

VISIT THE NEW FARGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS ALUMNI NETWORK PAGE

We are proud of alumni who have called Fargo Public Schools home, and know FPS graduates look back on their school days with fond memories. If you are looking for upcoming 2020 reunions, need information to begin the planning process or would like to update your contact information, let us help! [Click HERE](#) to check out the new Alumni Network page.



Inside the Issue

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Featuring Liz Fisher, Fargo Davies 2015 Graduate.

NORTH AND SOUTH HALL OF FAME

Check out the 2019 Fargo North and Fargo South Hall of fame inductees.

ALUMNI BRIEFS

Check out news on alumni past and present, educators, and future alumni who have made the news.

MISSION CRITICAL



Giving Hearts Day, February 13, 2020
givingheartday.org

Support the Critical Needs Program on Giving Hearts Day!

Organized by the Fargo Public Schools Foundation to ensure that each and every student who needs help with basic needs receives support.

Each year Fargo Public Schools students face urgent needs that impact their ability and desire to learn and thrive in the classroom. Lack of basic necessities such as winter weather gear, clothes, shoes, school supplies, meals, health related needs, or an empty cupboard situation should not limit a student from achieving success.

Supporting~

- Homeless Program
- Milk & Elementary Snack Program
- Emergency Lunch Needs
- High School Hybrid Pantries
- Liz's Closet (Middle School Hybrid Pantries)
- Husky Hutch (Elementary Hybrid Pantry)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Liz Fisher, Fargo Davies, 2015



WHAT HAVE YOU DONE SINCE GRADUATING?

Since graduating from Davies High School, I am pursuing my early childhood degree from Mayville State University online while working in my field at the daycare I used to attend. I teach the 18 month to 24 month students. I am in my senior year and look forward to owning my own daycare center.

HOW DO YOU FEEL YOUR EDUCATION THROUGH FARGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS HELPED TO PREPARE YOU FOR YOUR CURRENT CAREER?

While at Davies, one of my elective courses was Child Development. It was through this class that I had an opportunity to work with the teachers' children in a daycare setting.

It really was eye opening to work with these delightful children and watch them learn from our lessons during that short amount of time. I also enjoyed taking home the "baby", an electronic baby doll that cried and cooed. The experience introduced my classmates and I to what it would be like to be parents. When the baby cries in the middle of the night you wake up with it to feed the baby, to change baby or to burp the baby. It was stressful during that weekend, but in the end it taught life lessons about children. The Child Development class at Davies helped me find my passion and prepare for my current career. It was a lot fun! I always had a smile on face when I saw the children walking down the halls of Davies High School.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.

My immediate family, my father, mother, older brother, have been very supportive of my endeavors from my collegiate studies to providing the initial support of my community service ideas.

WHAT IS YOUR BEST MEMORY FROM YOUR TIME AT FARGO DAVIES HIGH SCHOOL?

My educators at Davies always pushed me and my classmates to be our best selves. Their focus was not only class-specific, but life specific as well. It was at Davies that I learned about the emergency closet for students who lacked the basics--food, personal care items, clothing, or school supplies. This resonated with me and I realized that these needs did not start at the high school level. There are students at the middle school level who could not participate in activities or strive to do their best because their basic needs were not met. I made a pitch to my father and his staff and they were willing to fund "[Liz's Closet](#)" at the middle school level. **Liz's Closet provides students with the tools necessary to be their best selves. I am excited that the students have a resource to meet their needs so that they are not singled out for not participating.**

WHO INSPIRED YOU THE MOST AT FARGO DAVIES HIGH SCHOOL AND WHY?

Mrs. Nancy Leier inspired me the most at Fargo Davies High School. Through her art class, I learned how to express my feelings. I started out with Beginning Clay and Sculpture and then from there I did Intermediate, then last but not least Advanced Clay and Sculpture. Through her classes, I gained the confidence to grow out of my shell. Some of favorite pieces are a tomato, bowls, and my Frog Tea set. When introduced to a new project, the wheels in my head would start spinning. I sketched my ideas but before I could start creating, I would need to have a conference with Mrs. Leier and receive her approval. She helped me to make my design better through her gentle encouragement. Throughout the three classes I had with Mrs. Leier, I could see my growth with each project we were given. Mrs. Leier made the class fun. At the end of my senior year, she presented each of the seniors with a mug. I still have the mug to this day. Thanks Mrs. Leier for helping me express my feelings through art.

2019 FARGO NORTH HALL OF FAME



AMANDA (GLAS)
ASLAKSON

Amanda graduated from North High in 1995. She was a 3-year letter winner in volleyball, was a part of two State Championships and was selected Miss Volleyball North Dakota. Amanda attended Concordia College in Moorhead, earning a BA Degree in Elementary Education in 1999. Amanda taught various grades in Simla, CO, at Big Sandy School from 2000-05. She currently resides in Fargo, is raising a family, and has returned to teaching as a substitute.



THOMAS
ASTRUP

Tom graduated from North High in 1987, where his primary interests were hockey and pursuing a strong academic foundation. Tom was part of the 1986 State Hockey Championship team and a member of the National Honor Society. After leaving North High, Tom attended the University of North Dakota, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Accounting in 1991. In 2016 Tom was elected to serve as the President and CEO of American Crystal Sugar in Moorhead, Minnesota.



JOE
DEUTSCH

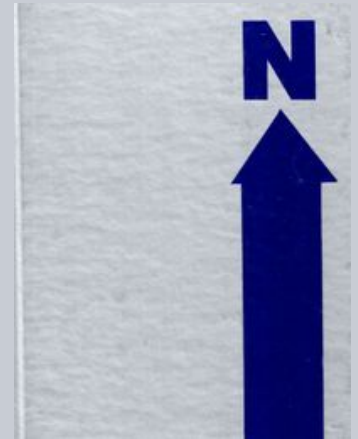
Joe graduated from North High in 1994 where he earned All-EDC Honorable Mention in football and played in the East-West Football Shrine game. He was also the wrestling team captain and voted Most Valuable Wrestler for the 1993-94 season. Joe attended Valley City State University and earned a BS Degree in Physical Education in 1999. He started his teaching career at Madison Elementary in Fargo, where he taught until 2005. In 2007 Joe earned a Ph.D. Degree in Wellness at NDSU, which led to opportunities for teaching at the Higher Ed level.



HEBE
SHIPP

In the fall of 1975 Hebe began her career with the Fargo Public Schools with a part-time position in French at North High School. For the next 30 years Hebe taught all levels of French 1-4, Spanish 1, and Foreign Language Exploration. While at North, she and her colleagues expanded foreign language learning opportunities. She retired from the Fargo Schools in 2005.

FARGO NORTH 2020 REUNIONS



FARGO NORTH CLASS OF 1980 40TH CLASS REUNION JULY 24TH & 25TH

COME AND RENEW OLD FRIENDSHIPS AND SHARE MEMORIES AT OUR 40TH CLASS REUNION!

- JULY 24TH, TAILGATORS, TIME TBA
- JULY 25TH, EL ZAGEL SHRINE, TIME TBA

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TAMI SEIFERT (PLADSON)

tami@longweekendsportswear.com

Facebook~
[Fargo North Class of '80](#)

STAY IN TOUCH!

[CLICK HERE](#) to update your name, address and e-mail.

2019 FARGO SOUTH HALL OF FAME



**JOHN
MARSH**

One student credits longtime Fargo South teacher and coach John Marsh for making him a Division I athlete, another says Mr. Marsh was instrumental in helping him become successful in business. Such are the accolades for a man who spent 45-plus years in education. Former South teacher and coach Gelaine Orvik says, he often told student teachers to enhance their experiences by observing Mr. Marsh's performance in the classroom, where he taught business law and accounting.



**JASPER
SCHNEIDER**

From private business to public service, Jasper Schneider has been touted for his wisdom, creativity, integrity and work ethic. He has represented constituents not only in North Dakota but from coast to coast. The 1997 South graduate earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Jamestown and law degree from Hamline University. While at South Jasper worked on the yearbook and newspaper, was named to the National Honor Society and earned varsity letters in swimming, tennis and baseball.



**JOHN
SYVERSON**

Setting high expectations combined with humor was the hallmark of John Syverson's remarkable 38-year career teaching jazz ensemble and composition. Mr. Syverson's jazz bands were known regionally, nationally and even internationally. The number of his students chosen for honor festivals and North Dakota All-State bands are too numerous to count. He relished the fact that over the years he often taught children of former students. Each year, South Choir Director Sara Lichtblau says, the oldest jazz band students would give him a gift of their pictures and their favorite "Syverson quotes."



**BRYAN
WICKOREN**

The headline in the Denver Post says it all, "Adapted athletics program gives hundreds of disabled students a chance to participate." The current program is the brainchild of 1982 South graduate Bryan Wickoren, who has served the students of Jefferson County, Colorado, as both a physical education teacher and adapted physical education specialist. Bryan played football and participated in track and field at South. He went on to become the Northern Intercollegiate Conference javelin champion while attending Moorhead State. He went on to earn his master's in special education from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix.

FARGO SOUTH 2020 REUNIONS

Hello Bruin Alumni!

If you have an upcoming reunion let us know. We will make sure it is in the AlumniNews and shared on our social media.

Contact us at :

701.446.1041

or

fpsfound@fargo.k12.nd.us



STAY IN TOUCH!

[CLICK HERE](#) to update your name, address and e-mail.

ALUMNI BRIEFS

Following are alumni, past and present educators, and future alumni who have submitted information or made the news. If you would like to be included in the alumni briefs please contact us at fpsfound@fargo.k12.nd.us or update your information [HERE](#).



Vic Youngs~ Fargo North, 1981

Congratulations to Coach Vic Youngs of the Fargo South Bruins who was named 2019 Subway State Coach of the Year, and his son Geoffrey Youngs of the Bruins who was named 2019 Powerade State Senior Athlete of the Year for Class A Boys Tennis!

Dylan Berg~ Fargo Davies, 2014

Dylan Berg has been presented with his first Plaque for the Billboard hit song Pop Out which he produced and created the beat for. It is now 2x platinum and is still being played, even on our local Fargo radio stations. He is now living in LA and is signed with UNIVERSAL Music Production.

[For more on Dylan click here to check out the article on Inforum.](#)



Ben Elliot~ Fargo North, 2001



Ben Elliot (left) & Doug Parisano
(special to KFGO)

FARGO (KFGO) - The November 11, 2019 football match between the Golden Gophers and the Nittany Lions was special for Fargo North graduate Ben Elliot and Pennsylvania man Doug Parisano. Elliot donated his bone marrow to Parisano, who was suffering from cancer.

“Doug was fighting blood cancer. I joined the ‘Be the Match’ registry, and a few months later, I received a call saying that there was someone who matched my blood type,” Elliot said. After Elliot was medically cleared and able to donate, he finally met Parisano when he and his wife, Gina, traveled to Philadelphia. “We’ve just been staying in touch” Elliot said. “It’s kind of a cool connection and we’ve been planning to host Doug here in Minnesota for awhile. I thought planning it around a sports event would be a natural.”



The Fargo Public Schools Development Foundation works to secure a variety of resources to enrich and enhance the quality of education provided by Fargo Public Schools that would otherwise not be possible through regular education funding.

The Foundation is supported with tax-deductible annual and endowment gifts from alumni, businesses, service clubs, parents, current and former school district staff, and the Fargo community.

They manage assets in excess of \$3.3 million and annually distribute more than \$500,000 to support Fargo Public Schools students, programs, and teachers.

2018.19 DONATION DISTRIBUTIONS



INNOVATIVE ED, MUSIC & LITERACY GRANTS

\$51,143



CRITICAL NEEDS PROGRAM

\$152,142



SCHOLARSHIPS

\$102,717

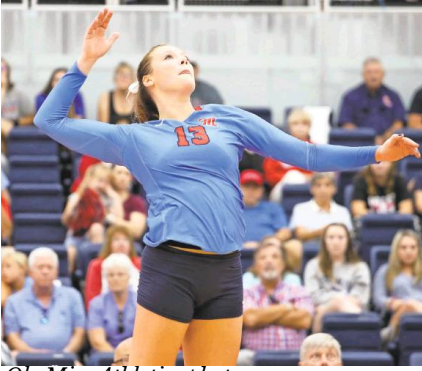


DONOR DESIGNATED PROJECT FUNDS

\$315,488

ALUMNI BRIEFS (CONTINUED)

Emily Stroup~ Fargo South, 2016



Ole Miss Athletics photos

When Emily Stroup entered the University of Mississippi Volleyball program, she could touch a shade under 9 feet, 6 inches in an approach jump. When the Fargo South graduate tested last spring, that figure had increased by 10 inches. That improvement in her leaping ability has mirrored her ascension to being one of the top players in Ole Miss history.

“She’s exceeded all of our expectations,” said Bob Stroup, Emily’s father. “That’s the kind of kid she is. If you set the ball at a certain height, she finds a way to surmount it.” Emily already has the top two single season marks for kills in program history and the top three single-match records in that category. *By Eric Peterson, The Forum*

[For more on Emily click here to check out the article on Inforum.](#)

Chris Orth~ Fargo North, 1999

This Moorhead craftsman’s Fireline Neon Company has carved out a niche repairing and building neon signs for Fargo-Moorhead area customers. Along the way, he’s earned glowing praise.

He helped us with making our beacon of hope, our ice cream cone, glow once again,” said Jessica Malvin, co-owner of Tastee-Freez. “Orth saw how badly damaged the sign was and offered to repair it. Now, it’s a shining light to get us through our construction and a way for people to see us from far away,” Malvin said. “It’s beautiful work that he does. We’ve gotten quite a few compliments on it.”

By Helmut Schmidt, The Forum



David Samson / The Forum



(Photo courtesy of Tastee-Freez)



Mission~

“Partnering with the Fargo Public Schools, their alumni, and the greater community to enhance and enrich learning experiences to maximize student potential.”

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