

“Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.”

- Dr. Seuss



This past Labor Day the 1971 class of Archbishop Alter High School celebrated its 40th class reunion, and I am proud to say I was a graduate of this class. Although unified through our common experience and known as the Alter Class of 71', it is quite obvious each of the 320 graduates has had their own path and journey since graduation. Some have moved to places distant; some stayed in their hometown. There are those with distinguished careers, and those who have been challenged through calamity. But many things we shared in high school, and the experiences we happily remember and laugh about formed the connection that now is important, and what makes reunions so much fun. Classmates who at one time had difficulty speaking or interacting with another now understand any jealousies and pettiness of youth were insignificant and sometimes selfish. Time has made us wiser, and some things of great importance in high school are really not so important after all.

The 40th anniversary of my high school graduation has also reminded me of how fleeting the years at school are, yet how these years imprint our lives. I love watching the development and progression of students throughout their years at Bishop Leibold School. I enjoy recollecting our current 8th graders in their third grade year, my first year as principal at BLS. At the crossroad of remembering my own school days and experiencing them anew with our students, recently I've thought back on a movie I enjoyed, "The Ultimate Gift" and its premise that there are twelve gifts we must possess to live a rewarding life. Work, Money, Learning, Friends, Learning, Problems, Family, Laughter, Dreams, A Day, Gratitude, Giving, and the ultimate gift – Love – are gifts I hope my classmates have experienced in the past 40 years, and that our students will gain along their paths.

Looking back on the events of the past 40 years since high school makes me smile, as Dr. Seuss recommends. I smile remembering the experiences of my days at Alter High School; the vocational grandness of being a classroom teacher, coach and administrator; the fruits of a beautiful marriage; the joys of parenthood. I recall with thanks many happy family events, the fun-filled times officiating football and the people I have gotten to know. I am blessed in the growth of my Catholic faith, and grateful in the overwhelming happiness of being principal of Bishop Leibold School.

Yours in Catholic Education,



Paul Beyerle, Principal

School Happenings

We Welcome Our New Teachers!



Erica Hicks, PreSchool, Pre-K, and Kinder Kids. “I chose to teach in a Catholic School for the opportunity to feed a child’s mind, body and soul,” says Mrs. Hicks. “I’ve been impressed with Bishop Leibold School thus far. BLS has a focus on children like none I’ve ever seen. The Team spirit between teachers, staff, students, families and parishes is unmatched.” Mrs. Hicks has a B.S. from Wright State University and her experience includes Pre-K, K and director at The Goddard School.

Katie Patton, Art, Grades 1-8. Miss Patton is a 2009 graduate of the University of Dayton, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with Arts Education licensure. Previously, she taught in South Bend, Indiana at St. Joseph Grade School. Miss Patton says, “I’m very excited to be part of this school and watch our BLS students grow creatively! I am looking forward to starting an Art Club, and perhaps a school wide Art Show. I immediately felt welcome in the BLS Family. The students are delightful to work with, and I appreciate their obvious creative energy.”



Blessing of the Animals



In October, we gathered for our traditional “Blessing of the Animals” to observe the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. We prayed together to thank God for his gift of Creation and the wonderful natural elements he put here for our use and enjoyment, and sang songs of Thanksgiving for the animals God has made. Father blessed all our pets, those brought by our parents and those at home, and we asked God to watch over them

and keep them safe. Father Tom’s dog Daisy was excited about all the animal guests, but very well-behaved during the blessing. When we sang “Bishop Leibold Had Some Pets” Daisy howled when we barked like dogs in the song, because we really did sound like dogs!

BLS Recognized for Excellence in STEM Education



The Ohio Academy of Science selected Bishop Leibold School, and four of our teachers, Beth Allaire, Melissa Cox, Joyce Kerschner and Roseanne Place to receive *The Governor's Thomas Edison Award for Excellence in STEM Education* in the 2010-2011 school year. The Ohio Academy of Science selected 48 Ohio schools for this award. Five Ohio schools achieved the highest ranking score of 10. Bishop Leibold scored a 9, and was the only Dayton-area grade school to do so.

To receive the award, schools had (1) to conduct a local science fair with 20 or more students, (2) qualify one or more of these students for one of the Academy's 15 district science days, (3) have students participate in at least one more youth science opportunity beyond the classroom such as State Science Day, visits to museums, mentorship programs and extended field trips and (4) convince external reviewers from business and industry, government and academia how and to what extent the school's program met the Academy's definition of STEM education. Included in the science activities in which Bishop Leibold School regularly participates are a partnership with COSI, the Columbus-based science museum; ScienceF.E.S.T., our annual free evening of experimentation and exploration; and QUEST, the afterschool Math and Science Enrichment Program for grades 4-8. The school also sponsors a Summer Science Camp, and a Summer Robotics Camp.

Skating Party

Once a quarter, our PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) sponsors a School Skating Party and we look forward to gathering as families at ROMAR Skating Rink in Germantown. The parents love catching up and seeing how everyone is growing, the children enjoy visiting each other outside of school, and all love watching the skating to "YMCA" (with all the arm motions!)



WHIO Channel 7 Newscaster Cheryl McHenry Visits BLS



Our 7th Graders had a real treat this fall when newscaster Cheryl McHenry came to school and spoke to the students on the importance of mastering writing skills and how to write for clarity and accuracy. Ms. McHenry also spoke to the students about the careers of journalism and broadcasting, and answered all sorts of student questions about her career, TV advertising, and behind-the-scenes aspects of reporting and the Channel 7 newscasts.

Profile: Tim Borchers, Bishop Leibold Alumnus

We were lucky to catch up with BLS '02 Alumnus Tim Borchers, home in Dayton from his Bike & Build summer of cross-country biking and volunteer home building, and just before his move to Wooster, Ohio to begin work in industrial engineering for Frito-Lay. We wanted to ask Tim about his travels in service and the influence of his Catholic education on his adult life.

Why don't you begin by telling us about Bike & Build and how you became involved with this program?

In the summer of 2010, Bike & Build had a team pass through Dayton and Sinclair Community College, where my mom works. Knowing how I love biking and that living in an old house with plenty of repair projects has made me a better handyman, she suggested I look into Bike & Build. I did, and learned that this organization raises funds and awareness of affordable housing efforts. Each year teams of volunteers travel by bicycle across North America and stop in hundreds of communities, where they meet with local residents, give presentations about housing issues, and volunteer with local housing groups to actually build homes for folks in each of these communities. It sounded like an adventure of a lifetime. I started working with local organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, learned more about affordable housing efforts, working to meet this challenge physically, and raising money to make this trip.

Please tell us what you learned on this trip, and what you will always remember.

Well, our group biked over 4,100 miles from South Carolina to Santa Cruz. The hours on the road, being outdoors, the things we saw -- well, it would be hard to describe all that, but I will say it was awesome. In the end, for me it was much more than raising awareness and giving back, it was about the people I met. I was taken aback about the people involved in this effort; the bikers were just about the greatest kids I've ever met. The amount of volunteer effort in coordinating the biking was impressive: arranging for our stops, presentations, places to sleep and the movement of gear for 31 bikers. I learned much about cooperation



and respect by living for months with the same 31 people. And it was always cool to see what this group could accomplish on a house -- be it framing, flooring, drywalling, siding, painting -- in a day or two.

It was rewarding to be able to spend a little time with the families we were helping out and see what this home was going to mean to them, especially the kids. For many people without high income, 60% of their paycheck is spent on housing. And for many people, it just takes one bad thing to happen to them -- most of the time not their fault -- for them to become homeless. I remember in particular a little kid named Ian, who's maybe in the third grade, walking around the framed home and saying, "And this will be our living room. We can put the couch here," and mentally getting settled in his new home. I've certainly learned not to be quick to jump to conclusions about another's situation; we don't know the whole story behind their hardship. And I definitely am more grateful for the advantages I've had in my own upbringing and education.

Do you think your Catholic Education had anything to do with your volunteerism now?

At Bishop Leibold, we always had service projects in school, and I remember doing things like picking up trash, collecting money to help others, and helping my parents in service they were involved in. I remember working on Key Club projects at Alter High School, and as I got older, served with Dayton Right to Life, The Dayton Area Diabetes Association and Leukodystrophy Foundation. Service just seemed a natural part of growing up; I never think back and define it as "This was service." It was never a big deal and just something you did, and maybe that's what they were trying to teach us.

A New Garden for Enjoyment, Learning and Prayer



This fall, the students in Preschool through 3rd Grade established a garden for the West Campus, and as is often the case with many wonderful projects, the seed of an idea was blessed to receive support from several community organizations, businesses and individuals.

The idea for a West Campus Garden started with Ann Bale, Kindergarten teacher, who hoped the two lots purchased by Our Lady of Good Hope Parish could be used for learning and prayer as well as play. "I wrote a grant to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for a Wild School Site Grant," relates Mrs. Bale. "My objective was to have students involved in planting, maintenance, and appreciation of the garden. The plants were designed to attract wildlife, particularly birds and butterflies. The faculty was excited when we were awarded the grant, as they saw many curriculum connections in reading, math, science, and religion."

Mrs. Bale's idea of a garden for the Kindergarten grew to gardens for each of the West Campus grades due to some very helpful individuals and organizations. A BLS alumnus, interested in building these gardens for his Eagle Project, worked with Mrs. Bale to understand the plan and research raised garden boxes, and then developed a project that included layout, materials, costs, schedule and a plan for volunteers. The Scout met with Mr. Marvin Duren of Marvin's Organic Gardens in Lebanon, who provided valuable information and donated the compost soil and plants to start the gardens. The scout next recruited members of Troop 248 and Alter High School's Key Club, and a few adults to measure and mark the plots, cut the wood and build the 8 x 4' cedar boxes, dig and level the areas where the boxes were to be set, and move the boxes to their final positions. Marvin's Organic Gardens delivered the compost soil in a dump truck, and the scout managed the filling of the garden boxes with the soil, and provided signs designating each grade's garden as their own. The project totaled over 220 man hours, and is a fine example of the service and leadership needed to fulfill the requirements of Scouting's highest award.

The Campus Planting took place on a beautiful September day, and Mr. Wes Duren of Marvin's Organic Gardens spent the day with us, instructing the students on each type of planting, its name, its purpose, and its care. The students had a wonderful time getting the plants off to a good start. The PreSchool & Pre-K Garden features bulbs, evergreens, sunflowers, and mums. The Kindergarten garden has perennials that attracts birds and butterflies, and will be dedicated to St. Francis, the Kindergarten's special saint. The First Grade garden now has bulbs planted, with sunflowers planned for the spring. Perennials and plants for their curriculum are the choice of the Second Grade, and the Third Grade chose to have a Prayer Garden. Their garden will be dedicated to Our Blessed Mother Mary, who is their special saint with their devotion to The Rosary. We thank all who helped this idea blossom, and look forward to reporting back on the progress of our garden, and on the special devotions and learning occurring there.

Eighth Grade Math at BLS

“Even though it’s one subject, it is applied to many others.”



This was the response when we asked an 8th Grader to explain how math is taught throughout the course of their school week. In order to find out what that meant, we followed the 8th Graders to see how mathematics was taught at their level.

The starting point was Math Class, where the students are studying probability. Aside from the expected principles, terms and equations that govern this area of math study, students were using graphing calculators to plot collected data points on a coordinate plane. On this day, a special focus was presenting data in graph form, and a lesson on how to present data clearly, so it is not misleading. The students are aware their upcoming science fair projects will involve a visual presentation of data collected through their experimentation, and will be held to the standard of these lessons. “Probability and graphing are great areas for students to see real-life applications; they become more aware of these applications around them as we go through these units. I’m excited to see them realize there are practical applications, and their discovery that there really is a point to it,” says 8th Grade math

teacher Joyce Kerschner.

Even in 8th Grade Art, the students are applying math in the study grid drawing, a replication technique of an original artwork by utilizing grid framing of small segments. Original artwork, divided by a grid, is redrawn one segment at a time into the scaled grid of the new piece. This technique is particularly useful when proportion is important, and correct scaling is integral to its success.

For those students taking “Financing Your Future” as an 8th Grade elective, math of course is an important tool in improving financial literacy. From evaluating risk and benefits; weighing the risk, payout and availability of savings vs. investment; calculating compound interest and learning about “The Rule of 72”; and understanding credit cards and borrowing principles. Every one of the nine sessions in this elective has mathematics at the core of financial evaluation.

Following the students into their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) session, we apply lessons learned in geometry to better understand the principles of flight. Students are working in teams to engineer, test, and redesign air vehicles to meet mission goals. Calculations of area, perimeter and density are refreshed and become critical to their mission. In the second quarter, the 8th Graders’ work with submersibles will call upon these same concepts. “If we are preparing students for the future, critical thinking will need to be part of that process,” says Beth Allaire, the 8th Grade STEM Instructor. “The students have been taught the concepts in classroom instruction. When they get into STEM, they have the tool of knowledge, but they don’t always see how it applies to the problem at hand. Here we refresh and embed that knowledge by providing the platform for application. Materials, tools, teammates, and time are provided to relate learning to a design issue.”

One 8th Grader told us, “If we don’t understand it, our teachers don’t give up. And they make sure we know it well!” As it relates to math, it appears that “making sure they know it well” means teaching it in multiple applications. And as it turns out, here at BLS as in the real world, math is in use just about everywhere!

School Spirit & Connectivity through Summer Camps



Soccer Camp

The first-ever Soccer Camp kicked off with a prayer from Father Shearer, and then the games began! The women athletes from Alter and Fenwick, along with members of the coaching staffs from their men's and women's teams, worked with about 50 BLS student athletes. The high schools alternated over the four-evening camp to introduce and practice skills, run drills and short scrimmages, and get in shape for the season. "After last season, while discussing how much we enjoyed coaching watching our athletes develop as a team, had the idea a clinic together for them," related the dads who began the clinic. "We wanted to provide an opportunity to learn more about the game of soccer from the experts. The Alter and Fenwick involvement was just tremendous. It was a perfect way to get the kids ready and excited for the fall season."

Summer Science Camp

About 100 campers and student aides joined in the BLS tradition of hands-on science activities and exploration, games, songs, and math fun! The campers explored areas of science with themes for each of the five mornings of camp: Get into Engineering, God's Great Outdoors, Fun with Flight, Cool Chemistry, and Science Fun Finale. The students, who were entering Grades 1-3 in the fall, had a great time learning and getting together with classmates over the summer.



Cheerleading Camp

The cheerleaders had a two-morning clinic this summer where they learned new cheers, chants, and a dance. The camp was guided by the older cheerleaders who instructed, demonstrated and showed the new cheerleaders what The Eagle Spirit is about! The girls had a good time working in a multi-grade group, and even escaped the August heat with some swimming!

Robotics Camp

Engaging their robot in friendly competitions with other robots and performing fun challenges was the goal of each two-person engineering team! Using Lego® Mindstorms Robotics systems, 45 students and aides learned to program and engineer task-specific robots. This popular camp is held in two sessions, in which students enjoy honing critical thinking and troubleshooting skills.



Linked to Leibold...

The members of the BLS Class of 2007 recognized at their 2011 Archbishop Alter High School Graduation:

Kelli Ames Kiwanis Award, Academic Team, Peer Ministry, Student Ambassador, Kairos Leader, Treasurer for Student Council, Shin-Dig Coordinator of Key Club, Co-President of both Spanish Club & Horizons in Medicine, Honor Code Award • **Kelsey Auditore** Kairos Leadership, Peer Ministry, Student Ambassador, Honor Code Award, Athletic Hall of Excellence • **Amanda Booth** Honor Role Award • **Bryan Castle** Book Club • **Courtney Christie** Office Aide, Kairos Leader, Peer Minister, Athletic Hall of Excellence • **Whitney Dabbelt** Kairos Leader, Peer Minister, Honor Code Award, Athletic Hall of Excellence • **Abby Grimes** Peer Ministry • **Lauren Guerriero** Conservatory of the Arts, Liturgical Choir, SMART TEAM, Senior Music Award, National School Marching Band Award, Robert A. Black Scholarship, Honor Code Award • **Sara Hecht** Kairos Leader, Student Ambassador, Honor Code Award • **Justin Howard** Kairos Leader, Honor Code Award • **Alexandra Imsande** Kairos Leadership, Student Ambassador • **Tori Kistner Kacie** and **Tom Hausfeld** Scholarship, Student Ambassador • **Korinne Lachey** Kairos Leadership, Peer Ministry • **Tyler Miller** Athletic Hall of Excellence • **Jessica Neville** Technology Club, Honor Code Award • **Keaton Pieper** Kairos Leadership, Athletic Hall of Excellence • **Nikki Puthoff** Top Ten in Senior Class, Award for Outstanding Service, Anime Club Secretary, National Honor Society, Honor Code Award, Athletic Hall of Excellence, Four-Year Key Club • **Kathryn Reinstatler** Liturgical Choir, Senior Music Award, Honor Code Award, President of Creative Writing Club • **Kathryn Sandoval** Honor Code Award, Peer Ministry • **Molly Van Oss** Office Aide, Athletic Hall of Excellence • **Daniel Walsh** Academic Team, Drama Club, National Honor Society, Peer Ministry • **Sarah Weidner** Peer Minister, Student Ambassador, Athletic Hall of Excellence • **Morgan Witt** Office Aide, Athletic Hall of Excellence

The members of the BLS Class of 2007 recognized at their 2011 Bishop Fenwick High School Graduation:

Kelsey Bignell Fenwick Ambassador Award, Honor Roll Pin • **Samuel Bolam** Honors Diploma, State of Ohio; Award of Merit, State of Ohio; Honor Roll Pin • **Jessica Bunn** Xi Lambda Pi Music Award, Excellence & High Average in Accounting Award, President's Award for Academic Achievement • **Zachary Cottongim**, Honor Roll Pin • **Patrick Crane** Sebald Business Award, JP Morgan Business Award, Award of Merit, State of Ohio, KARRP scholarship; Excellence & High Average in Accounting Award, No demerits for 4 years, Honor Roll Pin, Senior Class Rep • **Mark Davidson** The Charles R. Hook Foundation Citizenship Award; Senior Government Award; Excellence and Support in the Area of Technology; President's Award for Academic Achievement; Honor Roll Pin; Award for no demerits for 4 years. • **Madeline Garnica** TACCLD scholarship; President's Award for Academic Achievement; Honor Roll Pin; Kodros Memorial Award • **Gregory Gearhart** Honors Diploma, State of Ohio; Certificate for 4 years of Spanish • **Theresa Gilmore** Fenwick Ambassador Award; the Ray & Kitty Kelly Memorial Award for the "spirit of Kairos", Honors Diploma, State of Ohio; Award of Merit, State of Ohio; 5 years of Spanish Certificate; Honor Roll Pin; Award for no demerits for 4 years; Senior Class President • **Adam Griffith** Hook Foundation Citizenship Award, Honors Diploma, State of Ohio; Award of Merit, State of Ohio; Certificate 4 years of Spanish; Honor Roll Pin; Outstanding Mock Trial Student • **Zackary Hart** Honor Roll Pin • **Brandon Head** Wolke Technology Award; Sycamore Hospital Teen Scholarship; Excellence and Support in the Area of Technology; Honor Roll Pin; Award for no demerits for 4 years • **Tyler Helfferich** Contemporary American Issues Award • **Ashley Hinkel** Award of Merit, State of Ohio; Completion of 5 years of Spanish Certificate; Honor Roll Pin; Award for no demerits for 4 years • **David Kesselem** Spellmire Memorial Business Award; Moraine Country Club Golf Caddy Scholarship; Excellence and Support in the Area of Technology • **Alex Kuntz** Mary Knox Memorial Award for Excellence in Art; Honors Diploma, State of Ohio; Award of Merit, State of Ohio; Honor Roll Pin • **Eric LaGasse** Honors Diploma, State of Ohio • **Evan Ludwig** Honor Roll Pin • **Michael Orr** Kiwanis Golden Rule Award; Honors Diploma, State of Ohio; Award of Merit, State of Ohio; Honor Roll Pin • **Wesley Weber** Wolke Technology Award; Honors Diploma, State of Ohio; Award of Merit, State of Ohio; Team; Certificate for 4 years of Spanish; Excellence in Technology; Honor Roll Pin; Award for no demerits for 4 years.

If you have news about a BLS graduate, please share it with members of the Bishop Leibold Family; we would love to hear from you!



LEIBOLD LINK

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