



# The Trinity Message



TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL • ALUMNI NEWSLETTER • SUMMER 2021

## FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

What can we take away from the last 16 months living through the first pandemic in our lifetime? There was much loss! I believe that many of us can say we missed something important in our lives. It may have been Easter or Christmas dinner with our family, a planned vacation, a graduation, a delayed wedding, or simply sitting with mom, dad, or grandparents. I think it is safe to say that we all missed something important to us.

Last school year, the staff at Trinity High School worked hard to keep our positive school culture. We did daily announcements on social media to stay connected. We made signs for the seniors in the Class of 2020 and put them in their yards. In fact, the school year truly did not end until baccalaureate and graduation—in late July! What a year!

We opened the 2020-2021 school year on August 26, 2021, which was both an exciting and scary time! The administration worked through so many regulations that changed weekly (if not daily), and our teachers were trained to use Google Classroom, so they could be prepared to teach students in person and from home due to quarantine. I cannot say enough how proud I am of our teachers and the efforts they made over the last 16 months to continue to educate students at a high

level in the toughest of times.

As we continued through this school year, all events were either canceled or made to fit within certain guidelines, so we had to determine how to handle each situation. After meeting to assess these events, the administrative team decided that we would only cancel an event if we could not somehow do it within the recommended guidelines. We were fortunate to have our Ring Day Mass, but we were unable to have the barbeque normally associated with Ring Day, due to public gathering and food restrictions. We were also able to have our NHS Inductions, but instead of going out to do our normal celebratory lunch, we brought the lunch back to campus for our NHS members. Unfortunately, all field trips were cancelled this year. However, we wanted our seniors to experience their senior retreat because it is an important milestone for them. While we were not able to have an overnight retreat, we did use

our two 14-passenger buses to transport our nine seniors to St. Joseph in Fordsville to have a three-day, off-campus retreat. It was a success! The administrative team could not figure out how to safely meet the guidelines for dances, so Trinity High School did not host any dances this year. Prom, sadly, was a loss at school this year. Nevertheless, I do know that some of our parents worked hard to host an off-campus event, which our students gratefully enjoyed. Once May rolled around, things began to get close to normal. Baccalaureate and graduation for the Class of 2021 were wonderful, beautiful events.

Was there loss at school? Did students get tired of masks? Were students educated? Did students learn that things are not per-

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The mission of Trinity High School is to provide a spiritual environment, together with a comprehensive educational program, dedicated to faith formation in the Roman Catholic Church. Our goal is to prepare and empower students to become lifelong learners who are responsible members of the Church, their families, and the community.



# RAIDER REPORT

By the time this is printed, I will no longer be the athletic director for Trinity High and St. Mary of the Woods Schools. When Mrs. Hernandez and Mr. Morris first discussed my finishing out the 2018-19 school year, I wasn't exactly sure of what to expect, but as a former colleague of Larry Farmer's, I knew there'd be a lot. Of course, no one could have anticipated a world-wide pandemic and its impact on athletics.

As I make the final arrangements for handing over the reins to Mr. Josh Bowlds, I reflect on lessons I have learned over the past two and a half years.

First, we have amazing coaches, at every level. People are always surprised to learn that over the course of any given year, the athletic director works with more than 55 coaches at the schools. At the high school and middle school level, the classes and certifications required from each coach are many, but that's nothing compared to the time and commitment to our students, which are required of coaches at all levels. Most of these coaches have their own families and their own jobs that they have learned to balance with their coaching responsibilities, and I marvel at how they do it all. They're not in it for the money or the fame; they love their sports, and they love our kids. Please be kind to your coaches and to their families.

Next, we have great student-athletes. Even when I wasn't involved in athletics, I knew that we had wonderful students. Now, though, I am a little more aware of how much time they put in at practices and at games. They often leave for away games at 4 or 4.30 (sometimes after brief mini-practices), not returning to school until 9.30 or later, and then they still have to finish their homework. To top that off, they often participate in camps and clinics to improve their skills. And guess what? Most of our top academic students are also involved in athletics to some extent or another. I have known this since I worked with the girls basketball team back in the mid-90's, and the fact has

always impressed me.

Also, we have the best parents and grandparents around. Trinity's athletic program could not exist without the support we have from our parents and grandparents who work (or arrange workers) for every single game, especially at gate and in the concession stands. Our parents and grandparents also tirelessly drive the kids to and from practices and are our biggest supporters at ball games. During this past year, when schedules kept getting messed up thanks to COVID cancellations and restrictions, every time I reached out to parents, I had a great response from some who would offer whatever help I needed. I am so thankful for the many times they put my mind at ease.

Finally, I cannot say enough thank yous to our supportive administrators, especially Emily Hernandez. She knows how important our athletic department is, and she wants to strengthen it, for the sake of our students and our schools. She is constantly making sure we keep up with regulations, and she is always supportive of our current, former, and future athletes. She knows that despite our small size, we are and should be competitive. She wants the best for our schools, in all areas. She answered every question I had about sports (and there were many), and I can't

thank her enough for the support she has shown me. She is a true leader for our schools.



In my 28 years at THS (and SMWS), I've seen a lot of ups and downs. As far as athletics, I've seen years when we were at the top of our game and years in which we have struggled; I've seen one sport do well in a year when another sport can't seem to get a foothold. This is common, I think, and we must always know we can be successful in any given year. What is not common is the incredible combination of coaches, kids and supporters that make Trinity and St. Mary the best places to be. I thank each of you for your kindnesses over the years, and I can't wait to see how you flourish under our new leadership. Good luck, Raiders!

**Christina Rhodes**  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

## E-NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive our e-newsletter, visit the alumni page on our website at <https://trinityhs.com/alumni/>

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fect all the time? Did students learn to be resilient and work through trying times? I think the answer to all of these questions is a resounding yes! Despite so much loss, however, there was gain. I think we all have a renewed appreciation of getting to attend mass. I think family has become a focus again. I think there is an appreciation of sitting at grandma's house and listening to her stories. I even think students are grateful to sit in classrooms together.

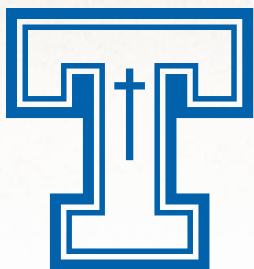
Thank you to everyone for your support this year. We are forever grateful to our

Trinity alumni. If you ever question where your money is going, know that it is going to educate a teenager in the faith, and I believe we can give no better contribution than to educate a child in the faith.

**Please know for anyone who lost a loved one during this pandemic, you have our deepest condolences, and we pray for you.**

Blessings to you and yours,

**Emily Hernandez**  
PRINCIPAL



**TRINITY**  
High School

*Your gift will  
change lives!*

Please prayerfully consider giving to this year's Trinity High School Give Back Campaign.

## GIVE BACK, GIVE TRINITY!

My 2021 gift is:

☐ \$250    ☐ \$100    ☐ \$50    ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the following for our record keeping:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Trinity High School, or you may donate securely online by visiting [www.trinityhs.com](http://www.trinityhs.com) and by clicking on Give Back, Give Trinity!

Trinity High School works diligently to be excellent stewards of all funds raised, utilizing donations at the point of greatest need during the year the gift is received. However, if you wish to designate your gift to a specific area of school life, such as tuition assistance, technology, textbooks, or athletics, please know we will honor your request. Every gift is appreciated and needed and will greatly benefit our students and families. You may also donate securely online by visiting [www.trinityhs.com](http://www.trinityhs.com) and by clicking on Give Back, Give Trinity!

## Endowment Fund

### AN INVESTMENT FOR THE FUTURE

#### Endowment Fund History

In 1988, the Trinity High School Board recognized the importance of the long term financial security of the school. It laid the groundwork for the fund. Since then, the fund has grown to over \$845,000! In the last 20 years, the fund has contributed over \$300,000 toward THS operating costs, including \$25,000 in 2021 alone!

#### How is my donation invested?

All assets donated to the Endowment Fund are positioned by the committee into various equities and fixed income investments as determined by the current financial climate. The fund targets a balanced investment portfolio of 50% stocks and 50% bonds or other fixed interest investments, such as CD's.

#### How can I donate?

Mail to: Trinity High School  
10510 Main Cross Street  
Whitesville, KY 42378

In person: Drop in the collection basket at  
St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church

Donate online: [www.trinityhs.com/endowment](http://www.trinityhs.com/endowment)

Make all checks payable to Trinity High School Endowment Fund. It is important to make this distinction to ensure your donation is being distributed to the correct fund.

*We need you!*

Every dollar counts! We have secured a donor who will match up to \$50,000 this year! This is so important for the future of Trinity High School! With your help and investment, Trinity High School will continue to persevere!

OUR GOAL FOR 2021  
*is to raise*  
**\$100,000**

Thanks to the endowment fund, our families have benefitted from lower tuition rates and have had to fundraise less due to the interest and dividends received each year!





10510 Main Cross Street • Whitesville, KY 42378

270.233.5533



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#wearetrinity

## Alumni Hall of Fame

We would love to share your story with our current students! In our Alumni Hall at Trinity High School, we feature our alumni with their picture and story. If you don't mind to share, please send your story and picture to [anna.mcdaniel@trinityhs.com](mailto:anna.mcdaniel@trinityhs.com). Please see below some of the alumni we have featured in the past!

#oncea Raider always a Raider #weareproud #wearetrinity



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Receiving mailings for your children who no longer live in your home?

Please contact the advancement office to update their information at 270.233.5533 or [anna.mcdaniel@trinityhs.com](mailto:anna.mcdaniel@trinityhs.com).