



PIONEER PRESS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY • 2026

What a Night!



Over 500 members of Pioneer Nation filled the beautiful Brilliance Ballroom at Ameristar Casino during the 48th Annual Pioneer Expedition Gala on January 31. PAGE 14

UPCOMING DATES

February 24
Reconciliation

March 2
Spring Sports Start

March 6
End of Quarter 3

March 5-7
Spring Musical

March 10-13
Kairos Retreat

March 14-22
Spring Break

From the Assistant Principal of Student Life



Debi Turner '96
Assistant Principal of
Student Life

As we move into the second semester, I want to gently remind our parents to stay vigilant and engaged in your child's world. At this time of year, students are more comfortable, more confident, and sometimes more tempted to test boundaries or make choices they wouldn't have made in August. Your presence matters. Your awareness matters. Your follow-through matters.

I recently began following "Officer Gomez" on Facebook. He is a School Resource Officer who shares practical, relevant tips for parents, teachers, and anyone navigating high school life. His posts address current trends, warning signs, and proactive strategies in a way that is informative and easy to apply. I encourage you to follow him. (I've included a photo of his page below.) Staying informed is one of the best ways we can partner together to support our students.

On a much brighter note, it was such a joy to attend Freshman Welcome Night for the Class of 2030 last week. The energy in the room was contagious. These students are talented, enthusiastic, and full of potential. If first impressions are any indication, this group is going to be one for the record books!

Moments like that also cause me to reflect on our current senior class. It truly feels like it was just yesterday when they were sitting in the gym for their welcome night, wide-eyed and excited about beginning their Duchesne journey. In just a few short months, they will walk across the stage as graduates, carrying with them four years of growth, friendships, challenges, accomplish-

ments, and memories.

Parents of seniors — cherish these final months. They will go quickly. Slow down when you can. Soak in the games, the performances, the last "firsts," and even the ordinary old Tuesday nights.

As always, thank you for your partnership and for the trust you place in us each day.



From the Principal



Kurt Schneider '93
Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

February contains the fewest days, but around school, February is often thought of as the longest month. The excitement of Christmas break has passed, spring break feels like it will never come, and the shorter days can leave all of us feeling a bit sluggish. This time of year can present unique challenges in maintaining focus, motivation, and momentum, and our students are no exception.

The weeks leading up to spring break are critically important for academic progress. This is a time when strong habits make a meaningful difference. Consistent attendance, staying current with schoolwork, and

seeking help when needed are essential to ensure we finish the third quarter on a strong note.

As always, our faculty remain committed to supporting each student. If your child is feeling overwhelmed or unmotivated, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can help our students stay focused, positive, and prepared for the opportunities ahead.

See you in the halls,
Kurt Schneider
Principal

First Semester Latin Honors

Summa Cum Laude

Violet Sahaida
Lucy Anstedt
Emma Lowe
Zachary McKinstry
Ella Shaw
Katherine Wieman
Eric Greifzu
Leah Krupich
Jackson Nikodym
Sophie Johnson-Moyneur
Drew Heischmidt
Nicole Thoma
Audrey Hoffmann
Quinn Wagner
Emilie Nikodym
Owen Komoroski
Ella Beucke
Shea Cleary
Isaac Garner
Bridget Caldwell
Molly Glosier
Charles Kielhofner
Mallory Lasman
Daley Meyer
Allison Slattery
Victoria Edler
Caroline Walsh
Reilly McCormack
Gavin Virtue

Owen Bogel
Gabriella Wagner
Youssef Hanna
Daniel Clever
Maeve McCune
Charley Pirtle
Emily Small
Cadence Welchko
Sophia Lococo
Alexander Hopf
Cecilia Anderson
Oluwaseun Aderibigbe
Evan Kundel
Edward Nieto
Seamus Burch
Payton Dye
Tatum Parker
Veronica DelGrosso
John Cooper
Hannah Gardner
Naomi Grizzle
Haidyn Bridges
Mikey Sheeley
Tyler Severs
Isabel Rakers
Michael Shaw
Lucas Brockmeyer
William Johannesman
Aaron Hermann
Natalie Buie

Avalyn Wells
Aydin Surdyke
Luke Archer
Willow Walton
Maxwell Nennering
Presleigh Smith
Christiana Newman
William Nieto
Mason Shaw
Adyson Bush
Mia Young
Justin Olivares Cid
Brooke Kammerer
Ryan Adkerson
Claire Zwick
Ryan Whitworth
Allison Knoebel
Ava Smith
Finley Parker
Ella Burke
Madelyn Schmidt
Patriciae Crowder
Emma Bredensteiner
Motirola Aluko
Jocelynn Olson

Magna Cum Laude

Ava Grace St. John
Jake Wayland
William Hollenkamp

Bentley Woodruff
Kannah Kesler
Caitlin Cooper
William Clever
Gabrielle Ulrich
Leonardo Reyes Marquez
Dominic Reckamp
Landon McCarthy
Peter Freygang
Liam Daleo
Jackson Clever
Kylie Bryan
Kinley Spann
Landon Richards
Olivia Leigh
Daniel Jacinto-Diaz
Zachary Goodman
Jayme Beard
Matthew Thornton
Sedona Kuhn
Amelliea Koch
Carley Killian
Reagan Brucks
Phoebe Grizzle

Cum Laude

Brooke Buechel
Jonathan Buehler
Sarah Smith
Timothy Griese

First Semester Latin Honors (cont.)

Reese Mills
Athena Zimmerman
Sophia Leicht
Hailey Putz
Daphne Basile
Cooper Richards
Lily Basile

Collin Marsaw
Kolton Booth
Morgan Murrish
Henry Basile
Jonathan Judkins
Colin Kleimann
Alana Buckner

Tyler Gutzler
Tyler Dietzel
Quinn Meyer
Christopher Hernandez
Dylan Slattery
Oliver Potts
Adelaide Blase
Max Hollenkamp
Parker White
Kolbe Kristensen
Zayiah Merrill
Chase Spafford
Amelia Pontus
John Borgmeyer
Reece Hendrix
Resse Clem
Kathleen Kraatz
Benjamin Bierbrauer
Madelyn Willen
Callum Snow

Collin Morgan
Nolan York
Brian Sonnier
Julian Pontus
Wyatt Kammerer
Gillian Beck
Ryan Broeker
Sophia Harmon
Jace Latham
Brooklyn Bryan
Eric Kappler
Adelyn Horton
Kelly Godfrey
Ayden Roth
Jonathan Pezold
Jade Falcon-Coronel
Charles Williamson
Ada Marks
Jude Hoffmann
Isaiah DeWilde



THE GIVING
BRANCH 

DHS Students Making a Difference

A Note of Thanks from Birthright St. Charles



Dear Students,

On behalf of everyone at Birthright St. Charles, thank you for your incredible efforts and generous support.

Your Trivia Night was more than just a fun event — it was an opportunity to inspire your peers, raise awareness, and shine

a light on the needs of women in our community who are facing unexpected pregnancies. The energy, creativity, and heart you brought to this event truly made a difference.

We are especially grateful to senior, Reilly McCormack for making this special night happen and presenting Birthright with a check for \$1,955. Be-

(continued on page 6)



From left: Sheri Petruso, Reilly McCormack and Jami McDermott

Exploring the Financial Industry at Benjamin F. Edwards



Benjamin F. Edwards CEO Tad Edwards takes DHS students' questions in his office.

Eric Seiffert Director of Marketing

Duchesne High School students recently gained a behind-the-scenes look at the financial industry through a visit to Benjamin F. Edwards (BFE), a prominent mid-sized brokerage firm based in St. Louis.

For business teacher Tim Mueth, BFE was a natural choice for a field trip. As a former employee of A.G. Edwards—founded by the father of current BFE CEO Tad Edwards—Mueth utilized his industry connections to arrange the visit.

“This is something that they do not do for any other school,” Mueth said. “The students on the trip were all business students who have taken Personal Finance and/or Accounting, Marketing, and Economics.”

During the visit, students explored the daily operations of a brokerage firm, learning about the investment processes for stocks, ETFs, mutual funds, and managed products.

“I learned a lot,” said senior Reilly McCormack. “We actually got to talk with the CEO of the company. We learned about how to get internships and talked with some of the interns there. It was really cool.”

Tad Edwards spent time answering student questions and discussing the company’s history. The boutique firm boasts a national presence with over 100 locations across 34 states and a workforce of 700 to 800 employees.

For seniors looking to pursue a career in finance, the trip provided invaluable insight.

“If you’re looking to go into business, it’s great to go in to see what the job is actually like every day,” added senior T.J. Griese.

DHS Students Making a Difference (cont.)

(continued from page 4)

cause of you, women and families in need will receive professional counseling, compassionate support, and access to vital resources — all at no cost to them. Your generosity directly impacts lives.

Thank you for your service, your passion, and your willingness to stand alongside women during some of the most challenging moments of their lives. We could not do what we do without supporters like you.

With sincere gratitude,
 Birthright St Charles
 Jami McDermott
 Outreach Coordinator
 Birthright St. Charles
 2125 Bluestone Dr. Ste.,A



Seniors Bennett Borgmeyer (left) and Christopher Hernandez

Pioneer Good Samaritans

Two Pioneers lived out their Catholic values of loving their neighbor by helping a stranded motorist on January 31.

Seniors Bennett Borgmeyer and Christopher Hernandez were delivering accepted signs to the homes of this fall's incoming freshmen, when they noticed a truck stuck in the snow. They promptly stopped to help.

"They were so excited to tell me about their good deed for the day," said Assistant Principal of Student Life Debi Turner. "It made me want to go out and do something nice for somebody too!"



Donation Drive for Marygrove

The Valentine's Day Donation Drive for Marygrove was a HUGE SUCCESS!

Shoutout to our own Bridget Caldwell for organizing the drive and helping to fill an entire conference room full of necessities for Marygrove's residents!

They were extremely thankful for everyone's generosity!

At left, Bridget poses in front of the Sister Helen Negri Administration Building with a few baskets of donations.

Duchesne Welcomes New Faces

Eric Seiffert

Director of Marketing

Advancement Assistant Danielle Lowe and Lindenwood University student Rylee Kara are joining the Duchesne staff this spring.

Danielle Lowe comes to Duchesne from Faith Preschool in St. Charles, where she served for nine years as director. She currently works part-time for St. Cletus Catholic School, supporting students in their resource room.

Lowe said this role at Duchesne seemed like a natural fit for her.

"I was drawn to this position because I truly believe in Duchesne's mission of shaping leaders and embracing each person's unique, God-given gifts," she said.

As a Duchesne parent, she added, her family has felt a strong sense of community since her oldest daughter first



Rylee Kara



Danielle Lowe

shadowed at the school. "She is now a sophomore, and we are thrilled to have two more children who will be joining Pioneer Nation in the future."

After her first major project helping make the Pioneer Expedition Gala on Jan. 31 a success, Lowe is looking forward to seeing how her skills can be used to celebrate the school.

"I'm excited to bring my years of experience running a school to the Advancement Team at Duchesne," she said.

Rylee Kara is currently enrolled in Lindenwood University's athletic training master's degree program and will be shadowing DHS Athletic Trainer Kate Mir for her clinicals this semester. She will graduate with her undergraduate degree in exercise science in May 2026.

"Shadowing has been so much fun thus far," said Kara. "The students at Duchesne have been keeping me very busy and there has yet to be a dull moment. I love working with

the high schoolers because I remember what it was like to be in their shoes and it makes me feel inspired to give them the best experience that they can have when they see two smiling faces in Kate and me whenever they walk into the athletic training room."

"Rylee has been an awesome addition to the athletic training room," said Athletic Trainer Kate Mir. "She jumped right in and has done a great job engaging with Duchesne's athletes."

Kara brings a wealth of experience as an athlete to the position. Originally from Osseo, Minnesota, Kara has participated in Olympic weightlifting and powerlifting. She was also the first girl to play varsity baseball for her high school and was a member of their 2021 state championship team.

"Duchesne has welcomed me so nicely and I am so grateful!" she said.



From left: Duchesne President Paul Boschert '77, Principal Kurt Schneider '93, ACA council member Jan Glunt, ACA council member Peggy Sly, Christiana Newman '27, Bridget Caldwell '27, Sophia Lococo '27, ACA council member Vern Dirnberger, and ACA Mission Advancement Director Brian Kelly

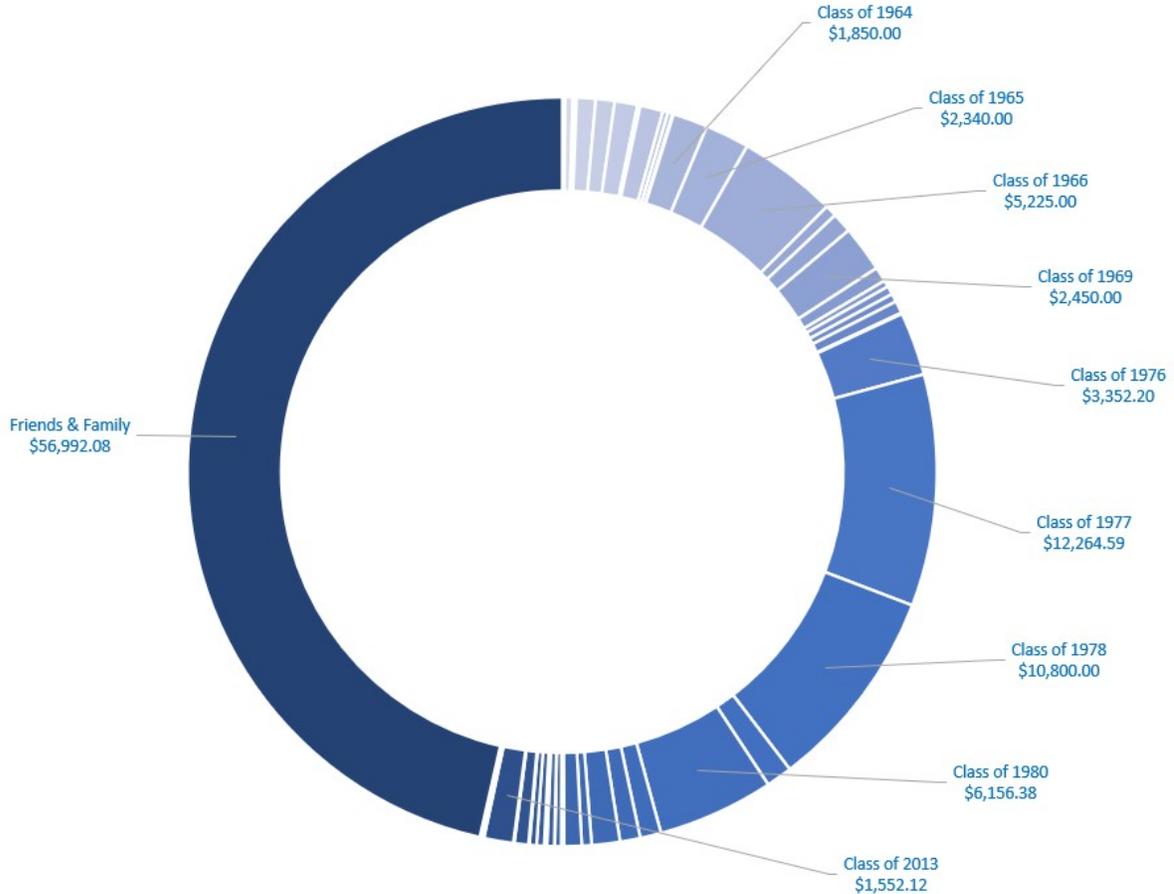
ACA Presents Essay Winners With Check for \$185,000

Huge congratulations to our Annual Catholic Appeal Essay Contest winners: Bridget Caldwell '27, Sophie Lococo '27, and Christiana Newman '27!

These talented students were presented with a check from the ACA Council for \$185,000!

DHS President Paul Boschert also presented a \$479 check to council member Vern Dirnberger—funds raised by our amazing students during a recent dress-down day! Way to go, Pioneers!

Pioneer Class Challenge

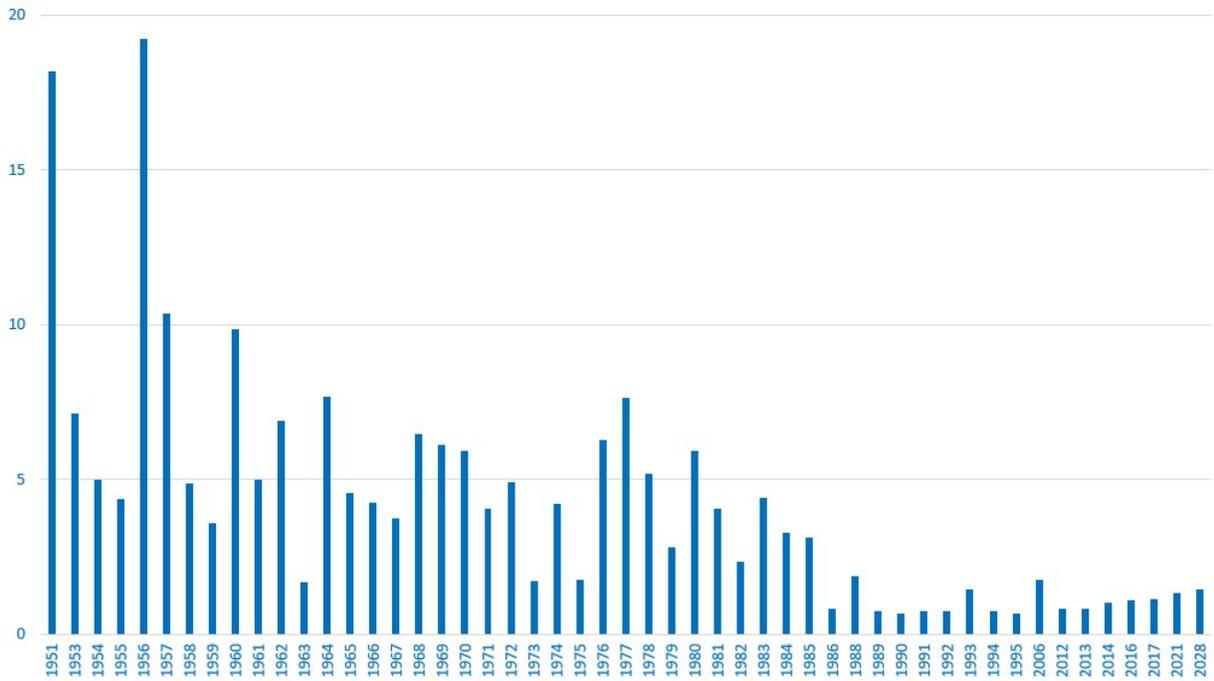


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|------------|------|------------|------|------------|------|----------|------|----------|------|---------|
| \$150.00 | 1960 | \$1,215.00 | 1972 | \$452.12 | 1984 | \$518.91 | 1993 | \$396.04 | 2021 | \$21.04 |
| \$400.00 | 1961 | \$272.00 | 1973 | \$436.35 | 1985 | \$925.82 | 1994 | \$375.00 | 2028 | \$52.12 |
| \$100.00 | 1962 | \$250.00 | 1974 | \$653.94 | 1986 | \$150.00 | 1995 | \$50.00 | | |
| \$103.94 | 1963 | \$50.00 | 1975 | \$63.11 | 1988 | \$330.89 | 2006 | \$740.00 | | |
| \$1,000.00 | 1967 | \$625.00 | 1979 | \$1,380.42 | 1989 | \$25.00 | 2012 | \$52.50 | | |
| \$1,000.00 | 1968 | \$1,057.56 | 1981 | \$1,109.38 | 1990 | \$384.00 | 2014 | \$50.00 | | |
| \$1,200.00 | 1970 | \$775.00 | 1982 | \$1,071.79 | 1991 | \$100.00 | 2016 | \$50.00 | | |
| \$150.00 | 1971 | \$350.00 | 1983 | \$1,490.00 | 1992 | \$50.00 | 2017 | \$50.00 | | |

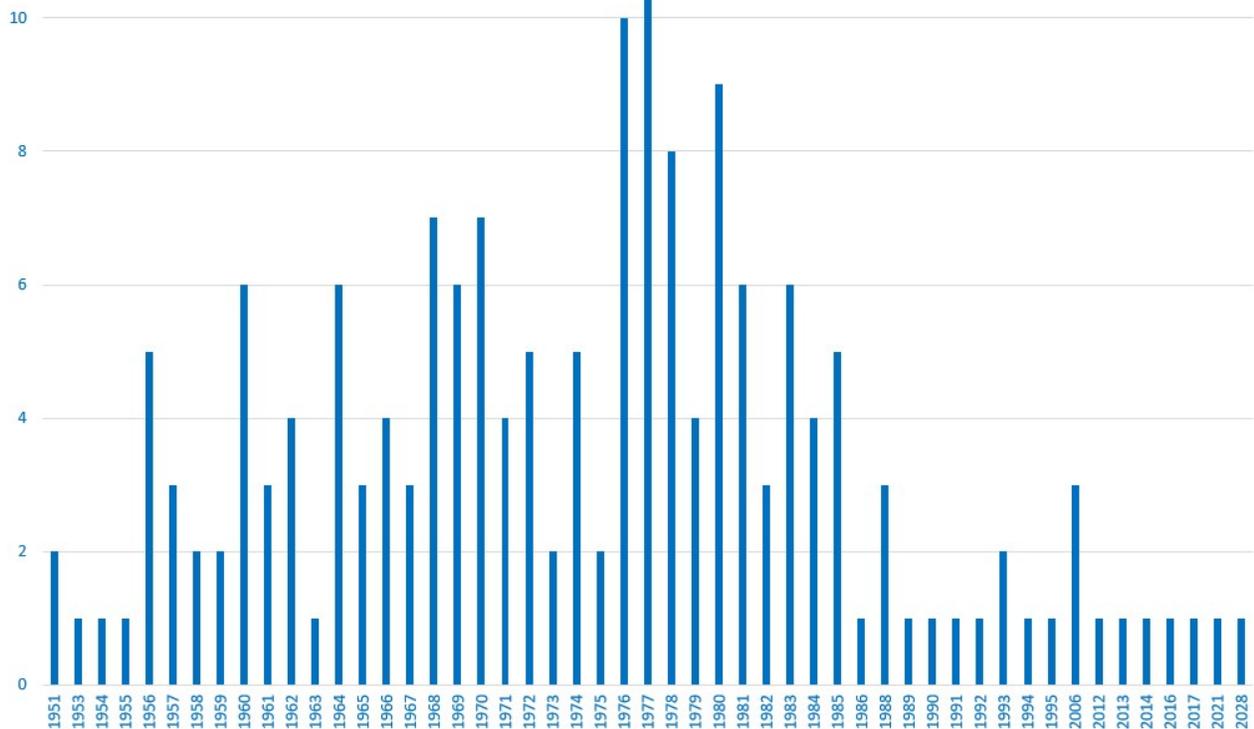
These totals are of gifts received as of 2.6.26
 \$122,659.30 raised in the fiscal year so far!*

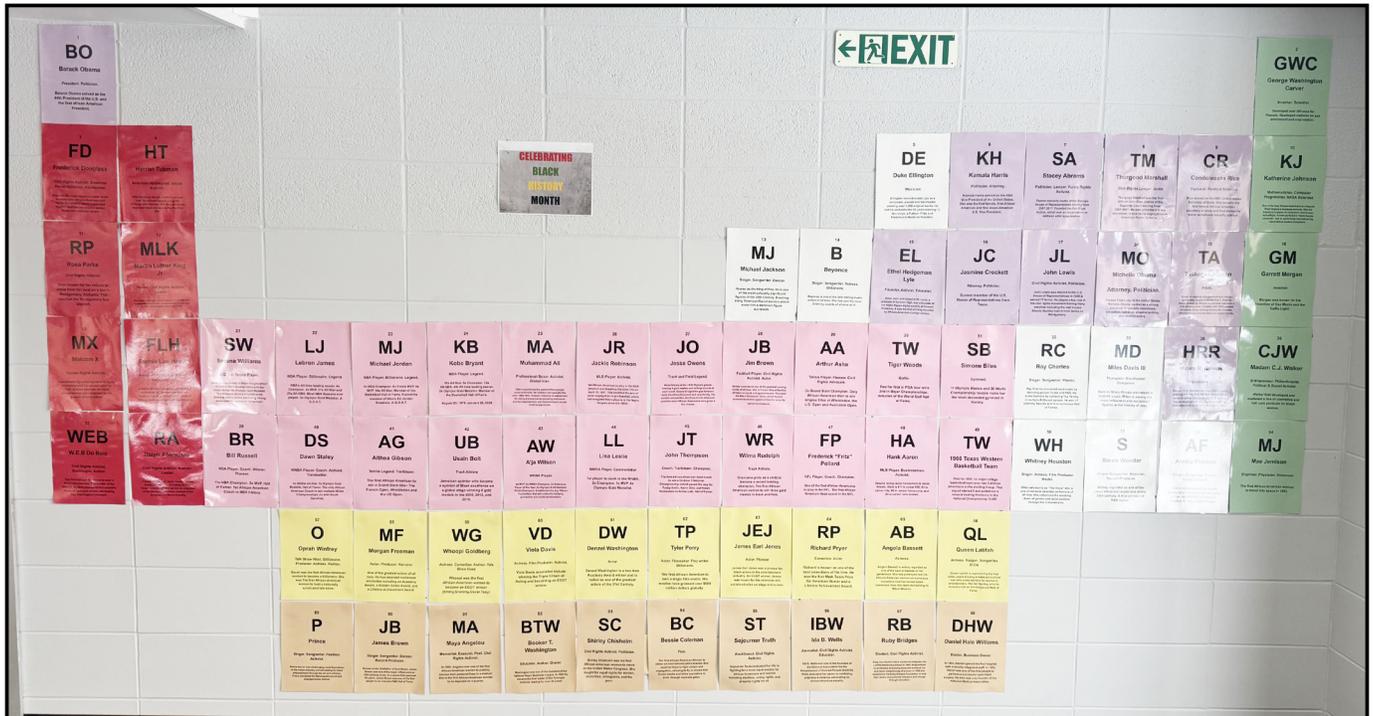
*unaudited number

PERCENTAGE OF LIVING CLASSMATES WHO HAVE DONATED TO PIONEER FUND 7/1/25 – 2/6/26



NUMBER OF CLASSMATES WHO HAVE DONATED TO PIONEER FUND TO DATE





A periodic table in our halls recognizes the contributions of important Black individuals throughout history.

Celebrating Black History Month



Caleb Johnson
Director of Community & Student Engagement and Head Girls Basketball Coach

February is Black History Month, and Duchesne High School is proudly celebrating this time to recognize, honor, and learn about the achievements, history, and contributions of Black individuals who have shaped our community, our country, and the

world. Black history is not just one month of history; it is an essential part of our shared story.

Throughout the month, students and staff are engaging in activities and discussions that highlight influential Black leaders, artists, scientists, activists, and everyday change-makers. We created a periodic table filled with over 75 influential figures recognizing the achievements they made throughout history. Along with our peri-

odic table, we also have a few giveaways happening, including pins, key chains, and bracelets.

By celebrating Black History Month, we reaffirm our commitment to respect, inclusion, and understanding. It is an opportunity for all of us to learn from the past, appreciate diverse perspectives, and work together toward a more equitable future.



From the Director of Admissions

Dana Bryan
Director of Admissions

Duchesne High School continues to experience strong interest from families throughout the area, reflecting the positive momentum and exciting changes taking place across campus. Recent enhancements to academic offerings, extra-

curricular opportunities, and student life have created a wonderful energy, drawing families to Duchesne and strengthening our Pioneer community.

This enthusiasm is evident in the response to our admissions process, with over 100 applications received for the incoming freshman class. We are grate-

ful for the confidence families place in Duchesne and were excited to officially welcome these students at our Welcome Freshman Night last Tuesday, February 10. The evening marked the beginning of their high school journey as they connected with faculty, met classmates, and took their first steps as members of Pioneer

Nation. We will continue to welcome new freshmen; please refer your friends and family members to me at the contact information below.

Duchesne is accepting registrations for seventh-grade shadow visits through April. These visits provide an authentic look at a typical day at

Duchesne, including time in classrooms, campus tours, and an introduction to our House System. Interested students can sign up here: <https://www.duchesne-hs.org/shadow-visit-request-form84339.html>

Sixth- and seventh-graders are also invited to take part in our annual Pioneer for a Day

event on Friday, April 24. This is a fun and engaging experience designed to showcase the spirit, community, and opportunities that make Duchesne such a special place to learn and grow. <https://www.duchesne-hs.org/pioneer-for-a-day.html>

Come see how DHS is shaping leaders in mind, body, and

spirit. It's a Great Day to be a Pioneer!

Dana Bryan
 Director of Admissions
dbryan@duchesne-hs.org
 636.757.6932



From the Director of Advancement



Becky Williamson
 Director of Advancement

What a month for Duchesne High School! Our Gala was a HUGE success, and the momentum was felt by everyone in the room. That would be 547 people to be exact. We raised over \$582,405 for DHS, with \$292,500 going towards our Fund-A-Need for Tuition Assistance. I wanted to share two special videos with you.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CNNBTI-9wMVB7XveaLBAi86trtGGYnk9U/view?usp=sharing>

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1z9Fms-Nb1h_UINkAadOOtm2e34XBdOI3

Thank you to everyone who attended! Thank you for supporting Duchesne.

Last, we welcomed over 102 students to the Class of 2030 on February 10! We owe a big thank you to the Faculty and Staff who allow us to host these large shadow days, interrupt a normal school day, and host several grade school events throughout the year. Your time is always appreciated. I am so proud of all that we have accomplished and all that is on the horizon. Let's Go!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Becky Williamson



Attention Current and Incoming DHS Student Families!

Remember to check out our various Scholarships and Financial Aid Opportunities by clicking [HERE](#). Applications for 2026-2027 Duchesne students are due by Monday, March 9, 2026. Email or call

Nancy Kohl if you have questions after reviewing all of the information and instructions found through the link above. nkohl@duchesne-hs.org
 636.757.6925



Nick Brockmeyer
 Attorney at Law



EMERGE
 Fitness Training



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shaping leaders in mind, body, and spirit

2026-2027 SCHOLARSHIP & FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES AND APPLICATIONS

For 2026-2027 Freshmen — automatic scholarships

Students are automatically considered for the President's, Principals, and Dean's scholarships. No application is required. These awards are renewed annually if the student has acceptable conduct and maintains the stated GPA.

President's Scholarship — \$2,000 to students who select Duchesne as their first-choice school, attend a Catholic grade school, have a min. 4.0 GPA, and score 95% or better on the Complete Composite ITBS, NWEA MAP, or comparable testing in 8th grade. (Maintain 4.0 GPA at DHS for auto renewal.)

Principal's Scholarship — \$1,000 to students who select Duchesne as their first-choice school, attend a Catholic grade school, have a min. 4.0 GPA, and score 90-94% on the Complete Composite ITBS, NWEA MAP, or comparable testing in 8th grade. (Maintain 4.0 GPA at DHS for auto renewal.)

Dean's Scholarship — \$750 to students who select Duchesne as their first-choice school, have B or better in core 8th-grade classes, and score 80-89% or better on the Complete Composite ITBS, NWEA MAP, or comparable testing in 8th grade. Catholic grade school attendance is not required. (Maintain 3.6 GPA at DHS for auto renewal.)

For 2026-2027 All Grade Levels — automatic scholarship

Nathan Spiess First Responder/Military Scholarship — \$1,500 to students with a parent who is a First Responder (police, fire, EMT/ambulance) or is in the Military (active or reserve). Please confirm employment by emailing nkohl@duchesne-hs.org.

Financial Need-Based Scholarships (see next page for *Merit- and Interest-Based Scholarships*)

These scholarships require the Duchesne Scholarship Application (which follows) along with related essays. Please print these pages, mark the appropriate scholarship(s) for which the student is eligible, type or fill out the application in blue or black ink, and attach typed responses to the essay questions. Return all materials to Nancy Kohl at nkohl@duchesne-hs.org or to the Duchesne High School office at 2550 Elm St, Saint Charles, MO 63301, ATTN: Nancy Kohl by March 9, 2026. Note that the required documents for financial need assessment must be submitted online through BBFA (Blackbaud Financial Aid, which replaces our formerly-used FACTS): [BBFA link](#)

Requirements for each of the scholarships below vary.

PLEASE READ THE SPECIFICS FOR EACH CAREFULLY; details can be found further on in this document.

CHECK ONLY THE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WHICH YOU ARE ELIGIBLE.

For 2026-2027 Freshmen —

- Jan Schulteheinrich Memorial Scholarship
- Mary Lou Hannegan Scholarship

For 2026-2027 Sophomores only —

- Class of 1964 Scholarship

Tuition Assistance if determined individually. All families requesting tuition assistance must submit required documents through [Blackbaud Financial Aid management \(BBFA\)](#).

Additional tuition assistance is available through various scholarships as noted here, and through our [Work Study](#) program.

DHS Tuition Assistance and Work Study applications are open from February 2—March 9, 2026. Awards will be made by April 10.

The Archdiocese of St. Louis' [Today & Tomorrow Foundation](#) provides need-based scholarships. Applications are now open.

MO Scholars is a \$6,375 annual scholarship to eligible students who have an IEP. Applications are now open.

For 2026-2027 Seniors only —

- Dr. Henry & Roseann Clever Scholarship

For 2026-2027 All Grade Levels —

- Scheidegger Challenge Fund for Tuition Aid
- St. Peter Parish Scholarship
- Victoria Reid Scholarship

*** MOScholars Flyer can be found on page 23**



REUNITING WHERE AT ALL BEGAN — CLASS REUNIONS AT DUCHESNE HIGH

In the Works...

CLASS OF 2010 and CLASS OF 2011 15th Reunions – at Duchesne in the fall of 2026.

Save the Date...

35th Reunion for the CLASSES OF 1990 and 1991 Reunion – at Duchesne on Saturday, September 12, 2026

The Classes of 1990 and 1991 are planning to have their 35th reunion at Duchesne on Saturday, September 12, 2026. Nikki (Zander) Holmes '90 and Kara (Rufkahr) Reynolds '91 are organizing. More info to come.

CLASS OF 1986's 40th Reunion – at Duchesne on Saturday, September 19, 2026

Class of '86!! – Save the Date – plans are underway for a wonderful evening together, which will include tours of our alma mater, heavy hors d'oeuvres, music, and dancing. Watch the Facebook page at Duchesne Class of 1986. Jen (Horton) Silvestri and Cheryl (Pollack) Johnson are organizing.

CLASS OF 1981's 45th Reunion – at Duchesne on Saturday, October 10, 2026

The Class of 1981 will hold their 45th reunion at Duchesne on Saturday, October 10, 2026. John Orf and Pat (Suter) Sommer are among the organizers. More info to come.

CLASS OF 1976's 50th Reunion – at Duchesne on Saturday, October 17, 2026

The Class of 1976 will hold their 50th reunion at Duchesne on Saturday, October 17, 2026. Charlie Smith is again organizing this class's reunion. More info to come.

What About Your Class?

ALUMNI REUNIONS – is it time to plan yours?

Does your class year end in a 1 or 6 (such as 2001 or 1996)? It's time to plan your reunion! Contact Nancy (Rothermich) Kohl '78 at nkohl@duchesne-hs.org or 636.757.6925 to begin the conversation!

Duchesne can provide you with a class list and save-the-date postcards for those groups that have their event at DHS. You will have use of our Garden Courtyard, Chapel for Mass, and/or PAC for your get-together, dinner, dancing, games, etc. Smaller groups may want to gather in our Esports Center. A self-guided tour outline will be available for your guests. Alumni groups are not charged an hourly rental, just a maintenance fee (and a student tech fee if applicable).



FOREVER FRIENDS

The Class of 1976 was well-represented at our recent Gala, including Bernie Geringer, Jeanne (Buerges) Middleton, Sue Sebacher, Evelyne Schuetz, and Ann (Johannesman) Tollefson. Other '76ers in attendance: Tom Covilli, Rob Fleming, Rob Glosier, Dan Plackemeier, and Molly (O'Brien) Reilly. We look forward to seeing these alumni and many more of their friends at the Class of 1976's 50th reunion at Duchesne on Saturday, October 17, 2026!

TWO LINES. ONE GLITCH.

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Birthright St. Charles

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Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter icons.

FOLLOW DUCHESNE ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



LEAVES

ALUMNI FEATURES AND UPDATES

A Great Night to be a Pioneer!



The 15,653 square-foot Brilliance Ballroom hosted over 550 members of the Pioneer Nation.

Eric Seiffert Director of Marketing

The Brilliance Ballroom of the Ameristar Casino was buzzing with Pioneer Pride and excitement during the 48th Annual Pioneer Expedition Gala on Saturday, January 31, bringing in a record-setting \$292,500 in tuition assistance alone, and \$582,405 total.

A record crowd of over 550 guests gathered to celebrate the school's future. "What a great atmosphere and wonderful eve-

ning!" said DHS President Paul Boschert '77. "We are truly blessed by the outpouring of love and support from Pioneer Nation."

The growth in attendee numbers this year necessitated leadership to upgrade the event space to the new, larger Brilliance Ballroom. It was a change in plans that Advancement Director Becky Williamson was excited to make.

"[It's] a wonderful reflection of the growing enthusiasm and support for Duchesne

High School," she said. "The evening not only honored our Pioneer spirit, but also powerfully demonstrated the continued strength and bright future of our Duchesne community."

Duchesne Board President Jack Borgmeyer '97 was proud to serve again this year as MC.

"What an unforgettable night," he said. "It's a powerful reminder of what's possible when Pioneer Nation shows up. Our family



Duchesne President Paul Boschert '77 addresses the crowd before the live auction.

was excited to be a part of it."

A major highlight was the Fund-A-Need, which raised \$292,500 for tuition assistance, far surpassing the goal of \$200,000, after guests viewed a video featuring current students.

"It was especially inspiring to see the generosity of our Pioneer community with the Fund-A-Need for tuition assistance," said DHS board member Mike Deluvia '13. "Jesus tells us time and time again to be generous. I think our Pioneer community stepped up to the plate by helping make Catholic education an option for those who couldn't normally afford it."

The real surprise came following the Fund-A-Need, when the lights went out a video of Duchesne's Frank Barro Stadium flickered into view with the words, "If we build it, they will come,"

whispering over low mysterious tones. With a swell of music and flashing images, the announcement of Duchesne's vision into the future was made – a new turf field, 6-lane track, press box, digital scoreboard, turf practice field, and designated field events space behind the 310 building.

"Even though we are in the early stages of doing a feasibility study and discovery phase, the optimism from many at the gala was of great excitement," said Boschert.

Duchesne board member Mike Ryan '77 noted that the annual gala never fails to be a memorable occasion.

"It was terrific to see attendees that included alumni of all ages, parents of DHS students and friends of Duchesne," he said. "We, along with our friends, are already looking forward to next year."



Russo & Co. had the dance floor jumping following the live auction.

SPECIAL THANKS TO JUNIOR LUCAS BROCKMEYER AND FRESHMAN PARKER WHITE FOR ASSISTING WITH PHOTOGRAPHY DURING THE GALA!



CAMPUS MINISTRY



Mike Deluvia

**Duchesne Board
of Limited Jurisdiction
Catholic Identity
Committee**

Hello, Pioneers!

Many of you are getting ready to make big decisions about where to go to college. The choice can feel daunting. Lots of possibilities and unknowns. How will this choice affect my faith, my intellectual formation, my opportunities, my friendships, my finances, and my future?

Thankfully, we have a friend in St. Rose Philippine Duchesne who can share some insight into how we ought to approach these decisions.

When Philippine was a young girl, she felt a strong desire to become a religious sister. As you know, the decision to become a religious sister is life changing. It's not a decision to be made lightly. So, what

did Philippine do? She prayed about it!

Here's what she tells us in her own words:

“From the time I was twelve years and some months old, when God bestowed upon me the grace of a religious vocation, I believe I never let pass a single day without praying to Him to enlighten me about it and make me faithful to it. At first, I put it under the protection of the Blessed Virgin, and the Memorare was my favorite and continual prayer to her...”

In the face of a big decision, Philippine turned to God for guidance. She was generous with her decision-making, seeking God's will above her own. She confided in our Blessed Mother for help. This is exactly what Scripture tells us to do.

“And besides all this pray to the Most High that He may direct your way in truth.” (Sir 37:15)

Prayer doesn't replace the virtue of prudence. We should think deeply about the choice, consult our parents, teachers, and trusted advisors, and research the options carefully. Praying for God's guidance doesn't replace all these steps; prayer enriches the decision-making process.

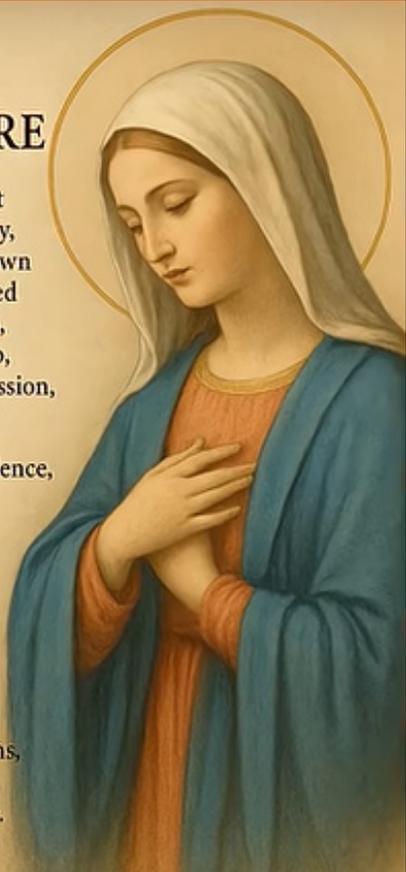
A great place to pray about these decisions is in the pres-

ence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. It's there that we encounter Jesus' presence in a special way. Stop by the chapel in your free time to spend a moment with Jesus, if you can. Share all that's on your mind with Him. Like Philippine, we can also entrust our decisions to Mary through the Rosary or prayers like the Memorare. Parents, teachers, and friends should join in praying for our students with big decisions ahead.

A final word on God's guidance. You most likely won't

hear God speaking audible words to you, or even silent words in your mind. Instead, when arriving upon the choice that's in line with His will, people often experience a sense of peace. Pay attention for this peace. It's then wise to share what you experience in prayer with your parents and trusted spiritual advisors.

Friends, don't be discouraged in the face of big decisions. Turn with confidence to the Lord like Philippine did, and He will direct your way in truth.



**THE
MEMORARE**

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

2026 DUCHESNE DREAM RAFFLE

Win your choice of \$150,000 toward new home construction by Fischer & Frichtel Homes OR a single payment of \$120,000 in CASH!
PLUS there are 24 other CASH prizes up for grabs!



KEY DATES

Ticket Sales Begin March 9
Early Bird Deadline is April 10
Early Bird Drawing is April 13
Ticket Sales End May 15
Grand Prize Drawing is May 18



Sponsored by:





FROM THE SPORTS DESK



Renee Moore '86
Athletic Director

CLASS OF 2026 NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT SIGNINGS

On Wednesday, February 4, Pioneer Nation celebrated the college signings of 3 seniors who will be continuing their baseball careers at the next level! Congratulations to the following seniors and their families as they celebrate their commitment to college athletics:

Jaymeson Forest
East Central College
Baseball

TJ Griese
East Central College
Baseball

Jackson Nikodym
Mineral Area College
Baseball

CONGRATULATIONS

Way to go **Molly Glosier '27** for being selected to the All-Tournament team at the Clopton tournament. Additionally, congratulations to the Lady Pioneer Basketball team for winning the consolation bracket of the Villa Duchesne tournament and to **Molly Glosier '27** and **Emmie Nikodym '29** for being selected to the All-Tournament team!

CLASS OF 2026 ST. CHARLES COUNTY AMATEUR HALL OF FAME DUCHESNE NOMINEES

Duchesne is proud to announce Seniors **Isabel Rakers** and **Drew Heischmidt** as the 2026 Duchesne High School nominations for the Outstanding Senior Athlete award presented by the St. Charles County Amateur Sports Hall of Fame.

Hats off to the following Varsity Volleyball players who earned All-State Academic Honors by participating in 75% of all varsity sets and having a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.6.

- Tori Edler '26
- Gabi Ulrich '26
- Molly Glosier '27
- Daley Meyer '27
- Violet Sahaida '27
- Emmie Nikodym '29

THANK YOU!

We appreciate the Duchesne Athletic Boosters club for putting together a wonderful event on Sunday, January 18, as we hosted our First Annual Cornhole Tournament in the Ted Yeater Athletic Center. A great time was had by all participants as they tossed bags and watched

the NFL playoff games on our amazing scoreboards. Thank you especially to Kevin and Lori Slattery, Jason and Abby Boschert, Scott and Tara Hubert, and Becky Williamson who spearheaded the event with special assistance from Steve McKinstry and Jason Wagner.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Duchesne is hosting the girls district basketball tournament on M/W/F, February 23, 25, and 27. We need student, parent, and alumni help to staff our concession stand. 100% of the concession stand profit benefits Duchesne. Here is the link to sign up to help: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44A8AB2EA5F4C07-62295453-girls> or feel free to email Mrs. Fuchs at rfuchs@duchesne-hs.org if you are interested in helping out! Students will receive service hours; adults will receive eternal gratitude!

LOOKING AHEAD

- Friday, February 20, Senior Night for Boys Basketball, Cheer, Dance, Drumline
- February 23 – 28 Basketball Districts
 - Girls – M/W/F, February 23, 25, 27 at Duchesne High School
 - Boys – T/Th/Sa, February 24, 26, 28 at Principia
- Monday, March 2, Spring Sports Tryouts – See details below
- Friday, March 6, starting at 3pm – Spring Sports Pictures with Wagner Photography
- Friday, May 8, Pre-Game Ceremony of the 6pm Varsity Girls Soccer Game honoring the 1996 State Champion Golf

Team (30 years) and the 1995 State Champion Cross Country Team (30 years). Halftime Ceremony honoring ALL of our Girls State Champion Soccer Teams – 2009, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2019

- Saturday, April 18, Duchesne Athletic Booster BBQ – details to come!

SPRING SPORT INFORMATION

Spring sports begin Monday, March 2. If this spring sport is a student-athlete's first sport in 2025-2026, please be sure all required paperwork is complete and that a current physical is on file. For questions concerning paperwork or athletic fees please contact rfuchs@duchesne-hs.org, for questions about current physical contact our trainer Kate Perko at athletictrainer@duchesne-hs.org.

Athletes are expected to attend ALL practices/tryouts for their sport, including practices/games that will take place over spring break. Please consider this commitment prior to planning trips or vacations during spring break.

Spring Sport Opening Week Information:

Baseball

Coach Mike Hollander,
mhollander@duchesne-hs.org

For times and locations, all interested players should reach out to head coach Mike Hollander at mhollander@duchesne-hs.org and should follow @duchesnebaseball on X (twitter) to stay up to date on any changes.

Baseball Tryout Times

Monday, March 2: 6-7:15am

(Invited Pitchers, Catchers, and Varsity Players) – DHS gym and mezzanine; 3:15-5:30pm – All Levels – Duchesne practice field and mezzanine

Tuesday, March 3: 6-7:15am (Invited Pitchers, Catchers, and Varsity Players) – DHS gym and mezzanine; 3:15-5:30pm – Varsity Practicers @ Blanchette – Lower Level practicers @ Duchesne mezzanine/practice field

Wednesday, March 4: 3:15-5:30pm – Varsity Practicers @ Blanchette – Lower Level @ Duchesne mezzanine / practice field

Thursday, March 5: 3:15-5:30pm – Varsity Practicers @ Blanchette – Lower Level @ Duchesne mezzanine / practice field

Friday, March 6: 3:15-5:30pm - Varsity Practicers @ Blanchette – Lower Level @ Duchesne mezzanine / practice field

Saturday, March 7: 10:00am-1:00pm Varsity Invited Practicers – Participating

players will be notified earlier in week if they should attend. All players in the program should plan to be available.

All times and locations are subject to change based on weather and other team practice schedules.

All interested players should follow @duchesnebaseball on twitter to stay up to date on any changes.

Golf Boys

Coach Denny Walters,
dwalters@duchesne-hs.org

M/W/F, March 2, 4, 6: Tryouts at Cave Springs 3:30-5:00pm

T/Th, March 3 and 5: Tryouts at Bogey 3:30- 5:00pm

Soccer Girls

Coach Patrick Turner,
pturner@duchesne-hs.org

First Week of Tryout Info

M-F, March 2 thru March 6: 3:30–5:30pm at Vetta Gametime, 4160 Ehlmann Rd, 63376

Tennis Boys

Coach Doug Becker,
dbecker@duchesne-hs.org

First Week of Tryout Info

M-F, March 2 thru March 6: 3:10-5:00pm at DHS Tennis Courts

Track and Field Boys and Girls – Coach Vince Morris,
vmorris@duchesne-hs.org

First Week of Tryout Info –

M-F, March 2 thru March 6: 3:15–4:45pm at DHS Stadium track.

Sa, March 7: 10am at DHS Stadium Track.

Volleyball Boys

Coach Maddie Krause,
mkrause@duchesne-hs.org

First Week of Tryout Info

M-W, March 2 thru March 4 from 3:30pm–5:30pm in the DHS gym for all players.

Th, F, March 5 and 6 times will vary dependent on the team level the athlete is placed.



CALLING ALL DUCHEсне STATE CHAMPIONS

from these teams:

1995 GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

1996 BOYS GOLF

GIRLS SOCCER 2009, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2019

Save the Date — Friday, May 8

Championship team recognitions pregame at 5:30 and at halftime of the 6:00 Girls Soccer Game vs St. Charles High School, Frank Barro Stadium

Pioneer Nation Celebration in the DHS Garden Courtyard postgame



JOIN OUR FUNDRAISER



Thursday, March 26 | 10:00AM - 10:00PM

Raising Cane's 1840 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles, MO

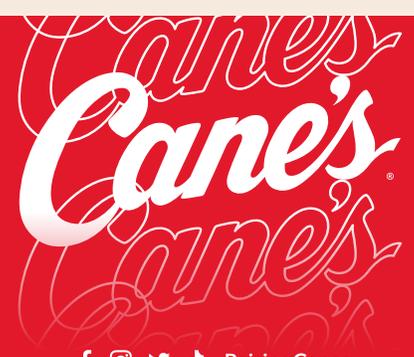
Mention the fundraiser at the Restaurant or apply code **RCFUND96** to online or app orders at checkout and Cane's will donate **15% of Net Sales*** to:

Duchesne High School



Raising Funds with Raising Cane's

➤ Learn more about how we can support you at CanesAndCommunity.com



Minimum donation amount will be 15% of the Net Sales* donated directly to your organization. Not valid on kiosk orders. **Net Sales* means the purchase price of food and beverages sold during the event to customers who (i) mention your organization when ordering in person or (ii) use the code RCFUND96 when ordering online or in the Raising Cane's app. The purchase price excludes special or limited time offers, discounts, returns, and taxes. "Net Sales" does not include gift cards and retail merchandise purchases.

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BROADCASTING

Pioneer for a Day

**ATTENTION
6TH & 7TH GRADERS!**

Join us on Friday, April 24,
from 8:00am–2:30pm for
a day of Pioneer

FUN!

Events Include: Ice Breakers, Prayer,
STEM Activities, Robotics, Aviation,
Music, Athletics, Experiments, and
Learning about our House System!
Lunch Provided. Tours Available for
Parents at Drop Off.

**EXPERIENCE DUCHESNE IN
MIND, BODY, & SPIRIT**



Shadow Days



**EXPERIENCE LIFE
AS A PIONEER!**



MAR 13 & 27

APR 10

APR 24

*Pioneer for
a Day*



DUCHEсне CHEER TRYOUTS

April 13-17 | Monday-Thursday 3-4:30pm

Friday 3-4pm

Performing Arts Center | Duchesne High School

- Show Spirit
- Be confident
- HAVE FUN!!



Become the newest member of the
Duchesne High School Cheerleading team!!



Join us for a “Horribly” Good Time!

DHS S PRING MUSICAL

THURS-SAT, MARCH 5-7, 7PM

ALUMNI!

Plan to join us at 6PM, SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026

— Food, Fellowship, and Fond Memories —

both before the show and during intermission.

Please RSVP to nkohl@duchesne-hs.org or 636.757.6925





DUCHESNE

EGGSTRAVAGANZA ON THE GREEN

-EGG HUNT DROPPED FROM HELICOPTER
 -BRUNCH IN THE GYM
 -PICTURES WITH THE EASTER BUNNY
 -HOPPIN VENDOR MARKET IN THE PAC
 -MIMOSA BAR
 \$25/ADULTS \$15/CHILD

SATURDAY, MARCH 28
10:30AM




SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION FOR 2026-2027
— Please Note These Important Dates —




Applications Now Open through March 31!
 Annual scholarship of \$6,375 for students with an IEP/ISP.
 Apply Now through the QR code or at <https://tgef-stl.org/moscholars-family/>
 MO Scholars applications will remain open until mid spring.




Applications Open January 20 until February 28!
 Several scholarships available.
 Please scan the QR code or visit their website for details and the application.
<https://tgef-stl.org/scholarships/>

Duchesne Scholarship & Tuition Assistance Applications
Open February 2 until March 9, 2026



Duchesne High School has over 20 different scholarships and tuition assistance offerings available, ranging from \$500 up to half off tuition. For more information, visit <https://www.duchesne-hs.org/scholarships.html>



Hockey Cheer Tryouts

April 15 - 17 from 4:30 - 5:00pm in the Mezzanine

The Duchesne Hockey Cheer team is a ground-bound, fun, energetic squad that supports the Duchesne Hockey Club. We are a club sport that allows students to participate in cheerleading as well as other activities during the Winter season.

Contact Coach Jenn at jennpontus@yahoo.com for more info

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