



2021 Golf Fore Eagles!



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

EAGLE NEWS
June 2021



Dear Supporter,

We wanted to start off by thanking Dr. Ed Bennett, who served as Principal of Central High School for the past 7 years. We are grateful for his leadership and his commitment to our Eagles, as well as for his enthusiasm for our alumni and community. He will be dearly missed, but rest assured that he will continue

to be a close friend and active supporter of Central. We look forward to welcoming Ms. Dionne Kirksey in her new role as Principal!

We are excited to announce that our Passing Periods Luncheon Series will be back on Friday, October 15th at the Omaha Press Club. Our guest speaker for this event will be Ms. Dionne Kirksey. Please keep an eye out for forthcoming information. You can register for this event by clicking [here](#).

There are numerous announcements about [class reunions](#) planned for 2021. If you have a reunion this year, make sure you [update your record](#) on our website so that your physical invitation and event communications will be mailed to the correct address. Especially for recent graduates, we often have parental addresses instead of graduate addresses.

Thank you for helping perpetuate 160 years - and counting - of tradition and excellence!

Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle!

Michele Roberts

Executive Director

Eagle Nation Welcomes Dionne Kirksey as the New Principal of Central High School!



The Omaha Public Schools have announced the next principal of Central High School! OPS announced that Ellisa (Dionne) Kirksey, who is currently an assistant principal and the activities director at Central, has been named as the new principal of Central High School. She is known as Dionne to friends and colleagues.

Ms. Kirksey will replace Principal Ed Bennett, who announced his departure from the school district earlier this year.

Kirksey has more than 30 years of experience with OPS. In 1990, she started as a social studies teacher at King Science and Technology Magnet Center. In 1998, she moved to the OPS student and community services department. She began her current job at Central in 2000.

Ms. Kirksey holds an associate of arts degree in social studies from Coffeyville Community College, a bachelor's degree from Emporia State University, a master's degree in educational administration and supervision from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a master's degree in secondary counseling from Creighton University.

- *The Omaha World-Herald*

Announcing the Winners of the 2021 Golf Outing!



The 19th Annual Golf Fore Eagles CHS Golf Outing took place on Monday, June 7, at the Field Club of Omaha. Over 200 alumni, parents, friends, and supporters dusted off their putters for a good cause to raise over \$40,000 for Central High School! This year the Golf Committee honored longtime Central High School marketing teachers Harry Gaylor and Vicki Wiles, who both retired last year. A big

thank you to our Title Sponsor for the event - Danielson Incorporated! Thank you to those who participated and save the date for next year's golf outing on Monday, June 6, 2022!

Flight Winners

1st Flight:

1st Place (15 Under Par):

Tony Driscoll, CHS 2003
Steve Hogan, CHS 2004
John Farrell, CHS 1993
Bryce Brown

2nd Place (13 Under Par):

Chris Sacco, CHS 1987
Sean Bussey
Mike Stogdill
Jason Bosilijevac

2nd Flight:

1st Place (6 Under Par):

Will Denton, CHS 2005
Rick Denton, CHS 2011
Mike Driggs, CHS 2005
Luke Long

2nd Place (5 Under Par):

Ty Egbert, CHS 1990
Chad Ahlvers, CHS 1990
John Jackson
Joe Kathrein

3rd Flight:

1st Place (2 Under Par):

Jerry Bexten
Jerry Barteo, CHS 1966
Tom Helligso, CHS 1965
Steve Nelson, CHS 1965

2nd Place (1 Under Par):

Paul Pennington
Tom Harkness, CHS 1966

Coed Flight:

1st Place (7 Under Par):

Vicki Wiles
Jeff Wiles
Kelly Faiman
Sam Hardy

2nd Place (7 Under Par):

Brent Larson
Ed Bennett
Dave Ory

Margot Wickman-Bennett

Hole Prize Winners:

- Hole #1: Longest Putt Made: Steve King
- Hole #2: Closest 2nd Shot: Matt McVay
- Hole #3: Longest Drive in Fairway: Cole Mrsny
- Hole #4: Closest Tee Shot: Mike Driggs, CHS 2005
- Hole #5: Longest Putt Made by Woman Only: Emily Lebens Young, CHS 2003
- Hole #6: Closest Tee Shot: Jamie Stogdill, CHS 1996
- Hole #7: Closest 3rd Shot: Jacob Hellman
- Hole #8: Closest 2nd Shot: Nick Whittinghill
- Hole #9: Closest Tee Shot: Brian Hill
- Hole #10: Closest 2nd Shot: Jeff Hellman
- Hole #11: Longest Drive in the Fairway: Kelly Faiman
- Hole #12: Closest Tee Shot: Vic Larson
- Hole #13: Longest Putt Made: Joe Godberson, CHS 1980
- Hole #15: Closest 2nd Shot: Ryan Sweet
- Hole #16: Closest Tee Shot: Johnny Farrell, CHS 1993
- Hole #17: Closest Tee Shot: Clayton Wulf, CHS 1995
- Hole #18: Closest 2nd Shot: John Gaskins, CHS 1969
- Mega Putt Winner: Andy Haggart, CHS 1988

Thank you to this year's Title Sponsor: Danielson, Inc.



Danielson Incorporated

Congratulations to the Class of 2021!



This month the Class of 2021 walked across the stage to accept their high school diplomas! Congratulations to all of our students. Your hard work has paid off!

Central High School Hall of Fame 2021



Congratulations to all of our 2020 inductees, who are listed below! We look forward to celebrating with you in person on October 14th, 2021!

Ann Axtell Morris, CHS 1918
John Pehle, CHS 1926
Olive Odorisio Circo, CHS 1937
Marlene Chesneau Bernstein, CHS 1950
Ray Somberg, CHS 1954
Richard and Helen Hockabout Kelley, CHS 1956
Kathryn Bigsby Moore, CHS 1962
Cynthia Hadsell, CHS 1966
Victor Lewis, CHS 1968
Ronald Blumkin, CHS 1966 and Irvin Blumkin, CHS 1970

To learn more about the Central High School Hall of Fame, [click here!](#) Is there someone you would like to see in the Central High School Hall of Fame? Remember, for them to be considered by the Central High School Alumni Association Hall of Fame Selection Committee, they have to be [nominated](#).

[Register Now to Attend the Hall of Fame](#)

[New Episode of Eagle Tales Available Now!](#)



Businessman and television personality Mike DiGiacomo (CHS 1991) joins episode 6 of Eagle Tales! Our Creative Director, Josh Bucy, interviews DiGiacomo about his career and his experience being a student at Central High School. Head over to our website to take a listen by clicking the button below!

[Click Here to Listen](#)

Thank You To Those Who Participated in Scoops for Support



We would like to thank everyone who came out and supported Central High School at our Scoops for Support event at eCreamery in Dundee! It was awesome to see many of our seniors celebrating their graduation. Congratulations, Class of 2021!

Gale Sayers Statue to Be Erected Outside CHS Football Stadium



A bronze statue of [Gale Sayers](#) will be unveiled outside Seeman Stadium at Central High School this fall. Shown here are the members of the Gale Sayers Memorial Committee: Rusty Crossman, M.D. (CHS 1966), Kristie Hayes, M.D. (CHS 1973), Rob Likes (CHS 1991), Mike Lebens (CHS 1970), and Roger Sayers (CHS 1960) standing with the artist, Littleton Alston.

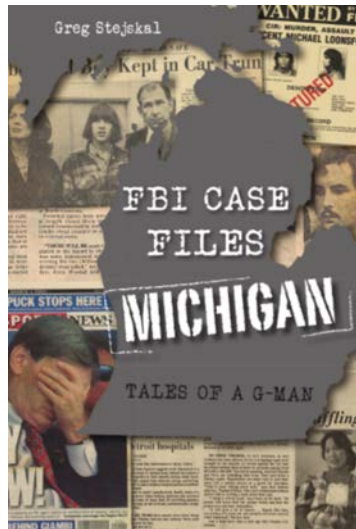
Gale Sayers (Class of 1961), a great Eagle athlete, friend of the Central High School Foundation, and former Chicago Bears star passed away September 22, 2020. Gale is considered one of the greatest running backs in the history of the National Football League. He is the youngest person to ever be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame at age 34. "I Am Third," his autobiography which inspired the film "Brian's Song," was critically acclaimed. It told the story of his family, of the crippling knee injury that almost destroyed his career, and, most of all, it recalled the story of Gale's short but unforgettable friendship with Brian Piccolo. He was a member of the Central High School Hall of Fame, and was a proud supporter of Central High School and the Central High School Foundation until the end of his life.

Littleton Alston, Eagle parent and owner of Alston Art Studio, has been selected as the sculptor to design and construct this bronze statue. The Victory Eagle will be forever soaring over one of Central's greatest athletes!

We need your help to make this memorial statue a reality! Make a memorial donation in Gale's name to assist in the erection of this monument. Thanks to three generous alumni, and the Class of 1961, your contribution will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$85,000! Make a memorial donation by [clicking here](#). When you make a memorial gift, a personalized card and acknowledgment is sent to his family. 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.

[Donate to Sayers Statue](#)

Alumni in the News!



Central Alumni and Hall of Fame Inductee, Greg Stejskal, CHS 1967, is in the news recently for the release of his new book. Stejskal spent his entire career in the FBI working in Michigan. He recounts some of the details of his career in a new book: "FBI Case File Michigan: Tales of a G-Man." It is out now with Arcadia Publishing! Click the button below to order your copy!

Overview of "FBI Case File Michigan: Tales of a G-Man"

Across the Mitten and through the Upper Peninsula, the Wolverine State has witnessed some thrilling and historic federal cases. In Detroit, FBI agents took point investigating the kidnapping (and safe return) of a GM executive's son and in a manhunt for an armed killer in the north woods near Escanaba. The Bureau was called in to discover who poisoned patients at the Ann Arbor Veterans Hospital and for a grisly double homicide solved by a persistent and determined fingerprint examiner. Michigan agents spearheaded the first-ever investigation and prosecution of an Internet threat, and legendary football coach Bo Schembechler inspired an epic international undercover operation targeting the illegal distribution of steroids. Retired Special Agent Greg Stejskal recalls these stories and others from more than thirty years as a G-man in Michigan.

[Click Here to Purchase Greg's Book](#)

Join Generation "C" Today!



[Click Here to Join Generation C!](#)

As Central High School alumni and Frontline Workers during this pandemic, we are honored to be the 2020 Generation "C" membership co-chairs. During these challenging times, we know our work is crucial for protecting our community, and that the exceptional education we received at Central prepared us to make an impact. We also know that the exceptional education Central continues to provide will produce a new generation of health care workers, public safety officers, and community leaders ready to take on future challenges like COVID-19. We hope you consider joining Generation "C" today to support Central High School!

Dr. Jean Ogborn, CHS 1975

Dr. Angela Felton-Coleman, CHS 1989
Thomas Byrne, CHS 2004
Robert Wesley, CHS 2005
Generation "C" Chairs

Join the 1859 Society Today



Click Here for the 1859 Society Brochure

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.

Share Your Memories From Your Time at Central!



Did you know that the Central High School Foundation collects the memories of our alumni to paint a full, bright picture of life at Central for future generations? In fact, you can read all of the memories others have submitted on our [website!](#)

We would love to hear from you!

Submit your memory to the Central High School Foundation!
You can also share photos of your time at Central, which will be entered into our archives!

[Click Here to Submit Your Memory](#)

2021 Class Reunion Schedule



Throwback Class of 1976's 40th Reunion!

Many of our reunions have been postponed or cancelled for 2020. Please look below for an update and a person of contact for your reunion. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Central High School Foundation. In the meantime, please click here to watch one of our [Affinity Reunions!](#)

[Class of 1960](#)

RESCHEDULED – October 22-23, 2021

JoAnn Kratky

joann.kratky@gmail.com

[Class of 1961](#)

October 15-16, 2021

Chairs: Dick Zacharia, Suzi Seglin Mogil, Joyce Anderson Tomich

joycehtomich@gmail.com

Class of 1966

POSTPONED UNTIL 2022

Cindy Hadsell

402-312-4929

Class of 1970

POSTPONED

July 25-26, 2025

[Class of 1971](#)

October 8-9, 2021

Linda Niebauer, Danny Slosburg, Denny Brown

303-909-8227 (Linda)

linda.niebauer@cuanschultz.edu

[Join the 1971 Facebook Group](#)

Check out Omaha Central Class of '71 [website](#)

Class of 1976

Dates: July 2-4, 2021

Details TBD

Ken Gruber

402-305-3053

Kennyg402@aol.com

Class of 1980 & 1981 Combined Reunion

August 27-28, 2021

Grant Gier (1980) ggier@comcast.net (847) 772-0069

J. Scott Barker (1981) sbarker@episcopal-ne.org (402) 830-5240

[Join the 1980 Facebook Group](#)

Class of 1985

POSTPONED – Will be Rescheduled for Fall 2021

[LaConda Scott McKinney](#)

402-517-7138

[Take the reunion survey](#)

Class of 1986

September 16-19, 2021

[Bart Lovgren](#)

Class of 1990

POSTPONED – Will be Rescheduled in 2021

[Ben Rouch](#)

402-598-2669

[Join the 1990 Facebook Group](#)

Class of 1991

October 8-9, 2021

Contact: [Sara Torrens](#), Michelle Moerke, and Seraphim Carlson

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

Class of 2001

September 23-25, 2021

[Ally Freeman](#) and [Quinn Metal Corbin](#)

Class of 2006

Date: TBD

Jim Hubbard

james.d.hubbard@gmail.com

Class of 2010

RESCHEDULED – September 2021

[Sierra Hogan](#)

402-740-0379

2010centralhigh@gmail.com

No Reunion: 1950, 1955, 2015

Cancelled: 1965, 1995, 2000, 2005

If you are the reunion organizer for your class and haven't finalized a date for your 2021 reunion or would like to look at postponing or cancelling it, please [contact Erika Buffington at events@chsfomaha.org](#) or call 402-556-1996.

Support CHSF While You Shop!

Support Central High School Foundation.

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

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

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.

to
gg

TOGETHER A GREATER GOOD

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.

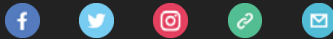
Using the app, you can snap a photo of your receipts from [participating businesses](#), and a percentage of your total will be donated to the Central High School Foundation. Visit their [website](#) to learn more!

Follow and Like Us on Social Media!



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



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