# IN THE NEWS





Alumni Newsletter December 2023

# **GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT WEGHER'S SELECTS APPLICANTS FOR HIS STUDENT ADVISORY GROUP



A few weeks ago, Interim Superintendent Michael Wegher gave students the chance to apply to be a part of the Superintendent's Student Advisory group. More than 60 students applied for the group with 15 being selected as part of it. The goal of the SSA is to give students a voice in making the district a better place for them and their peers.

The group is made up of students from the middle and high school level, with each school in the district having representatives.

In a letter to the district, Interim Supt. Wegher said, "I am calling out for student leaders that want to serve Taylor School District in a new and unique way. As a school leader, I have always believed that students need to have a voice in what happens in their schools. As a high school principal, I created a Student Advisory Team."

He continues, "That team took a very active role in the leadership processes of the school. Now that I am sitting in a different role as interim superintendent, I am seeing the need to include student voice into the leadership of the entire school district."

Once the application deadline passed, submissions were reviewed by Interim Supt. Wegher. He then surprised students in their classrooms with a letter notifying them of their acceptance into the committee and he shared what the next steps were.

"Now that we have our SSA group chosen, I will be meeting with them regularly to talk about challenges they may be facing in school, ideas that they may have to improve what we are doing as a district and to celebrate anything that we're currently doing well," he said. "Student voice is something that's extremely important to me, and I'm excited for the great things to come with the students that were chosen."

# EARLY ENROLLMENT NUMBERS PROMISING FOR THE DISTRICT



Oct. 4 was the State of Michigan's Fall Count Day, the day where districts around Michigan tally the number of students who attend their schools. ...continued on page 2...

...continued from page 1...Each student in our district on count day translates to funding for programming, staffing and resources to ensure your child has the tools they need in order to be successful.

Today, our enrollment numbers are promising. They are trending upwards, with our enrollment numbers currently sitting at 5,455 students.

"Declining enrollment is a challenge that schools both in Michigan and across the country are experiencing," says Interim Supt. Wegher. "So the fact that our numbers are pointing in a positive direction is a very encouraging thing for our district."

Thank you to our students and their parents for making sure our classrooms were filled on Oct.4 so that our district is able to provide them with the tools they need to excel in the classroom.

# MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO THE THEATER OUTINGS

| CAROL ANDERS                      | TCH 62        |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>KATHLEEN &amp; JOHN BOWYER</b> | JFK 69/70     |
| CAROL CALDWELL                    | STAFF         |
| BRUCE/NOREEN DANIEL               | TCH 59        |
| SANDY KYTE                        | TCH 62        |
| LEE & BONNIE LEWIS                | STAFF         |
| NANCY/JOHN MYERS                  | JFK 68/JFK 66 |
| KATHY & TOM POOLE                 | STAFF         |
| VALERIE RABURN                    | JFK 70        |
| BILL RIGGS                        | TCH 60        |
| DAROLD SCHONSHECK                 | TCH 60        |
| MARCELLA SIELSKI                  | STAFF         |
| JAMES SOBIERAJ                    | TCH 75        |
| JUDITH MAYBERRY TICHY             | JFK 69        |
| SHARON VESPREMI                   | JFK 69        |

CAROL ANDERS, TCH 1962 sent us this message:



Dear Foundation, I was thrilled to read about this program you have for students to attend performances at the iconic Fisher theater. One of my fondest memories was going to BROADWAY PLAYS at the Fisher. My love for theater continues today because of those opportunities. Best wishes for a successful program and thank you for giving this opportunity.

THE FOUNDATION NEEDS MORE OF YOU TO CONTRIBUTE SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE THE PROGRAM



## **OBITUARIES**

The Alumni Association members would like to extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the former classmates mentioned below. You will forever be in our thoughts and prayers. Please Note: If you know of a deceased graduate that is not listed in the Memoriam section of our website, please let us know the name, school, graduating class and date of passing.

### HARRY S TRUMAN HIGH SCHOOL

• Jerry Hollenbeck, Class of 1975 (passed October 24, 2023)

### **TAYLOR CENTER HIGH SCHOOL**

- Ken Avery, Class of 1957 (passed (passed November 19, 2023)
- Phyllis Nichols Morgan, Class of 1961 (passed 2019)
- Wayne Cogdill, Class of 1963 (passed August 21, 2023)
- Judy Siedlik Duperron, Class of 1964 (passed November 2, 2023)
- Michael Cleaver, Class of 1972 (passed November 14, 2023)
- Lisa Martina Hayward, Class of 1979 (passed November 15, 2023)
- Jewell Hall, Class of 1980 (passed October 5, 2020)

#### <u>JOHN F KENNEDY</u>

- Roger Fisher, Class of 1972 (passed October 30, 2023)
- Kevin Johnstone, Class of 1974 (passed November 15, 2023)
- Kenneth Belitz, Class of 1980 (passed November 3, 2023)

#### <u>STAFF</u>

- Kate Capion, retired Elementary Teacher (passed November 7, 2023)
- Ken Avery, retired. Teacher, Coach, Athletic Director (passed November 19, 2023)
- Dan Greer, retired Secondary Music Instructor (passed November 19, 2023)

For more information about the deceased and their families, please visit tayloralumni.org and click on "In Memoriam".