### **High School Alumni Foundation**

# THE GOLDEN EAGLE FLYER

Tradition · Excellence ·Scholarship ·Image · Heritage · Support



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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When I last wrote to you, the future of East High School was very much in question. Following the announcement of School District 60's (D60) Master Plan in late 2018 describing the possible closure of East and other schools, as well as priority repairs at a number of schools due to aging safety and infrastructure issues, the East community rallied like I've never seen before. Over a period of nearly a year, East was well and thoughtfully represented at School Board and stakeholder meetings, open forums, the 4A Bond Committee and its meetings with business and industry leaders, and walking precincts or handing out flyers in support of the 4A bond. Part of the \$218 million bond, as presented to Pueblo's voters, would see the construction of new high schools on the existing East and Centennial campuses.

Most of us in Pueblo or those that follow local events through friends, family, or the internet are well aware that the bond was approved by voters in the November elections and plans are now well underway to see the high school construction and improvement projects move forward. A Citizen's Bond Advisory Committee (CBAC) has been established by D60 to actively monitor the status of all bond program projects, participate in scheduled site visits during construction, and review with D60 staff any significant revisions to the master construction schedule and the scope and budget of projects. The CBAC will also prepare and present quarterly and annual reports to the Board of Education reviewing progress on the completion of bond projects, expenditures of bond funds, and implementation of ballot language approved by the voters. Four of the ten members of this committee are East alumni.

In addition to the establishment of the CBAC, architectural/engineering services and general contractor contracts have been awarded. MOA Architecture and Pueblo-based HGF Architects have been selected to partner in designing the two new high schools. Houston Construction (also Pueblo-based) will be the general contractor on the projects. Looking forward to the new high schools, these firms are coordinating site visits to new schools outside of Pueblo and they have started holding school and community stakeholder meetings. These meetings will continue throughout 2020, and early in 2021 designs and blueprints will be finalized. Initial construction is scheduled to begin during the Spring of 2021 with the new high schools tentatively opening in the Fall of 2023.

For the "new" East and Centennial high schools, \$75.7 million (each) has been allocated for construction costs as well as demolition of existing buildings. The new schools of approximately 185,000 gross square feet will provide for 1,000 - 1,200 students and include offices, classrooms, labs, a media center/student commons, auditorium, cafeteria, prep kitchen, and a competition gymnasium. There are number of unknowns

# East High School ALUMNI FOUNDATION

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Gene Wilcoxson
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#### **Mission Statement**

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Provide a
means for
East High School
Alumni
to assure the school
continues to be a
vital force in the community!

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- Perpetuate the EHS traditions of pride and excellence
- Recognize excellence in student extracurricular activities and alumni achievement
- Provide scholarship support for graduating seniors
- Enhance the image of EHS in the community
- Maintain and preserve a collection of EHS memorabilia in the Heritage Hall
- Raise funds to support the school's programs and activities

including what, if any, of existing buildings can be incorporated into the new build, if there are sufficient funds for an auxiliary gym, and if the students will be built for a maximum of 1,000, 1,100, or 1,200 students. Additional infrastructure beyond the new school includes new athletic fields, sidewalks, vehicle access and parking, exterior lighting, landscaping, and building security.

Preserving East's history and heritage will play a major role in determining the appearance of the new East. We must consider if, and how, we can incorporate exterior features including the eagle sculpture & pedestal, the E-H-S landscape letters, and the IB sculpture, medallion, and flagpoles at the main entrance, the Tuffy Eagle mounted on the exterior wall above the auditorium, the state athletic championship medallions on the exterior wall of the auxiliary gym, and the East High School sign at the corner of Constitution and MacNeil. Internally, in addition to the recently constructed Heritage Hall, there are numerous trophies, plaques, banners, and student and alumni recognition photographs, sculptures, and memorabilia located throughout the office area, hallways, and gymnasium. Each of these items carries special memories of East's first 60 years for past students, staff, and friends of East High School. As we look toward the future, we must remember our past and do all that we can to incorporate the old in with the new – taking East High School well into the 21st century and 100 years of East traditions.

Please continue to follow the progress of bond-related activities and construction on D60 websites:

http://www.pueblocityschools.us/2019-bond-program and http://www.pueblocityschools.us/2019-bond-program/citizens-bond-advisory-committee-cbac .

Gene Wilcoxson Class of 1969 – Foundation President

#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Alumni and Friends of East,

D60 and the two architectural firms (MOA and HGF) involved in the design and build of the new East and Centennial have been working on plans for the schools since the first of the year. The process started with a Design Advisory Group (DAG) meeting in late February and was followed by a tour of three recently constructed schools in the Denver area (Vista Peak HS in Aurora and the Cherry Creek Innovation Campus) and Colorado Springs (Chinook Trail Middle School). On the tour were members of the DAG, representatives of MOA, HGF and Houston Construction, D60 administrators, and members of the Bond Oversight Committee. The tour (we travelled in a yellow school bus - how long has it been since you've been on one???) gave us an opportunity to see new designs that support learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

In early March, D60 and MOA/HGF hosted their first town hall meeting during which they shared D60's mission and vision, led a discussion and showed video clips of next generation learning environments and practices, and captured feedback from meeting attendees regarding what we liked/disliked about the new learning environments.

Two virtual DAG meetings were held in early April and involved representatives from both East and Centennial, D60, and MOA/HGF. In those meetings MOA/HGF provided some details regarding the new construction:

- Cost of approximately \$76 Million for each high school (design, construction, furnishings, equipment, and demolition of the old building)
- Space (137,000 sq. ft. of net usable space classrooms, labs, gyms, offices, auditorium, etc.) with an immediate capacity of 1100 students and future capacity of 1200 students
- Some initial proposals on how much space would be allocated to core instruction, Career and Technical Education, PE/Athletics, Visual and Musical Arts, ROTC, Admin offices, Nutrition Services, and common spaces (student commons, cafeteria, media center, quiet learning areas), etc.

In mid-April, a second town hall meeting was held. During this on-line meeting, MOA/HGF reviewed progress to date and shared more specific information about building design and location of the new build. For East, the new school is currently planned to be sited at the top of campus in the area of the current baseball and football fields.

Rather than me trying to describe the what and where design details, I encourage you to visit the following D60 website ( <a href="http://www.pueblocityschools.us/2019-bond-program/-buildd60-updates/firstlookatdraftplansforeastcentennialapr232020">http://www.pueblocityschools.us/2019-bond-program/-buildd60-updates/firstlookatdraftplansforeastcentennialapr232020</a>) for additional information presented during the recent town hall meeting, including links to the MOA/HGF presentation.

MOA/HGF began meeting with representative groups from East in late April where more specific department and building needs are discussed. As design plans are further developed, we will pass them along.

Our graduating seniors have missed out on a great deal this spring through the closure of our school due to the coronavirus. They did not have their senior prom, spring sports and activities were cancelled just as competitions were beginning, there won't be an annual signing day, and they will miss out on their graduation ceremony. At this time, the District is developing the plans and logistics to hold a virtual graduation ceremony.

The East graduation video will premier on the District 60 Vimeo page as well as Comcast Channel 18 beginning at 12 noon on Saturday, May 30. Graduation videos will be replayed on Channel 18 throughout the summer and will be permanently archived on the District's Vimeo page. Please check the District's website (<a href="http://www.pueblocityschools.us/">http://www.pueblocityschools.us/</a>) for further information.

One small way that we are helping recognize our graduating seniors is by having a yard sign, with each the student's name and accomplishments, printed for display at their residence. The cost of the signs has been underwritten by two East Alumni.

We hope to see you in the fall! Andy Clementi, Principal

#### WHERE IS SHE NOW?

Hello Eagle Nation,

My name is Joyce (Aranda) Frederiksen, East '85. I was born and raised in Pueblo and attended Irving Elementary grades K-4, Ben Franklin Elementary grade 5, Heaton Middle School and East High School from 1981-1985. While at East, I was very involved in many activities which included volleyball, basketball, track, pep club, FBLA, peer counseling, Letterettes, and student council to name a few. I was the senior class president and had the honor of speaking at our graduation. I loved being an Eagle and had a wonderful high school experience with amazing teachers, administrators and coaches; many of whom had a huge influence on me choosing to become an educator.



After graduation I attended the University of Southern Colorado now known as CSU-Pueblo for a year and a half before getting married and moving to Kansas in January of 1987. In May of 1988 we were blessed with our first child, Stepheny. My husband Mike was a police officer for two years before becoming a Kansas State Trooper. While he worked hard to support our family, I completed my undergraduate degree in Elementary Education with an endorsement in mathematics (thanks Mr. Mara for making me love math) from St. Mary of the Plains College in 1990. In June of 1991 our second daughter Tayler was born.

I began my teaching career in the Dodge City Catholic Diocese and taught in Catholic Schools my first 7 years and then taught 3 years in the public school system in a small Western Kansas town called Lakin. While teaching I completed my first masters in English as a Second Language from Fort Hays State University. I was the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year in 1997 while teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Other grades I taught included 3rd, 4th, 5<sup>th</sup>, and middle school math. I also coached middle and high school volleyball, track, and cheerleading. I got my second masters degree in Administration/Building Leadership from Fort Hays State University before leaving the classroom. I left the classroom for 7 years and worked for an Education Service Center where my title was math/ESOL/ student services consultant. My job was to travel to schools all over the state of Kansas and help teachers and districts with math and ESOL professional development, curriculum alignment and work with middle school and high school students in the areas of bullying awareness and teen social/emotional issues.

In 2010 after our youngest daughter graduated from high school we moved to Wichita, Kansas where I transitioned back to the Catholic school system and took a PreK-8 grade principal position at All Saints Catholic School. I sit on many district and state committees and have helped create several math resources for the state of Kansas. I have been our district Professional Development Council Chair for 6 years, sit on our accreditation team, helped write our districts ESOL guides, and recently spoke at the state capitol in support of school choice. My school is the most diverse Catholic school in the Wichita Catholic Diocese, and we serve students from many different ethnicities and cultural backgrounds. The success of students and meeting the needs of all students has always been my passion and I love what I do.

My husband is now retired and travels the country as an NCAA wrestling official, our daughter Stepheny lives in Phoenix, Arizona and works for the Arizona Cardinals, our youngest daughter Tayler, is married and lives in Kansas City, Missouri. She is a cardio-thoracic nurse and works in the Cardiac ICU at KU Medical Center in Kansas City. No grandchildren yet but we do have three grand pups. We are all die hard Bronco fans....yes! It has been hard living in Kansas this year, but I will forever be a Bronco fan and more importantly, I will always be an Eagle and share that Eagle Pride!!

#### EAST FALL AND WINTER ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS ROUND-UP

The fall season began with excitement and expectation for success. Sophomore Evan Smith started us off with a state appearance in the 4A Golf tournament. Be on the lookout for that name in the next two years. The Football team fought through adversity and a tough schedule to miss the playoffs by one spot. Three other teams fell just one spot short of the playoffs and they were exciting to watch. The boys Soccer teams worked very hard, and for the first time in quite a while, the Soccer team retained the Cup from South with a 3-1 win. We expect great things from our Volleyball, Softball, and Boys Soccer programs next season. Cheer and Dance represented us at state and showed great improvements from last year. Dance also took first place in the Spirit category at the State Fair Parade.

The Winter season has given us nothing short of suspense and success. The boys Basketball team won the SCL league but came up a bit short against Northfield in the Great 8. The girls Basketball team is a young team that made a first round play-off game and will grow over the off-season. Girls Swimming had a great season, again just barely missing making the play-offs in several spots. Finally, the Wrestling team, who were determined to defend their State Championship from last season, finished second as a team. Senior Andy Garcia won his 4th consecutive state title. Only 28 have accomplished this feat in Colorado's history, and he was the first to ever win all 4 titles in the same weight division (both Colorado and Pueblo District 60 records). Aaden Valdez finished his inspirational career with a 2nd place finish. Weston Dalton took his first title at 120 pounds.

An activity that is new to East is CHSAA's pilot program in eSports. Coached by Ms. Michelle Garcia, these students are the first in Pueblo that have gotten the chance to participate in this new craze. eSports will be a fully sanctioned sport next year. FCCLA and DECA continue to showcase their talents. FCCLA recently catered for Corwin International School as well as the guests from the International Baccalaureate Programme, and they earned glowing praise. The Golden Feather is open once a month, please check with Janae Passalaqua if you are interested in having lunch.

#### **WEB SITE UPDATE**

Over the next few months, the Alumni Foundation will complete the process of updating its web site ( <a href="www.puebloeastfoundation.org">www.puebloeastfoundation.org</a>). The web site will include a complete listing of members of the Golden Eagle, Activities, and Athletics Halls of Fame. Full bios of Golden Eagle Hall of Fame members will also be included. The new web site will include a current copy of "The Golden Eagle Flyer" (Alumni Foundation newsletter), a calendar of Alumni Foundation meetings and special events, and contact and donation information.

#### **GOLDEN EAGLE HALL OF FAME, 2020**

On April 23, 2020 the newest members of the Golden Eagle Hall of Fame were scheduled for induction at the East High School Auditorium. This year's inductees included Chief of Police Troy Davenport, a graduate of the Class of 1983; Mr. Ken Montera, Class of 1975; and Ms. Gretchen Rode, who while not a graduate of East High School, has contributed mightily to the preservation and expansion of our school. Due to the coronavirus, closure of D60 schools, and social distancing requirements, the formal induction ceremony has been postponed to a date to be determined.

Ms. Gretchen Rode is being inducted for her Service to East High School. She has contributed to East High in many ways, but particularly in her efforts on behalf of the school to continue to exist in the community discussion of closing various high schools. Ms. Rode effectively advocated for the preservation of East High School, culminating in a successful City Bond issue to build a new high school; and continues to represent the East High Community to the District 60 architects as to the capabilities and design of the proposed new facility. Mr. Ken Montera has had an exceptionally successful business career in manufacturing, sales and management with health care companies and PepsiCo, as a regional manager of operations of these entities. Mr. Troy Davenport has been engaged in Pueblo law enforcement for over 30 years, culminating with his current position as Pueblo Chief of Police. He is also a veteran of the United States Navy, having served in Operations Desert Storm/Desert Shield.

Generally, no more than three individuals are selected in any one year to the Golden Eagle Hall of Fame, only one of which may be for Service to the school. Because of the East High Alumni Association's desire and goal to maintain the highest quality of admissions to the Golden Eagle Hall of Fame, only three have been selected this year. As admission to the Golden Eagle Hall of Fame is limited in number, and each member is subject to scrutiny by the Selection Committee and the East High Alumni Association Board, it is a high honor to be admitted.

Jeff Chostner, Chairman, Golden Eagle Hall of Fame Committee Class of 1969

#### THE GREAT DEBATE

If you've been around East for as long as I have (I started in the Fall of 1966), chances are your path crossed that of one of East's most iconic figures – Mr. Thomas DeYarman. Mr. DeYarman, a long time English and Journalism teacher, may be better known for sports coats with leather patches at the elbow and the excellent Speech and Debate programs he led from 1966 to 1997. Encouraged by his passion, numerous students talked their way to success at the district, state, and national levels. Following Mr. DeYarman's retirement in 1994 and stepping down as the Speech and Debate coach in 1997, East has seen a series of Speech and Debate sponsors come and go – and still the program flourished with students continuing to achieve at the highest levels in their competitions.

Currently, the Speech and Debate program is being led by Mrs. Christi Kurtz. Relatively new to the program, Mrs. Kurtz expresses the same passion for Speech and Debate that East coaches have demonstrated of the years. Equal in her passion is that shown by students in the program.



L-R above: Darian Regalado, De'Andre Tafoya, Mrs. Kurtz, Hannah Saylor, Ryan Bayer, Layne Martinez, Samuel Miller, and Dominck Rivera. Not pictured are Isobel McGivney and Soren Paulsen.

Students begin their preparation for competition early in the school year. The first meets are held in October and continue through to state competition in late February. Students participating in the program can select from: Dramatic, Humorous, Poetry, Program Oral, or Duo Interpretation events; Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, or Congressional Debate; Original Oratory; or, Informational, Nation Extemporaneous, or International Extemporaneous Speaking.

Students participating in Interpretation Events typically select a piece of literature and develop a performance of up to ten minutes that spotlights character development, experiences, emotions, or humorous interpretation. Some events allow the use of props or costumes. Debates allow students, singly or in pairs, to research a topic provided either by the National Speech and Debate Association or a current event, and compete against others through a series of speeches, rebuttals, and cross examination questioning. In the 2020-2021 school year, East's debaters plan to participate in Congressional Debate that involves a simulation of the U.S. legislative process. Debaters will deliver speeches supporting or opposing a particular topic and they will be assessed on their research, argumentation, and delivery skills as well as their knowledge and use of parliamentary procedure. Students who choose to participate in the Original Oratory or Extemporaneous Speaking competitions typically

develop a seven to ten minute speech that educates their audience on a particular topic including international events, national current events, or a topic of their choosing. These speeches are delivered from memory!

Although a number of this year's Speech and Debate students went to state last year, student involvement in other activities this year limited participation in regional debates and prevented the team from earning sufficient points to qualify for the 2020 State Speech and Debate competition.

As is the case with other activities and athletic programs ate East, the Speech and Debate program needs sponsorship to support transportation, accommodation, and meal costs at regional and state competition. Donations from East alumni, family, and friends to assist the program can be directed through the Alumni Foundation.

#### **ACTIVITIES HALL OF FAME**

Yet another victim of the coronavirus was the Activities Hall of Fame induction ceremony which had been scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 2020. The Hall of Fame gained eight new members. The inductees, all East graduates within the past decade, are being recognized for their accomplishments at CHSAA (Colorado High School Activities Association) sponsored events during their time as students at East.

Scheduled to be inducted were:

- Maxine DiMarco (Class of 2012) twice elected to All State Choir
- Paulina Morales (Class of 2013) DECA state and national qualifier, 2<sup>nd</sup> place state
- Nicole Seip (Class of 2013) two time FBLA state qualifier and one time national qualifier, DECA state qualifier
- Je Houng Yoo (Class of 2013) three time MESA state qualifier and two time FBLA state qualifier
- Sarah (Wood) Zaayman (Class of 2013) twice selected to All State Choir, selected to All State Jazz Choir one time
- Jon Hannan (Class of 2014) twice selected to All State Choir
- Vianne Saphara (Class of 2014) twice selected to All State Choir
- Ryan Walter (Class of 2014) twice selected to All State Choir

In addition to recognizing these past students' achievements, the induction ceremony normally features several musical performances by current East students. The induction ceremony will be scheduled at a time and date to be determined.

The East Activities Hall of Fame recognizes student achievement, or faculty recognition (e.g., State Teacher of the Year or long-term service and leadership at East as an activities sponsor) in a variety of CHSAA events including, but not limited to: vocal and instrumental music, choir, speech and debate, DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, and MESA. The first Activities Hall of Fame induction ceremony was held in 2011 where 14 past students were recognized for their achievements. Activities Hall of Fame inductions are now held in even numbered years. East alumni and teachers are encouraged to submit nominations to the Alumni Foundation no later than January 15 in each even numbered year.

#### **2020 DONATION DRIVE**

The Alumni Foundation continues to need your generous financial support. The Foundation has four areas of emphasis that it uses to facilitate its mission of "Assuring East Continues to be a Vital Force in the Community"!

#### **Community and School Support**

Six senior scholarships awarded in 2019 - \$10,000 Activities Hall of Fame Athletics Hall of Fame Fine Arts/Music Nights East High Sporting Events Computers for Media Center New "Tuffy Eagle" mascot costume

#### **Fundraising**

Donations
Personal and class tiles
Fine Arts/Music Night auction

#### **Heritage Hall**

Construction (2009)
Ongoing improvements
Additions to memorabilia collection
Water-wise landscaping (2012)

#### **Alumni Support**

Golden Eagle Hall of Fame
Alumni website
Golden Eagle Flyer (semi-annual newsletter)
Facebook
Class reunion tours
2019 D60 Bond Campaign for new schools and renovations to existing schools

During 2019, we had 95 donors contributing \$68,205.65 with nearly \$52,000 coming from donations in the memory of John Caligaris (Class of 1977) and Sandy Harbert (Class of 1965), both inaugural members of the Alumni Foundation, long standing members of the Foundation Board of Directors, and members of the Golden Eagle Hall of Fame.

The memorial donations for John Caligaris have been directed to the support of the athletic programs once the "new" East construction project is completed in 2023. With a new East, we do not anticipate all classroom and program needs for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will be met by the bond alone. For this reason, we are asking you to consider making a special donation that supports a specific subject area, activity, or athletic need. For example, your donation could be used to purchase new lab equipment for the science department, 3-D printers for manufacturing and engineering classes, stage equipment for drama productions, uniforms for marching band, scoreboards for athletic fields, or exercise equipment for training rooms, etc. If you want to direct your donation to a specific subject area, activity, or athletic program, please let us know where we should direct your donation.

For many years, our financial goal was to annually generate \$20,000 in donations from at least 100 donors. During the past year, the East community demonstrated tremendous support for the school as well as education programs throughout District 60 by providing valued input into the District's Facility Master Plan, Stakeholder meetings, and the successful bond campaign. Let us continue to grow our support of East by increasing our 2020 donations to \$30,000. Would you consider making your 2020 donation now?

As you may know, all donor names will be displayed in the Heritage Hall for one year; we believe you should be recognized for your contribution (unless you prefer to remain anonymous). **Donors at the \$1,000 level will have their names permanently displayed in the Hall.** During 2019, we had nine donors at this \$1,000 or above level.

Thank you! We look forward to hearing from you soon! Respectfully, East High School Alumni Foundation Board of Directors \* **DONATION FORM** I would like to donate to the East High School Alumni Foundation Suggested donations: \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000 Your contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_\_ All donations are tax deductible! If you would like your donation directed for a specific purpose (e.g., scholarships, classroom instruction, activities programs, athletics, etc.), please identify that purpose here: City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Questions/comments: info@puebloeastfoundation.org or (719) 549-7224 or provide in the space below.

Please mail this form and your check or money order payable to:

East High School Alumni Foundation, 9 MacNeil Rd., Pueblo, CO 81001

or use PayPal

PayPal is on the Foundation website. Click on the PayPal tab and follow directions.

Here is the website address: <a href="https://www.puebloeastfoundation.org">www.puebloeastfoundation.org</a>

THANK YOU!