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OMAHA GIVES!

Save the Date: May 20th!



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

EAGLE NEWS

April 2020



Dear Supporter:

We hope you and your loved ones are staying safe and well during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are thankful and proud of our alumni for giving back to their communities during this challenging time. We have always known that our Eagles soar high, but you have truly inspired us all with your courage and selflessness. As we are all weathering the uncertainty amidst COVID-19, we have been sharing stories of Eagles who are showing up for their community and making an impact. Whether you or someone you know is on the frontline of the medical field, a first responder, a teacher hosting online lessons for out of school students, or a community member picking up groceries for an elderly neighbor, we want to hear about it! Share your stories by emailing us at connect@chsfromaha.org. We will share your stories to show Eagle Nation how you are making a #CHSEagleImpact!

Please mark your calendars now for OmahaGives! on Wednesday, May 20th. We are very excited to share with you that this year, Nelson and Linda Kavich Gordman, CHS 1958 will be matching all donations received for the Central High School Foundation on this special day of giving, dollar for dollar, up to \$150,000! Watch for our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram feeds during OmahaGives! week. Current Eagles, CHS teachers, and Central alumni will be sharing how the Central High School Foundation has impacted them. Please feel free to contact us at 402-556-1996 if you have any questions about how to make sure your donation gets matched or [schedule your donation now!](#)

Finally, even though the Central High School Foundation staff continues to work remotely, we're here for you, same as always. Reach out whenever you need us. Because it's during times such as these when the support of our donors and alumni makes the most impact, when it is the most critical. We are so grateful for you, and your continued support of Central High School. We are all in this together.

Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle,

Michele Roberts
Executive Director

Mark Your Calendars: OmahaGives! 2020 is May 20th!



HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

OmahaGives is a 24 hour online giving event on Wednesday, May 20. You can schedule your gift now, or donate on May 20.

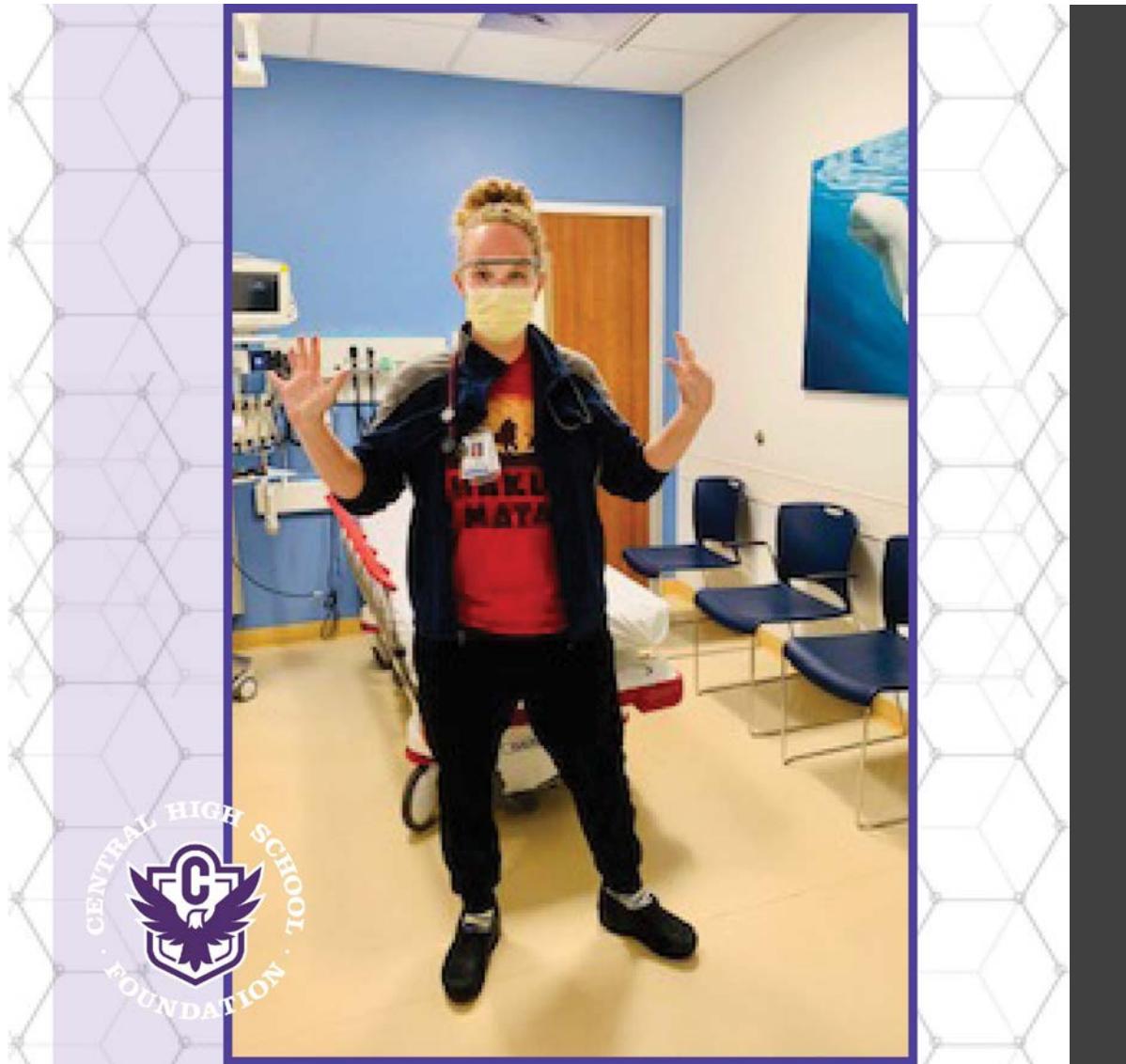
CHALLENGE FUND - \$150,000 MATCHING GIFT

Nelson and Linda Kavich Gordman, CHS 1958 will be matching all donations received for the Central High School Foundation during OmahaGives, dollar for dollar, up to \$150,000!

Thanks to this challenge fund, your donation during OmahaGives will double and make twice the impact, which is critical during this time of increased need.

[Click Here to Schedule Your Donation!](#)

#CHSEagleImpact during the COVID-19 Outbreak



#CHSEagleImpact

We will never get tired of shouting THANK YOU to our healthcare workers, like Tricia Cobb, Class of 2008! She lives in Chicago, a current 'hot spot' of virus outbreaks.

"I work in Lurie Children's Emergency Department as a Registered Nurse. Chicago is currently on 'shelter in place' per the governor so I am practicing social distancing everywhere but work. When I enter the hospital, I am immediately screened for signs of illness (fever, cough, etc) and if I pass, I am given one mask and goggles to be worn throughout my 12 hour shift, at all times... Stress is high, but I am thankful to be working for an organization determined to do right by pediatric patients and their families. And I am determined to stay healthy and contribute to flattening the curve!"

Can you hear all of Eagle Nation cheering for you, Tricia? 🙌 🙌 We are so grateful!

Announcement about the 2020 Golf Outing



The Central High School Foundation has been closely following the news surrounding COVID-19 and its related public health concerns. We will be joining our community, state and national partners in working to limit and eradicate the COVID-19 pandemic by postponing this year's Golf Fore Eagles outing and rescheduling it for September 21, 2020. If you are a sponsor or participant already registered for the outing that was scheduled for June 1, 2020, here are your options:

1. We will honor your sponsorship or registration for September 21, 2020. No action is required from you at this time.
2. Please contact our office at 402-556-1996 or events@chsfomaha.org for a refund or to donate your sponsorship or registration fee. A 501(c)(3) letter will be provided to you recognizing your full contribution.

Thank you to our sponsors and thank you for your continued support!

Emergency Fund

THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION EMERGENCY FUND



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION
#CHSEAGLEIMPACT

Since the start of the pandemic, The Central High School Foundation has been working hard to fundraise, and quickly distribute support to Eagle families in need. The Central High School Foundation Emergency Fund supports Central students and staff by securing needed resources during this pandemic. In addition, the emergency fund is also used to support current students and staff who have immediate financial needs.

We are happy to report over the past few weeks we have impacted over 60 families to date, with the help of 151 donors, by dispersing funds to help with food support, hygiene items, clothing, computer repair and internet access for remote learning, utilities, school supplies and living expenses!

We are so truly moved by the response from Eagle Nation, who have quickly banded together to support one another!

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Those who wish to contribute to the Central High School Foundation Emergency

Fund can donate on our website (the link below). Any amount can be given and all donations are tax deductible. Our community's needs continue to rise, and so now - more than ever - we need your continued support!

[Donate to the CHSF Emergency Fund](#)

#CHSEagleImpact during the COVID-19 Outbreak



[#CHSEagleImpact](#)

Shoutout to the Rotella family, of Rotella's Italian Bakery Inc, who are proud Eagles and noted community leaders! They donated more than 10,000 packages of bread to the Open Door Mission food bank. Last weekend the Open Door Mission met the need of thousands of Omahans. Thank you, Rotella family!

Resume and Cover Letter Review Program Launched for Eagles

THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION RESUME SUPPORT



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION
#CHSEAGLEIMPACT

We want our Eagle community to know that we are with you during this unprecedented time. We realize that the economic fallout of COVID-19 may have affected some of our Eagles, and now they may face the task of looking for new jobs. The Central High School Foundation has teamed up with Central High School teachers that have offered to assist by providing feedback on resumes and cover letters!

If you would like to participate in this opportunity, please contact Michele Roberts, Executive Director, at michele@chsfomaha.org, and she will connect you to a reviewer.

Rod Mullen Wins 2020 Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award



Rod Mullen is back at it again! This month it was announced that he is an Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award winner for 2020! Mr. Mullen teaches Social Studies and African American History at Central, and has been with OPS for more than 20 years. What an outstanding, deserving recognition! Congratulations!

To read the article in the Omaha World-Herald, [click here](#).

The 43rd Annual Purple Feather Day is Celebrated Virtually

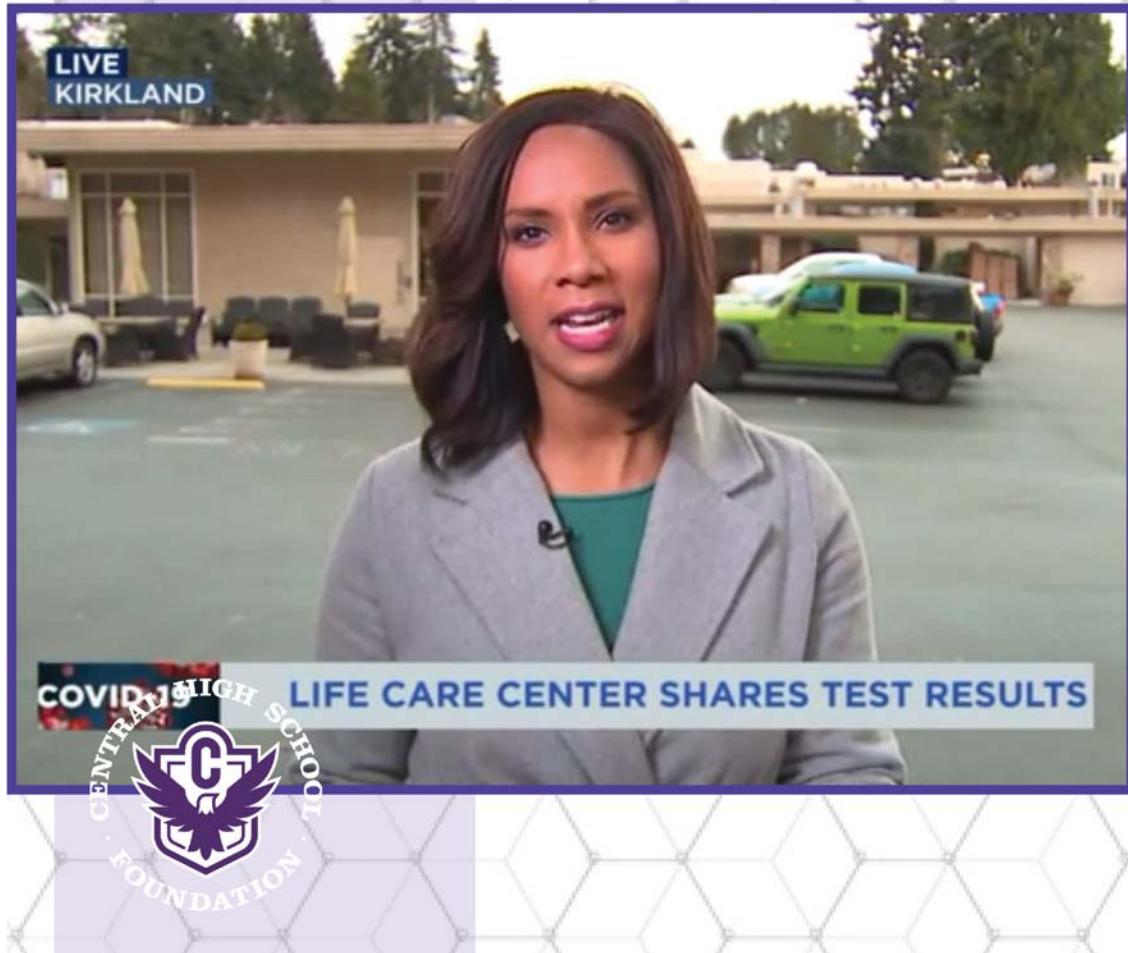




The 43rd annual Purple Feather Day was celebrated virtually this year, and was made extra special with yard flags delivered to scholars' homes. Senior scholars with academic distinction were given special golden flags.

"Today is unlike any other Purple Feather Day in our history, as it is our first -- and hopefully our last -- virtual celebration. [...] Thank you for understanding that by doing this virtually, we are saving lives; lives of people we will probably never met. With respect to your academic success, your willingness to act within the best interests of the global, state, and local community is a far greater accomplishment." - Dr. Bennett

#CHSEagleImpact during the COVID-19 Outbreak



#CHSEagleImpact

THANK YOU to our media and news professionals, like Franque Thompson, Class of 2007, who is a reporter with Q13 News in Seattle, WA. In January, Washington was the first state in the United States to have a positive COVID-19 case reported, making it the U.S. 'epicenter' of the virus. Franque has been there since day one, putting herself at risk to cover the progress of the pandemic for her local community - and the entire nation!

She was at the breaking news press conference in King County announcing case numbers. She was at Life Care Center of Kirkland – the nursing home where majority of Washington's cases/deaths were reported. She spoke with families who lost loved ones and staff who became sick. She reported on small businesses that were devastated by state mandate closures and social distancing at gathering places. And she interviewed healthcare providers struggling to find medical supplies to keep themselves and patients safe from COVID-19 exposure.

"Media has played a vital role in keeping communities informed," she said. "It's an honor to be in this position to share life-shaving information and helping communities stay prepared during this pandemic."

Thank you, Franque! We are so grateful for your diligence, perseverance, and commitment to your community! That is the EAGLE WAY!

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@chsformaha.org.

[Click here to view the CHSF Planned Giving brochure.](#)

#CHSEagleImpact during the COVID-19 Outbreak



[#CHSEagleImpact](#)

We miss going to the zoo, don't you? THANK YOU to our zoologists, also deemed essential workers, such as Amanda Smith, Class of 2010!

"I am a Great Apes Keeper and Sea Lion Trainer at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium. With the current restrictions, the zoo is closed to the public, but the Animal Care Staff are still coming to work every day to care for the animals. We have adjusted how we interact with each other and the animals to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Every day my crew and I clean exhibits, prepare diets and enrichment, train the animals, and make sure everything is as normal as possible for them."

Keep it up, Amanda, we are grateful to you!

CHS Teachers Send Love to Students During Pandemic



The entire CHS staff collaborated to send a powerful message to students, reminding them that even during a time when we are all kept at a distance, we are still in it together as one Eagle Family.



The CHS Math Team had a message for the Eagles, whom they miss so much! Distance learning has been underway, and our teachers know that this presents lots of new challenges for students. Teachers have been doing what they can to lift spirits during the pandemic.

#CHSEagleImpact during the COVID-19 Outbreak



[#CHSEagleImpact](#)

SHOUT OUT to those who work in the non-profit sector, who are tirelessly working during this pandemic to meet the needs of those made vulnerable by social and economic gaps. Anna McMahon, CHS class of 2006, is a Donor and Community Engagement Manager. She has been working with Feeding Chittenden, a community organization in Burlington, Vermont, to deliver and serve food to her local community. Her family praised her commitment to serve, saying, "She truly cares about everyone and works tirelessly to ensure those in need are not forgotten!"

Thank you, Anna!

2020 Class Reunion Schedule



"It was so great to reconnect with old friends, and to have a good excuse to see those with whom we still have contact. Everyone had the looks of a 30 year old with the wisdom of a 60 year old!"

- A 1994 Graduate

We are gearing up for the 2020 class reunions and we are excited to see what new memories are made! Look below to see the date and person of contact for your class reunion. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Central High School Foundation.

Class of 1950

No reunion

Class of 1955

No reunion

Class of 1960

October 16-17, 2020

Steve and Judie Olson, JoAnn Kratky

402-333-4080 (JoAnn)

solson@fraserstryker.com

Class of 1965
August 28-29, 2020
Holly Jepsen Hoberman
www.central65.org
402-681-2161, 402-397-6943
hollyhoberman@gmail.com

Class of 1970
October 16-17, 2020
Cheryl Marks Willis and Karen Smith Buckley
402-493-1373
cgwillis@cox.net
[Join the 1970 Facebook Group](#)

Class of 1975
Date TBD
Suzanne Tarver Vincent
(414) 852-8862
tarverharris@msn.com

Class of 1980
CANCELLED - Will be Rescheduled in 2021
Grant Gier
(847) 772-0069
ggier@comcast.net
[Join the 1980 Facebook Group](#)

Class of 1985
POSTPONED - Will be Rescheduled for Fall 2020
[LaConda Scott McKinney.](#)
402-517-7138
[Take the reunion survey](#)

Class of 1990
September 4-5, 2020
[Ben Rouch](#)
402-598-2669
[Join the 1990 Facebook Group](#)

Class of 1995
CANCELLED

Class of 2000
October 2-3, 2020

Jonathan “Jono” Croskey

402-598-4498

Class of 2005

CANCELLED - Will host a school tour in Fall 2020

Michael Smith

402-979-0068

Class of 2010

September 11-12, 2020

Sierra Hogan

402-740-0379

2010centralhigh@gmail.com

Class of 2015

No Reunion

If you are the reunion organizer for your class and haven't finalized a date for your 2020 reunion or would like to look at postponing or cancelling it, please [contact Erika Buffington at events@chsfomaha.org](#) or call 402-556-1996. We are actively working on virtual reunion templates as a resource for our Reunion Chairs.

Central Seniors Included in New York Times Photo Documentary

In a [New York Times photo essay about senior prom](#), Central seniors Gunnar Duke and Kaya Koraleski dressed up in what they would have worn to prom and spoke to a reporter about what they are feeling during this strange time.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Gunnar Duke, 18



Calla Kessler/The New York Times

Gunner:

"I was disappointed when prom got canceled, because I always wear a suit that

stands out a lot. This year was going to be all dark purple satin material. It had eagle cuff links, which is the mascot of our high school, and it was going to have a white cape around it, and I had golden spiked shoes that matched a golden bow tie. It was going to look really cool. [...] My grandma makes all my suits from scratch. She has since sophomore year. I usually come up with an idea, and then we go pick out a fabric that she likes, and she shows me how it'll turn out. I just like being different, standing out. [...] It's just kind of sad because the reason that it was canceled is all out of our control. There's not a lot we can do about it. But I missed out only a little bit, because most people get two proms and I only had one. If I have kids, I'll tell them to make the most of their prom and don't have any regrets, because something might just come up like this again."

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Kaya Koraleski, 18



Calla Kessler/The New York Times

Kaya:

"Prom is pretty much a rite of culture for Omaha kids. It's the big night to get super dressed up. It's always been a huge thing to go out and buy your dress early. I got

my dress in December or January. Me and my two best girlfriends went to Von Maur here in Omaha, and it was like, prom is so far away, we're not going to find a dress, and then I found the perfect one. I wanted a dress with the themes of the roaring 20s, which is the theme of our year. It's a very indescribable feeling, getting ready for a big event that you know you're going to remember for the rest of your life. [...] All my classes are moved online to doing Zoom meetings, and we're talking in my government class about how this could be happening in the fall again, and it just sounds like a nightmare that this is going to happen during my freshman year of college, too. It just feels like I'm missing a lot of the big opportunities that people are always like, 'Oh, just wait for this. It's one moment that you'll never forget.' I'm not getting those moments."

CHS Senior Creates Comic to Help Express The Class of 2020's Emotions

Quaran(teen)ed



By Mia Dempsey

Mia Dempsey, a Central Senior, is using her outstanding artistic ability to work through the complex emotions she's experiencing during this Covid-19 pandemic:

"This is a short comic I made about my recent life, thoughts, and feelings while social distancing. As a senior at Central, I have been saddened by losing the milestones that come with leaving high school, and I know my friends have been too. I made this comic as a way of expressing my disappointment, while also reminding myself and my peers why we're doing this and that it only brings us closer. ❤️鳩"

Her comic was featured on I Love Public Schools Nebraska. See her comic by [clicking here](#).

2019-20 Generation "C" Chairs - The Friedman Family



The Friedman Family has been involved at Central High School for over a century, and we're honored to have them as the chairs for the 2019-20 Generation "C" campaign. Amy and Sandy Friedman ('64) are the proud parents of two Eagles: Andrea ('97), and Dusty ('00). Although they are retired now, Amy and Sandy continue to stay involved and embody the spirit of commitment, caring and generosity to help improve the greater Omaha community as well as Central High School. Andrea and Dusty also have accepted the responsibility of involvement in their respective communities and remain committed to their alma mater.

Sandy graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1968, earning a degree in Economics. His business career spanned nearly five decades of founding and operating several businesses across a diverse range of fields. In 2001 he sold his last business, Customer Service Profiles. He continued to help other Omaha businesses address specific challenges before retiring to try to perfect his golf game. During his career, he also served his community on numerous boards including Girls Club of Omaha, Omaha Symphony and Jewish Federation of Omaha. In addition, he served as the president of the Anti-Defamation League, Beth El Synagogue and National Conference of Christians and Jews. He has received several awards over the years, but he is most proud of his induction into the Central High School Hall of Fame in 2017.

Amy's legacy to Central dates back to her mother Molline Rubin Cassman ('48) and grandparents Arthur Rubin ('12) and Sarah Tuchman Rubin ('11). Amy earned an undergraduate degree from Northwestern University in communications and a master's degree in broadcast journalism from Boston University. She had a 40 year career in public relations, spending the majority of time as a communications director in the public school system. During this time she also served on the boards of Ballet Omaha, Henry Doorly Zoo Women's Board, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Jewish Family Service and the Assistance League Advisory Board. Amy was also elected to a four year term on the Learning Community Coordinating Council. She also served on the PTA board of Central and co-chaired the scholarship auction during the time her children attended Central. She was named a Woman of Vision by YWCA in 2000 and received the Professional of the Year award by the Nebraska Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America in 2011.

Andrea graduated magna cum laude from the University of Missouri in 2002 with a degree in Journalism. She played tennis for the Tigers on a full scholarship and earned Academic All-American honors. She went on to earn an MBA from the International University in Geneva/Pace University. Currently, Andrea lives in New York City where she started and runs her own business.

Dusty earned an Industrial Engineering degree from Northwestern University in 2004 and an MBA degree in finance from Emery University. He worked on Wall Street for several years before returning to Omaha to work for Tenaska. Currently, Dusty works in Corporate Business Development for Aon Risk Solutions. He serves on the board of the Jewish Community Center and was appointed by Mayor Stothert to the Omaha City Zoning Board of Appeals. Dusty and his wife Candice have a 2-year-old daughter: Frankie Nicole Friedman.

[Join Generation "C"](#)

[Support CHSF While You Shop!](#)

Support Central High School Foundation.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazonsmile

If you're buying Back to School supplies or books on Amazon, make sure you click on the link below first! We have partnered with AmazonSmile so that you can support the Central High School Foundation while you shop.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the Central High School Foundation! Click below to get started shopping.



Hy-Vee, is now on TAGG! More specifically, all 17 stores in Omaha, Council Bluffs, Fremont and Plattsburgh will happily donate 1% of your purchases to the Central High School Foundation when you scan a picture of your whole receipt on the free Together A Greater Good mobile app. Exclusions include gift cards, postage, pharmacy, money orders, prepaid debit cards, lottery and money transfers

The Central High School Foundation has partnered with TAGG (Together A Greater Good) to provide an easy and free way to support the Foundation. The app, available on [iPhone](#) and [Android](#) devices, is free to download and easy to set up.

Follow and Like Us on Social Media!



Are you on [Facebook](#)? How about [Instagram](#) and [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 Partners





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