



# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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## Bronxville School's New Auditorium



The Bronxville School auditorium opened in June 1925, with seating for 730 and stage lighting and theatrical equipment said to surpass many first-class theaters of the time. Over 90 years, however, more than a few changes have been made.

The last major renovation of the Bronxville School auditorium took place in the 1960s. At that time the district modernized the facility by creating a false proscenium in front of the original, installing cove light on the sidewalls and closing off the windows, while seating remaining unchanged. Unfortunately, the modernized proscenium swallowed performance sounds, the lack of natural light reduced flexibility, and the unaltered seating contributed to poor sightlines. Since the 1960s renovations, improvements have relied on a combination of private and public funds. In 1991, a benefithonoring composer Joe Raposo generated funds to install new ceiling fans and replace seating and carpeting. In 2003, a PTA-sponsored project funded the reupholstering of the auditorium seating. Additionally, since 2003, the Bronxville School Foundation has awarded a series of grants for sound equipment, curtains and additional lights.

In spite of the generous efforts, by 2012, the auditorium was in disrepair: seats were missing; others did not stay in the upright position. Roof leaks and structural damage hindered full use and the lack of lighting and railings made the balcony areas unsafe for use - resulting in the loss of 100 seats.

In 2011, the Bronxville School Foundation provided the initial seed grant of \$850,000 towards a \$10 million project to upgrade the auditorium as well as renovate the middle school science classrooms. Additional funds were provided by the PTA and the Final Act fundraiser, with a total of \$3 million raised for these projects. The Bronxville School Board of Education raised the remaining funds through a bond referendum and work commenced Winter, 2014.

On December 16, 2015, the Bronxville School held the grand opening reception for the village to see the newly rebuilt auditorium. The new curve seating design provides for improved sightlines and incorporates seating for 508, including handicap accessible seating. The stage was designed with a removable section to allow for maximum performance space while also providing the option of additional seating or a space in the pit for performances.

Some other key features include new, larger chairs, motorized stage rigging, LED theatrical lighting, energy efficient heating and air conditioning, new wood trim and paneling and an exterior terrace overlooking the courtyard. The new auditorium is built to service our community and its students for decades to come.

Donate Now!



## THE BRONXVILLE SCHOOL FOUNDATION HISTORY

Twenty-five years ago, visionary school families realized that private philanthropy to support the Bronxville School was a smart investment in students and in our unique community. Each year, the Foundation raises funds that are awarded in a competitive grants process to the best ideas submitted by teachers, administrators, parents and students. Since 1991, the Foundation has awarded more than \$7.5 million for curriculum development, faculty training, facilities projects, technology and equipment to improve academics, athletics, visual and performing arts, extracurricular activities and student life. The Foundation's work is every bit as vital now as it was at our founding. Our alumni are an integral part of the Foundation's success. We hope you will consider supporting your special school!

### 25 YEARS OF GIVING TO THE BRONXVILLE SCHOOL

**1991**

**Marcia Lee, Chairman, holds 1st meeting of the Bronxville School Foundation**



**2001**

**BSF makes single grant of \$464,000 to outfit all Computer Labs**

**1994 & 1996**

**BSF creates brick "Alumni Walk" & Alumni Newsletter**



**1997**

**BSF reaches the \$1 million mark in funds raised**



**2007**

**1st annual Katie Welling Memorial Run inspires entire community**



**2014**

**BSF brings Chromebooks & Google Drive into the classrooms**



**2015**

**BSF grant funds the new Innovative Learning Spaces**



**2012-2015**

**The PTA, private citizens and BSF renovate the school auditorium**



**2016**

**BSF celebrates 25 years of community commitment to public education**

## TRIBUTE TO BOB SPENIK



For seven years, spanning most of the 1960s, the Bronxville football team was a dominant force in Section 1. These teams compiled a 52-4 record, including a 50-1 stretch and a 37 game win streak that stood as a New York State record for many years. Leading the boys during this impressive time was head coach, Bob Spenik. More than one hundred former players, coaches, cheerleaders and friends gathered at Siwanoy Country Club on Saturday, April 9, 2016 to honor Coach Spenik. They traveled from distances far and wide, including California, Texas, Arizona and Colorado. Announcing that he was "going to brag a little, Coach Spenik began the evening with a rousing speech to his former players. He reminisced on the glory days of his program, detailing how during an unsettled time in our nation's history, the Bronxville Broncos gave the school and community something positive around which to rally. He thanked his former assistants, in particular Ron Catena, Bob McGrath and Chris Vancura.

Coach McGrath also addressed the crowd, thanking them for such great memories and lasting friendships. A captain from each of seven teams was present, and many more shared the stage to recollect and celebrate their football experiences, and, more importantly to articulate the ways in which Coach Spenik and his assistants influenced their lives. Those who spoke were: Christy Patt ('67); Al Mingrone; Tom Sanford and Frank Winant (class of '64); Roger Haile ('65); Rick Renner and Toby Campion ('66); Bob Kettle ('67); Page Thompson ('68); Jim Fernald, Bobby Linder & Jay Van Kirk ('69); Randy Ely ('70); Richard Reach and Tom Denniston ('71).

At the encouragement of his college roommate and long time friend, Al Mingrone (whom I knew??), Bob Spenik left the Tuckahoe school district and joined the staff at the Bronxville High School in 1963. He spent seven years teaching math and coaching football before leaving both to join the administration. He served as Principal and eventually retired as the Assistant Superintendent of Schools. Coach Spenik left an indelible impression on the entire Bronxville community, and, as witnessed by the large crowd drawn to honor him, his legacy on the gridiron was among the most lasting.



## FAREWELL TO FACULTY



J. Corvini, M. Schenck, G. Stockton, J. Brogan



C. Yochim



T. Curran

**JANET CORVINI** has been teaching for 40 years. After receiving a Bachelor of Music from Manhattanville College with a double major in Music Education and Clarinet Performance. In 2001, Janet began her career at the Bronxville School. She has taught Band at Bronxville for 15 years and several levels of General Music and Special Education classes during her time here. Over the course of those 15 years, Janet has seen the student population at Bronxville increase in size. Technology has become an integral part of curriculum development and instruction. Much of the new technology Janet enjoyed using included Smart Boards in the ESMusic rooms and Smart Music, which were grants from the Foundation.

Janet has enjoyed being able to watch her students grow from Kindergarten to High School college bound seniors with so many hopes and dreams for their futures. She said, "It has been a privilege to work with such highly motivated creative and critical thinking students. I am always learning from the students. It has been an honor to be a part of a gifted community of educators who have inspired me to hold myself to the highest standards possible for teaching and learning." Janet is leaving Bronxville with a very heavy heart and closing this chapter of her life will be difficult. Upon retirement from Bronxville, Janet plans to continue playing professionally, travel, serve as an adjudicator at NYSSMA Festivals and she will be the President Elect of the Westchester School Music Association.

**TIM CURRAN** began his teaching career at The Eagle Hill School, a private residential school for students with learning disabilities in Hardwick, Massachusetts. He has taught in the Bronxville Elementary School for thirty years, having taught science for 29 of those 30 years. Additionally he taught PE for one year during 2005/2006; replacing a PE teacher that had retired. While he enjoyed his experience as a PE teacher, he was happy to return to teaching science! What Tim has enjoyed most about his job is teaching and engaging young learners. "It is a gratifying feeling to observe a student learn

something new during an experiment or discussion (the aha moment.)" Additionally, during his time at Bronxville he coached the varsity girls softball and boys varsity lacrosse team for ten years. During that time he also coached boys and girls modified sports. Tim also built the 'teaching garden' along Meadow Avenue for students to learn about agriculture. Teaching and coaching have been a lifelong passion of his. After three decades at Bronxville, Tim is looking forward to substitute teaching in his home town of North Salem, traveling, playing golf, hiking, gardening, watching his son Jonathan's Catholic University College lacrosse games, and spending time with his daughter Margaret.

**MARY SCHENCK** has been a teacher at Bronxville School for 30 years teaching middle and high school. Prior to Bronxville, Mary taught English at New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL. She moved to the New York area when her husband got a job in the Manhattan DA's office. Mary taught 9th graders as part of an interdisciplinary teaching team that combined history, English and Art in a course inspired by the Coalition of Essential Schools. In fact, the mural of the Renaissance outside the new auditorium was painted by one of those interdisciplinary classes!

Over the course of 30 years of teaching, the most obvious transformation has been in the use of technology. Way back when, Mary relied on mimeograph machines, film and slide projectors, and chalkboards as her classroom tools. Technology has made it much easier for students and teachers to bring a world of resources into the classroom with a touch of a button. Mary has loved her job as a teacher because it is purposeful work that has allowed her to be a lifelong learner and a passionate explorer of ideas. She has found joy in watching her students become excited and curious about the world, and fall in love with language. Mary has been an active member of the Bronxville School community, serving on the Staff Development Board and on the BTA Executive Council. Deciding to retire was a difficult decision for Mary. She will

miss her students, her colleagues, and the daily routine, but she felt the time had come to explore other interests. First, she will rest and enjoy not having to grade papers every weekend! After that, she plans to travel, take courses, and treasure time with friends and family.

**GLENN STOCKTON** is retiring after 15 years of teaching Social Studies to 8th graders at the Bronxville School. Before becoming a teacher, he started his career as a graphic designer and then he moved on to teaching at Bronxville. Now he says he is ready for something completely different. Glenn will miss the students and his inspired, talented co-workers.

When asked what key changes he has seen during his tenure, Glenn says he has watched the staff get younger and technology start to emerge into students' lives, both personally and in the classroom. While technology is the future, he hopes students never give up on reading and the benefits it provides. Glenn looks forward to embracing the next chapter in his life.

**CHUCK YOCHIM** has announced his retirement after 23 years of teaching Math at the Bronxville School. Over 3000 students have had the benefit of learning from Mr. Yochim throughout his total 31 year teaching career that was started in New Rochelle. At Bronxville, he has taught Math 6 every year with a few 7's sprinkled in. Everyone will also remember Chuck for his math facts too. You remember those don't you? When asked what has changed during his 23 year tenure at Bronxville, he replied, "When I first came to Bronxville, there were approximately 75 students in the entire sixth grade, and four core subject teachers plus foreign language. We were truly a team. Everyone of us taught every student, and we were able to sit down as a group and share our perspectives on each student as we saw them through the lenses of our disciplines. It was a wonderful opportunity to know the social and academic issues students were facing, as we knew every child in the grade."

While ambivalent about retiring, he also believes the school population has grown and that it is more difficult to have the same types of sharing of knowledge of students by faculty, but, regardless, he says he will miss the interaction with the students and his professional colleagues.

Chuck says he is ready for the next chapter of his career, where he can combine his expertise in education with his background in writing. After starting his first career as a radio broadcaster and journalist, publishing his work could be his next job.

**JIM BROGAN** is retiring from the Bronxville School after 19 years as a Middle School Guidance Counselor. Jim has been helping children navigate their lives for many years. Before Bronxville, Jim worked as a guidance counselor for twelve years for the Greenburgh Elementary School District, and as a youth counselor for the New York State Division for Youth at Lincoln Hall and at the Children's Village. Jim has seen

Bronxville go through many changes, but the most remarkable change for him has been the growth in class sizes. When he first started, each grade numbered approximately 100 students, a number that in recent years has grown to 120 or more. For Jim, the best part about this job has been that every day is different and that the kids in Bronxville are great: polite, energetic, and hardworking. In addition, the faculty is first rate and the parents are engaged and supportive, making it a wonderful work environment.

Over the course of his 19 years at Bronxville, Jim has served extra duties as a chaperone for the Williamsburg and Washington, DC trips, as a member of the Middle School Special Events Team, and coordinating the state testing for the Middle School.

Jim says she has mixed feelings about this retirement. He will miss the job he has loved, but he is looking forward to the free time and opportunity to try new things. First on the list to do is the purchase of a boat, which will allow him to enjoy the Hudson River and, when he's in Florida, the Gulf of Mexico.

**DONNA BIANCO** has taught Resource Room for every grade from K thru 6th for 16 years at Bronxville. For the last 3 years she has been offsite at St. Joseph's School and the Chapel School coordinating the District Special Ed. Programs for those schools. All told: 19 years in the Bronxville District. During her tenure she has been involved on the Tri State Committee, on the BTA Executive Council, and as a teacher mentor. In addition, she has been involved in the many efforts that her grade levels supported: Third Grade Circus, Diwali Celebrations, Math Night, & curriculum development.

Key changes Donna has seen in both the school and the students during the time that she has been teaching are that children have many more demands placed on them. They are also more technically savvy, but may not be as aware of the simple things in life. Children are STILL fun, wonderful and delightful in many ways, but they have a lot on their plates. For Donna, the best part of her job has been THE KIDS, THE KIDS, AND THEN..... her COLLEAGUES. She will miss that in retirement.

There is a time and a season for everything. Both of her children attended the Bronxville School and have graduated. She is ready for some change. Not really retirement, as she knows she will be working with children in some capacity. She really likes children, they teach her a lot. She also plans on fine tuning her equestrian skills, spending more time with her parents because "I am lucky to have them," and enjoying her family. Donna will start with an anniversary trip to Italy with her husband Jim in the fall. She thinks family, health and opportunity are a gift and wants to have some time for all of that while she can.

Connect with us on Facebook!  
Bronxville School Foundation  
Alumni Group



# BHS ALUMNI REUNIONS

2015 Reunions were a big success. The classes of 1955, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980 and 1990 gathered in Bronxville for Fall Football and fun. The Reunion activities included the traditional Friday night informal gatherings followed by nostalgia-filled Saturday morning school tours as classmates reminisced through the old BHS hallways. After taking in a few Bronxville sports during the day, the culminating event was the Saturday night gathering. In a break from tradition, the class of 1989 gathered together to celebrate their 25th a year later!

## Class of '55 60th Reunion



## Class of '75 40th Reunion



## Class of '70 45th Reunion



## Class of '90 25th Reunion



## Class of '90 25th Reunion



**2016 UPCOMING REUNIONS**  
 1966 50th Reunion, October 7/8, 2016  
 1976 40th Reunion  
 1996 20th Reunion  
**HOME COMING WEEKEND**  
 September 29/30 & October 1, 2016

## BRONCO 2015 Scoreboard

**Fall 2015**  
 Girls Cross Country won League and Sectional Championships  
 Boys Cross Country won League Championship  
 Field Hockey won League and Sectional Championships  
 Girls Tennis won League Championship  
 Girls Soccer won League Championship  
 Boys Soccer won League Championship  
 Girls Swimming sent 4 qualifiers to the state championships (1 individual swimmer and 1 relay)

**Winter 2016**  
 Nine Broncos awarded All-Section honors and 42 received All-League awards  
 Girls Indoor Track won their 36th consecutive League Championship and their 20th Section 1, Class C Championship  
 Girls Indoor Track won 4 medals at the Yale Track Classic  
 Boys Indoor Track won their 10th consecutive League Championship  
 Varsity Squash won the Fairwest Cup  
 Middle School Squash teams won Division 1 & 2 titles at the Fairwest MS Championship  
 Nine qualifiers for the US Junior Squash Championship—three placed 2nd, 3rd and 4th in their respective age groups  
 Boys Swimming – 3 state qualifiers



Katie's Run has become a Thanksgiving Tradition for the Bronxville Community. The run is in memory of Katie Welling, a 2002 Bronxville graduate and established by her classmates. The memory of Katie's wonderful sense of humor, her infectious laugh, and her love of life still shapes and colors our lives and keeps us all forever connected with her. This was evident all morning long as over 400 participants including BHS Alumni and current school families enjoyed the event this past November, 2015. For a list of donors and pictures visit [www.bronxvilleschoolfoundation.org](http://www.bronxvilleschoolfoundation.org)



Save the Date! 9th Annual Katie Welling Memorial Run/Walk  
 Saturday, November 26, 2016-We'll See You There!

### Bronxville School Alumni Walk

The Alumni Walk, created in 1994, has been enthusiastically built by donations from graduates of all ages, entire classes, as well as families and friends wishing to honor former students. More than 1500 bricks grace the path at the entrance to the Bronxville School. Add your brick today by completing the enclosed card or calling the Foundation Office at 914-395-0515.



### In Memoriam

Gifts in memory of alumni, faculty, parents, or friends of the Bronxville School have a very special meaning. These thoughtful remembrances contribute to the Foundation's programs and honor the memory of the individual. This year we recognize the following:

David W. Foster '78, Mary Chamberlin Kirk '41, Whitney Curtis Lattanzio '84, Peter P. Mullen, Member Bronxville Board of Education 1974-1980, Jack Riehm '69, Linda G. Vernon, Member Bronxville School Faculty 1983-2002, Lila Smyth '14

## 2015 ALUMNI DONORS

Alumni gifts include donations to our Annual Alumni Campaign, Alumni Brick Walk, Class Gifts and The Katie Welling Memorial Run. Alumni donations to The Foundation benefit every aspect of current Bronxville Students' experience.  
**PAY IT FORWARD!**

Janet Johson '35	Suzanne Wise '62	John Marshall, Jr. '75	Jennifer Wilson	Brittany Lynch '05
Paul Littlefield '38	Mary Allen '64	Thomas McGehee '75	Buttigieg '85	Emma Matthy '05
Joan Cavanaugh '41	Mary Koether Ballard '64	Maggie Griffen	J. Steuart Marshall '86	Matthew Nagle '05
Audrey Ashley '42	Brad Barton '64	Marrone, Jr. '76	Susan D. Hawkins	Wyatt Yankus '05
Jane Mitchell '44	Bill Black '64	Sarah Mollman	Moore '87	Alison Beck '06
Barbara Dietrich '49 &	Elizabeth Butler '64	Underhill '76	Jack Herndon '87	James Dawson '06
Bob McGrath '45	Christopher Canny '64	David L. Corr '76	William Knox '87	Amanda Hudson '06
Claire Collins '45	Margot Dell '64	Suzanne Miller Bloomer '77	Jennifer Clarke	Lyle Kau '06
Barbara Marshall '45	Henry W. Doyle, III '64	Michele Epley Bond '77	McGrath '88	Annabelle Murphy '06
Theodore Doege '46	Jeffrey Fannon '64	Paul Benziger, Jr. '77	Elisa Shevlin Rizzo '89	Lauren Dawson '08
Alfred Latimer II '46	Madelaine Gill '64	Alexander Ciaputa '77	Kim Wilson Wetty '89	Christie Gietl '08
S. Gilmer Towell '46	L. Gordon Harriss '64	Roger Goodell '77	Kelly Mulcahy Dolan '90	Melanie Wetton '08
John Anderson '48	Eric Karlen '64	Michael Sargent '77	Anne Walker Ruiz '92	Thomas Dawson '10
Robert Morell Coon,	Elena Kroulas '64	Sharon Shuttleworth '77	Thomas Childs '93	Brooke Gogel '10
Jr. '48	William Lawrence '64	Sue Kelty Law '78	Sandra DeFeo	Alexandra Lynch '10
Elizabeth Fraser '48	C. David Leach '64	Brian Byrne '78	Borducci '97 &	Katherine Marrone '10
Eleanor Pennell '48	Mary Marchant '64	Guy Longobardo '78	Peter Borducci, Jr. '94	Jessica Tarangioli '10
Alison Wood '48	Tina Morrison '64	Laurie Parker '78	Emily Eustis Liggitt '96	Michaela Donohue '11
Phyllis Howell '50	Larry Ransom '64	Brendan Sachtjen '78	Christina Caspersen '98	Grace Connors '12
Robert Riggs '51	Susan Raschke '64	Mary Taylor Behrens '79	Byron Athans '98	Ashley Gietl '12
Patricia Pride Eaton '52	Thomas Sanford '64	Lucy Mullen Ball '79	Clayton Pope '98	James Harrison '12
Laura Stichter-Bryson '52	Tucker Tyler '64	George Shively '79	W. Brice Contessa '99	Amy Pepe '12
Audrey Bower '52	Bob Warrington '64	Beth Taylor Aherne '80	Christina Browne '00	Olivia Estes '13
Howard Broek '52	Sue Watts '64	Helen Knapp	Matthew Butler '00	Courtney Campbell '14
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Linda Beckett Young	Frederick McGrath '73	Amy Thornton	Caroline Mullen '03	
Delaney '58	Kevin Connors '74	Charlton '85	Catha Mullen '03	
Eric von Schilgen '58	Andrew Paul '74	Julie McNally Daher '85	Helen Millson '04	
Carol Kinne '60	Wesley Sawyer '74	Didi Bender '85 &	Kelly Cassidy '05	
Susan Teipel Murphy '61	Peggy Benziger Williams '75	Frederick Romley '85	Eliza Ann Cassin '05	
Adrienne Sullivan	Laura Flannery Pettee '87 &	Melissa Epley Warble '85	Julia Castagna '05	
Smith '62	Jeffrey Pettee '75		Alexander Doyle '05	



**Thank You  
to Our Donors!**