

# HELLO SPRING





At Bishop Shanahan High School, we are looking forward to the joyful spring celebrations of prom, final college decisions, Baccalaureate Mass, and Graduation Day! These Shanahan events are particularly special experiences due to our long tradition of Catholic education in Chester County.

In this edition of the Spring Alumni Newsletter, you will find highlights from the

fall and winter semesters. As you will see, Shanahan students are truly "People of God; People for Others."

The current school community is grateful for your continued support. Prayerfully consider a gift to The Shanahan Fund before our fiscal year concludes on June 30th. Only with you can we continue providing academic excellence, robust student life, and a community of faith for students in Chester County.



God Bless you,

& Regin Blunkest Am

Sister Regina Plunkett, IHM '64







## Remembering Sister Maureen McDermott, IHM (excerpts from Catholic Philly)

The Bishop Shanahan High School community continues to mourn the loss of Sister Maureen McDermott, IHM, Chief Academic Officer and Superintendent of Secondary Schools for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, who passed away on November 17, 2021.

Sister Maureen had served as principal of BSHS for 14 years, from 2001 to 2015. She dedicated her life to Catholic education, and in particular to the spiritual formation and personal development of all students. Sister Maureen "loved high school teenagers" and had a particular love for Bishop Shanahan and its students, said Bishop Fitzgerald. "She was totally devoted to them."

She was a graduate of St. Gabriel School in South Philadelphia where she first encountered the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. She went on to Archbishop Prendergast High School for Girls in Drexel Hill, then graduated from Immaculata University in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in English.

A year later she entered the I.H.M. order, and after professing her vows, engaged in the order's charism for Catholic education. She first taught in elementary school classrooms beginning in 1982 then in Catholic secondary schools.

Along the way she earned a master's degree in English from West Chester University and a Ph.D. in Catholic educational leadership from Fordham University.

In 2001 she was named principal of Bishop Shanahan High School where she served for 14 years until rising to lead the entire Catholic secondary school system as superintendent in 2015.



## "Her legacy and work in education had a big impact on people's lives. She will be missed." — Maureen McCulloud

After that she had overseen a high school system that has invited broad collaboration through the efforts of Faith in the Future Foundation, stabilized the rate of school enrollment decline, grown partnerships with Catholic colleges, faced the challenges of two high school closures, and the immense difficulties with continuing Catholic education during the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Employing her copious energy and strong personality on projects, Sister Maureen "was a force of nature for the good," Maureen McCullough, Sister

## — Maureen McCullough

Maureen's classmate and friend said. "She was good at inviting people (into a project). She could show people how they can contribute to building God's kingdom. Her legacy and work in education had a big impact on people's lives. She will be missed."

Bishop Shanahan High School's thoughts and prayers continue to be with Sister Maureen's family, IHM Congregation, friends, colleagues, and students. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered in the Shanahan community.

## Soaring Eagles in Fall Sports Season

The Shanahan Eagles soared during the fall sports season with many teams and individuals setting new records and claiming titles. The season saw Shanahan students named in All Ches-Monts and the Daily Local News (DLN) All-Areas. Standouts in DLN All-Areas were volleyball players Maddie Rudolph and Coco Shultz named Co-Players of the Year, Zane Domsohn as Boys' Soccer Player of the Year, Jim Kavalich as Boys' Soccer Coach of the Year, and Paul Meyers as Football Coach of the Year. Three boys' rugby club team players were also named to the Rugby PA All-State Teams: Luke Fardone, Matthew Harper, and Brayden Rolston.

We are so proud of all our fall student athletes for their hard work and dedication.

- Cross Country: Individuals to Districts, Girls State Qualifier
- Football: District Champion, State Semifinal Qualifier
- **Golf Team:** Ches-Mont Champions, Individual to Districts, Boys State Qualifier
- Girls Soccer: District Qualifier
- Boys Soccer: District Champion, State Semifinal Qualifier
- Volleyball: Ches-Mont Champion, District Champions, State Semifinal Qualifier



Photo by Chris McNulty



Photo by Jeff Dunn



Photo by Pete Bannan - Daily Times

## **High School Musical**

At this year's annual fall musical, the BSHS Fine Arts Department performed *Disney's High School Musical*. The musical had over 200 students participating as cast and crew under the direction of the Fine Arts Department Chairperson Charles Keating and Director David Frantz. The lead roles of Troy Bolton, Gabriella Montez, Sharpay Evans, Ryan Evans, Chad Danforth, and Kelsi Nielsen were played by Andrew Sisti, Lauren Peterson, Madeline Olivo, William Higgens-Benz, Alex Lemheney, and Gabriella Palmer. This year's cast and crew also continued the tradition of putting on a modified show for children and adults who have special needs.



Photos by Paul Diorio



## Thanksgiving Liturgy & Food Drive

The school community joined together to celebrate the Thanksgiving Liturgy on November 23rd. It was a joyful opportunity for students to share time spent in prayer and gratitude. During the liturgy, contributions received during the Thanksgiving Food Drive were blessed. Thanks to donations from Shanahan families and friends, the school was able to support 66 local families in need by providing a turkey, non-perishable goods, and dessert. The effort was led by the Faith in Action team and the Community Service Corps. Students later hand-delivered the Thanksgiving baskets directly to the families in need.

## **Paul Meyers Named Football Coach of the Year** (excerpt from "Daily Local News All-Area Football teams and Coach of the Year by Bryan Davis, PA PREP Live)

A head coach that gets the most out of his players and commands the respect of those players is going to be a successful head coach. Four years ago, head football coach Paul Meyers welcomed a talented freshman class to Bishop Shanahan.

All that class did was win two District 1 4A titles, and this year the Eagles advanced to the PIAA Eastern Final, won the first two state games in school history, and finished with an 11-4 record, a school record for most wins in a season.

It is for reaching those heights that Meyers is the Daily Local News Football All-Area Coach of the Year.

"This senior class was really special," Meyers said. "They were undefeated as freshmen, won a district title as sophomores, went undefeated as juniors until COVID shut us down, and this year as seniors, won another district title and two state playoff games. They were a great group to be around."



Photo by Pete Digiovanni

The 2021 version of Bishop Shanahan football put them on the map in the 4A classification and Meyers, who has been head coach since 2001, has been a talented mentor and head coach to his teams. This team made history and Meyers was at the forefront of those records.

## FRESHMAN STUDENT COUNCIL INSTALLATION

In early December the Class of 2025 celebrated their first Advent Liturgy. It was also a time to officially induct the newly elected Freshman Student Council members. Congratulations to Grace Breslin, Ella Corbett, Miles Drake, Katherine Kolimago, Amelia McDermott, Lillian Norcia, Adrianna Sward (Homeroom Representatives); and Lauren Calla, Elizabeth Heffern, and Chase Runey (Class Representatives). The school community looks forward to witnessing all that you accomplish in the months ahead.

















Katelyn Cutting

Mackenzie Farish

n Brie Mallozzi

Kathleen McGeoy

Brendan Noone

Abigail Redden

## TCHS Students of the Quarter

BSHS partners with the Chester County Technical College High School (TCHS), where 11th and 12th grade Shanahan students can begin an exciting career in a program of their choice, all while earning the elective credits needed to fulfill graduation requirements. Congratulations to the following students who were named Students of the Quarter by TCHS: Katelyn Cutting (Veterinary Science), Mackenzie Farish (Teacher Leadership Academy), Grace Glennon (Allied Health—Community Health), Benjamin Mace (Carpentry), Brie Mallozzi (Allied Health-Brandywine Hospital), Kathleen McGeoy (Animal Science), Brendan Noone (Electrical Occupations), Anthony Nudy (Engine Technology), Abigail Redden (Health Career Pathways), and Allison Scanlon (Electromechanical Engineering Technology).

## Shanahan Prepares to Welcome the Class of 2026

Bishop Shanahan High School looks forward to welcoming the Class of 2026! These newest Shanahan Eagles have been receiving their acceptance letters in the mail since Christmas. They will enjoy Future Eagle Day on Saturday, April 30, where there will be a new parent gathering, fun and games, a student panel, and a celebration of the Class of 2026. Applications for Fall 2022 are still being accepted - interested families can apply now at shanahan.org/apply!



## CSC Christmas Collection & Wrapping

The BSHS Community Service Corps collected and donated gifts for children and families in need this Christmas season, benefitting the St. Agnes Christmas program. The club members and many volunteers numbering over 100 students gathered together to wrap all of the gifts in just a few hours! A few days later, CSC student leaders packed up and delivered the wrapped donations to St. Agnes in West Chester.



## A GLOBAL SHANAHAN



Kerry Dolan '22

Kerry Dolan '22 organized a 5K Walk to benefit the NICU at Chester County Hospital with the help of Villanova University's SNAP organization of nursing students. She was able to deliver \$1250 in Wawa gift cards to help the parents of premature babies. Kerry wanted to give back to the NICU, as she was cared for there as a baby herself.





## TEEN MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSE LAUNCHES AT BSHS

BSHS faculty and sophomores completed Teen Mental Health First Aid (TMHFA) training this past November through December. This national, evidence-based program teaches teenagers the skills they need to recognize mental health problems and crises, and how to get the help of an adult quickly. Led by the Director of Guidance, Mrs. Beth Saggers, the courses were six sessions in the Health/PE or Business Academy classes.



## ARE YOU AN ALUMNI VETERAN OR ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBER?

Calling all alumni veterans and active military members! Shanahan is updating our records and we would like to honor those who have bravely served or are currently serving our nation defending our freedom. Please complete the alumni form at shanahan.org/alumni so that we can send you a special message each Veteran's Day.

## Melissa Kelly '10

Melissa Kelly, a 2010 graduate of Bishop Shanahan High School, is making an impact in professional sports as a Studio Producer for the Philadelphia Eagles. She shares the inside scoop of her career path, advice for current students, and more!

#### Which experiences at Shanahan prepared you best for life after high school?

I played field hockey for all four years at Shanahan, which helped me with leadership and working with others. I also had a lot of teachers at Bishop Shanahan who really challenged me and pushed me to be my best, which is something I'll always appreciate!

#### Where did you go to college?

I went to Kutztown University where I got my Bachelor's degree and graduated in 2014. I studied Electronic Media and minored in journalism and public relations.

## Tell us about your career with the Philadelphia Eagles!

I have been with the Philadelphia Eagles for just about 8 years. Prior to the Eagles, I interned at the Wells Fargo Center for the Flyers and 76ers ArenaVision. When that internship ended, I got another internship with the Philadelphia Eagles as a Digital Production Assistant for the 2014 season. When the 2014 season ended, I was offered a full-time job with the Philadelphia Eagles as a Production Coordinator. I spent a lot of time in the TV studio and after a couple of years, I was promoted to Studio Producer. Ever since then, I produce the Philadelphia Eagles gameday Kickoff Show, Postgame Show, NFL Draft coverage, and handle daily live press conferences and studio shoots with players and coaches.

Working in sports has always been a goal of mine ever since I was a kid. I used to go to Flyers games at the Wells Fargo Center and watch the Comcast SportsNet TV Studios through the glass of the main concourse. I fell in love with television production and knew that was the path that I wanted to take!

## "My advice for those that are in high school is to get as involved as possible."

With the 2021 season in the books, my current project is planning our live draft coverage of the 2022 NFL draft. It is a project that takes months of planning but is rewarding when we pull it off each year!

## Are there any special projects you have worked on with the Eagles?

My biggest accomplishment was being a part of the 2017 Super Bowl Champion Philadelphia Eagles. That was the hardest but most rewarding year of work in my life. We put in so many hours creating content for the fans. The Philadelphia Eagles flew every employee and a guest out to Minnesota for Super Bowl LII weekend where we got to go to the game and were treated to an incredible after party. They even gave a Super Bowl ring to every employee which is my prized possession!

My greatest accomplishment has been being able to produce content on the Eagles social media pages with such an amazing group of coworkers. We work super hard to give the fans what they want!

#### What advice would you give to new alumni or current students who aspire to follow a similar career path?

My advice for those that are in high school is to get as involved as possible. That is one of my biggest regrets from high school. I was involved in field hockey, but there were so many other clubs that the school offered that I wish



I took part in. For example, the club Channel 2. If I would have participated in that club, I would have gone into college with even more knowledge about television production.

For those in college, my advice is to take as many internships as you can. Every internship helps you to build your network, gain knowledge, and further advance your career. If I didn't do internships, I would never be where I am today.

I also suggest building your LinkedIn profile. That is how the Eagles found me for my internship. I didn't even know they were looking for interns. I had built a LinkedIn for a class in college and I kept it up-to-date, and the Eagles happened to stumble upon it and reached out to me.

## What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

I enjoy spending time with my fiancé, Dan, and my puppy, Chloe!



Nicole Fiorilla '08 and Emma Valez '17

## Eagle Fly High at WCU

**CLASS OF 1971** 

their graduation 50 years ago.

The 2021 West Chester University Field Hockey team had an amazing season with a 17-5 record. Coach **Nicole Fiorilla '08** and star defender **Emma Velez '17** each played at Shanhan as top field hockey athletes. Nicole served as captain her senior year and was named First Team All-State, First Team All-Area, First Team All-Conference, and Best Female Athlete for the Kelly Sports Award. Nicole also played DI field hockey at the University of Iowa, later transferring to West Chester University. At WCU she served as captain of the 2011 National Championship Team and was recently inducted into the West Chester University Athletics Hall of Fame. Emma Velez served as captain her senior year at Shanahan. She was initially recruited to play DI field hockey at Delaware University, and later transferred to WCU where her team claimed victory as the 2019 National Champions. At WCU, Emma served as captain and star defender, earning her the 2021 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference first-team selection and a spot in the PSAC Championship. The alumnae are pictured here at the 2021 Field Hockey DII National Championship.

The BSHS Class of 1971 celebrated their 50th Golden Eagle Anniversary.

Albert Valocci and Bernadette Fabrizio recreated the front page news of

## REUNIONS

#### **CLASS OF 1966**

The BSHS Class of 1966 celebrated their 55th reunion at the Downingtown Country Club. ▼



#### **CLASS OF 1981**

In September, the BSHS Class of 1981 celebrated their 40th anniversary at West Chester Golf and Country Club. The class had 39 attendees, 32 of which were alumni! At the reunion, alumni enjoyed good company, a 50-50 raffle drawing, and a wine basket raffle which they generously donated the proceeds to the Kenneth Gincley Scholarship Fund.





## Calling All Alumni STEM & Business Leaders!

Are you currently working in a STEM or business related field? Do you seek to inspire the next generation of STEM or business leaders? Complete this form if you are interested in supporting the Bishop Shanahan STEM Pathways Program or Eagle Business Academy by offering your time and expertise to enhance the student learning experience at BSHS. We are seeking guest speakers, mentors, and capstone project panel members.



## **CALLING ALL EAGLES**

## You Don't Have to be a Millionaire to be a Philanthropist!



## >>> CHECK OUT THE MANY WAYS TO GIVE! < < <

Bishop Shanahan relies on the generosity of alumni, parents, grandparents, and friends to fulfill the important mission of providing students with academic excellence, robust student life, and an active community of faith. Will you join us in this important work? Giving opportunities are below, and we invite you to learn more at shanahan.org/waystogive

#### THE SHANAHAN FUND

The Shanahan Fund represents a source of funding that makes an immediate and vital impact on Shanahan's annual operating budget. A successful Shanahan Fund is necessary to fulfill Shanahan's vision.

#### THE SHANAHAN SOCIETY

A pledge of a future estate gift to BSHS qualifies you as a distinguished member of this group. It ensures your continuing support of Bishop Shanahan, its mission and its programs, in perpetuity.

#### **TAX CREDIT PROGRAM**

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Special Purpose Entity (SPE) programs of Pennsylvania are great ways to assist families in need of tuition assistance. The Tax Credit Program also allows you to tell Harrisburg how to use YOUR tax dollars.

#### **ANNUAL BSHS GOLF OUTING**

The Annual BSHS Golf Outing provides individuals and businesses with an opportunity to celebrate the BSHS mission while also benefiting the BSHS Endowment Fund.

#### STADIUM SPONSORSHIP

Stadium sponsors enjoy large signage prominently displayed in the BSHS stadium which is the home for BSHS fall, winter, and spring sports team, and CYO sports.

#### **MATCHING GIFTS**

A matching gift occurs when participating companies match (sometimes up to double or triple) the amount of dollars given to Bishop Shanahan by their employees and spouses, or retirees.

## **GIFTS OF STOCK**

If you own stock, there are tax advantages to contributing stock rather than cash. A gift of appreciated stock offers tax saving advantages.

#### **GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE**

A gift of real estate is like a gift of stock; any type of property may have appreciated in value through the years that its sale would mean a sizable capital gains tax.

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Gifts of any size designated for tuition aid will be allocated to the Bishop Shanahan Scholarship Fund. Renewable gifts can also be made in honor or memory of an alumnus or alumna, family member, friend, or even yourself through named scholarships.

## >>> shanahan.org/waystogive



Give Back Thursday (GBT) is Bishop Shanahan High School's very own "Day of Giving," a 24-hour fundraising challenge. This year the GBT was held during the Homecoming Week celebration, and our community accomplished extraordinary things! GBT was a huge success because the entire community came together to make an impact for Shanahan students.

Because of you, we doubled the generous matched gift challenge of \$50,000 and shared our Eagle pride by raising just over \$139,000 in support of The Shanahan Fund in one day!

## BSHS Endowment Fund Golf Outing





Save the date for the 2022 BSHS Endowment Fund Golf Outing on Tuesday, September 13, 2022. Hosted at Chester County's most prominent golf course, French Creek Golf Club, it's the perfect day for fun, food, and relaxation. Sponsorships, hole sponsor signs, and golfers support the event's mission to provide tuition assistance for those who want, but cannot afford, a Catholic education. The event's efforts over the past 15 years have helped to create a self-sustaining vehicle that will make a difference in the lives of the families in our community.

LEARN MORE TODAY | shanahan.org/golf | events@shanahan.org | 610-343-6238

## WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU



#### **BIRTHS**

To Kathleen McCarthy Hartman '02 and husband Matthew a daughter, Avery Eileen - July 4, 2021

To Jon Morin '02 and wife Ali a daughter, Robin Ann - October 14, 2021

To Sam Morin '08 and wife Kasey a daughter, Salem Alys - November 21, 2021

To Matthew Halvorsen '03 and Christina Walsh Halvorsen '04 a daughter Carley Christina - January 6, 2022

To Stephen P. Braun '06 and Caitlin Taylor Braun '07 a daughter, Olivia Rae - November 7, 2021

To Katie Doughtery Burnham '06 and husband Karl a daughter, Eleanor Grace - May 18, 2021

To Gregory Walsh '10 and Lily Quiroz Walsh '11, a daughter Mary Sophia - May 17, 2021



Carley Christina Halvorsen



Olivia Rae Braun



Salem Alys Morin and Robin Ann Morin



Robert Hennessy '04 to Sarah Hay December 30, 2020

The Conahan family got together for a family photo at Rob and Sarah's blessing and celebration on December 18, 2021. Many Shanahan alumni are featured in this photo, as well as three future alumni: Mary Kay Conahan Hennessy '75, Joe Conahan '80, Michele Conahan Byler '81, Jeannie Conahan Wimble '83, Kevin Conahan '85, Patty Conahan Tunnell '88, Theresa "Ti" Conahan Davies '90, Kevin Hennessy '00, Gina Mascherino Hennessy '01, Robert Hennessy '04, Nick Ponto '04, Kate Conahan Ponto '06, Kellie Conahan Haenn '08, Michael Conahan '10, Emma Byler '16, John Byler '18, Samantha Hennessy '33, Charlotte Hennessy '36, Michael A. Hennessy '38.

Blaine Haney '98 to Lauren Layman '99 April 17, 2020





Jordan McGinty '10 to Hannah Sonderby September 10, 2021

#### **CLASS OF 1985**

**Eileen McBratnie '85** moved to West Palm Beach and is a marketing professor at Florida State University. She is also a board member for Palm Beach County Food Bank.

#### **CLASS OF 1990**

**Chris McBride '90**, after 29 years of service in the United States Air Force, retired on August 9, 2021.

#### **CLASS OF 2006**

**Bridget Brennan '06** has been working the past 3 ½ years from Brooklyn, N.Y. for Comcast Digital in Manhattan; she is a User Experience & User Interface Designer.

#### **CLASS OF 2008**

**Nicole Fiorilla '08** coached the 2021 WCU field hockey team who placed 2nd in the DII National Championship.

**Mark Scrocca '08** is currently a military police sergeant in the PA National Guard. He recently graduated from Villanova University with a Masters in Public Administration.

#### **CLASS OF 2009**

**Jon Brennan '09** recently moved to Brooklyn, N.Y. from Los Angeles, CA; he has been with the popular millennial trading app Robinhood as a design lead and senior product designer for nearly three years.

## **CLASS OF 2017**

**Emma Velez '17**, a senior on the West Chester University field hockey team, was named to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) All- America second team.

## **CLASS OF 2019**

**Ryan Chapman '19** joined the West Whiteland Fire Company, and is a 4th generation member at the WWFC. He follows the path of his great grandfather, uncle, and cousins.

## **CLASS OF 2021**

Julianna Riccardo '21 is a freshman and dance team member at WCU. The team won gold at the 2022 Open Division Hip Hop National Champions.

In Loving Memory

## **BISHOP SHANAHAN HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI**

 William E. Fell, Sr. '59 - Oct. 12, 2021

 The Honorable Howard F. Riley, Jr. '60 

 Oct. 8, 2021

 Joseph Vincent Dunlap '61 - Dec. 8, 2012

 Judith Riley Groff '62 - April 2, 2019

 Robert Arthur Gilbert '63 - June 14, 2021

 David Peter Springer, Sr. '66 - Jan. 19, 2022

 Andrew Dominick Caporale '67 - Oct. 24, 2021

 James F. Farley '70 - July 2, 2021

 Michael P. Cummings '71 - Sept. 9, 2021

 Jeanne Hill McHugh '71 - Feb. 2002

 Edmund J. Lodge '73 - April 6, 2021

 Jeffrey Francis Sherlock '73 - Sept. 13, 2021

Marianne Beam Abdul '74 - Jan. 14, 2022 Thomas G. Sheehan, III '74 - Sept. 3, 2021 Sandra J. Brown '82 - June 16, 2021 Mary Anne Masterson Poce '82 - Aug. 12, 2017 Christopher H. Otterson '82 - Dec. 12, 2020 Daniel Mark Pearson '87 - Sept. 6, 2020 Brian C. Burke '95 - Jan. 14, 2022 Bernard A. Kenzakowski '98 - Dec. 8, 2021 Frank S. Laurento '99 - Sept. 27, 2021 Robert Paul Glaser II '03 - Sept. 20, 2021 Barbara B. Futej - Oct. 24, 2021 Former Faculty - Science Department -1989-2011 Sr. Joseph Marion Gallagher, IHM - Aug. 7, 2021 Former Faculty - English Department 1984-1986 Sr. Dorothy Mayer, IHM - Oct. 17, 2021 Former Advancement Office Assistant 2014-2020 Sr. Maureen Lawrence McDermott, IHM -Nov. 17, 2021 BSHS (Intern 1998-99) Studies Office Assistant Assistant Principal - Studies - 2000-2001 Principal - 2001- 10/1/15 10/1/2015 - Superintendent of Secondary Schools for the Diocese of Philadelphia

## SAINT AGNES HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

Dominick Marcucci '48 - March 24, 2021
Francis J. Minyone '50 - Oct. 24, 2020
Mary Ellen Riley Minyone '52 - Oct. 22, 2021

Eleanor Talucci Toto '52 - Jan. 3, 2021 Catharine Burke McCarter '53 - Aug. 10, 2021 Franklin D. Barry, Sr. '55 - Oct. 9, 2021 Susan Haynes Mindt '55 - Feb. 19, 2021 Kenneth E. Gincley, Sr. '57 - Sept. 5, 2021

ALUMNI, WE NEED YOUR HELP! Since many of our alumni live out of the area, we may not receive notification of the death of an alumnus/a. If you should learn of the death of one of your classmates or fellow alumni, please email the Advancement Office (tkyle@shanahan.org) so that we may send a mass card to the family. Please email the name of the alumnus/a and the date of death (important for verification).