



President's Message

Five years have passed since those fateful media announcements and initial public meetings where the possibility of East High School's closure gave us a wake-up call regarding the future of East and other District 60 schools. My how much has happened since then! Thanks to the combined efforts of so many individuals and groups who participated in the community forums, met with the School Board and District Administration, wrote personal letters or editorials for the Pueblo Chieftain, rallied throughout the community, supported the 2A Bond in 2019, and participated in Design Advisory Group and Bond Advisory Group meetings, the "new" East High opened its doors to the public on May 15. On that bright sunny afternoon, representatives from East High School, the D60 Administration, the School Board, and the architectural and construction team, all armed with sharp scissors, cut the ceremonial gold ribbon and welcomed the Eastside into the new building.

The large audience flooded into the building where student representatives showcased activities that will take place in East's competition gymnasium, theater-style auditorium, open commons



area, and specialty classrooms for science, career and technical education, music, art, JROTC, and other academic programs. Using state-of-the-art lighting as well as abundant natural lighting, the building provides a warm welcome to students, staff, and the public alike. Nearly everyone voiced positive remarks about the new look East and the promise of its future. The public shared in a hot dog lunch prepared by East's Culinary Arts students following the ribbon cutting and building walk-through.

The months following the ribbon cutting have been a blur for one and all associated with East. The school remained open through the first week in June and students attended class, took exams, and, for seniors, attended graduation. East hosted an "old" school building tour on May 20. On yet another bright sunny day, thousands of East alumni, family, and friends had one last chance to walk through the halls of East, see former classmates and teachers, and remember times spent at East. With great help from Principal Andy Clementi, who conducted three official building tours (and lost his voice while doing so), members of the Student Council, and the teaching staff who registered attendees, sold Let's Fly t-shirts & hats as well as old an-

East High School Alumni Foundation

President
Gene Wilcoxson

Vice President
Jeff Chostner

Secretary
Annette Suazo

Treasurer
Aaron Suazo

Mission Statement

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

Goals

- 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

*This newsletter was
written and paid for by the
East High School Alumni Association.*

**Newsletter designed
and printed by**



Principal's Message

Greetings to our many Eagle Alumni and families from our brand-new home. After years of struggle, hope, and excitement, it is a true pleasure to write to you from the beautiful new East High School at 1521 Constitution. To say we had a busy summer would be quite an understatement. After closing down classes a few days early to conclude packing and to prepare for the monumental move, the next couple of months were filled with locating and positioning a myriad of items and furniture in their proper place to welcome our students for a historic 2023-2024 school year.



After a ribbon-cutting ceremony in May that gave us an opportunity to display the new digs to the public, we eagerly opened our doors to our students in August. As students entered the many awe-inspiring areas like the auditorium and gym, it was purely thrilling to witness their inspired reactions. With a new "first" experience in a new place at every turn in these last couple of months, the year has certainly gotten off to a fun and exhilarating start.

With a new building comes new traditions and a restoration of many old ones. The first Cannon Assembly in our new competition-sized gym, our first vocal performance in a state-of-the-art theater, and holding all school gatherings in a gymnasium rather than an auditorium are just a few examples of our lasting, but changing traditions. Our Homecoming Dance had a new look, being held in our commons area and cafeteria, and indoor practice and rehearsal areas are starting to get used to their dedicated occupants. Ending October with over 1,017 students walking our halls sees East at the largest it has been in quite some time, and for the first time in my memory, a Pueblo high school is on a waiting list to enroll students outside of our boundary.

Just as we soak in all of the new, a bittersweet feeling is hovering. A few short days ago, demolition began at the original East. I commented last year as to the speedy construction of the new facility, but the tearing down of the structure at 9 MacNeil Road has been lightning fast. Many community members and members of the Eagle family have been driving by and taking pictures of the place that holds so many great memories for a final time. Though it may be a tough sight to see, the vision of the phenomenal athletic fields and facilities that will be in its place enhance continued anticipation.

Here's to anticipating the many great times to come for The Eagle Empire. I invite you to stop by, if you haven't already, to check out our new nest. As always...It's a great day to be an Eagle!

Andy Clementi
East HS Principal

nuals, and Alumni Foundation members who welcomed visitors and took orders for commemorative bricks, the day was a success in so many ways.

In the two weeks that followed the "old" school tour, everything that needed to be transported from 9 MacNeil Road to 1521 Constitution Road prior to closing the old building down was boxed up by teachers and staff, students, alumni, and friends in preparation for demolition. Thousands of boxes were packed up and over the course of the summer transported to the new building where they waited to be opened in new surroundings. At this point, let me give a big shout-out to East's custodians who went above and beyond with the move. Just as East packed up classrooms and offices, the Alumni Foundation spent several days boxing up and moving the memorabilia, Class and personal tiles displayed in the Heritage Hall, and Hall of Fame and Past Principal photographs. East High has generously provided space in the new Community Room to display memorabilia, hallway display cases for photographs, and a stairwell alcove for display of Class tiles where they will have greater visibility than when they were in the Heritage Hall. Setting up these areas in the new building is a work in progress and will likely continue through the end of the school year.



In late May and with an effort that lasted several years, the Alumni Foundation was able to have the iconic Tuffy mounted on the exterior of the old auditorium taken down and transported to Domenic and Sons Auto Body Shop where Bob and Fred Caligaris repainted Tuffy (Fred is pictured above applying finishing touches to Tuffy's E). Tuffy has been returned to the new building. Tuffy's new observation spot on the new building is still to be determined.

The remainder of the 2023-2024 school year will see continued setup of the new building and grounds. Video monitors will be placed throughout the building where they will display student notices, current and coming events, and even Alumni information such as scholarship application due dates or names and biographies of Hall of Fame inductees. The Coach Corder Football Field and old student parking lot are currently being prepared for new athletic fields. Field development and general landscaping will continue once the demolition of the old building has been completed.

With all that has taken place over the past five years, it truly is a "Great Day to be an Eagle."

Gene Wilcoxson

Class of 1969 – Foundation President

IMPORTANT 2023-2024 DATES

While we work through a re-design and information update on the Alumni website, we want to share some important future dates.

Alumni Meetings

Alumni Foundation meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 pm in the East Community Room which is located next to the main entrance at East. If the first Wednesday is a public holiday, the meeting will be held on the second Wednesday of the month. There is **NO** meeting in July.

Golden Eagle and Service to School Hall of Fame

Nominations for the Golden Eagle and Service to School Hall of Fame are due at East no later than Thursday, December 7. Alumni are recognized for outstanding endeavors in their professional careers, community involvement, philanthropic giving, or service to East High School. The Service to School recognition may also be extended to non-Alums for their support of East High. Inductees are typically notified no later than the end of January. The Golden Eagle and Service to School recognition ceremony will be held at East on Thursday, April 18 beginning at 10:13 a.m. A reception will take place immediately following the induction ceremony and dinner with a cocktail hour will be held at the Pueblo Country Club, 3200 8th Avenue, beginning at 5:45 p.m. Dinner will follow at 6:30 p.m. Reservations for the dinner must be made no later than Thursday, April 11 by contacting East High School at 719-549-7224. Costs for the dinner have not been determined at this time.

Nomination forms for the Golden Eagle and Service to School Hall of Fame are found on the East Alumni Foundation website (puebloeastfoundation.org).

Activities Hall of Fame

Students, coaches, and sponsors achieving success at the regional, state, or national levels in extra-curricular activities such as Instrumental and Vocal Music, Speech and Debate, DECA, FBLA, FCCCA, Knowledge Bowl are recognized by the East Alumni Foundation through the Activities Hall of Fame.

Induction ceremonies into the Activities Hall of Fame take place in October of even numbered years while the Athletics Hall of Fame occurs in October of odd numbered years. The Alumni Foundation plans to hold an Activities Hall of Fame ceremony at a date still to be determined in October 2024. If you know of a past student, coach, or sponsor who meets the criteria listed above, please nominate them for the Activities Hall of Fame. Nomination forms are found on the East Alumni Foundation website (puebloeastfoundation.org) and are due in the school by the second Thursday of January.

Scholarships

If you know a graduating senior, encourage them to apply for scholarships offered through the Alumni Foundation. Scholarship applications will be available in the Counselor's Office by mid-January and are due Thursday, April 11. In 2023, scholarships totaling \$17,100 were awarded and we expect more than \$20,000 will be available for 2024.

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Website Redesign

With the move to the new building, the Alumni Foundation will begin a redesign of its website. Currently, the website references the Heritage Hall that will not be part of the new building, the old building address, and documents that need to be updated to reflect changes in Alumni Foundation processes. We also envision a new section for a Virtual Museum that will contain photographs, images, and documents that are part of East's history. This Virtual Museum will allow us to make more of East's history available to the public at the click of a mouse. Please bear with us as we update the website.

Activities and Athletics Update

As East opened its doors to students this August, the excitement of Fall sports and activities filled the halls. Fall clearing had over 150 student athletes sign up for a variety of sports while the **Marching Band** had already broken in the westside field for practice over the summer. **Unified Bowling**, mid-way through their season, is working towards another state championship having won the inaugural championship in that sport in 2020. **Girls Softball** had a strong season and with youth on the team, next season should put the Lady Eagles back into the playoffs. **Boys Soccer** continues to show improvement gathering a victory over Sierra High School. **Cross Country** is closing out their season having shown improvement with every race. **Boys Golf** had two state qualifiers in juniors **Jayden Padilla** and **Cooper Simmons**, and both are looking forward to competing next year. **Girls Volleyball** (currently 5-2) in league play is in the hunt for the playoffs. Although defeated by South by a score of 26-13 in the Cannon Game, the **Boys Football** team currently sits at the top of their league with two games remaining on the schedule and playoffs in sight.

Baseball, Football, Soccer, Softball, and Track teams have been without fields on the East campus since construction of the new building began in the Spring of 2021. Construction of the new outside fields is just beginning and will progress through the winter. Coaches and athletes alike have been very adaptable and versatile while practicing and playing “home” games throughout Pueblo.

All of our teams and programs are showing progress and most importantly, they are demonstrating sportsmanship and teamwork as they represent East with class and pride. Several groups participated in the **State Fair Parade** in which our **Dance Team** earned top honors. Congratulations to coaches **Jessica Montoya** and **Haile Wilson**. East’s feeder elementary schools were treated to a visit when the Cheer and Dance Teams, Tuffy, and Senior Football players performed for them during Cannon Week. We appreciate the support of the community and always invite you to East to support our teams in person. The new gymnasium, complete with a state-of-the-art video scoreboard, is beautiful and has plenty of room for Eagle Alumni. Current sports schedules can be found at southcentralco.org.

Old School Bricks and Logos

Like many of you not wanting to see the old “East” torn down, it’s happening now and the site will eventually be prepared for new athletic fields. Wanting to keep a small piece of East’s history, a number of East Alumni and Friends ordered souvenir bricks, some with and some without Tuffy or EE logos, during and after the old building tour.

We will work with the construction and demolition companies to collect the bricks that have been ordered. Once we develop a process for getting the bricks to you, we will contact you by phone, email, or text and make arrangements for you to pick up your bricks and logos. Unfortunately, bricks must be picked up at the school.

Address Changes

As a reminder, East High School and the East High Alumni Foundation have a new mailing address effective with the move into the new building. For a period of time, you may see the old address (9 MacNeil Road) on communications from the school or the Foundation. The new address for the school and the Foundation is: **1521 Constitution Road, Pueblo, CO 81001**

Don’t forget to let the Alumni Foundation know of any moves you or family members make to a new location. This helps us keep you informed of the important events taking place at East High School. If family members and friends of East are not currently receiving the *Golden Eagle Flyer* newsletter and would like a mailed copy, send a message to our email address info@puebloeastfoundation.org with name and address information and we will include them in our mailing database.

Program Spotlight: Vocal Music

Since East High first opened its doors, **Vocal Music** has been woven into many traditions at East High. From starting assemblies with the Star-Spangled Banner to closing out high school careers with the Alma Mater being sung at the conclusion of commencement, the Vocal Music program is a vital part of the culture at East High. Director of Vocal Music **Andrew Watson**



is a graduate of EHS (Class of 2010) and made his return to the Eagle Empire in 2015. With this being Mr. Watson's 9th year at East, he has taken the reins once held by choral greats **Bette Lunn** (educator of 30+ years in District 60) and **Andy Clementi** (Class of 1998 and now Principal of EHS) and has continued its valued traditions. Vocal Music continually produces top notch talent. This year, East had an impressive 24 students selected to the Pueblo All-City Choir, a group composed of the top vocal talent in both District 60 and 70 high schools. East continued its long standing by having the most students auditioned and accepted to the All-City Choir – a true testament to the success of EHS. Additionally, **Henry Gifford** and **Brooklyn Martinez** both auditioned to earn a spot within Colorado's All State Choir. Recently, the Vocal Music Department presented their Fall 2023 Concert, the first of which in the brand-new auditorium! The Vocal Music Department boasts four amazing groups under its banner: Eagle Pride; Advanced Women; acapella group The Tone Troopers; and, the advanced mixed choir, Les Jongleurs (LJ's). You can catch LJ's performing in District 60's veteran celebration Pride and Patriotism on November 9th at Memorial Hall. As always, alumni and the public are welcome to attend all upcoming concerts including the Winter Concert happening December 14th which will be held in the new auditorium. If you would like to support Vocal Music at EHS, be sure to specify your donation using the form in this newsletter. Also keep an eye out later this year as the Music Department will have a merchandise fundraiser. Be sure to order T-shirts, hoodies, quarter zips, and possibly hats! Support Vocal Music and show your Eagle Pride!

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Scanner Donation

This spring, the Alumni Foundation submitted a grant application to the **Robert Hoag Rawlings Foundation** for the purpose of purchasing, and donating to East's Media Studies program, a 3D scanner to be used by students to learn a new technology being increasingly in architecture and engineering, the arts, healthcare, forensic science, and manufacturing. The Alumni Foundation was successful in obtaining the Rawlings Foundation grant valued at more than \$32,000. With the grant, an Artec Leo 3D scanner and classroom software was purchased and has been donated to East. Training for East's Media Studies teachers and students is scheduled this fall.

The intention of the Alumni Foundation and East High is to use the scanner for school projects at East as well as other Pueblo School District 60 high schools. With approximately fifty students enrolled in East's Media Studies classes each semester, an initial student project would help create a virtual museum of the artifacts and memorabilia representing the history, traditions, and achievements of East High and its students. The virtual museum is necessitated by a significant reduction of Alumni and school display space associated with the replacement of the old East building. Other student projects could also be used to support local organizations such as the El Pueblo, Steel City, and Pueblo Historical Society museums, the Arts Center, etc.

The Alumni Foundation and East High greatly appreciate the grant funding made possible by the Robert Hoag Rawlings Foundation.

2023 Senior Scholarships

For the twentieth consecutive year, the Alumni Foundation recognized excellence in academics, school and community sponsored activities, and athletic endeavors by awarding scholarships totaling \$17,100 to two graduating seniors from the Class of 2023 and, through a legacy scholarship, a 2022 graduate. Over the twenty years of giving, more than \$138,000 has been awarded to East’s students.

As college expenses continue to climb, the Alumni Foundation (and we’re certain the scholarship recipients and their families) greatly appreciate the generosity of donors. Contributing once again for our 2023 scholarships were: **Jeff Falletta**, East High Class of 1988 and son of past East student, teacher, administrator, and Golden Eagle Hall of Fame member **Sandy Harbert**, donated \$3,000 in Sandy’s memory; the family of **John Caligaris**, East High Class of 1977, and also a member of the Golde Eagle Hall of Fame, provide a \$2,000 scholarship in John’s memory; **Jeff Chostner** (Class of 1969) and his wife **Paula**, as well as the **East High Class of 1978**, donated \$1,000 each to student scholarships; for the second consecutive year, and with plans to continue for many years in the future, an Eagle Alum who wishes to remain anonymous, sponsored an Alumni Foundation Legacy Scholarship valued at \$5,000 and renewable by its recipient for an additional three years of schooling – making the award valued at \$20,000; and the **Alpha Delta Kappa** women’s educational sorority provided a \$100 scholarship.

The two 2023 seniors receiving Alumni Foundation scholarships were **Abigail Martinez** and **Marli Terry**. Abby will study nursing at Pueblo Community College and Marli will study psychology and business at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

Divina Walter, Class of 2022, and the first recipient of the Alumni Foundation Legacy Scholarship received her second \$5,000 award and will continue her studies in media and entertainment performance and production.

As we reported when the 2022 scholarship awards were announced in last Fall’s *Golden Eagle Flyer*, the number of scholarship applications has declined over the years and 2023 was no exception. As a result, some scholarship funds remain for future disbursement. Please encourage East seniors you know to apply for the Alumni Foundation scholarships. The 2024 scholarship applications will be in the Counselor’s Office mid-January and must be returned by April 11.



The club has a monthly dues of \$2.50 plus go toward which some of the members pay.

October 6 they will have a leadership conference. It's an all day affair; and it is Greeley, F.B.I.A. has already had their first few meetings and also elected officers. The officers are Jackie Camacho, press, int; Beth Horton, vice president; Carmen Herrero-Sanchez, Carol Pogman, treasurer; Cindy Eason, reporter; Sherri Kocove, instantan; Theresa Orjiga, parliament arty. F.B.I.A. is sponsored by Mrs. Oresen.

Every contestant showed their spirit by competing with each other, no matter how embarrassing it was. If you can take a pep in the dress, you have to take a pep in the dance, just like the pep in the class that the most spirit's there.

[illegible]

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The team has twenty girls who were on last year's team. There are also several girls who have been recruited and are interested in what they do. There is more quality than quantity as the girls work very hard at their professions.

Central, their hardest opponent in Puchco, will be surprised when they meet up with the team. Miss Lucia claims, "We'll give them a run for their money."

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PUEBLO EAST HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI 2023 DONATION DRIVE

New Building Equipment and Artwork Fundraiser

With a mission of maintaining and perpetuating the traditions of East High, raising funds to support East's programs, and enhancing the educational experience for East Eagles, the Alumni Foundation relies heavily on the generous contributions of East Alumni, staff, family, and friends. What we try to do can't be done without YOU. As we prepared to open the new building for the 2023-2024 school year, we challenged graduating classes and individuals to contribute to the academics, activities, or athletic programs that impacted their lives or lives of family members. As reported in this and recent editions of "The Golden Eagle Flyer", YOUR



generosity allowed the Alumni Foundation to provide \$!7,100 for student scholarships this past year and \$13,000 last year, we purchased an enclosed trailer valued at nearly \$9,400 for the Instrumental Music program to transport instruments and equipment to sporting events and musical performances, and a \$102,000 video scoreboard that features prominently in the new gym pictured at right.

Additionally, donations provided additional funding in the amounts listed for various programs including:

• Academics - \$1615	• Athletics - \$4738	• Career Education - \$2025
• Debate - \$500	• DECA - \$500	• FBLA - \$500
• Music/Art - \$1300	• JROTC - \$1350	• Activities - \$1250
• Math/Science/Tech - \$2825	• Exceptional Student Services - \$6250	• Landscaping/Outdoor scoreboards - \$1973
• Art/Icons - \$2200		

Now that the new building is occupied, and the contents of the boxes moved from the old building are finding their way into classrooms or offices, teachers and staff have had the opportunity to determine what extra "nice to have" items would help them set up their new learning spaces and support the many tremendous programs and activities that take place at East High School. If you are able, please financially support East High School and its efforts to develop future community and family leaders.

Please mail your donation (payable to the Pueblo East High Alumni Foundation) using the following form and include your **name, address, phone number, email address, and graduating class**, to the East High Alumni Foundation, 1521 Constitution Rd., Pueblo, CO 81001. Donations can also be made using the PayPal account on the Foundation website at www.puebloeastfoundation.org where you can click on the Donate tab and follow the provided directions. PayPal users may also scan the QR Code shown below which will take you directly to PayPal where you can donate directly into the East Alumni Foundation's PayPal account.

As a reminder, donations are tax-deductible!



Donation Form

**I want to help my East High School with
new equipment and saving our art and icons!**

Enclosed is my gift of: ☐ \$1000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$25
☐ Other \$ _____

Please ensure my donation is used to support:

<input type="radio"/> Math, Science, and Technology	<input type="radio"/> Exceptional Student Services (ESS)	<input type="radio"/> Career and Technical Education
<input type="radio"/> Activities such as DECA, FBLA, Speech & Debate, FCCLA, Drama	<input type="radio"/> Instrumental and Vocal Music, Art	<input type="radio"/> Academic programs including Language Arts and Social Studies
<input type="radio"/> Athletics	<input type="radio"/> JROTC	<input type="radio"/> Artwork and East Icons
<input type="radio"/> Other (please identify) _____		

Please mail this form and your check or money order payable to:
East High School Alumni Foundation, 1521 Constitution Rd., Pueblo, CO 81001
or use PayPal

PayPal is on the Foundation website at www.puebloeastfoundation.org.

Click on the PayPal tab and follow directions. You may also use the QR code on the previous page.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

I AM SUPPORTING THE GRADUATION CLASS OF _____ WITH MY DONATION!

Questions/comments: info@puebloeastfoundation.org or (719) 549-7224, or provide in the space below.



PUEBLO SCHOOL DISTRICT 60
EAST HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI FOUNDATION
1521 CONSTITUTION RD
PUEBLO CO 81001

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