

CHECK OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH REUNIONS AND ALUMNI

Reunions are scheduled for 2022! If your class has had, or is having a reunion let us know at the Alumni Network. You can reach us at fpsfound@fargo.k12.nd.us or by phone at (701) 446-1041.

Update your contact information so you don't miss out on any AlumniNews or future reunions. Go to the [Fargo Public Schools Foundation](#) web-site to check out the Alumni Network or [click here](#).



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CYNTHIA THORESEN SELLAND TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

JESSICA MAGNUSON, FARGO SOUTH 1999



Pictured Right to Left: Dr. Marcia Kierscht, Cynthia Thoresen Selland's daughter and Jessica Magnuson, School Literacy Partner at Carl Ben Eielson Middle School.

Carl Ben Eielson Middle School Literacy Partner Jessica Magnuson was named the Fargo Public Schools 2021 Teacher of the Year. The Fargo Public Schools Foundation and Alumni Network would like to congratulate Jessica Magnuson on this award. In conjunction with this honor Jessica Magnuson receives the Cynthia Thoresen Selland Teacher of the Year Award.

The Cynthia Thoresen Selland Award for Teaching recognizes an outstanding FPS teacher and remembers Mrs. Selland's 31-year teaching career at Agassiz, Ben Franklin, and South High. The Selland Award is made by her children and grandchildren in recognition of her, and all of the teachers who touch lives forever. This honor includes a monetary award. In addition, Magnuson's name will be engraved on the travelling plaque, which will be displayed at Carl Ben Eielson Middle School for the year.

Dr. Marcia Kierscht presented this award on behalf of the family. Dr. Kierscht was a member of the first seventh grade class to enter Ben Franklin Middle School, is a Fargo Central 1957 alum, and Cynthia Thoresen Selland's daughter.



FARGO SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL 2021 HALL OF FAME RECIPIENTS



The purpose of the Fargo South High School (FSHS) Hall of Fame is to honor and recognize alumni and/or FSHS personnel. Recipients must have brought special recognition to themselves or the school by demonstrating high qualities of character and leadership during or following their time at FSHS. The award can also be given to others who have given meritorious service to FSHS.



DICK HENDERSON - FACULTY

Coaches and players from over four decades of Dick Henderson's career at Fargo South will tell you the same thing, he was the silent star behind every championship team.

The longtime physical education instructor and head of the department was known as a motivator of all students, teaching them the value of personal health and fitness to last a lifetime. Away from the school, he volunteered his time to the church and other causes to improve people's lives.

"As with any excellent teacher, Dick has sacrificed financial gain for the privilege of influencing young people toward good purposes," said Rev. Richard Raum, who got to know Mr. Henderson as pastor at First Presbyterian Church. "Always, Dick has been a capable, devoted and humble person,

serving and helping others and conforming his own life to the highest standards of moral decency and uprightness."

Mr. Henderson, of course, was best known as an innovative and inspirational strength and conditioning coach long before others realized the physical and mental value of "hitting the weight room." He cultivated numerous collegiate athletes, several at the highest level. He was also the person athletes talked to about life.

Athletes to this day marvel at Mr. Henderson's ability to bring out their best. His proudest moments were when students reached personal bests in conditioning. And he was always encouraging when they fell short. Keep going, he would say, you will get there. He did this for 33 years while receiving little credit in the public eye. And on those rare days when athletes were understandably lethargic, or taking a day off, or just did not want to be there, Mr. Henderson did not react with anger or disgust. He would instead pound his chest and let out a loud yelp that would not only make students work harder, it made them smile.

CRYSTAL CUMMINS SCHNEIDER - CLASS OF 1998

Crystal Cummins Schneider's Fargo South Hall of Fame credentials can be separated into several chapters.

The 1998 South graduate was one of the best all-around athletes in school history and a straight-A student. She was a public servant who fought to build consensus. She has served as coach and mentor. She has been, and is one of the most passionate advocates for those less fortunate.

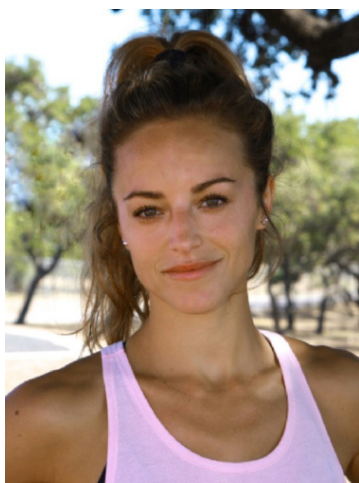
Crystal was best known for her exploits in track and field, beginning her varsity career as a seventh grader. A 2011 inductee of the North Dakota Track and Field Hall of Fame, she set school records in the high jump and triple jump.



As an amateur competitor, she won a national championship in the five-event pentathlon, which included the shot put. She was an award-winning diver and volleyball player for the Bruins, and as a young gymnast was a flyer on the renowned F-M Acro Team.

Crystal moved on to North Dakota State University, where she helped the Bison women win the indoor national championship in 2001. She was a ten-time NCAA Division II All-American in the high jump, long jump, and triple jump. In 2003 she was named the NCAA regional athlete of the year. After graduating from NDSU in 2003 with a political science degree, Crystal went to work for Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization dedicated to building homes for families who are homeless or unable to purchase a home due to low income.

She was a member of the Grand Forks City Council from 2014 to 2018, where Mayor Mike Brown said he would want her in his corner in any contest. "She has had an incredible career athletically and professionally; she continues to be involved in the community in which she lives and offers every opportunity to serve her talents when available," said Cory Lehman, Crystal's coach at South.



Laura Roesler - Class of 2010

Laura Roesler has taken Fargo South High School around the world with accomplishments unmatched by any runner in North Dakota, starring for the most renowned college program in the country and eventually turning professional.

The 2010 South graduate was a 20-time state track champion in a variety of events, beginning her stellar high school career as a seventh grader. Even more remarkable, the athlete known primarily for middle distance, won two state cross country titles. "Winning the 100 meter in track and the 4,000-kilometer cross country races during the same school year was and is unheard of," former South coach Rory Beil said.

"When the announcer at the state track meet would announce 'Laura Roesler' prior to her race, everyone in the stadium stopped what they were doing to watch," Beil said. Laura set and still holds numerous school and state records. She was a straight-A student who has led by example, from high school through college and beyond. "She handled a public profile with class and humility," said Rose Krumwiede, a former South counselor. "She was always proud of her roots, whether it was Fargo South High School or North Dakota."

Recruited by every big-time program in the country, Laura chose the University of Oregon, where she was one of the most decorated athletes in school history. She was a five-time NCAA champion, an 18-time All-American and a three-time Pac-12 champion. Laura earned the 2014 Bowerman Award, given annually to the most outstanding male and female NCAA track and field athlete in the nation, otherwise known as the Heisman Trophy of the sport. She went on to become a Nike-sponsored professional runner.

"So many of us were enthralled by what she was able to accomplish on the track," Beil said. "Now we are even more impressed at what a classy human being she has grown to be."

GAYLE HYDE - CLASS OF 1979/FACULTY

There are very few people who have made the kind of long-term commitment to forensics as Gayle Hyde, and not only at Fargo Public Schools. The 1979 Fargo South graduate has earned respect nationwide as an innovator, motivator, and moderator.

Pam McComas, a National Speech and Debate Association Hall of Famer and retired 40-year educator from Kansas, said Gayle's leadership in curriculum and professional development goes far beyond North Dakota. Gayle is a leader in numerous professional organizations. "Her 30-plus years of teaching and innovation for teachers in the classroom are indicative of her persona," McComas said. "Her dedication, her commitment, and her knowledge and leadership make her one of a kind in the educational field."



Her list of professional contributions, presentations, and awards are too numerous to outline. Gayle has been a special mentor to New American students. Cohort Gwen Stark, a South Hall of Famer, said Gayle instilled confidence by finding selections they liked that were challenging without being discouraging, but Gayle's nurturing has gone much further than that.

"She has fed them, clothed them, transported them, and nurtured them during each season of debate, speech, and student congress," said Dr. Robert Littlefield, a National Forensic League Hall of Fame inductee. "Her team is her family, and she has worked with all levels of students, encouraging them to reach their potential and strive for success."

BRIAN KESSELRING - CLASS OF 1995



He is one of the top military pilots in the world. Period.

CDR Brian C. Kesselring, a 1995 Fargo South graduate, was designated a Naval Aviator in August 2003. Following fighter jet training, CDR Kesselring served with several squadrons, trained aircrew at the Navy Fighter Weapons School, also known as TOPGUN, and completed combat deployments in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, and Inherent Resolve.

At the time of his nomination, CDR Kesselring had more than 3,900 flight hours, 812 carrier arrested landings, over 120 combat missions, and has received numerous medals and awards. He earned a master's degree in national security strategy from the Naval War College. Kesselring serves as the Blue Angels' commander, leading a team of 141 members serving as ambassadors to the Navy and Marines.

"His work ethic is an inspiration to all who know him," says Navy CDR Daniel K. O'Hara. "He fully immerses himself into any task and sees to its completion, no matter how large or small the effort required may be. There is no challenge Brian cannot overcome." Under CDR Kesselring's guidance, the Blue Angels acquired its first fleet of F/A-18E Super Hornets, replacing the flight demonstration team's aging legacy F/A-18 Hornets. Navy officials called it a momentous step in the group's transition.

CDR Kesselring graduated from Concordia College with majors in physics, mathematics, and business, while also competing in basketball and track and field. At Fargo South, he was an all-conference performer in basketball and track and field and led the Bruins to a state track title. He attended Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, where he earned his commission as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy in March 2001.

CDR Kesselring is a "model Naval officer worthy of recognition as one of Fargo South High School's finest alumni," Navy CDR Todd G. Royles says.



FARGO NORTH HIGH SCHOOL 2021 HALL OF FAME RECIPIENTS



Membership in the North High School Hall of Fame consists of graduates, advisors/coaches, and other individuals who have made exceptional contributions to North High School.



KIRSTEN LIES-WARFIELD - CLASS OF 1990

Kirsten graduated from North High in 1990. She and her siblings were drafted by their music teacher father into every music ensemble the schools offered. Starting in elementary school through high school, she received music training in the piano, cello, and trombone. While at North, Kirsten earned All State recognition in Band and Orchestra as a sophomore, junior, and senior, along with Outstanding Performance Awards for solo and ensemble events during the State Music Festival in 1990. She was a Fargo Moorhead Symphony cellist from 1988-1990, and recipient of the Chris Wagner Award from the Fargo North Music Department in 1990.

After high school graduation, Kirsten attended Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin where she earned a Bachelor of Music Degree in 1994. She continued her preparation by earning a master's degree from Indiana University in 1997. While working on her doctoral studies, she won a position with the U.S. Army Band in Washington, D.C. In 1999, Kirsten became the first female trombonist ever hired by the organization. When she retired from the unit, she then took the lead in running the National Solo Competition from 2009-2017.

Her performance credits include White House ceremonies for the Queen of England, Pope Benedict, the King of Jordan, and the Presidents of Mexico, India, France, and others. She also performed at the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, was a part of Operation Noble Eagle at the Pentagon 9-11 crash site, and has served the Advisory Board of the International Trombone Association.

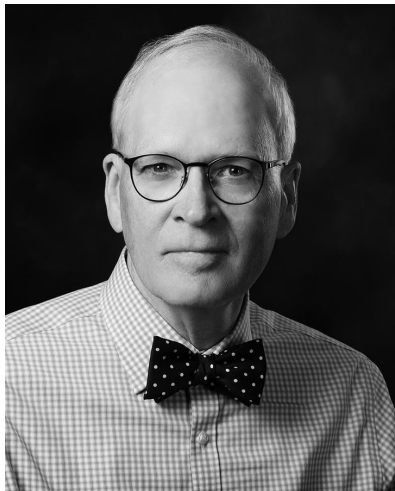
PAUL MEYERS - CLASS OF 1967/FACULTY

A lifelong resident of Fargo, Paul graduated from North High School in 1967. As a student, Paul was active in the Speech and Drama Clubs, earning distinction as Outstanding Debater at the ND State Tournament and as a member of the two-time State Debate Championship teams. He was also active in the Student Council and Key Club. Paul attended Moorhead State College (now MSUM), where he served in the Student Senate, was active in the Blackfriars Theatre Organization, and was a part of numerous university theatre productions, as well as the MSUM Straw Hat players. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech, Theatre, and English. He also completed a master's degree at Goddard College.



After college, Paul joined the teaching staff at North High, where he taught English, drama, and journalism. He held leadership assignments as advisor to the Spartan Scroll and director of theatre productions. From 1971 to 1978, Spartan performers earned six State One-Act Play titles. The Spartan Scroll earned many state and regional awards, along with a George H. Gallup Award as an Outstanding High School Newspaper. Paul was recognized as the Student Council Teacher of the Year in 1977.

After his student and teaching experiences at North High, Paul pursued multiple entrepreneurial and business opportunities, and continued his service to the school system as a member of the Fargo School Board. Since 1991, Paul has worked as a Financial Advisor with the offices of Merrill Lynch and Smith Barney. In 2010, he started Legacy Wealth Management, an independent financial advisory firm, with offices in Fargo and Bismarck. He also has weekly radio and television programs, which extend his work into neighboring states.



DAVID MIDGARDEN - FACULTY

David has been a lifelong resident of Moorhead, MN, graduating from high school in 1969. He attended Moorhead State College (now MSUM), earning a degree in English education in 1973. During his senior year, David student taught at Fargo North High School; during the following summer, he was hired by the Fargo Public Schools to teach seventh and ninth grade English at Ben Franklin Junior High School.

During his tenure at Ben Franklin Junior High, he developed a journalism course, which produced a school newspaper as well as a collection of other publications. His unassuming leadership style and general appeal among the students became a natural fit for advising many student clubs in addition to serving as the English Department Chair for many years. In 1985, David was awarded the FPS Celebration of Excellence Award.

In the fall of 2007, with Fargo Public Schools changing the grade configuration in the middle and high schools, David moved along with the ninth graders to North High. His connection with the students remained as strong as ever and he was selected the Student Council Teacher of the Year for the 2007-08 school year. David's reputation as a caring and effective educator was further recognized with his being selected the Fargo Public Schools Teacher of the Year in 2014.

Following his retirement in 2019, David has found added time for his leisure treasures, which include gardening, drawing, reading, and playing the piano.

BETH SANNER - 1981

A 1981 graduate of North High School, Beth was inspired by some of the school's exceptional teachers in Social Studies and English which led to her interest and success in speech. Ultimately, she earned a Top-30 national ranking. In 1979, she won the State Extemporaneous title; in 1980, she and a partner won the ND State Debate Tournament; in 1981, she finished second in the State Original Oratory contest. She was also active in music and drama.

Beth earned a bachelor's degree in Economics and International Affairs from American University in Washington, D.C. She is a Distinguished Graduate of the National War College, earning a Master of Science Degree in National Security Strategy.

Professionally, Beth became one of the most recognized leaders in the U.S. Intelligence Community with 35 years of service in leadership, staff, policy, and analytic positions. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the CIA, National Security Council, and the U.S. Dept. of State were among her workplaces. She has provided briefing expertise to President Clinton, President George W. Bush, Vice President Biden, and President Trump. Her most recent assignment was as Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Mission Integration. Beth has received numerous awards, including the Intelligence Community's Superior Service Award.



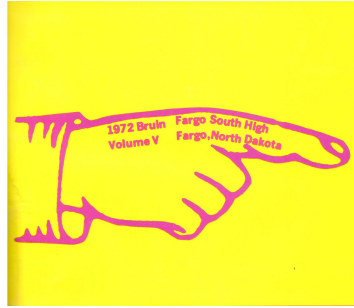
UPCOMING REUNIONS

FARGO SOUTH CLASS OF 1972 JULY 8, 2022

Save the date for the 50th Re-Union!

Gathering will take place 5:00 p.m. at Sidestreet Grille & Pub, 404 4th Ave North, Fargo.

For more information [click here](#) to check out the Fargo South High School Class of 1972 Facebook Page.



FARGO NORTH CLASS OF 1972 JULY 15-17, 2022

Save the date!

A great weekend will be planned. Hope everyone can join. Fifty years has been

a long time there is much to share and get caught up on. Plan for the whole weekend - lots of things to do and see in Fargo these days.

For updates and to reach out to your classmates [click here](#) and check out the Fargo North High Class of 1972 Facebook Page, request to join if not a member yet.



FARGO SOUTH CLASS OF 1977 JULY 22, 2022

Class of 1977 is in the process of planning their 45th reunion!

Save the date for July 22, 2022. The reunion will take place at Rose Creek, 1500 East Rose Creek Pkwy South, Fargo.

Stay tuned and watch for more information on at the [Alumni Network](#) page on the Fargo Public Schools Foundation web-page.



FARGO SOUTH CLASS OF 1991 JULY 23, 2022

After postponing the reunion the Class of 1991 30th reunion is re-scheduled for July 23, 2022.

For more information [click here](#) for the Fargo South High Class of 1991 Facebook Page.



FARGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS REUNIONS

Hello Alumni!

If you have an upcoming or held a 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



2021 REUNIONS

FARGO NORTH CLASS OF 1980

REUNION HELD

JUNE 25-26, 2021



FARGO NORTH CLASS OF 1971

50TH REUNION HELD

AUG 7, 2021



REMEMBERING THOSE WE HAVE LOST

We will always cherish our alumni, teachers, administrators, and FPS staff that have been lost. We have provided a space to memorialize those who have passed at the Alumni Network webpage.



Obituaries are listed for those who attended and worked at Fargo Public Schools. Go to the Alumni Network page at the Fargo Public Schools Foundation web-site, or click on the links below.

[Fargo Central High School](#)

[Fargo Davies High School](#)

[Fargo North High School](#)

[Fargo South High School](#)

[Woodrow Wilson High School](#)

[Fargo Public Schools Staff](#)

Please note that the Alumni Network website list includes updates reported by family, friends, newspapers and other sources. It may not be all inclusive of all those that have been lost.

If you have a remembrance you would like us to post please contact us at fpsfound@fargo.k12.nd.us.

FARGO SOUTH CLASS OF 1981 40TH REUNION HELD JULY 9-10, 2021



Fargo South Class of 1981 donated \$2,081 to the Fargo South Critical Needs Program. This donation will enable school staff at Fargo South High School to respond quickly and quietly to students that they see in need and to students who ask for help.

This program provides school supplies, food for emergency cupboard situations, hygiene supplies, and other items to support the emotional, physical, and educational well-being of students.



YOU CAN IMPACT A STUDENT'S LIFE!

DONATE AT THE FARGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION WEB-SITE.



CRITICAL NEEDS PROGRAM

The Critical Needs Program is organized to ensure that each and every student who needs help with basic needs receives support.



INNOVATIVE EDUCATION, MUSIC & LITERACY GRANTS

Innovative education, music, and literacy grants are available to provide classroom resources for innovative educational and literacy projects.



SCHOLARSHIPS

The Foundation administers scholarships on behalf of community businesses, families, and organizations.



DESIGNATED & PROJECT FUNDS

The Foundation assists with special fundraising and school programs, and collects designated school donations throughout the year.

UPDATES FROM ALUMNI

TIM ROSENDAHL~ FARGO NORTH, 1972

Lots of great memories from my North Fargo education. I wouldn't trade it for the world. Fargo is a great place to live.

BELINDA (ANDERSON) BENSON~ FARGO NORTH, 1971

Married since July 3, 1971. Have 2 children, 7 grandchildren, and 1 great grandson. Worked for life & health insurance companies as a system analyst for 40 years. Continues to live in Fargo.

ROBERT OMBERG~ FARGO SOUTH, 1969

Was with the group that experienced the 1966 fire (Central, North, South)! Graduated in 1969, went on to North Dakota State College of Science for electrical. Owned locksmith business since 1987. Now semi-retired.

BILL EGINTON~ FARGO NORTH, 1971

Currently lives in North Little Rock, Arkansas with his wife, Rachel. Bill is still collecting records and owns Arkansas Record & CD Exchange, which is going strong in it's 37th year of business. He's pictured with his granddaughter, Lily, in their finest purple attire.



PAUL HALVERSON~ FARGO NORTH, 1982

Living and working in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Currently a Senior Certified Pharmacy Technician working for Walgreen Co. Married and have two grown children.

BRAD BOWKER~ FARGO CENTRAL, 1957

Industrial Engineer in supply chain management.

DR. RICHARD WARNER~ RETIRED ADMINISTRATOR

BRIAN KESSELING~ FARGO SOUTH, 1995



Dr. Warner, retired Fargo South High School Principal, was inducted into the Fargo South Hall of Fame in 2005. Dr. Warner got to meet up with Brian Kesseling, inducted into the Fargo South Hall of Fame this year.



GIFTS IN HONOR, CELEBRATION, OR MEMORY OF SOMEONE SPECIAL

HONOR A MEMORY

A memorial donation provides the opportunity to make a donation in memory of a loved one or friend. When an "in memory" gift is received, the Fargo Public Schools Foundation will send a card to the family letting them know that you have honored their loved one's memory with a meaningful gift, amount is not noted.

GIVE A GIFT BY GIVING

Instead of presents or flowers, honor someone special with a donation to the Fargo Public Schools Foundation. Honor alumni, loved ones or anyone special with a donation. Recognize birthdays, anniversaries, promotions, retirement, achievements, or any special occasion. We will send a card with a meaningful message to the honoree, amount is not noted.

Go to the [Fargo Public Schools Foundation](#) web-site to honor someone today.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE HERE



**November 29
-THROUGH-
December 13**

Watch for the Fargo Public Schools Foundation in the upcoming FM Area Foundation Caring Catalog. Support the Milk & Elementary Snack Program. Through this program students receive nutrition that help to meet their basic needs, so the students are in the best place possible to be able to learn.

- \$10 provides 28 cartons of milk
- \$30 provides one semester of milk for a student
- \$50 provides snacks for a year for a student
- \$100 provides snacks for a year for two students



Mission~

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



twitter.com/FPSFoundation



[www.facebook.com/
FPSAlumniNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/FPSAlumniNetwork)



instagram.com/fps_foundation/

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Coordinator

Phone: 701.446.1041

Email: fpsfound@fargo.k12.nd.us
www.fargoschoolsfoundation.org

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Your holiday shopping can help make a different, at no additional cost to you!

Just remember to shop at smile.amazon.com, or in the Amazon app with AmazonSmile turned ON within Settings, and they will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases (at no extra cost to you).

You can select Fargo Public Schools Development Foundation as your AmazonSmile charity by visiting: smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1733797.