



WHAT'S INSIDE:



Student Life
PAGE 2



Academics
PAGE 3



Sports
PAGE 5



The Aerie
Page 6



Alumni Updates
Page 7

ENGAGING. DISCIPLINED. INQUIRING.

walsh world

FALL 2016

From the Alumni Office

Tradition and continuity are two critical elements of our Catholic faith and Catholic education. Those same elements are also the hallmarks of Archbishop Walsh Academy.

As we enter our 58th year as a private Catholic institution, we see our traditions — our core values — ever present in our hallways.

During the first decades of Walsh's history, our founders and members of our first classes laid the groundwork for a campus culture of new ideas rooted in our faith. Now we see the children and grandchildren of our early alums learn and grow within those traditions.

I encourage alumni to visit Walsh and remember the traditions they were a part of. Even throughout this publication there are old traditions, such as the alumni reunion, and new traditions with the change in academics and new students. It is important for Southern Tier Catholic School and Archbishop Walsh to be a constant in the Olean community. We are grateful for all the support we receive.

Our school is a place where memories are made and alumni come home to. It's important to remember — once an eagles always and eagle!

God Bless,
Jessica Policastro
Director of Marketing and Alumni Relations



A Diverse Student Population

Enrollment is on the rise at STCS/Walsh! We are 195 students strong as of this article, with 52 new students gracing our hallways this year.



Kelly Fitzgerald 11th grade, Tioga Simpson 11th grade, Sofie Garvin 11th grade, Hanna Holdernig from Austria, and Luca Preuss from Germany

That also means that many new families have joined our wonderful school community! You may wonder what the STCS/Walsh population looks like in 2016. Here is an idea - about 50% of our students are Catholic,

with the other 50% being religious affiliations of Christian, Longhouse, Buddhist, Non-Denominational, Non-Religious, etc. About half of our students are from the Olean area, but we do reach as far as Ellicottville,

Salamanca, Cuba, Bradford, and even Shinglehouse! We have a student body that consists of 41% ethnic diversity, with 48 students from the Seneca Nation of Indians. We also have 9 foreign exchange students in our high school from the following countries - Austria, Germany, Italy, Estonia, Japan, Serbia, Denmark, and Norway. Each year we typically only have 1 foreign exchange student but so many of our generous families stepped forward and were willing to host this year! Students also come from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds, but there is a common thread in all - their

parents and guardians have chosen a faith-based, private education for them. This is an environment where their child can flourish in a more intimate educational setting of smaller classes, engage in a challenging curriculum that preps them for college and beyond high school, and be among dedicated teachers and staff that provide guidance and values that are an extension of the home. If you have not been to the school in a while, we invite you to visit us for a personal tour. I would be happy to show you what STCS/Walsh is all about...you will be impressed!

~ Mary Beth Garvin, Director of Admissions and Student Life

aCross The World



Mrs. Mary Lou Plesac & Mr. Rand McCoy

Archbishop Walsh hosted a visitor from across the globe this past summer. Our school was contacted by Mr. Mark Antulov, principal of Prendiville Catholic College of Perth Western Australia. This school, which houses grades 7 through 12, chose to celebrate their 30th year by undertaking an ambitious project --“aCROSS the World”.

two are the same. The crosses link to the glass windows in their school chapel – the Good Shepherd Chapel. Our school was chosen to receive one of the crosses due to a connection to one of Prendiville’s teachers: Mr. Rand McCoy, who teaches mathematics and religion, grew up in Olean. Some of the Walsh alum may even know him, as he

Their goal was to place a uniquely crafted glass cross in one Christian Institution in every country around the world.

The crosses are fused glass pieces, handcrafted by the students. No

was a friend and relative to many who did attend Walsh.

Mr. McCoy hand delivered the beautiful glass cross this past July. Mrs. Mary Lou Plesac, Director of Spiritual Life, and Mrs. Mary Beth Garvin, Director of Admissions and Student Life, gratefully accepted on behalf of Archbishop Walsh. The cross finds a home in our school chapel -- the St. Sebastian Chapel.

As Mr. Antulov said, “We aspire to be globally linked through our spirituality and hope that, in sharing our crosses with you, we will connect Prendiville in spirit with your community. Each beautiful cross is a statement of optimism, joy and celebration of a hopeful future for our youth. It is a reminder of our Christian heritage and the central place of

Jesus in our daily lives.”

~ Mary Lou Plesac, Director of Spiritual Life



Glass cross created by students in Australia

IB Diploma Programme Update

On Oct. 18, 11 IB Diploma candidates visited the University of Rochester for a workshop on researching and drafting extended essays. The university is regarded as one of the top research institutions in the country.



Students within the IB Programme

The University of Rochester librarians worked with nearly 200 students from IB schools in Western New York. Students were able to get one-on-one support from the university library staff. The extended essay is an intensive, self-directed, investigative research project that Diploma candidates must complete during the course of their junior and senior years. Students have the option of exploring a topic in

biology, English, economics, visual arts, Spanish, or math. Past essays by students explored topics such as the possibility of an end to original music, an exploration of narrative voice in modern American literature, and the economic impact of the Olympics on a host city.

~ Danielle Michel, IB Coordinator

Memorial Locker Dedication

Archbishop Walsh Academy dedicated its new high school lockers on June 1 as the late Dr. John J. Watson '84 Memorial Lockers.

Also dedicated that day were four lockers to specific individuals: Dave Ash '68, Bill Smith '68, Rob Ruby '68, and Paul Stevenson '70. Thomas Manko, president and principal of Southern Tier Catholic School and Archbishop Walsh Academy, opened the event by welcoming guests. After a short speech he was followed by Dr. Leslie Raymore Watson, wife of

John Watson. Leslie spoke about the time her husband spent at Walsh and how her children were also enjoying the benefits of a Walsh education. Family members of those for whom the other lockers were named also offered words about their loved ones. Since then, another locker was dedicated in memory of Vince Bassanelli '71 by the Bassanelli family.

Mr. Thomas Manko delivering his welcome speech



Those wishing to dedicate a locker should contact Jessica Policastro by email at jessica.policastro@walshstcs.org or phone, 716-372-8122.

IB MYP Programme at STCS/Walsh



Walsh Student working on a project

Archbishop Walsh Academy has had great success in offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme for grades 11–12. We are now in the process to bring the IB Middle Year Programme (MYP) to Southern Tier Catholic School (STCS) and Archbishop Walsh Academy students for grades 5–10. STCS/Walsh is currently in the candidacy phase of the application process.

The Middle Years Programme includes:

- rigorous learning objectives
- a student-centred approach to teaching
- international perspectives
- concern for the whole child
- sustained teaching and learning in more than one language
- a focus on learning how to learn
- the development of flexible thinking that prepares students to evaluate information critically and apply knowledge in complex, unfamiliar situations.

The MYP teaches tools for lifelong learning and fosters responsible attitudes that help students discover how to use what they learn to take principled action. The MYP's focus on independent learning makes it the ideal preparation for the IB Diploma Programme.

~ Nate Farnum, Guidance Counselor



Presidents' Message

Our school year began in August with a most enjoyable first annual Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament followed by the Annual Alumni Reunion Banquet on Saturday, August 6. The Golf Tournament was a tremendous success with sixteen teams joining the fun on a postcard, picture-perfect weather day at the St. Bonaventure University Golf Course.

The festivities carried over to Don's Tavern in Olean with refreshments and prizes. Kudos to Mr. Pete Ebert, Athletic Director, for his Herculean efforts to organize a successful nine-hole tournament. There is talk about expanding to 18 holes. Mr. Ebert, are you ready? Alumni, are you ready? Later that evening, a record breaking 94 Alumni were "Welcomed Home" for the Alumni Reunion Banquet. While our mantra is "what happens at the Walsh Alumni Reunion stays at the Walsh Alumni Reunion," I do now know the history and the "secrets" about the old Radio Station in the custodial closet under the stairwell and piping music into the cafeteria. Bravo to Mrs. Jessica Policastro, Director of Alumni Relations and Marketing, for creating this memorable evening!

Turning our attention to more recent events, the Walsh/STCS Annual Bonfire and Tailgate Party held on September 30 was a huge success. The pizza, beverages and homemade taste treats were plentiful, and satisfied a hungry crowd of students, parents, friends, administrators, faculty and staff who were busy throughout the evening playing tug-of-war, the new fad games, "Pickle Ball" and "Spike Ball," tossing the old football "pigskin" and finding "Ultimate Frisbee" a challenge. We commend Nate Smith, Class of '93, Theresa Smith, and Adam Bailey for ensuring the bonfire brightened the Olean skyline all evening.

Please also join me in commending Theresa Smith, Eagles Gala Auction Director, for providing the prerequisite ingredients of leadership, organization and vision for our most successful and wonderful Eagles Gala Auction and Banquet. Theresa and her committee are the quintessential volunteers who devoted hours of their time and many of their personal resources to create "Masquerade" for our enjoyment, and which enabled us to support our children through Catholic education. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you to all who supported us in this fundraiser!

Archbishop Walsh Academy and Southern Tier Catholic School are 195 students strong this year, which is our largest enrollment in four

years. Indeed, the Montessori School is the international model for early childhood growth and development. Our elementary "common sense curriculum" provides our students with a strong and solid basis for their religious and core values, academic growth and social emotional development. Moreover, our senior high school International Baccalaureate Degree Program is enhanced with the addition this year of our candidacy for the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program.

Our dedicated professional faculty and staff also reflect our commitment to international and higher education influences. Two of our faculty hail from Columbia and teach Spanish, religion, and technology, and they coach soccer as well. Another faculty member is the St. Bonaventure University Economics Department Chair. Our College Placement Counselor holds a doctorate and guides our students and their parents through the college application process, providing amazing results. Yet another faculty member is an adjunct professor at Pitt-Bradford and teaches Theory of Knowledge to the International Baccalaureate Degree Program students, while also serving as our International Baccalaureate Degree Program Director. To all of our faculty and staff, I thank you for a job well done!

Academic rigor, religious education, teamwork, significant reading and research and writing and public speaking, athletics, electives, co-curricular activities blend together to create a wonderful educational program for our students who are intelligent, creative, dedicated, industrious, and caring.

Your continued support makes a significant difference to each and every one of our students.

Thank you and May God Bless You!

Pax et Bonum
Thomas J. Manko
School President

Marcus Esposito, 9th grade showing Alec Meyer, 6th grade how to tie his tie



Ruth Scordo, 7th grade working with Dr. Christopher Hill during Zometools Club



Athletic Programs Continue to Grow

Fall Sports at Walsh are alive and well! We are experiencing the highest number of fall sport athletes in several years.

Varsity and modified cross country teams, coached by Justin Shumaker, have participated in six invitationals, highlighted by Mykayla Shaw's excellent outing at the McQuaid invitational. She finished 20th out of 299 runners! Our volleyball team, coached again by Nate Farnum, is in the midst of an excellent season thanks to the strong leadership of the senior team members, along with some quality contributions from a few underclassmen. Varsity soccer, coached by newcomers Lorena Vargas and Andres Cabrera, put together back-to-back wins for the first time in two years and is positioned well for the program's first ever playoff win!

Of course, you can't talk about Walsh sports without talking about basketball. Both the boys and girls teams, coached by Andy Moore and Emil Ash respectively, have been hard at work attending open gyms and weight room sessions to prep for another fun and challenging season. The boys will look to defend their Monsignor Martin B Division championship while the girls team will look to regain their title of IAC Champions from 2014.

~ Pete Ebert, Athletic Director



Soccer Team



Volleyball Team



Cross Country Team

2016 Eagles Gala Auction: Masquerade!

This year's auction, held October 15, had a jazzy, old Olean feel which set the stage for this year's "masquerade" themed event. The decorations transported guests to a simpler, more elegant time with wrought iron balconies and masquerade masks. Dinner was catered by the Brother's Bistro and the menu took taste buds on a journey through the south.

Items auctioned that night included one week in the Dominican Republic; a week in Kissimmee, Fla., during winter break; men's and women's Olympic Gold Team Signed Basketballs; Hall of Fame Room passes for St. Bonaventure University's first men's basketball season game against St. Francis University; Hall of Fame Room passes for St. Bonaventure University's men's basketball game against Canisius; autographed Sabres

hockey sticks; and Sister Regina's Homemade Pie-For-A-Month among other items.

The evening was a huge success and we can't wait to see what next year will bring.

We would like to give a special thanks to our major sponsors: A Jason Clemons Salon, Brady & Swenson, PC, Community Bank, Dresser-Rand, Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY, INC, Olean General Hospital, Rock City Park & Worth W. Smith Company, St. Bonaventure University, St. Mary of the Angels Roman Catholic Church and Wayne Companies, the Powers Family, and Petruzzi Insurance Agency.

Eagles Gala Auction



Student volunteers at the auction



Alumni Spotlight



Nate Smith

This year Archbishop Walsh Academy graduated another distinguished group of seniors. The ceremony was held on June 3, 2016, at the Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts on the St. Bonaventure University Campus. We were honored to have Nate Smith '93 as our guest speaker.

Mr. Nate Smith, a member of the Archbishop Walsh Class of 1993, is a distinguished member of the Greater Olean Community as a businessman, elected official, husband, father, and Archbishop Walsh alumni. Mr. Smith was born in 1975 in Bradford, Pennsylvania and spent his elementary and middle school years in Sebastian, Florida, with summers spent in the Olean area. He enrolled in Archbishop Walsh High School as a sophomore and successfully completed Walsh's rigorous academic curriculum in three years. When reminiscing about his classroom teachers, Mr. Smith mentions with affection and appreciation Mr. Ed Butler, the building principal; Sister Rosemary Higgins, his mathematics teacher; Mrs. Walker, his Spanish teacher; and Ms. Paula "Woz", Physics Teacher.

Mr. Smith was the consummate teammate and tried his hand at several interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities for the personal growth experiences, friendships, and healthy lifestyle that they provided. He participated in basketball, football, soccer and wrestling. Mr. Smith's favorite club and sport was the Ski Club of which he was a three year member and whose advisor, "Skip" Foster, Mr. Smith cites as an influence upon him and "great guy".

Upon graduation for Walsh and before enrollment in college, at the young age of seventeen Mr. Smith took an 8,000 mile motorcycle trip around the United States where his adventures influenced the young man's perspective about our country and human nature. Buoyed by these experiences Mr. Smith enrolled at Penn State University majoring in Finance. As part of his collegiate experiences at Penn State, Mr. Smith was inducted into the Omicron Chapter of the Phi

Kappa Tau Fraternity and began his extensive international travels which included the former Soviet Union, Western Europe, the Caribbean, and Central America. During one summer Mr. Smith also served as an intern for McKean County District Attorney, Mr. Jay Paul Kahle, Esq.

While the law beckoned Mr. Smith as a career he chose to pursue business and service as an elected public official and Walsh trustee. Mr. Smith is a third generation owner and operator of Worth W. Smith Company. Since its humble beginnings in 1929, Worth W. Smith Company now owns and operates five locations in New York State and Pennsylvania. Three of these five locations have been added under Mr. Smith's stewardship since 2000. Other business interests include various rental and investment properties.

Mr. Smith is known for his community spirit and sense of civic duty. The City of

Olean has benefited from Mr. Smith's service as a three-term Councilman who represents Alderman Ward 6. For the past five years he has been a member and President of the Walsh Foundation Board and recently his wife, Theresa Smith, and he began their first three-year terms as members of the Archbishop Walsh Academy and Southern Tier Catholic Board of Trustees. Mr. Smith is a licensed auctioneer with credits from numerous community events such as the Genesis House, Senator Catharine Young's campaign events, Olean General Hospital and the Eagles Gala Auction. He is also a presence during the Walsh and Southern Tier's annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

Mr. Smith is married and he and his wife, Theresa, are the proud parents of four children: Zane, grade 7; Lena, grade 5; Ava, grade 4; and Sage, grade 2. All children attend Southern Tier and display their parents' commitment to school, community, humility, and work ethic.

Class of 2016



Reunion 2016

The 48th All-Alumni Reunion was held August 6, with graduating classes from 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011 receiving special recognition. Members of the Class of 1966 celebrated their 50th year.



Class of 1966

This year was the first Annual Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament, held at the St. Bonaventure Golf Course. Seventeen teams played nine holes and competed for prizes. Each hole was sponsored by a local business.

The reunion dinner and dance started with guided tours of Archbishop Walsh Academy and Southern Tier Catholic School. Many alumni took the tours to see the classrooms and reminisce about their days walking the halls. There were 94 guests in attendance and the gym was decorated in Walsh's colors, with yearbooks and memorabilia filling the space. After the meal, Walsh and STCS President Thomas J. Manko

offered remarks and thanked everyone for attending. He also congratulated the Class of '66 on celebrating 50 years. The evening finished with dancing and much laughter.

We were honored to have so many Walsh alumni in attendance and look forward to another year of memories.

Watch your mailbox for more information about next year's

49th All-Alumni Reunion & Golf Tournament, slated for the weekend of August 4th, 5th and 6th in 2017.

Reunion Celebration





ARCHBISHOP WALSH ACADEMY

208 North 24th Street
Olean, NY 14760

Address Service Requested

Calling All Alumni!

This year we will be celebrating the Archbishop Walsh High School homecoming basketball game on February 3, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

Alumni will receive free admission to the game, a free gift, and an entry into the drawing for this year's door prize. There will also be a dessert reception for all alumni after the game.

Invitations will be mailed January 2017. For more information, you can also check our website at www.stcswalsh.org under the Alumni Tab.



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