am Still Me

By: Bill Mitchell, '65

I have passed into eternity,
and the reality we shared is no longer mine.

But our souls were created immortal,
and where I go, there is no time.

Though I've gone away, you did not lose me,
so please don't grieve too much for me.

In my heart, I am still with you,
and please believe that I AM still ME.

When it is your time to come and join me,
be assured I will greet you there.

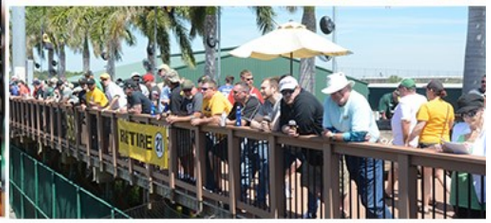
We'll meet again someday in heaven,
and together eternity we will share.

We will praise the Lord for our salvation,
and we will worship him for he is love.

God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
forever perfect in heaven above.

2024 SPRING TRAINING
LECOM PARK | BRADENTON, FL



2024 Pittsburgh Pirates Spring Training

Pittsburgh Pirates VS Baltimore Orioles

Sunday, February 25

Time: 1:05 p.m.

Tickets and party area will be located in the LaPensee Party Deck in left field. Ticket includes a 2.5 hour ball park buffet and drinks beginning an hour prior to the start of the game.

Scan the QR code to the right to register online, or visit:

https://centralcatholichighschool.formstack.com/forms/2024_pirates_spring_training

INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PAYMENT

☐ Check Number _____
(made payable to Pittsburgh Pirates)

☐ Credit Card:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

CC Account Number: _____

Name on Card: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CCV #: _____

☐ Cash Enclosed

TICKET INFORMATION

TICKETS	COST	TOTAL
	$75	

Tickets will be available for pickup at will call with a photo ID.

DEADLINE: February 19, 2024

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED ORDER FORM TO:

Email Brandon Haburjak at bhaburjak@centralcatholichs.com or
Mail to: Central Catholic High School| Attn: Brandon Haburjak|

Our MISSION

Central Catholic High School, a college preparatory school for boys, is guided by the educational principles of St. John Baptist de La Salle.

The school strives to provide a challenging, relevant, and diverse program of studies and extracurricular activities in an environment that fosters a life of faith and learning and develops leaders rooted in the Gospel values of integrity, respect, service, justice, and peace.

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
4720 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2952

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA
Permit No. 11



FINANCIAL AID AND MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS CAN MAKE A CENTRAL CATHOLIC EDUCATION ATTAINABLE FOR YOUR SON.

Through the generosity of our alumni and supporters, Central Catholic High School provided $3.2 million in tuition assistance and merit scholarships for the 2023-24 school year. The average aid award for qualifying families is $6,000. Central Catholic is accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year.

VISIT CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM/ADMISSIONS
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CENTRAL CATHOLIC.

VISIT CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM/APPLY
TO SUBMIT AN ENROLLMENT APPLICATION.

PARENTS:

*If your son has moved from your home, please notify Brandon Haburjak, '06, Director of Alumni Engagement & Giving at **412.208.3488** or **bhaburjak@CentralCatholicHS.com**.*

*Connect with more than 3,600 other alumni at **centralalumni.com**!*

@CCHSVIKINGS | @CENTRALVIKINGS | @CENTRALVIKINGS

The Central Catholic Promise:
To inspire boys to become Men of Faith, Men of Scholarship, Men of Service.