



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

EAGLE NEWS November 2024



Congratulations to the winner of this year's Thanksgiving card drawing contest,
Lila Burns, CHS 2026!



Dear Supporter,

Happy November! Wishing you and your family a joyful and safe Thanksgiving!

The holiday season is a wonderful time to let loved ones know they are in our thoughts or to honor the memory of a dear friend. Making a tribute gift is a meaningful way to celebrate special occasions or recognize family and friends. Read on to learn more, or click [here](#) to make an honor or memorial gift for that special Eagle in your life!

Our annual campaign, Generation "C," is in full swing. Your generous contributions help the Foundation uphold the legacy of excellence established at Central over 165 years ago. Donations from the extended Central community are vital for enhancing the Central experience. [Please consider donating to Generation "C" today!](#)

Lastly, class reunion season is nearly over! If your reunion is scheduled for next year, you can find the most up-to-date information at the bottom of our newsletter. Also, please [update your record](#) to ensure your physical invitation and event communications are sent to the correct address.

Thank you for helping us continue 165 years—and counting—of tradition and excellence! Go Eagles!

Sincerely,

Michele Roberts

Michele Roberts, Executive Director

Honor an Eagle with a Tribute Gift

A tribute gift is a thoughtful way to celebrate a special occasion or to honor family or friends. The Central High School Foundation's Honor and Tribute Gift Program allows you to recognize individuals, couples, groups, special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries, or someone's passing.

When you make a tribute gift, a personalized card and acknowledgment is sent to the individual or family being honored. You will also receive a letter acknowledging your gift and the gift amount will appear on your donor acknowledgement for your records. All donations will be recognized in the CHSF annual report.

To make a gift in honor or memory of someone, fill out the form on our [website](#). If you would prefer to have the Foundation send information regarding tribute giving to you, please contact the Foundation Office at 402-556-1996 or foundation@chsfomaha.org.

[Make a Tribute Donation Today](#)

Calling All Swimmers: Alumni Swim Meet

The Central Swim Team is hosting its 3rd annual alumni swim meet on Thursday, December 19th. The event will begin at 4:30 PM at Norris Middle School with a party and silent auction to follow. The admission fee is \$5 for spectators and no charge for alumni who wish to participate. If you're interested, contact [Kristoff Berzins](#) for more information.



Your Impact: Math Club



Central High has a long history of success in local, state, and national math competitions. Support from the Central High School Foundation helps the math team with entry fees and travel expenses.

Students Impacted: 60
Amount Funded: \$5,350

Commitment to Closing the Opportunity Gap

Math Club provides Central with an inclusive activity that caters to dedicated math students at all levels from Geometry to Calculus and Differential Equations. Students who find their way to Math Club have many opportunities to get involved, compete as a team, and develop leadership skills. Last year, Central's Math Club continued their success at math contests. Central won the top individual award and team sweepstakes award at Northwest Missouri State's Math League Contest. Sam Morris (Class of 2024) placed in the top 10 at UNL's annual Math Day contest. Three of our students qualified for the justification round at UNO's problem solving contest. This year, students hope to qualify for and compete at the national Mu Alpha Theta contest.

"I enjoy seeing students develop a passion through their participation in Math Club contests. These competitions would not be possible without the support of the Foundation. They love traveling to college campuses for contests, and CHS Foundation support has made it possible to travel to campuses such as Northwest Missouri State, UNL, and UNO to compete against other top math students from around the region."

- Ms. Lauren Beitel

Translation to College and Career Readiness

Math Club competitions help students develop their critical thinking that translates into multiple college and career skills. Students learn strategies that allow them to confidently approach complex problems, helping them to do well on college entrance exams and math contests that build their resumes. The club also develops leadership skills, fosters creativity and collaborations - all skills necessary for success in any career.

"The Foundation's support of Central's Math Club has allowed me to explore and express my interest in math outside my normal classes. Both E-Math and Match Club have taught me to understand why I'm getting some of my answers and how I can improve them. Competing in the Northwest Missouri State Contest during my freshman year was a highlight, where I earned the Best Freshman Award in one category! I'm excited to continue in E-Math this year and the years ahead."

- Ashton Fisher, Class of 2027

Join Generation "C" Today

Class of 1994 30th Reunion



The Class of '94 kicked off their reunion weekend on Thursday night, October 17th, at the Secret Park with an icebreaker mixer. They enjoyed Orsi's pizza and signature drinks while reconnecting before the festivities began. On Friday, they gathered at Central for a tailgate party before cheering on the current Eagles at the football game. Saturday saw the class walking the halls of Central, admiring the new renovations and reminiscing about their school days. That evening, they dined together, celebrating their "90s Era" in a nod to Taylor Swift's "Eras Tour," and danced the night away. The weekend concluded on Sunday with a final reunion at the newly reopened Joslyn Art Museum, where they enjoyed brunch and bid their farewells.

[Donate to the First Class Challenge](#)

Veterans Day



On the Saturday after Veterans Day, a group of Eagles including CHS JROTC and alumni, gathered at Central to honor our country's veterans.

The morning started with Col. Mike Melvin giving a presentation on "The History of Central's Famed Eagle Battalion." Afterwards, the group gathered at Central's newly refurbished Vietnam War Memorial where the host of the event, Harold Pharoah, gave a presentation on the new addition to the memorial, John Patrick Lambooy.

From Harold's presentation, prepared by Henry Cordes:

"John Patrick Lambooy arrived at Central right at the start of his senior year in September 1963. From Central he went on to earn a degree at Carleton College in Minnesota. John was in a graduate fellowship at Yale when he was drafted into the Army. John was a pacifist and was not keen on fighting, but he felt by going in as a medic, he had a chance to do some good. John went to Vietnam in August 1969 with the 198th Light Infantry Brigade. He was killed in action on September 19th, 1969, while aiding a fellow soldier. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington."

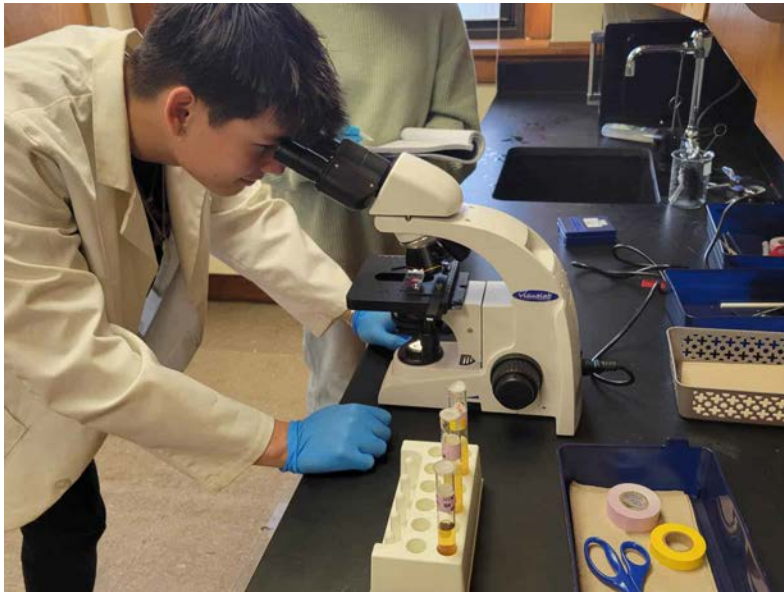
His story is a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by our veterans.

Thank you to everyone who planned and attended this event. We honor and appreciate the sacrifices veterans have made for our freedom and security. You are our heroes and our inspiration.



Join Generation "C" Today

Your Impact: Epidemiology Boom



Support from the CHS Foundation has been instrumental in helping to launch the newly-created Epidemiology and Infectious Disease class by providing essential resources such as bacteria cultures and staining materials. Additionally, support from the Foundation has allowed the Science Department to purchase new microscopes to supplement those purchased by the district which helped reduce the student-to-microscope ratio. This allows more students to observe these microorganisms firsthand and deepen their understanding of microbiology.

Students Impacted: 160

Amount Funded: \$6,000

Commitment to Closing the Opportunity Gap

Offering a class in epidemiology and infectious diseases demonstrates a commitment to providing equitable access to high-quality STEM education. By giving students the chance to work with advanced lab equipment such as microscopes, staining materials, and live bacteria cultures, teachers can provide hands-on learning experiences that are often not available in under-resourced schools. This helps bridge the opportunity gap by offering all students access to the tools and skills necessary to excel in scientific fields. The projected enrollment and expansion of the class demonstrates the growing interest in STEM education and reflects our commitment to providing more students with valuable, hands-on learning opportunities in public health and disease science.

“The epidemiology and infectious disease class empowers students to think critically about real-world health challenges while developing the hands-on skills and a scientific mindset needed for both personal and academic growth. This class not only sparks curiosity but also prepares students for future careers by fostering a deeper understanding of the world around them.”

- Mr. Kristoff Berzins, CHS Science Teacher

Translation to College and Career Readiness

Students in this class gain important skills in scientific inquiry, critical thinking, and laboratory techniques. These skills are directly transferable to careers in healthcare, biomedical research, and other STEM-related fields. Additionally, by learning how to analyze data, interpret scientific findings, and understand the mechanics of disease transmission, students are better prepared for college-level coursework in biology, public health, or pre-med programs. This class also cultivates soft skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and communication, which are essential for both college and career success.

“The Foundation’s generous support of our epidemiology class provided resources that have enhanced our educational experience and deepened our understanding of bacteria and infectious diseases. Without the Foundation, this class would not be possible, and my senior year would not be as interesting.”

- Erin Nelson, Class of 2025

[Join Generation "C" Today](#)

Class of 2004 20th Reunion



The Class of 2004 celebrated their 20th reunion on Friday Evening, September 6th. The festivities kicked off with a lively gathering at the Takeoff Rooftop bar at Peregrine. Old friends reconnected over drinks and laughter, reminiscing about the good old days. The evening continued with a spirited attendance at the Central High School Homecoming football game, where the class cheered on the team with all the enthusiasm of their high school years. The night didn't end there; the class then headed to Secret Park for a cozy after-party under the stars. On Saturday morning, The reunion continued with a nostalgic tour of Central High School. Walking through the halls brought back a flood of memories, from favorite teachers to unforgettable moments. The day wrapped up at Millwork Commons, where the class gathered for a delightful brunch, sharing stories and catching up on each other's lives. The Class of 2004 had an incredible turnout, making this reunion a memorable celebration of friendship and shared history!

Donate to the First Class Challenge

Alumni Spotlight: Jenna Hutchinson, CHS 2018



After graduating from Central in 2018, Jenna attended Vassar College, where she graduated with her BA in International Studies in 2022.

During her time in college, Jenna joined the fencing team, participated in dorm and student government, and interned with the Council on Foreign Relations. Following her graduation, she moved to Buffalo, NY to work for M&T Bank in their Management Development Program. She has continued working for M&T Bank, now in their Compliance and Risk Department, and has recently moved to Brooklyn, NY.

Over the past few years, Jenna has enjoyed traveling to countries in Europe, North America, and Asia, hiking in upstate NY, and cooking and baking. Last year, she saw three Taylor Swift concerts and is now making the most of living in NYC—food, art, and music.

"Central holds so many great memories and laid the foundation for much of my continued education and career. Go Eagles!"

Nominate an Alum for the Spotlight

2024-2025 Generation "C" Chair

Evelyn "Eve" Mayberger (CHS 2005) has long been a fierce supporter of Central High School. Since graduating, she has watched her younger brothers



and cousins pass through the esteemed classrooms of Central. While a student at Central, Eve was involved in music (concert band and orchestra), athletics (cross-country, swimming, and track), and Academic Decathlon. Eve took full advantage of the honors and AP courses offered and particularly loved history,

math, and English classes. Eve credits her dedicated Central teachers for her interest and passion in these subjects.

Using what she had learned at Central, Eve earned a scholarship to Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. Eve fell in love with the interdisciplinary field of art conservation; a profession that combines art history/archaeology, chemistry/material science, and studio art/craft skills. After finishing her undergraduate degree, Eve interned for two years at different East coast museums to gain more practical art conservation experience.

Eve was then admitted into the art conservation graduate school program at New York University. In 2016 she accepted a post-graduate fellowship at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston (MFA). Upon completing her fellowship, Eve was promoted to Assistant Conservator at the MFA. During her career, Eve has participated in multiple excavations as an archaeological conservator in Turkey, Sicily, Egypt, and Sudan.

Her time at Central laid the foundation for her professional trajectory; Eve feels it is important to give back so others can follow their dreams and aspirations. She believes it is our duty to invest in our communities and to contribute what we can for the betterment of society for current and future generations. A tangible way to do this is to keep our public educational institutions, such as Central High School, strong and well resourced.

[Join Generation "C"](#)

[Join the 1859 Society Today](#)



Named for the year of Central's founding, the 1859 Society honors donors who have included The Central High School Foundation in their estate plans. By arranging for such deferred gifts, alumni, parents and friends of CHS play a vital role in securing the future of Omaha's oldest educational institution. Combining financial planning, estate planning, and tax planning techniques, planned giving enables donors to make gifts of significance often with tax and

financial rewards. If you're interested in joining the 1859 Society and making a planned gift, contact Michele Roberts at the CHSF Office at 402-556-1996 or michele@chsfomaha.org.

[View the 1859 Society Brochure](#)

2025 Class Reunion Schedule



Class of 1989 at their reunion in September!

Upcoming Reunion Schedule

Class of 1965

September 5-6, 2025

[Contact Holly Jepsen Hoberman](#)

[Contact Gary Green](#)

Class of 1970

July 25-26, 2025

[Contact Gary Willis](#)

Class of 2010

September 19-20, 2025

[Contact Anna Venditte Dietrich](#)

Class of 1975

October 10-11, 2025

Susan Vrbanac Lerdahl, Mark Kresl, Suzanne Tarver, Bridget Brown

[Contact Sue](#) 402.320.6489

*If you are the reunion organizer for your class and haven't finalized a date, please [contact Erika Buffington at events@chsfomaha.org](mailto:events@chsfomaha.org) or call 402-556-1996.

Support CHSF While You Shop



The Central High School Foundation has partnered with TAGG (Together A Greater Good) to provide an easy and free way to support the Foundation.

It's easy to do! Just go to the link tagg.today, snap a photo of your receipts from [participating businesses](#), and a percentage of your total will be donated to the Central High School Foundation. Visit their [website](#) to learn more!

Follow and Like Us on Social Media



Are you on [Facebook](#)? How about [Instagram](#) or [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#)? Follow and Like us across the social media platforms to stay connected to other Central alumni, staff, parents and supporters, all while receiving the latest news. As we hit fan milestones on each platform we will be giving out great prizes! Keep an eye out!

Thank You to Our Adopt-A-School Partner

