

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 5, 2012

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Central High School "21st Century Capital Campaign Ribbon Cutting"

The Central High School Foundation (CHSF) is pleased to announce that it will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the 21st Century Capital Campaign at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, November 9, 2012, at Omaha Central High School (CHS). The ceremony will feature welcoming remarks by Matt Aden, CHSF President, and Dr. Keith Bigsby, CHS Principal. Among the invited guests include elected officials, community leaders, and CHS staff.

In an effort to bring CHS into the 21st Century and bridge the digital divide, Omaha Public Schools, CHS, and the CHSF all expended effort and money in support of the Central High School Wireless Campaign, which made it a reality. Introduced in March of 2011, the CHSF raised \$400,000, which was needed for the wireless infrastructure. The lead gift of the campaign was made by Pamela Bartling Buffett '60 in memory of her late husband, Fred C. Buffett '55. Pam Buffett said CHS gave her many gifts during her time there. Most of all, she learned to have respect for all humanity. "No matter what the race or religion, we respected each other greatly," she said.

The campaign, which was chaired by Matt '74 and Sheri Aden, provides a 21st Century learning environment for all students at CHS. Moving CHS into the 21st Century was a \$1 million dollar project – from building the infrastructure to providing access to wireless devices for every student. The project included wireless Internet infrastructure, the broadband to support it, classroom equipment, and teacher training.

"The campaign focused on raising funds to create a technological infrastructure to support learning at Central High School for the next 20 years," said Chair Matt Aden '74. "The overwhelming support of our alumni, community, and supporters has been evident throughout the capital campaign, and we sincerely appreciate their investment in the future of Central High School."

"The reality was that our alumni and community answered the bell and supported Omaha's downtown high school," said Dr. Keith Bigsby, Principal of CHS. "Their love of Central High School and their depth of loyalty are just incredible."

CHS, established in 1859, is the oldest, largest, and one of the most diverse and competitive high schools in Omaha. Its mission is to continue a tradition of excellence emphasizing academic achievement, responsible global citizenship, pride in diversity, and enduring scholarship.

Central High School Foundation Partners and Central High School Adopt-A-School Partners include Coca-Cola, First National Bank of Omaha, Midland University and Nebraska Methodist College - The Josie Harper Campus.

For more information, interviews, or photos, please contact Michele Roberts at michele@chsformaha.org or 402-556-1996.