

Fern Creek High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 91266
Louisville, KY 40291

Return Service Requested



ALL ALUMNI PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS BELOW

SO WE MAY UPDATE OUR RECORDS

Name _____ Class _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

___ number attending tailgate on Friday, Sept 27 at \$15 each \$ _____

___ number attending breakfast on Sat., Sept 28 at \$10 each \$ _____

___ number attending Hall of Fame Lunch on Sept 29 at \$25 each \$ _____

___ number attending Spring Alumni Luncheon on April 25

Total \$ _____

Please mail this form and your check for the above total amount in the enclosed envelope by 9/1 so we can order the food and have the right number of places set for everyone.

Paying at the event will be subject to availability.



Tiger Tracks

FCHS - "Proficient, progressing, and proud"

January 2019

Will You "Buy In?"

What does the FCHS Alumni Association do? I have found in my conversations with alumni that this is not always clearly understood. I would like to share with you what I have discovered in my first year on the Association board and challenge you to "Buy In" to the vision of the Association by starting, maintaining, or even exceeding your membership contribution.

Yes, the Association maintains an alumni database of all graduates which is available to all on our website. We help with reunions and promote alumni fellowship with the annual homecoming activities and Hall of Fame induction. But, in my opinion, the greatest Association contribution is the life changing impact we are making on the lives of the current students at FCHS.

Funds, made available by the Association, are being used to provide scholarships to deserving students (9-\$2,000 each in 2018) and teachers (6-\$2000 each in 2018). Grants have recently been made to make improvements in the school greenhouse, lunchroom courtyard, athletic pavilion and start a Laundry and Pantry program.

In addition, we are providing the funding for a significant innovative program called IVY PLUS, a four-year process that identifies, supports and then matches high-achieving students with the nation's top colleges. This past year, under the leadership of a motivated teacher, Beau Baker, 24 IVY PLUS graduates accumulated more than \$12.7 million in grants and scholarships! The recent 8th grade open

house was the largest attended ever. People are interested. The Alumni Association is the principle financial supporter of this program and we plan to fully support its growth.

I am an alumnus from the '60's and I remember feeling the "family" atmosphere that existed at FCHS. The teachers and administrators cared for us and many of us can point to specific things done on our behalf that changed our lives. My biological family moved out of the FCHS district my senior year but, instead of changing schools, I drove 30 miles round trip daily to stay a part of the "FCHS family."

There are many differences from the FCHS of the '60's and today. But one thing has not changed! The concept of a "FCHS family" is alive and thriving -- fully supported by the teachers and administrators. A recent student assignment, shared at the annual alumni breakfast, was to write a short statement on "What FCHS means to me." As I read these brief statements, I was astonished at how many times the word "family" was used to describe their school experience. The students feel it! Your alumni association's vision is to fully support the "FCHS family" spirit that has been alive through all these years.

Please seriously consider committing to "buying in" to maintain the "FCHS family" legacy. Your annual or lifetime dues, or better yet, a larger commitment will make a life changing difference in a student's life.

Austin Byers '66
Alumni Board member

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Dear Alumni and Friends:

It has been a whirlwind six months for me as the new principal at Fern Creek High School. I am so proud to have been selected as the new principal and I am committed to ensuring the Creek keeps rising. Working with the Alumni Association has been one of the affirming aspects of my new position. I have always known how lucky Fern Creek High School was to have such a committed and generous group of Alumni supporting our work, but I didn't realize how incredibly talented and loyal these alumni were until I had the chance to interact and work with them on a variety of levels. I have learned the intricacies of the radio station, heard the history of our beloved school, received multiple donations to fund a variety of programs, and enjoyed meetings and dinners where I had the chance to get to know some of our most impressive alumni.

My commitment to the students of Fern Creek is to ensure that "all" really means all. The Alumni Association continues to help fund programs and opportunities to make this happen. I like to say that we are a "beautifully heterogeneous" school that genuinely reflects the demographics of our surrounding community. We have students from every background and socio-economic status. The Alumni Association has continued to fund our Ivy Plus Program which helps our students pursue admittance to highly selective colleges and universities. We are proud to have students who have already been accepted in some of our nation's top schools including Centre, Earlham, Davidson, and the University of Chicago. The Alumni Association has also provided the funding needed to support some of our neediest students by purchasing a washer, dryer, and the supplies to start the Fern Creek Laundry and Pantry Program. Research has been shown that a laundry program can reduce truancy for at-risk students, and we are excited to begin washing at the beginning of January.

Alumni funds are now allocated to the building of our newest facility, ensuring that our student athletes and other programs have a much-needed covered space outdoors to practice. Additionally, Alumni funds have gone to support our JRTOC students in their bid to secure yet another National Championship this spring, as well as to support our Bowling Team, and our KY United Nations Assembly team. Finally, Alumni Scholarships have been awarded to six Fern Creek teachers and staff members this year. These scholarships help our faculty fund their continued education and professional learning.

This year we said farewell to our principal of 5 years, Dr. Nathan Meyer as he embarks on a new journey as JCPS Assistant Superintendent of Accelerated Improvement Schools. We miss him greatly, but know that he established many of the principles and systems that make our school a wonderful place to teach and learn. We look forward to carrying on his work and continuing his legacy.

Finally, the 2018-2019 School year finds Fern Creek High School hosting one of the largest enrollments in recent history. Our current enrollment is almost 1775 students and we are projected for even more students next year. We will be even more selective in offering admission to students out of our "resides" area who wish to attend Fern Creek for the coming school year. We are a popular school choice for parents in our community and when you consider what a great school this is, it is easy to understand why. We look forward to the new year and the continued partnership with our generous Alumni sponsors.

Dr. Rebecca L. Nicolas Ed.D.

FCHS 60'S MONTHLY LUNCHEON

The first luncheon was held and it was a great gathering of folks from across the classes of the 60's (even one from '59). The back room at Rooster's on Shelbyville Road is reserved for us on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:30 PM. Since this luncheon, more folks have spoken up and plan to attend. All Alums are welcome and reservations are not required. Wouldn't it be great to outgrow this room and have to look for a larger space? If you have questions or comments, please check out the FB page: Fern Creek High School Alumni Monthly Luncheon. If not already a member, you can request to join. We hope that you will mark your calendar, come feel the bond we all have because of being "Creekers". You can also contact Paula Williams Schneider '65 at KyPSchneider@icloud.com.

ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the November General meeting five of our members were reelected for 3-year terms. They are; Evelyn Vaughn, Debby Murrell, Stephan Johnson, Noel Thompson and Austin Byers. Nominations for five board seats are due by November 1, 2019. For information about nominating a deserving alum please email joeybaileycpa@gmail.com

ALUMNI FIELDHOUSE CAMPAIGN

Thanks to all who donated to this project. While we fell short of our goal, we will build a steel building without walls that can be completed later when funds are available. It will benefit several of our programs by having a shelter from the weather for practices. The initial phase of the project is on schedule to be completed by the end of February.

SPRING ALUMNI LUNCHEON

We will sponsor this year's annual event at Rooster's restaurant in Fern Creek at noon on April 25, 2019. We encourage all alums to join us to hear from our Dr Rebecca Nicolas. Please make a reservation by sending in the form on the back of this newsletter or emailing joeybaileycpa@gmail.com. No advance payment is necessary but reservations will help us be sure to prepare for everyone attending.

REUNIONS

The class of 1969 will hold its 50th reunion this year. The details are not available at this time but you can contact any of these alums for info: Eddie Rogers 502-827-1325 biced4984@gmail.com, Danny Isenberg 502-419-8151 da.iesenberg@att.net or Margie McCarty Schwartz 502-905-4951 margsch@bellsouth.net.

The Class of 1979 is panning its 40th reunion. For information please contact George Puckett at gpuckett@msn.com or call 425-947-1900.

The Class of 1989 will hold its 30th reunion this year but details are not available. Please contact Mike Thomas at MikeT_@juno.com or Diane Kilner 502-709-5644 diane.kilner@mcmcpa.com FB Fern Creek High School Class for information.

The class of 1999 will gather for its 20th reunion on September 28, 2019 at Wildwood Country Club. There is a FB Group that will be updated as information is available. You can contact Kelly Wortham at kelmar99@aol.com or Josh Frank at jdfrank01@gmail.com if you have any questions.

The class of 2009 is planning its 10th reunion. For information please contact Martell Johnson at 502-472-6517 mrtljh@yahoo.com or Mary Collins at 216-338-7982.

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS?

Due to the high cost of printing and mailing over 10,000 newsletters (postage increased 10% in January), future newsletters will only be mailed to lifetime and annual members. To all of you who are lifetime and annual members – Thank You for your support. To all of you who have not become members please take the time NOW to return the envelope enclosed with your dues and possibly an additional contribution to help us meet the growing needs of our programs for students. Each mailing costs over \$6000. We want to stay in touch with all alumni and can do it much more efficiently and quickly by email. But we only have about 30 % of all alumni email addresses. Please help us by logging into our website www.ferncreekalumni.com and entering all of your current contact information.

ALUMNI WHO ARE 70 ½

Have you considered that you can give directly from your retirement account by using the Charitable Contribution Distribution (QCD) to FCHS Alumni? This feature of the tax law is a little known fact but can save you from paying taxes on your required minimum distributions (RMD) each year. If you have further questions. Please email or call joeybaileycpa@gmail.com 502-500-4830.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND 2019

We will again have dinner in the Arnold Gym at 6 before the football game against Eastern at 7:30 on Friday September 27. It will again be catered by Mark's Feed Store. On Saturday morning we will have coffee ready at 8:30 with breakfast at 9 in the cafeteria prepared and served by our Food Studies Program students. And Finally, on Sunday we will have our Hall of Fame Luncheon and Induction ceremony at Wildwood Country Club. Hall of Fame nominations are due by June 1. The nomination form is found on our website. Please fill out the form and mail your reservations by 9/1 if at all possible so we can prepare for the event.



ALL 70's Reunion

WHEN AND WHERE:

Saturday, June 15, 2019,
at the Moose Lodge
on Fegenbush Lane in Louisville.

(Time and cost TBA.)

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa (Owen) Box [mkbox@att.net] or
Nancy Dreher [nandix8@aol.com].

FIND US ONLINE:

You can also visit the Fern Creek HS
All-70s Reunion Facebook page,
or the FCHS Alumni website:
fchsaa.com, click on Reunions.

TO HELP SUPPORT THE EVENT:

Charitable contributions to support
this event may be sent to:

FCHS Alumni, PO Box 91266
Louisville, KY 40291,
or by using the enclosed envelope.

