

Enhance the educational atmosphere of the Taylor School District for both the graduates and the school district.

August 2016 Alumni Newsletter

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Taylor Alumni Association
11501 Beech Daly Road,
Taylor MI 48180
tayloralumni.org

LET'S GET TO KNOW OUR LEADERS



Linda Newsome

President of the Taylor Foundation for Public Schools

How fortunate we are to have a President with the qualifications Linda Newsome has. Linda a graduate of Marshall University, earned her Masters degree from Wayne State University. She

began her educational career as a Librarian at Glen Bernie High School in Maryland. She then moved to Michigan and started a long employment with the Ecorse Schools. Linda was highly thought of by the staff and was elected to the office of President of the Ecorse Federation of Teachers. She was also bestowed with several honors including: Teacher of the year and later at the 95th Anniversary of Ecorse Schools she was named one of the outstanding teachers in the school districts long history.

The Taylor School District has also been served well by Linda Newsome. Linda served on the Taylor School Board for more than 9 years and now in addition to being secretary of the Taylor Rotary, is President of the Taylor Public Schools Foundation.

The Taylor Alumni Association thanks Linda Newsome for her continued support to the Taylor School District. 📝

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Ben Williams

A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Taylor Alumni Association,
My name is Ben Williams and I am honored to serve as the new Superintendent of the Taylor School District. I began my work here as Superintendent on June 1, and was fortunate to have a few weeks of transition time with

Superintendent Diane Allen, who retired after 44 years of dedicated service to the district. I am originally from Arlington, VA but I grew up all over Europe. As a young child, I was fortunate to have lived in Cyprus, Germany, Greece, and Turkey. My father was a career diplomat in the US Foreign Service, and this experience afforded me a unique perspective on different cultures and schooling systems.

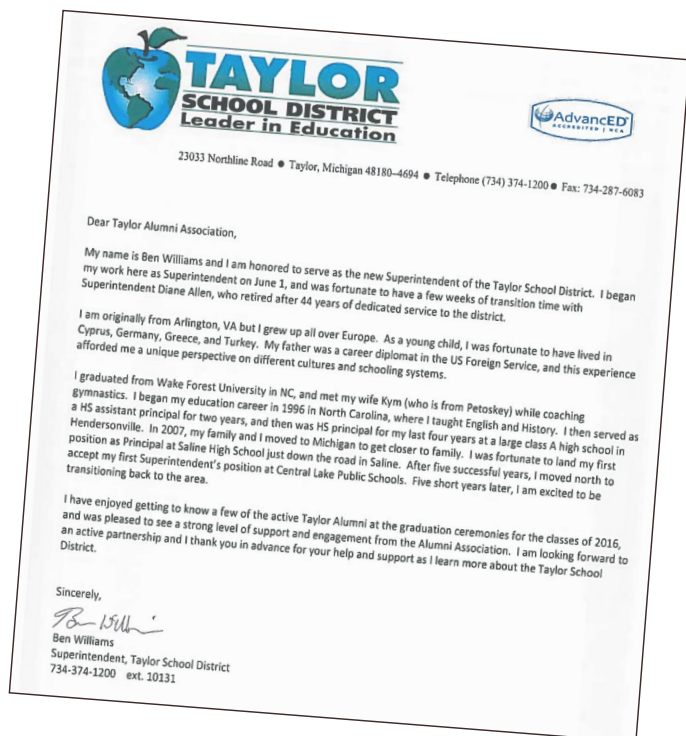
I graduated from Wake Forest University in NC, and met my wife Kym (who is from Petoskey) while coaching gymnastics. I began my education career in 1996 in North Carolina, where I taught English and History. I then served as a HS assistant principal for two years, and then was HS principal for my last four years at a large class A high school in Hendersonville. In 2007, my family and I moved to Michigan to get closer to family. I was fortunate to land my first position as Principal at Saline High School just down the road in Saline. After five successful years, I moved north to accept my first Superintendent’s position at Central Lake Public Schools. Five short years later, I am excited to be transitioning back to the area.

I have enjoyed getting to know a few of the active Taylor Alumni at the graduation

ceremonies for the classes of 2016, and was pleased to see a strong level of support and engagement from the Alumni Association. I am looking forward to an active partnership and I thank you in advance for your help and support as I learn more about the Taylor School District.

Sincerely, Ben Williams, Superintendent,
Taylor School District | 734-374-1200, ext.
10131.

The Taylor Alumni Association wishes Superintendent Williams all the best in his new position. ✍



ALUMNI NEWS!



The Alumni membership is on the raise

Why haven't you joined yet? Do it this minute--Help us become the biggest Alumni Association in the State. Here is all you have to do to become a Lifetime Member.

Send your name, school and year of graduation along with \$25 made payable to the Taylor Alumni Association and mail to the Taylor Alumni Association, 1150 Beech Daly Road, Taylor, MI 38180. It's that easy and you are then a lifetime member. ✍

Welcome to our new members.

Joseph Zaraka, JFK 1986

Ralph Babcock, TCH 1961

Gail Smith Hardin, JFK 1967

Janis Shevrovich Motsinger, TCH 1965

Michael Paone, TCH 1969

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF TAYLOR

Heritage Park - Improvements to an already beautiful Park


Splash Field - Two things young children love in the summertime, water & baseball, have been brought together in the all new Jeffrey Lamarand Splash Field. Children are having fun experimenting with the different features of the Splash Field, such as the huge baseball water buckets and the rotating baseball water guns.

Pavilion - The huge pavilion has been improved with new flooring, power and landscaping.

Inline Hockey Rink - It has been added behind the Sheridan Pavilion.


Heritage Park is one of the best city parks in the state. Stop by and see what it has to offer. 

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Farmers Market - The Farmer Market will be open every Friday at the pavilion in Heritage Park from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm until September 2nd. 

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Designed by TownMapsUSA.com

Taylor Conservatory - Music and art in the beautiful Taylor Conservatory continues every Wednesday start at 6:30 pm and until 8:30 pm admission is \$5. 

Concert Schedule

August 3rd Jazz Pianist Terry Lower Trio featuring vocalist Edye Evans Hyde


August 10th Vocal Group "Girls Night Out" featuring Truman Graduate Mary Boss Boonenbery.

August 17th Last Concert of the Year - Dave Bennett Quartet.

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS



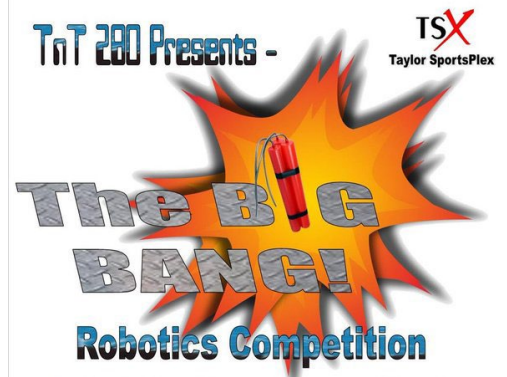
Farewell Assemblies


During this year's Farewell Assemblies at both high schools, thousands of dollars in scholarships were awarded. The Taylor Public Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence plays a large role during these celebrations each year. Each of the last three years the Foundation has awarded more scholarships and more money. Many individuals have donated scholarship money in their names. The Foundation's Scholarship Committee would like to help even more students. They are asking that you consider sponsoring a scholarship for any amount from \$250 and up. Money is a challenge for many of our graduates and every dollar helps. If interested, please contact the Foundation Scholarship Committee Chairman, Ken Nelson at 734-453-2776. 

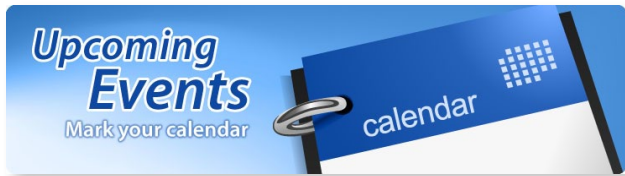
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Team TNT 280

Friday & Saturday July 8-9 Team "TNT" 280, Taylor's own robotics team, hosted a post season event 'THE BIG BANG' at the Taylor Sportsplex. Twenty six teams came from all over the USA & Canada to play "Stronghold"- a medieval game of conquest for robots old and new. Friday was an usual day of competition until a major storm took out the power. Without a moment's hesitation the robotics started working on a plan.



Through the efforts of numerous teams, volunteers, parents and guests the playing field was "lit" by halogen lights powered by a portable generator. What could have been a disaster evolved into one of the most challenging and extremely entertaining robot competition. The team and leader Joe Horth want to thank the Taylor community and officials for their generosity and help. 



- August 3rd Jazz Pianist Terry Lower Trio featuring vocalist Edve Evans Hyde.
- August 10th Vocal Group "Girls Night Out", featuring Truman Graduate Mary Boss Boonenberg.
- August 17th Last Concert of the Year - Dave Bennett Quartet.
- September 10th Truman Class of 1976 Reunion. Email Truman76reunion@gmail.com for more information.
- October 1st "Who was your favorite Taylor Center High School Teacher?" Saturday, October 1st we are going to honor every teacher that taught during the 44 years that Taylor Center High existed. Dean Elliott, TCH Class of 1977 wants to honor every teacher that taught at TCH from 1957 to 1994. For more information contact Dean at: dean@aboundinghope.com.
- October 15th-16th Kennedy Class of 76 Reunion. Call (734) 505-9925 for more information.
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DOO WOP OLDIES QUIZ

1. "I found my thrill" Where?
 - (a) A Kansas City
 - (b) Heartbreak Hotel
 - (c) Blueberry Hill
2. "Please turn on your magic beam _____
_____ bring me a dream".
 - (a) Mr. Sandman
 - (b) Earth Angel
 - (c) Dream Lover
3. For which label did Elvis Presley first record?
Earth _____
 - (a) Atlantic
 - (b) RCA
 - (c) Sun

Answers are on the bottom of this page.

Answer to Quiz.

1. Blueberry Hill 2. Mr Sandman 3. Sun

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.

John F Kennedy High

Alan Abrams, Class of 1979 (passed June 24, 2016)

Michael McDermott, Class of 1970 (passed June 23, 2016)

Thomas Sutika, Class of 1977 (passed June 24, 2016)

Taylor Center High

Brenda Higdon Bourne, Class of 1960 (passed June 28, 2016)