



Alumni NEWS

**Providing a Safe,
Quality Education**

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Fall 2020

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From the Principal

When I thought I couldn't get more impressed by the kids attending our high school, it happens! Parents, I know you already know this, but YOUR KIDS ARE AWESOME!

It has been my pleasure to witness the positivity that all of these kids have exhibited since the start of the school year. They have rolled with the changes of having daily temperature checks, adapted to the wearing of masks, and tolerated the social distancing measures. But moreover, they have genuinely demonstrated an appreciation for personal, face-to-face interaction.

Because of the pandemic restrictions on their lives, their activities have been severely limited. However, they have created new ways to connect. Let me share a couple of small examples.

School Newspaper: Once known as *The Bulldog Bark*, the students have recreated the school newspaper and now call it *The Dawg-House Tribune*. It is written by students, for students, and is a fun project that everyone enjoys.

Food Pantry Drive: Our students rose to the occasion to help "pack the pantry" for Catholic Charities. Their fund drive raised a total of \$11,261.42 thanks to a matching-funds contribution by an anonymous donor. The Student Council led the project.

As we approach the holiday season, I pray that everyone's spirits remain as positive, hopeful and generous as they are today. We are all grateful to have been blessed with the opportunity to safely gather, learn, and pray with each other at school.

Sincerely in Christ,
Greg Fearday
Principal



Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint - **Isaiah 40:31**



Cover Story

In-Person Learning Maintained Thanks to New Safety Initiatives

St. Anthony High School has always been committed to providing high-quality education. Our mission, however, is about much more than just academic learning. It's about creating an educational experience that focuses on faith formation and community. To achieve our desired "Catholic School Experience," we felt our students needed to be together for in-person learning. Schools are a critical component of a community and have a tremendous impact on students' and families' health, well-being, growth, and spiritual development.

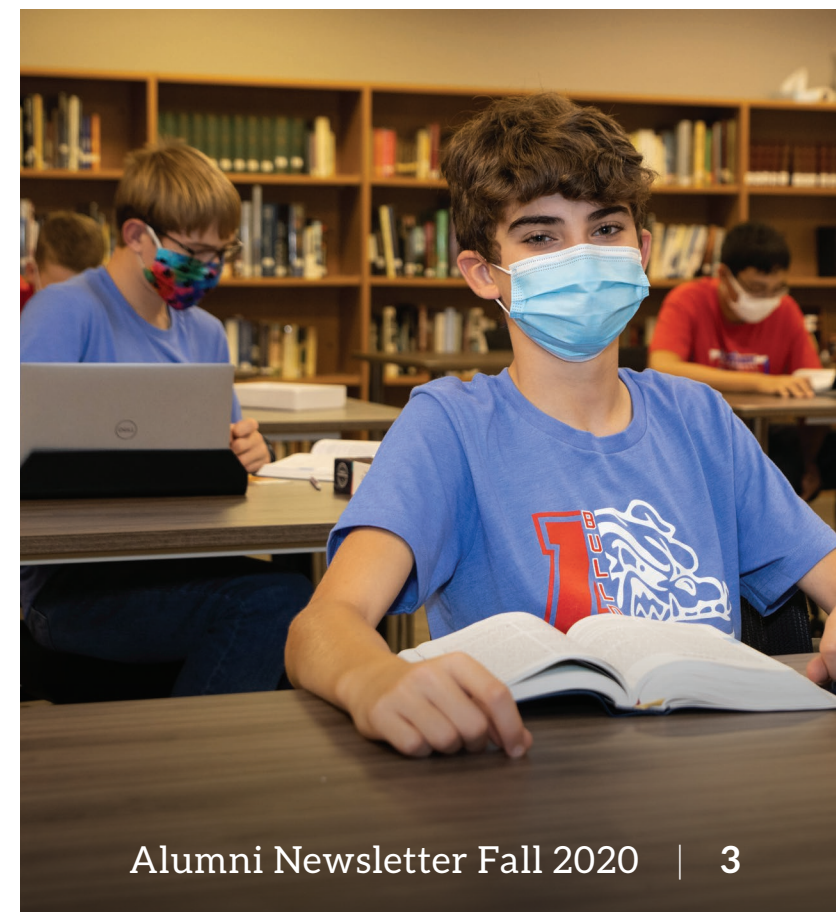
In light of the concerns of COVID-19, St. Anthony High School is committed to keeping our students safe. We anticipate that the COVID-19 virus will continue to evolve in the school year ahead. We have taken a variety of precautionary steps to protect our school community and reduce transmission while balancing the need to maintain a strong, Catholic educational system.

Of course, we require masks to be worn and practice safe distancing to help minimize exposure. We have also repurposed and reorganized spaces to create as much space between people as possible. For example, we have extended the MPR into the high school's foyer/entryway to allow for more distance between tables and spacing of people. The "lunchroom" has also been extended to include the pavilion by the soccer field. The recently renovated library has been repurposed into a classroom to accommodate some of our larger courses. And finally, we have required seating charts to quickly contact trace and limit our school community's exposure when a positive case surfaces.

We are proud to say that everyone in our school has respected this "new routine." By following the guidelines

established, SAHS has been able to continue with in-person learning with only a handful of positive cases since the start of the school year during a time in which our community is experiencing positivity rates at increasing levels.

As always, we will continue to pray for the health and safety of all those affected by the virus, and that we may continue to work together to maintain our in-person Catholic school experience.



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Send us your updates to: Alumni@StAnthony.com or **St. Anthony Development Office • PO Box 764 • Effingham, IL 62401**

Academic Excellence



National Merit Scholarship Commendation

Congratulations to Olivia Spraul for being named a National Merit Commended Student. Olivia was recognized for exceptional academic promise demonstrated by her outstanding performance, on a qualifying test. We are proud of you Olivia!



National Merit Semi-Finalist

We would like to congratulate Senior Kate Hartke for being named a National Merit Semi-Finalist. A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, and write an essay. We are proud of you Kate!

Giving Back



Students Donate to Animal Shelter

To commemorate the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals, Mrs. Keller's Spanish classes collected items to donate to Effingham County Humane Society. All together, they collected over \$300 worth of food, cleaning products, and money.



Fill the Pantry Pumpkin

St. Anthony High School, St. Anthony Grade School, and Sacred Heart Grade School hosted a Halloween Coin Drive, "Fill the Pantry Pumpkin", to benefit Catholic Charities. Students stood outside of each school and collected cash donations "drive-thru style", receiving donations of \$11,261.42. We thank our donors for their continued generosity and for helping feed those who are less fortunate during this upcoming holiday season.



Fall Sports Scoreboard



Boys Golf

The St. Anthony Boys Golf Team had a very successful season. Though the COVID-19 epidemic caused the team's schedule to drastically change, the team was able to play a full schedule, replacing a number of very competitive 18-hole invitational tournaments with 9-hole matches.

The team went 21-2 in 9-hole matches, won two of the five invitational tournaments that they were able to play, and placed in the top three of the other three tournaments.

At regionals, the team fell two strokes short of winning and one stroke short of qualifying for sectionals. They did qualify two individuals for sectional play: junior Thomas Chojnicki and sophomore Jonathan Willenborg. At sectionals, Jonathan placed 3rd individually, and Thomas finished 24th. The state final tournament was cancelled due to precautions brought on by the pandemic. Great season, boys!

This year's team was very young. With only two upperclassmen, the team gained valuable competition experience. Team members include senior Grant Nuxoll, junior Thomas Chojnicki, sophomores Michael Martelli, Aidan Tegeler, Jonathan Willenborg, and freshmen, Lane Ludwig and Charlie Wegman.



Bass Fishing

Henry Kemme and Luke Swingler came home with a third place win out of 12 boats in the bass fishing tournament the weekend of Sept. 19/20. Coach Gary Swearingen won the coaches' challenge with a big bass and purchased fishing tackle for the team with his winnings.



Girls Golf

The Girls Golf team completed a very good season, going undefeated in dual triangular and quadrangler matches with a record of 10-0.

The Lady Bulldogs also won two invitationals, the Charleston nine hole scramble, and our own invitational. The team finished second in both the regional and sectional, both times to Mt. Carmel, and would have advanced to state. Coach Blake says, "We feel confident that, had we had the opportunity to play at state this year, we would have brought home a trophy."

We say goodbye to four fantastic seniors: Macy Ludwig, Morgan Schuette, Reagan Westendorf, and Cara Hakman. They will be missed.



Baseball

The 2020 Fall Baseball season finished with a record of 10-10.

The team placed 2nd in the conference tournament. This was the 7th year in a row that they have played in the championship game of the NTC tournament. The team had two players who made the all-conference team, Colton Fearday and Logan Antrim.

This year's team made some great improvement from the start of the year to the end. The team batting average was 309. Leading the way was Colton Fearday with an average of 463. The team's E.R.A was 3.57. Logan Antrim, Seth Hotze, and Colton Fearday led the Bulldogs in innings pitched.

The Bulldogs are looking to have a great offseason and working on becoming the best team they can be for the spring season.



Girls Tennis

This year, the Lady Bulldogs earned #2 as a team at St. Anthony tournament. The team had 15 wins and only three losses in season matches and placed second in the sectional. Mrs. Esker states, "This was a rebuilding season due to the seven graduating seniors last year. Our results show a polished tennis team."

Senior Allison Kowalke is a four-year veteran and played #1 in singles and #1 in doubles all year. She had one loss in singles to Macy Probst of Teutopolis, but avenged this loss by beating Macy on Teutopolis home courts. Allison played doubles in sectional with Caroline McDevitt, and they finished 2nd to Macy Probst and Isabelle Hemmen of Teutopolis at sectionals.

Senior Caroline McDevitt is also a four-year veteran. She played #3 in singles and #1 in doubles this year. Caroline had a very impressive singles record and finished 2nd with Allison in the sectional.

Senior Payton Sehy is a 3-year member of the team. Payton played #2 in doubles with Grace Karolewicz all year and has played #6 in singles.

Seniors Sharon Dong, Reese Jones, and Kyra Swearingen played a lot of JV and also have played in some varsity matches.



Swimming

The St. Anthony swim team placed 7th overall in the recent High School Swim Sectional.

Junior Juls Harden won the 200 Freestyle coming within a couple tenths of her personal best which qualified her for

state, and also received 3rd in the 100 Butterfly.

Junior Alex Ciorna was 2nd in the 100 Backstroke and 3rd in the 100 Breaststroke with a new personal best!

Congratulations girls on your great finishes.



Cross Country

The boys and girls cross country teams, coached by Eric Zeller, ended 2020 in historic fashion.

In a trimmed down schedule, home meets were moved to Community Park and invitationals, including regionals and sectionals, were all run as flighted races in order to keep the number of runners, coaches, and officials in each race below 50 individuals.

Regionals were run on the famed Chrisman Cowchip Classic course with the girls finishing 7th as a team and sophomore Rilie Willenborg, in 22nd place, advancing to the Decatur sectional as an individual.

The boys brought home the regional title for the first time since 2004 and went on to a 6th place finish at the Decatur sectional which qualified them for a state meet that couldn't be run due to pandemic restrictions. Historic for not only qualifying in a state meet that couldn't be run, they are also only the third team in 40 years to qualify, 2006 and 1990 being the others.

Congratulations to our seniors Austin Faber, Brian Dust, Dylan Helminck, James Schuette, Mick Willenborg, Noah Tegeler, Tom Unkraut, and Ty Wiedman.

Mrs. Jones Retires

Not everyone has the pleasure of doing something they love for more than 40 years. It has been our pleasure to have the teaching skills of Mrs. Joy Jones at St. Anthony High School for 43 years. She retired this year to help care for her husband.

Thank you Mrs. Jones for being a big part of the academic success of our students! We wish you all the best in your retirement. Enjoy!



Alumni Updates



In Memoriam

We received word of the death of **Sr. Francis Rose Rivers, SSND**, who passed away July 25, 2020. She was the principal at St. Anthony High School from 1968 - 1973.

Sister Francis Rose served for 43 years as a teacher and principal in Effingham, Illinois, and in California in Fresno, Los Angeles, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Spring and Sunland. She was on the former St. Louis Province provincial council from 1979-83. In 2003, she started serving in ministries to Hispanics at Sacred Heart Parish in Verona, Missouri, Holy Trinity Parish in Aurora, Missouri, and the Tyson Corporation in Monett, Missouri. Since 2013, she volunteered at the Sancta Maria in Ripa campus in St. Louis. She received her bachelor's in English from Immaculate Heart College in California, a master's in English from San Fernando Valley State in California and a master's in education from the University of California.

Robert L. Behrman ('47)
passed away June 29, 2020.

David C. Wiedman ('95)
passed away July 21, 2020.

Dean R. Steinkoenig ('55)
passed away July 27, 2020.

Rita C. (Riemann) Mahon ('51)
passed away September 22, 2020.

Pressing on to the Goal of service to the LORD by stretching our intellect, confirming our values, and living our faith. - Philippians 3:14

Alumni Achievement

Big Ten Distinguished Scholar

The Big Ten Conference announced its Big Ten Distinguished Scholar Award winners, recognizing student-athletes with a minimum grade-point average (GPA) of 3.7 or higher for the 2019-20 academic year that were also named Academic All-Big Ten.

Congratulations to Kristin Slaughter - St. Anthony Alumni Class of 2017, Illinois Track and Field pole vaulter, and bioengineering student - for recently taking home the award. Way to go!



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2020 ANNUAL FUND

Giving to Foster Growth

Please join your fellow alumni in continuing St. Anthony's legacy of a quality, Catholic education. No gift is too small or too large. Your gift stays at St. Anthony Schools and directly makes a difference in the lives of St. Anthony students.

Gifts may be made online at stanthony.com/annualfund or mailed to:

St. Anthony Schools Annual Fund • PO Box 764 • Effingham, IL 62401

2020 ANNUAL FUND GOAL

\$325,000



Contact Carrie Koenig,
Director of Operations
at (217) 347-7129 or
ckoenig@stanthony.com
to discuss how you can
make a difference.