Annua Report 2021

Presented by the Euclid Public Schools Alumni Association

TABLE OFCONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

- **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**
- **EVENTS**

01

03

05

07

11

12

13

15

18

20

- SPORT HALL OF FAME
- LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT
 - DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT HALL OF FAME
 - SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS
 - **ALUMNI NEWS**
- GET INVOLVED

STUDENT COUNCIL THROUGH THE YEARS









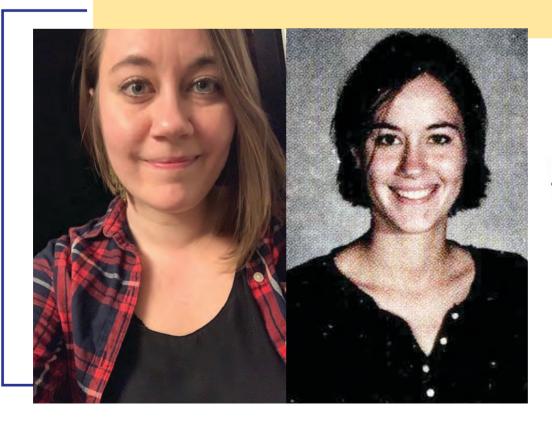


p. 14

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JESSICA WALTERS

One of the highlights of leading the Board of Trustees has been engaging with our diverse alumni and making new friends from across the decades"





Class of 2004!

Dear Members and fellow Alumni,

I am excited to share with you the news and progress of the Euclid Public Schools Alumni Association through this Annual Report, which was written by many of our Trustees and volunteers. Throughout 2021, we continued to work toward the goals outlined in our strategic plan, were able to connect with many of you at events both virtual and in-person, and have finally completed the move into our beautiful new office at Euclid High School - although we're still working on decorating and organizing. In this report, we share all of that with you, and more!

Personally, one of the highlights of leading the Board of Trustees has been engaging with our diverse alumni, both making new friends from across the decades and reconnecting with students, teachers and administrators from my time as a student at Euclid. My sincere thanks go to my fellow Trustees and our Director, Michelle Connavino, for all of the hard work and time you've invested, and the fun spirit you all bring to our organization. Who knew virtual meetings could be so productive and fun!?

In 2021, we looked for every opportunity to connect the past to the present - from inviting alumni from every decade for school tours, to inducting a diverse new class into the Sports Hall of Fame, hosting virtual events, and working in partnership with both the District and the Euclid Schools Foundation.

This year, we also decided to open our membership free of charge to all new graduates for their first ten years after graduation, to help them stay connected to our shared roots as they begin to navigate life after high school. As members, we are grateful to you for helping support that investment in our organization's future.

Don't forget to check out the Alumni News section to learn what your fellow graduates are up to, and submit your own updates so we can keep track of all your accomplishments!

Through EPSAA, our leadership works actively to engage all Euclid Schools alumni and connect you in a meaningful way to the Euclid City Schools, its current students, and the Euclid community.

If you are interested in rolling up your sleeves, there are many ways to help! From joining a committee to help preserve and display our large collection of memorabilia, to bringing your skills to the Board of Trustees, or joining us at an event to have fun with your fellow graduates, there is a place for you within our organization. If you are interested, please visit our website or email alumni@euclidschools.org.

Go Panthers! Sincerely,

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Jessica (Oslund) Walters Class of 2004 President, EPSAA Board of Trustees

Annual Members

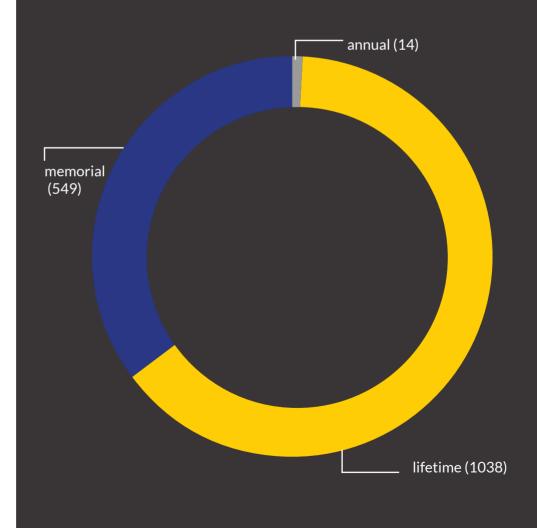
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New Lifetime Members

Membership Update

In 2021, EPSAA's membership continued to grow. We gained more than three times as many new Lifetime members this year than in 2020. We also restructured our membership levels and pricing to add a Young Alumni membership for the first ten years after graduation at no cost. We've also offered several membership sales to increase membership purchases. We are pleased to offer another membership sale through June 30 with a referral from you as a current member.

Recruit a new Lifetime Member to the Alumni Association and we'll give them \$25 off their membership fee and send you a sticker and tote bag! Give a fellow alumnus the code "Refer2021" to join online and redeem this offer.



New Members

ANNUAL

David Edwards	1972
Mildred Smith Doering	1949
Carolyn Carter Krecic	1957
Doug Knaus	1969
Greg Lawrence	1970
Santina Colbeck Stepanovich	1971
Ulrich Austin	1975
Laura Brown Wise	1975
Debbie Jordan	1977
Kathryn Bartram Lemmon	1979
Christine Clark	1997
Marcus Epps	2003
Jerome Jackson	2003
Aline Gallois	2006

MEMORIAL

Barbara Roosma Strain	Shore 1938
Dave Stanford	Shore 1943
Kathleen "Kathy" Newton	Shore 1946
Charles Bowman	1950
Robert Monnett	1952
Robert Metzger	1955
Howard King	1958

YOUNG ALUMNI -

Deshawn George

2021

LIFETIME

Bette Lovsin Urankar	Shore	1944
Joyce Lemitz Clayton		1957
Robert Martin		1957
David Paul Ron		1957
Karen Adams Boyd		1958
Dee Bayer		1961
Thomas Bizosky		1963
Catherine Kinison Moore		1968
Susan Weber Edelman		1973
Denise Merritt Fetko		1981
Jennifer Smith Hisar		1992
Rebecca Svagerko Bechtel		1993
John Bechtel		1995
Robin Little		1995
Allison Fitzgerald		1996
Rich Belanich		1997
Kate Belanich Bechtel		1997
Michael Reilly		1998
Jennifer Reilly Rys		1999
Ross Salupo		2003
Jen Hughes Vandegrift		2003
Kara Buono Brehm		2004
Chris Messina		2005
Melissa Santorelli		2006

To join EPSAA, renew or upgrade your membership, visit: EuclidAlumni.org/Membership

Events

Homecoming

We welcomed Euclid Alumni home to celebrate Homecoming on Friday, October 15th for a Varsity football game against Solon. Our Alumni were excited to return to their Alma Mater to celebrate the spirit of the school district.

Returning for Homecoming exists to celebrate the unique shared cultural experience of the Euclid City School District, mark the passage of time, recognize and honor the accomplishments of alumni, share good news, and reconnect individuals to one another.

EPSAA hosted a series of events inviting alumni to tour the renovated high school complex, tailgate, attend the Varsity game, and an after-party at Paragon Wines+Martinis+Plates. The school upgrade wowed alumni with the state-of-the-art culinary Bistro, Career Tech classrooms with updated technology, beautiful new media center and cafeteria, and so much more.

The game energy was intense and spirits were high as the Panthers got pumped up for the big game. Alumni caught the Euclid spirit showcasing school colors and apparel. We cheered on the Panthers while enjoying the famous Booster Dog from the concession stand. The Homecoming Court and Sports Hall of Fame inductees were acknowledged during our amazing Euclid Panther Marching Band halftime performance.

We ended the night reminiscing about our time spent as Euclid Panthers. There were laughs, band performances, food, and a competitive game on the field — but most importantly, there was a lot of Panther Pride.









Virtual Events

Despite the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic brought in 2021, we were fortunate to stay connected with our Panther network through virtual events. The unexpected benefit of these types of activities is that they allowed Euclid grads who live outside the Cleveland area, and in some cases out of state, to stay engaged with our organization. We've learned a lot from that experience and are planning to continue adding virtual components to future events to continue to make them as accessible as possible!

Here are just a few of the exciting events we were able to share in 2021:

- Our EPSAA annual meeting went virtual in January 2021! Thanks to everyone who attended to meet our current group of trustees.
- Virtual office hours throughout the year gave alumni a chance to check in and ask questions.
- Our virtual farewell event for the former Euclid High School building brought hundreds of panthers together to learn about the future of EHS.
- We hosted Instagram live events with EHS alums Dr. Tamika Nunley (Class of 2003) and Tierra Mitchell Haynes (Class of 2002).
- Dr. Roy Larick (Class of 1967) presented a virtual Euclid History Forum, sharing insights into Euclid's Moss Point and its historical buildings followed by a discussion focused on Euclid's tree canopy.

Virtual Tour

Although COVID-19 disrupted our plans for in-person tours of the old and renovated high school that were planned for 2021, we were fortunate to be able to share many exciting new features of the facility with a virtual tour and farewell event, which premiered on February 20.

A big shout out to EHS alums David Jeffries, Dominick Ferlito, Michelle Connavino and Jess Walters who were able to capture video footage and use Zoom and Facebook Live (and the voice talents of alumnus John Telich) to create a virtual tour of the building. The screening of the video was followed by a panel discussion featuring Euclid City Schools administrators.

You can watch the video on the Euclid Alumni You-Tube and Facebook Pages (@EuclidAlumni). In-person tours of the new building will be held throughout 2022. If you are interested in finding out more about an upcoming tour, keep an eye on our social media pages and visit our website.





"Here, we have an edifice which stands as a monument to the community. The added facilities in this new institution of learning will give Euclid students of today and the future an even better chance of becoming successful citizens of our city and the world. We can justly be proud of so fine a building which has an equal nowhere."





Euclid High Schools Sports Hall of Fame 34th Annual Induction Ceremony

Shavon Bell

Class of 1998 & Coach



Shavon is one of the best female basketball players to come out of Euclid High School, where she played for the varsity team and averaged 27 points per game. She also ran track her senior year. She attended a Junior College in Cincinnati before being recruited by several universities and choosing to spend her last two years playing for Xavier University. After graduation, she came home to Euclid to share her skills as a coach. Although she now coaches for her former rival school, Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School, she is a proud Euclid resident. "Shavon is one of the best female basketball players to come out of Euclid High School"

John Q. Franklin

Class of 2009

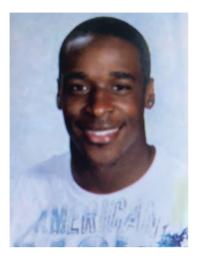
John was a fullback and linebacker for Euclid's varsity football team and was a sprinter and long jumper for the varsity track team during his time at Euclid High School. John earned the state champion title for indoor long jump in 2008 and was the Euclid High School long jump record-holder with a jump length of 23 feet, 3.5 inches. He remembers his experiences representing Euclid as a key influence that taught him how to be a leader and molded him into the accomplished man he is today.



80

Jeffvon Gill

Class of 2009



Jeffvon was an accomplished three sport athlete who played basketball and football and ran track at the varsity level. He was an All-Ohio Division I running back in 2008, and was named two-time All-District and two-time All-Lake Erie League. Jeffvon was at the core of the 2007 LEL Champion football team and the 2008 Playoff team. Upon graduation, he stood only behind Robert Smith, Pepe Pearson, Tony Fisher, and Jaman Javey in all-time Euclid rushing records. He went on to play football in college at the University of Buffalo and Urbana University.

"Coach Phillips led her team to five District championship game appearances, two regional appearances, coached the all-star game twice"

Lynn Phillips was a varsity athlete in basketball. vollevball. and softball during her time as a Euclid High School student and went on to play basketball and volleyball at Slippery Rock University. In addition to her individual athletic accomplishments. Lynn has inspired hundreds of student athletes as a middle school basketball and vollevball coach before coaching the Lady Panthers basketball team for 19 seasons, from 2002 until 2021. Coach Phillips led her team to five District championship game appearances, two regional appearances, coached the all-star game twice, and coached at least ten scholarship athletes, at least two of whom went on to Division I basketball careers. In addition, three of her former staff members have gone on to be head varsity basketball coaches.

Lynn Phillips

Class of 1998 & Coach



William (Neal) Wade

Class of 1966



Neal was an integral part of the dramatic rise of Euclid's men's swimming in the mid-1960's. Neal was Captain in 1965 and 1966 and set individual school records in the 100 yard breaststroke, Individual Medley, and Medley & Freestyle Relays. He earned a swimming Scholarship to Ohio University where he went on to a stellar career and was inducted into the Ohio University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1981. After graduating from Ohio University Neal became the swim coach for Cleveland Heights High School. After being drafted into the military in 1971. Neal entered the US Air Force. In 1976 he was selected to teach flying and coach swimming at the US Air Force Academy, and he coached the women's team to a Division Championship. In 2006, he ended his Air Force career, retiring as a Colonel.

Kayla Whitlow

Class of 2010



An accomplished cross country and track athlete, Kayla represented Euclid High in state championship competitions in 2009 and 2010, with several top-ten finishes, both individually and as part of the 4x800 relay, her favorite event. She received a scholarship to The Universitv of Akron where she ran for both the cross country and track teams and had dominant performances in several MAC championship meets, including a 1st place finish in the one mile run at the 2015 Mid-American Conference Indoor Track Championships. Kayla shared that her experience at Euclid High School impacted her life in many ways and she got to experience being a Division I collegiate athlete because of the training and preparation she received at Euclid.

"Kayla shared that her experience at Euclid High School impacted her life in many ways and she got to experience being a Division I collegiate athlete"



(left to right) Jeffvon Gill, Lynn Phillips, Kayla Whitlow, William Wade at the 34th Induction Ceremony

Tom Baker



Tom Baker was also presented with the Charles K. Hill Memorial Service Award, which honors individuals who have contributed to the advancement of the Euclid Public Schools and city of Euclid through service and leadership in the spirit of Chuck Hill.

Mr. Baker left a substantial gift to the Euclid Schools Foundation, giving the Foundation the opportunity to expand its mission and impact. In 2020, the Euclid Schools Foundation board unanimously approved funding to purchase new drums for the Euclid High School Marching Band Drumline as the inaugural Tom Baker Memorial project and continues to honor Tom's legacy through grantmaking that positively impacts Euclid students, educators, and families.

The event included a display of Euclid sports memorabilia and was emceed by current Euclid High School student athletes.

From the Superintendent

Greetings Euclid Schools Alumni,

I am excited to have the opportunity to connect with you again, both as a fellow alumnus of Euclid High School and as Superintendent of Euclid Schools. It continues to be a pleasure to serve and represent the district from which I graduated.

The COVID-19 pandemic made the 2020-21 school year one of our most challenging as a district. While we were looking forward to welcoming students into our new secondary campus in August 2020, we followed best-practice recommendations and operated in a virtual and hybrid format for the majority of the year.

Nevertheless, our High School and Middle School students were still able to take advantage of the new building and the amenities unique to Euclid. Our Career Technical Education programs did operate out of their new class-spaces, which were specifically designed for their programs.

As part of our COVID response, we were able to hire 63 teachers and support staff to help address the learning challenges our students experienced as a result of the COVID pandemic. We've also added additional mental health services and special education staff to make sure the needs of all students are met.

Despite the pandemic, we have taken important steps toward providing a more forward-thinking and engaging educational experience for our students and families.

- This includes reorganizing our district central office
- Addressing the learning challenges our students experienced amid the COVID pandemic
- Improving mental health services and special education
- Providing teachers with meaningful professional development and curriculum resources
- Bolstering career technical education pathways for our students
- The new teacher contract language changes will allow us to continue our upward momentum, this includes competitive base salary to attract and keep quality teachers

The Euclid High School Senior Class of 2021 earned over \$1.4 Million in scholarships and were accepted to colleges from Boston to Texas to Hawaii. Career Technical Education (CTE) students' high school graduation rate exceeded 97% in both 2020 and 2021. This year, 45% of high school sophomores applied for CTE programs, the highest number of applicants since the CTE program began.

Central Middle School and parts of the old High School were demolished over the summer. This was a bittersweet moment for me, seeing the schools we've known for so long being torn down. But, these events were also a welcome sign of progress. The memories of those buildings will last with us, and the younger generations will make their own memories in a new and improved space.

I encourage you to learn more about the many wonderful things going on in our district by following our Facebook, Twitter and/or Instagram. Please consider getting involved in Euclid Schools through initiatives like our mentoring programs, career days or even by attending sporting events.

Thank you to our alumni for your continued support of the Euclid Schools. We are proud to have you as members of the Euclid Schools Community and now, more than ever, we are moving forward as "One Euclid."

Sincerely, asanas

Christopher Papouras, Superintendent, Euclid City Schools EHS Class of 1986, 2017 Euclid High Schools Sports Hall of Fame Inductee



12

Distinguished Achievement Hall of Fame

In 2020 and 2021, we were unable to host induction ceremonies for the Distinguished Achievement Hall of Fame, but are pleased to share that we hosted an event on April 21st, 2022. Before postponing the 2020 induction ceremony, we selected the class of outstanding alumni inductees who were recognized at the 2022 ceremony.

In addition to these inductees, we honored the faculty and staff of the Euclid City Schools with the second Joseph P. Mayer Community Engagement Award in recognition of all they did to support Euclid's children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Inductees 122

Dr. Michael Barnes

Class of 1989 Superintendent, Mayfield City School District

Ms. Janelle Coleman

Class of 1990

Vice President, Corporate Philanthropy and Community Engagement and President of the American Electric Power Foundation

Ms. Claudia Cummings

Class of 1987 VP. Post Production at A+E Networks

Mr. Jon Mensinger Class of 1975

Dancer

Dr. Leonard Weiss

Class of 1952 Dentist

Social Media H G

If you haven't been following the EPSAA social media pages, you are definitely missing out! There you'll enjoy content you won't be able to get anywhere else, and it's a great way to continue to network with other Panthers and reflect on fond memories.

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn **@EuclidAlumni**

A few highlights of the content we were able to share in 2021 include:

#TBT

Regular #ThrowbackThursday posts with pictures pulled from past yearbooks

#PantherBusiness

A new feature highlighting Euclid grads who own their own businesses

#EuclidBHM

A new series spotlighting Euclid alumni for Black History Month



#EuclidWHM

A new series spotlighting Euclid alumni for Women's History Month

#PantherPride

Posts highlighting inductees into the Distinguished Achievement and Sports Halls of Fame

#EuclidSweethearts

A fun feature highlighting Euclid sweethearts for Valentine's Day

#EuclidForever

An ongoing series on the history of Euclid's school buildings.



ALUMNI NEWS



May (Carlgren) Bana

celebrated her 100th birthday this year!



May with her son, daughter-inlaw, and daughter Photo by: Emily Holody / The Euclid Observer



Tom Baker

left a generous gift to the Euclid Schools Foundation, which was used to purchase new drums for the Euclid High School Marching Band Drumline as the inaugural Tom Baker Memorial project

Information is being gathered to update contact information of 1954 classmates. Last update was in 2014. Please contact the Alumni Association at alumni@euclidschools.org or Audrey Dranse Kimble and Joanne Lacey Ritchie at akim522@hotmail. com



Cathy (Bray) Behrens

has won four gold medals in swimming in the Nevada Senior Games and was ranked 14th in the National Senior Games.



Caren (Cibbs) Gurko and Frank Gurko

are well and have lived in California since 1962.

1965

Eddie Stopko and Oralee Tyler Spies

are together forever and doing well.

1966

EHS Class of 1966

EHS '66 will be holding their 2nd Annual BYOP, or Bring Your Own Picnic later this summer. The date has not yet been set and those wishing furthers should contact via email: csteinfurt@aol.com



Colleen (Longshaw) Jackson

was hired as the City of Shaker Heights' first Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer.

"I just love to win, and I was this way when I was 10 years old,"



Photo of Cathy Behrens by: Tom Rysinski / Pahrump Valley Times 2000

Tamika Drake

was promoted to Assistant Athletic Director/Director of Game Day Operations and Diversity and Inclusion Director at Missouri Valley College.

Van Monroe

was named head football coach at Beachwood High School and illustrated a children's book, Mama Mama Can I Be Anything I Want To Be?

Omid Tavakoli

was featured in ideastream's Equity in Art series, which highlighted how he explores his racial identity as an African American and Iranian American through his art.

Tierra (Mitchell) Haynes

published her first children's book, The Adventures of Us: Getting to Know Guion Bluford Jr., which chronicles the exciting adventures of three brothers who use their vivid imaginations to meet the first African American to go to space.

2003

Tamika Nunley, Ph.D.

published her first book, At the Threshold of Liberty: Women, Slavery, and Shifting Identities in Washington, D.C., which examines African American women's strategies of self-definition in the contexts of slavery, fugitivity, courts, schools, streets, and the government during the Civil War era.

Tiffany Wilson

who is Euclid High's work-based learning coordinator, has revived Key Club at Euclid High School with the help of the recently-restarted Euclid Kiwanis Club.

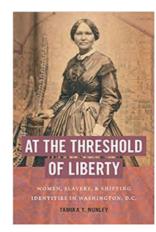
2002

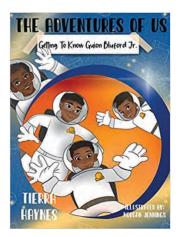
Bob Gecewich

was named head football coach at Perry High School.

From Alumni to Authors









Alexandria Thomas

manages and operates Ohio's 1st and only peer-run mental health respite care facility, a progressive alternative to psychiatric emergency services. The Wellness and Recovery Center was the winner of the 2019 Innovation and Excellence Award with The Greater Toledo Community Foundation and Alex was recently chosen as a Northwest Ohio 20 under 40 Honoree with Leadership Toledo.

Al Drews

Featured on a panel of former local sandlot ballplayers during an Baseball Heritage Museum event at League Park, "The Cleveland-area Class A Sandlot Baseball Old Timer Day"



from left, Bud Middaugh, Rollie Hudec, Al Drews and Jack Oring, shown at Brookside Park in 1966.

Photo by: Marc Bona / cleveland.com

2012

Cameron Granger

is a Columbus-based videographer and was featured on the 2021 Forbes 30 Under 30 list

FACULTY

Doc Daugherty

celebrated his 90th birthday on January 21st. The Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame, which he co-founded, marked the occasion by honoring him with a fundraiser aimed at building a brick and mortar museum that Daugherty has hoped to see.

Daniel Maxson

co-authored Concord Township for the Images of America book series, published by Arcadia Publishing **Designer Spotlight**

This year's annual report was designed by Kasey Johnson, a 2017 Euclid High School graduate. Kasey received her bachelor's degree in Visual Communication Design with a minor in UX Design at Kent State University. Kasey is currently available for freelance design work. You can contact her at kaseyj1098@gmail.com



Get Involved

Charitable Giving

Dear Euclid Alumni & Friends,

The Euclid Schools Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization. We strive to connect and build relationships with the alumni, business, and donor community to facilitate investment in educational excellence within the Euclid School District. We are grateful for the continued and growing support from our donors as we look to expand our reach.

Please contact us if you have an interest and influence.

Best regards,

Anthony J. Basalla President, Euclid Schools Foundation Class of 2001 info@euclidschoolsfoundation.org

Volunteer Opportunities

Are you interested in getting more involved with EPSAA? We're looking for people with the following expertise:

- Finance to serve as the Board Treasurer
- General Operations and Administration to serve as our Board Secretary and/or a possible Administrative position

We're also looking for additional members for our Board of Trustees, Advisory Board, and committees.

If you're interested in any of these positions, send us an email at alumni@euclidschools.org. We'll follow up with more information.

Memorabilia Collection

We maintain an extensive collection of Euclid Schools memorabilia. If you are looking for a replacement yearbook, memorabilia to share at an upcoming event, or have memorabilia to donate, please contact us!



Pictured here are items from a 1940 Central High School graduate's scrapbook that was donated by her family

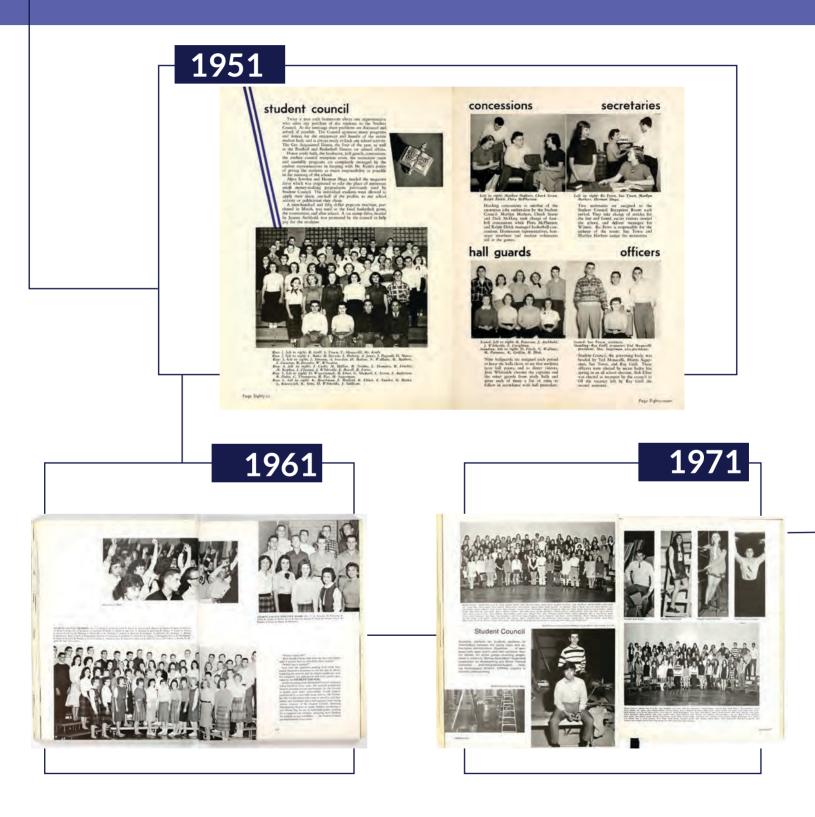


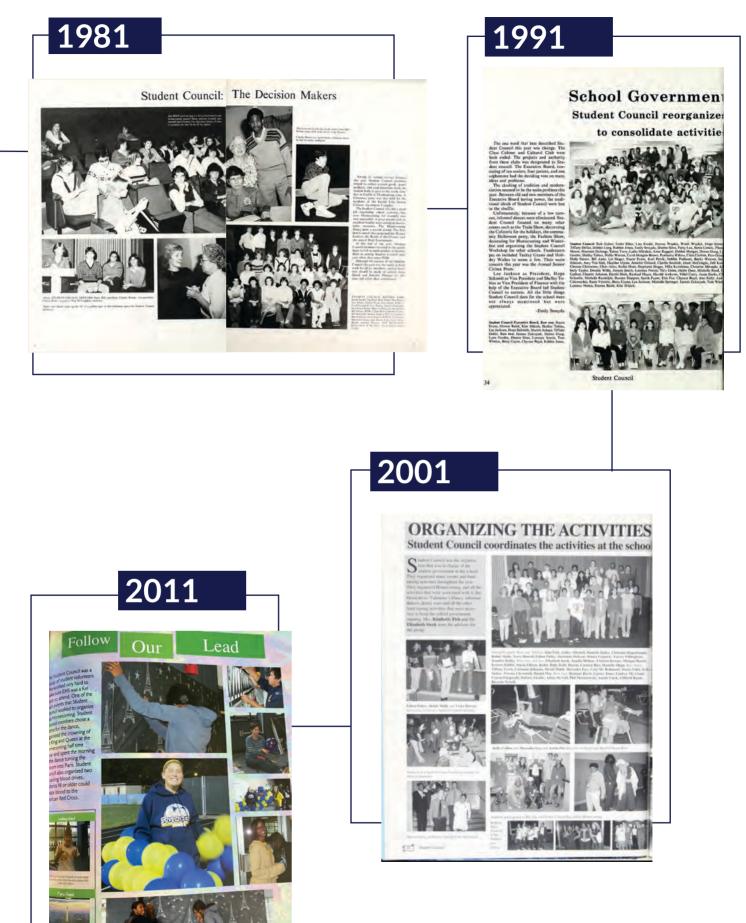
(left) Letter jacket from a member of the 1951-52 championship wrestling team (right) A page from a Glenbrook Elementary School yearbook from the 1990s



Display of memorabilia in the new Alumni office

STUDENT COUNCIL THROUGH THE YEARS





EUCLID A L U M N I

711 E. 222nd St. | Euclid, OH 44123

EUCLID PUBLIC SCHOOLS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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