

Summer 2009

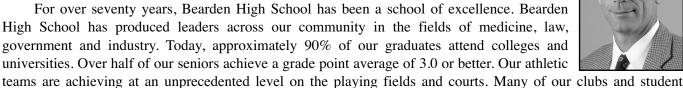
Foundation FOCUS

Mission Statement

The Bearden High School Foundation exists to assist students and staff in making Bearden High School a place of academic, athletic and artistic excellence.

President's Message...

By: Buddy Heins BHS Foundation President 2009-2010 Bearden High School Class of 1978





organizations are participating at a high level in a variety of activities across the state.

The support of parents and alumni at Bearden is like no other. The successes achieved by our students can in

The support of parents and alumni at Bearden is like no other. The successes achieved by our students can, in many cases, be directly attributed to the support offered by organizations like the Bearden High School Foundation.

As our mission statement above indicates, the Foundation exists to assist students and staff. It is our goal to help each and every student have a positive high school experience at Bearden. Over the past 10 years, we have made grants totaling approximately \$250,000 to the school, school organizations, athletic teams, and students. We have bought microscopes, band instruments, computers, digital cameras, DVD/VCR players, high definition speakers for the band room, helped purchase lights for the soccer field, helped purchase a floor for the award-winning dance team, supported teacher training, bought ActivBoards for the classrooms, awarded scholarships to outstanding students, and the list goes on.

As much as the Foundation has done, we can and need to do much more. Bearden is one of the largest high schools in the region and for us to continue making a difference at Bearden High School we need your help. Every year, we organize fundraising efforts to support grants such as those mentioned above. I call on you to consider a gift to the Bearden High School Foundation. There is an envelope included with this newsletter that you can use for your tax deductible donation.

It is our philosophy to try to help as many students as we can with the resources we have. With your help, we can continue to make contributions that will positively impact students at Bearden High School for years to come.

FOUNDATION BOARD UPDATE

The Bearden High School Foundation is a volunteer organization. Many individuals volunteer their time, energy, and resources to make the Foundation an important part of Bearden High School. We would like to thank Greg McWhorter and Shanda Nicely for their service to the Foundation as they rotate off the board. Joining the Foundation Board for three year terms are Shannon Hampson and Buddy Pelot.

We are always looking for new members, as well as, individuals who would like to serve on the various committees that exist within the Foundation. To volunteer, contact Michelle Decker at 692-4147.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Freshman Orientation – August 14
First Day of School – August 17
Fall Open House – September 10
Fall Break – October 15-16
Phone-a-thon – October 26-27
End of Semester – December 18
Winter Holidays – December 21 - January 4
First Day after Holidays – January 5
Winter Open House – January 28
Spring Break – March 29 - April 2
Last Day of School/Graduation – May 21

Parents and Guardians Invest in Students via the Fall Phone-a-thon



The Bearden High School Foundation raised \$38,101 in the fall 2008 Phone-a-thon. In an economy with almost 10% unemployment, we found the parents and guardians of Bearden High School continue to value donating resources which can be applied to enhancing the educational process of their children. In addition to raising money for BHS, the Phone-a-thon is also a community building event. Over the course of two evenings, more than eighty parents, alumni, staff and volunteers came together in the school cafeteria in an attempt to contact every Bearden family. Contacts were made and the donations were generous.

Our local US Cellular office near Bearden High School also joined in helping the phone-a-thon by donating the cell phones used for the calling on both nights. Additionally, numerous local businesses donated door prizes that were awarded to callers throughout both evenings. We appreciate the many individuals and businesses that support Bearden High School.

Please watch the Bearden Bull for details regarding the upcoming fall 2009 Phone-a-thon.

Shanda F. Nicely Fundraising Chairman, 2008

WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

Thanks to your generous donations to the BHS Foundation Fall Phone-a-thon and the 2009 Bulldog Classic Golf Tournament, the Foundation was able to purchase the following items during the 2008-2009 school year.

The BHS Foundation Board is committed to spending your donations in the most effective ways during the school year in which the money was raised. We strive to impact as many students and departmental areas as possible. Thanks again to all faculty, staff, parents, and the Bearden community for all you do to make BHS a school of excellence.

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A Principal's Perspective.....

"It's about the students."



These words close every e-mail that Dr. John Bartlett sends from his computer. And Dr. Bartlett's first year at Bearden High School could definitely be characterized as being all "about the students". By now, both students and teachers alike have gotten used to him popping into classrooms. "My goal is to spend 50% of my day in the classrooms". The reason? "You monitor what you value," he said, "and the most important thing in the building is what happens in the classrooms. My job is to support the teachers and the only way I can do that is to learn what they're teaching and how they're doing."

At lunchtime you'll find Dr. Bartlett in the cafeteria interacting with the students. "I want kids to feel comfortable with the administration." To that end, the assistant principals are also visible in the lunchroom and with their own classroom observations.

One goal Dr. Bartlett has for the upcoming year is to personalize the school. "The goal in a school this size is to make it seem smaller." To accomplish that goal, Assistant Principal Dan Parker, along with fifteen teachers, is developing a plan called Freshman Focus. "The plan will put safety nets in place now to prevent failure in the classrooms later."

Other changes in the upcoming year include added AP and Honors classes, more dual enrollment opportunities with Roane State and Pellissippi State, and the addition of new courses such as Marine Ecology, Scientific Research, and Study of Shakespeare.

When asked what he is most pleased with at Bearden High School, Dr. Bartlett said "The people. We have a great staff, great students, great parents. There's a definite sense of community here at Bearden and that's a tribute to the people." And yet, with all his praise for the collective people at Bearden, Dr. Bartlett emphasizes that the most important of these are the students. "In the end, every decision made is not about me or the parents or the adults in the building...the decisions made are always about what's best for the students."

BHS BULLDOGS TO HAVE A NEW "DAWG HOUSE"

The dream of a Football Field House was resurrected in 2008 by the late Coach Bill Wilson and is being carried on today by generous donors such as Bearden Alumnus Jim Bruner (class of '67) and a host of dedicated supporters.

The Jim Smelcher Football Field House will be a state-of-the-art facility which will compliment the sports training, leadership and success already in place at the home of the Bulldogs!

The new Football Field House will include:

Team Education Room • Sports Medicine Training • Weight Training Coaches' Offices • Storage for All Equipment • Title IX Compliance

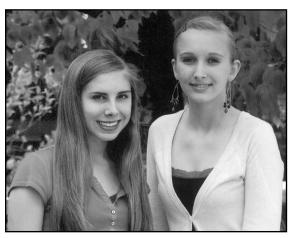
The plans for the new facility were donated by Community Tectonics Architects and the building designed by architect Bill Vinson.

Almost \$500,000 of the \$1 million dollar goal has been raised as of July. Opportunities for those who wish to make a gift to the campaign include: Room Naming Opportunities — Special Donor Recognition Wall — Locker Campaign, recognizing BHS football players, past and present — Buy-A-Brick Campaign — the "Dawg Walk" — In-Kind Donations of Construction Materials.

Your help is still needed to make this project a reality. Contact Blake Moore, Football Booster Club President via email at blake@blakemoore.com to get additional information or to make a gift.

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HUGH O'BRIAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP SEMINAR



Katie Banks and Anna Gruszkiewicz

Congratulations to **Anna Gruszkiewicz** and **Katie Banks** who were selected to represent Bearden High School at the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee. The mission of HOBY is to seek out, recognize, and develop leadership potential of high school sophomores. HOBY motivates and develops tomorrow's leaders by preparing them for positions in their schools and helping them to expand the talents that will serve them and their communities in the future. During this intensive weekend, Anna and Katie will be introduced to distinguished leaders of the community from various sectors such as business, technology, education, government, and the arts and sciences. Through intense but informal discussions, HOBY participants get a realistic look at their nation, its people, and their own role in the world community. The Bearden High School Foundation proudly congratulates and recognizes Anna and Katie on their selection as outstanding sophomores by funding their registration fees.

GIRLS AND BOYS STATE PARTICIPANTS

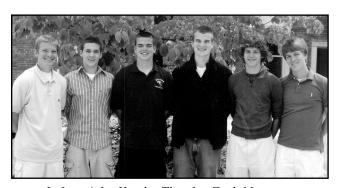


Left to right: Rachel Iroff, Megan Weiss, Kelsey Greer, Cari McInturff, and Jordan Kirkland. Not Pictured: Maggie Lear

The Bearden High School Foundation supports Girls State and Boys State, which is sponsored by the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, respectively. These juniors are selected by the faculty to represent BHS. The Foundation is proud to support the twelve students selected by funding the majority of their registration fees.

Girls State is a hands-on experience of the practical applications of Americanism and good citizenship. The program is a non-partisan attempt to teach and instill in young Tennessee women a love of God and country. Girls State is a strenuous program that requires a delegate to be energetic, in good health, have a positive attitude, be able to adjust to unfamiliar situations, and be willing to accept the challenge of new experiences. Girls State is held at Middle

Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, during the last week in May. The faculty selected the following girls as the 2009 Girls State delegates: Kelsey Greer, Rachel Iroff, Jordan Kirkland, Maggie Lear, Cari McInturff, and Megan Weiss.



Left to right: Xander Thumler, Zach Mangers, Ben Overholt, Tim Fixter, Arik Jenkins, and Garrett Ball

Boys State is a practical experience for young men to view actual problems of government as it operates in Tennessee. Participants will be assigned to mythical cities for the week. Approximately fifty young men will comprise a city, three cities make up a county, and four counties yield the "Mythical 51st State." The program's goal is to impress on future generations the responsibilities of citizenship, develop leadership, and bring young men to a full realization of the duties of American citizens. Boys State is held at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tennessee, the last week in May. The faculty selected the following young men as Boys State delegates: Garrett Ball, Tim Fixter, Arik Jenkins, Zach Mangers, Ben Overholt, and Xander Thumler.

The Bearden High School Foundation congratulates these young men and women on their selection to Boys State and Girls State.

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2009 FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Bearden High School Foundation funds five \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors each May. Seniors are nominated and selected by the faculty and are awarded the scholarships during the Senior Celebration Ceremony. The scholarship categories consist of: Leadership, Creative Arts, Technical Studies, Volunteerism and Achiever's. This year's recipients are:

DR. MARY LOU KANIPE SCHOLARSHIP (LEADERSHIP)



This scholarship was established in 2004 in honor of Dr. Kanipe, former BHS principal, and is awarded to a senior that possesses outstanding abilities in academics, leadership and responsibility. The recipient of this award has displayed remarkable initiative and worked hard to effect positive change at Bearden High School and/or the community. This year's recipient is **Mary Hirst**. Mary exemplified a love for learning and for BHS by being actively involved in the following activities: member of SGA, Senior Committee, BHS Basketball team and Track team. She was also involved in her church with the preschool ministry and choir. Mary was an integral part of the success of the BHS basketball team as well as a track "star". Some of her awards to date are: All Prep Xtra in both High Jump and Basketball, Disney's Track and Field Showcase High Jump Winner for 2008 and 2009, and 1st place at State in

2009 for High Jump. Mary was also ranked 5th in the nation in the May 2009 Track and Field News magazine high jumping 5 feet 10 inches. This fall, Mary will attend Harvard University, where she plans to major in Environmental Science and Public Policy, and compete on the Harvard Track and Field Team. We all applaud Mary as she continues to "jump" to new heights in life and on the track. Congratulations Mary!

CREATIVE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



The Creative Arts Scholarship was created in 2008 and is awarded to a senior that is pursing continuing education in a talent involving theatre, music, or visual arts. This student exhibits a strong work ethic and strives for perfection in his/her area of expertise. Cavanaugh S. Mims II is this year's recipient. Cavanaugh is best known for his BHS Musical Theater performances in Brigadoon and Guys and Dolls as well as his exceptional singing voice. He was a member of Bearden Singers, Stellar Scholars, SGA Vice President, Students Mentoring Another Class, Interclub Council President and Prom Committee. Cavanaugh was selected to attend the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts as well as the 2008 All-State Select Octet 1st Tenor Soloist and Tenor Masterclass for the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Honor Choir. In the fall, Cavanaugh will attend Belmont University majoring in performing arts. Congratulations Cavanaugh!

TECHNICAL STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



This scholarship is awarded to a senior who has demonstrated a high aptitude in a certain area of technical study and will pursue continuing education in this field. This year's recipient is **B.T. Peake, III**. B.T. was BHS BBN News Director/Editor, Student Association State Reporter and Vice President, and a member of S.G.A., Key Club, and the National Honor Society. He was also selected to attend Governor's School for Information and Technology Leadership in 2007. Since 2005 he has received numerous awards at the state level in Computer Applications, Digital Photography, Desktop Publishing, and PowerPoint Design. One of his "technical" legacies at BHS will be the 2009 Senior "WOW" video that showed creativity and expertise in a league of its own. B.T. will attend the

University of Tennessee, Knoxville in the fall majoring in Computer Science. Good Luck B.T.!

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BECKY RAMSEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR VOLUNTEERISM



Becky Ramsey was known at BHS for her excellence in teaching as well as being an active participant in numerous student clubs and activities. A memorial scholarship was established in 2000 for a senior who has invested countless hours in his/her community, church, or Bearden High School striving to make a difference. This year's recipient is **Ashland Smith**. Ashland participated in numerous programs during her high school career in hopes of making a difference in the lives of others. She participated as a mentor for "Sister to Sister", Facilitator for Knoxville Youth Summit, and Director of SMAC. She was President of the Family Career Community Leaders of America, a Tennessee Scholar, an Outstanding Family and Consumer Science award winner, and a participant in the Tennessee Technology

Academy of Excellence and Tennessee Diversity Program for Engineering. Ashland will attend Pellissippi State Technical Community College in the fall majoring in Chemical Engineering. Good Luck and Congratulations Ashland!



ACHIEVER'S SCHOLARSHIP

The Achiever's Scholarship is awarded to a senior who has overcome a hardship, displays an exemplary work ethic and will be pursuing additional education or training in an area of employment. This year's recipient is **Razonda Jefferson**. Razonda was an active participant in the following organizations; Knox Achievers, Black Achievers, Youth Health Board of Education, and the Stars Program. She will attend Pellissippi State Community College in the fall majoring in Business Management. Congratulations Razonda!

SEVENTH ANNUAL BULLDOG CLASSIC





A gorgeous day and a good time was enjoyed by all at the seventh annual Bulldog Classic Golf Tournament on Thursday, May 7 at Willow Creek Golf Club. The annual tournament is the spring fundraiser for the Foundation and raises approximately \$10,000 each year for grants that benefit Bearden High School.

The winning team of Tom Vester, Tommy Vester, Tom Schaffer, and Robert Cokley won on a scorecard play-off. They were each treated to a gift certificate to Season's Café. The second place team consisted of Steve Golliher, Rob Crabtree, Dr. John Bartlett and Bo Spears. They each received a gift certificate to Echo Bistro and Wine Bar.

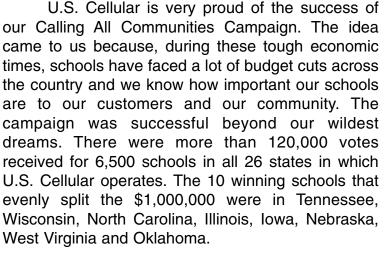
BHS Foundation Board advisory member Margaret Heins-Laning and Foundation Board member Robin Gold cochaired the event. The Foundation would like to thank Marilyn Wohl for providing goodie bags, Marguerite Graham, Michelle Decker, and Shelley White for helping with registration, Larry Tragesser for acting as emcee, Buddy Heins, John Heins, and Darren Welch for their support, and the many area businesses that provided door prizes.

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BHS WINS \$100,000 IN U.S. CELLULAR CALLING ALL COMMUNITIES CAMPAIGN





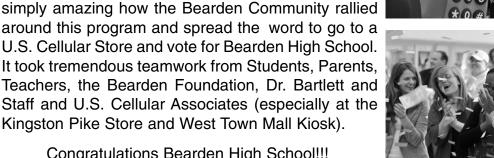


Of course, I am most excited that one of the

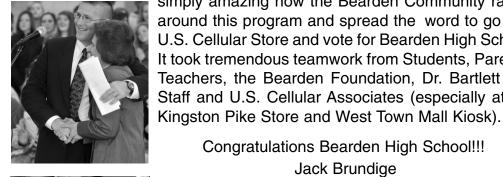
\$100,000 winners was Bearden High School!!! It was

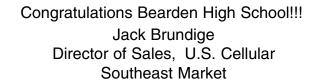
























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FOUNDATION RECEIVES GRANT FOR ACTIVBOARDS

Late last year, the BHS Foundation received a very generous gift from the Fred D. Benton Donor Advised Fund of the East Tennessee Foundation. The grant was in the amount of \$7,000 and was given to fund the purchase of ActivBoards for several classrooms at the school. Mr. Benton was the grandfather of Meagan Yoakley, a Junior this fall at Bearden. In his will, Mr. Benton, who passed away in 2006, established the fund from which the gift was made. Sara Yoakley, Megan's mother and daughter of Mr. Benton, was instrumental in arranging the gift.

A modern version of the chalkboard, ActivBoards are a powerful new technology which allows teachers to develop lesson plans on a computer and display them on a large interactive electronic screen. They have a wide variety of applications and improve the learning environment in the classroom in lots of ways. Before the gift, there were eleven ActivBoards and fifteen SMART boards (a similar technology) at the school. With the generous gift from the Fred D. Benton Donor Advised Fund, and an additional grant of \$8,000 from the Foundation general fund, the school was able to purchase thirteen additional units. The equipment was purchased at a significant discount because it was submitted as part of a one-time bulk order for many different schools with the help of the Knox County schools procurement offices.

The purchase of the equipment was overseen by Ms. Granvold, the Technology Coordinator for the school. Mr. Ivey also supported the effort. Ms. Granvold says that the equipment has been received and installed and is already making an impact in the classrooms which received it. With the recent acquisition, there are now twenty-four ActivBoards and fifteen SMART boards in the school. There is a remaining need for about forty ActivBoards and four SMART boards. Many teachers have requested the technology and are awaiting available funding. Any donor desiring to help with that effort should contact any Foundation board member.

Mr. Benton was a long time investment and mortgage banker in East Tennessee. He had a life-long passion for education and learning and quietly sponsored many education and literacy projects during his life. His passion continues to express itself in significant ways in our community through the Donor Advised Fund created by his will. On behalf of the entire Bearden High School community, The Foundation would like to express its very sincere gratitude for the gift.

NEW RESTAURANT ENJOYED BY BEARDEN SUPPORTERS

A delicious meal and lovely evening were enjoyed by dozens of Bearden High School supporters when Deron Little invited the Foundation to a "soft opening" of his new restaurant, Echo Bistro and Wine Bar on Tuesday, June 30. Deron, who also owns Season's Café in Farragut, recently opened the new restaurant in Bearden. Echo features "innovative American cuisine served in a casually sophisticated atmosphere".

All proceeds from ticket sales were donated back to the BHS Foundation. The Foundation would like to thank Deron Little and Echo Bistro and Wine Bar for this generous contribution.



Pictured above are Margaret Heins-Laning, Deron Little, and Sam Balloff.

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The Bearden High School Foundation Would Like To Thank The Following Donors

(thru May 2009)

2009 Bulldog Classic Golf Tournament

Knoxville Councilmen, Barbara Pelot & Joe Bailey Knox County Commissioner, Richard Briggs

Anderson Media – Jay Maier
Balloff, Samuel
Bartram, David
Chapman, Kim
Clayton Family Foundation
Coinstar
Courthouse Retrieval System
Crook and Company Real Estate

Coinstar
Courthouse Retrieval System
cook and Company Real Esta
Davis, Dr. Larry
Decker, Jim and Michelle
Donaldson, Brian
Financial Account Services
Givens, Scott
Gold, Stephen and Robin
Golliher, Jeff & Andrea

Golliher, Steve & Laura Graham, Randy and Marguerite Guthe Insurance Harris, Dr. David and Patricia Harris, Douglas & Carla Harris Restaurant Group Heins, Buddy Heins, John Heins Laning, Margaret Hilliard Lyons Keen, Mark & Rebecca Knight, Phil Land Design Group Mandrell, Keith & Lisa McElroy, Jeffrey McGlothlin, Dudley & Lynn

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World Travel Tags

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Bowland, Bruce and Gail Bradley, Allen and Denita Brannum, Joe Brimlys Wholesale Jewelry Brown, Gilbert Bruce, Carla Brundige, Jack and Jackie Brunson, Catherine Buchanan, Ragan Buck, Marc and Linda Buckley, Mike and Regina Buffin, L.A. Bukowski, David and Shye Ann Burgamy, Michael and Joy Burkilin, Bryan Burrell, Calvin Cakmes Dental Associates Caldwell, David and Nancy Caldwell, Rodney and Gloria Calhoun, Joseph Campbell, John and Celia Campbell, Michael Carlson, Eric and Susan Carr, Benjamine

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Kampas, Victor

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Thompson, Edward

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