

# BRONXVILLE ALUMNI NEWS BSF

Dear Alumni,

It is hard to believe it is already 2024! Fall flew by in the BSF office - our excellent student guides hosted five class reunions, J. McLaughlin and Zwickler & Zacher hosted two successful shopping events, and the Katie Welling Run was a record-breaking success! As a proud alumna (Class of '96) and a (tired) mom of five current Broncos, the joy, commitment, and spirit of our community was unparalleled.

You continue to show incredible support for both our school and our students - your generous donations raised over \$100,000 from the Alumni Drive, Katie's Run, Alumni Walk brick purchases, and donations to the newly created McGrath and Harriss Funds last year. This money helped to fund grants in areas like Artificial Intelligence (new courses), History (National History Day research and presentation coaches), the Arts (a new state-of-the-art stage projector and projection screen for the Auditorium), and Athletics (an expanded athletic training room and new record boards for Track & Field). In partnership with the PTA, we are finalizing an outdoor classroom for all to enjoy. Both the Elementary and High Schools were named Blue Ribbon Schools in the past two years, and the Foundation's support was integral in achieving such great accolades.

We need your continued support to keep the momentum going! There are so many ways you can support the BSF - make a donation to the Alumni Drive or consider buying a brick in the Alumni Walk for yourself, a classmate, or to honor a favorite teacher or administrator. If you live locally in Bronxville and have kids attending the school, help them give back to their community and share some of that lemonade stand profit, show them how much you value their education with a gift, and buy bricks in the Alumni Walk for them when they graduate. All donations are greatly appreciated - and no gift is too small!

Wishing you all my best in the year ahead,

Catherine O'Connor Williams '96  
VP Alumni Committee

## Bronxville High School Designated as a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School

Bronxville High School has been awarded the prestigious designation of a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools based on overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among students. The award affirms and validates the hard work of educators, families, and communities in striving for and attaining exemplary achievement. Schools are recognized for demonstrating effective and innovative teaching and learning practices and supporting teachers and staff through meaningful professional learning opportunities. On November 17, Principal Ann Meyer and Director of Curriculum Mara Koetke received the award in Washington, DC.



"The students at Bronxville are outstanding," Ms. Meyer said. "Our faculty are tremendous educators dedicated to providing a meaningful high school experience to our students. The parents and community are true partners with us in providing this unparalleled education. The Bronxville Promise is our vision and each day, as a community of learners, we seek to live up to it in new and innovative ways."

Since its founding in 1922, the Bronxville School has been committed to providing an excellent education. In addition to providing traditional measures of achievement, the high school engages students in authentic learning experiences that go beyond content mastery and focus on competencies that prepare them for post-secondary pursuits. Bronxville educators' work is guided by the Bronxville Promise, which focuses on student well-being and teaches students to lead, innovate, think critically, and engage the world. At Bronxville High School, educators have designed instruction that replicates the work of historians, artists, musicians, engineers, researchers, writers, mathematicians, filmmakers and scientists; and students publicly share their work and receive feedback not only from teachers, but from experts within the field.

Bronxville Elementary School was named a 2022 National Blue Ribbon School.

National Blue Ribbon Schools serve as models of effective and innovative school practices for state and district educators and other schools throughout the nation. In a statement, U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona congratulated this year's awardees on fostering academic excellence and building positive school cultures that support students and allows them to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

## Spotlight on Dr. Rachel Kelly, Bronxville's Superintendent of Schools

Congratulations to Dr. Rachel Kelly on her appointment as Superintendent of Schools! Dr. Kelly served as the District's Interim Superintendent following the retirement of Dr. Roy Montesano. The Board selected Dr. Kelly after a comprehensive search process informed by community input to help develop job specifications. The search produced a large and impressive group of candidates from high-performing districts.

A 28-year veteran of the Bronxville School, Dr. Kelly previously served as Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Pupil Personnel Services. In that role, she was responsible for recruiting and maintaining Bronxville's exceptional faculty and staff, and she standardized hiring processes across the schools. As a partner to previous superintendents, she has been a leader in strengthening academic excellence through innovation, improving communication, and cultivating a culture of inclusion.



Dr. Kelly champions the philosophy of educating the 'whole child.' She has developed strong support systems for students and built collaborative relationships with faculty, parents, and the larger community. Dr. Kelly was part of the team that developed the original 2014 Bronxville Promise "Dispositions" as well as the expanded 2019 Bronxville Promise "Outcomes."

Board of Education President Susan Conniff said that the Board learned a great deal about other districts, as well as its own, throughout the search process, and that candidates consistently praised the Bronxville Promise and the District's leadership team. "For decades, Dr. Kelly has been central to shaping the vision of our District and reimagining what success might look like for all students, now and in the future," said Ms. Conniff. "The entire Board has the utmost confidence that Dr. Kelly has the experience, energy, tenacity, and thoughtfulness to lead the Bronxville School, staying on the forefront of change in the future of education and cultivating a culture of collaboration and respect."

Dr. Kelly joined the district in 1995 as its first Director of Special Education, taking on student support ("pupil personnel") services in 2002 and assuming responsibility for human resources in 2014 when she was named Assistant Superintendent. Prior to joining the Bronxville School, Dr. Kelly worked at a private school in Westchester County as a teacher and Assistant Principal. She graduated from SUNY Binghamton and earned three Masters degrees and her PhD from Columbia University.

"I am incredibly honored to have been selected as the next Superintendent of the Bronxville School and thank the Board of Education for placing its trust in me," said Dr. Kelly. "This District has long been renowned for its high academic achievement, consistent ability to meet the needs of all students, strong and caring faculty, and a supportive community. I am proud to have been intimately involved with this District for nearly three decades." She continued, "With all students, K-12, housed in one building, Bronxville is a truly unique and special place and I am grateful for how it allows me to be surrounded by and interact daily with faculty, staff, and students."

## Buy a Brick in the Alumni Walk to Honor Someone Special



Please consider buying a brick for a special staff member or alum and think how much fun it will be returning to the Bronxville School for a visit to find the name "written in stone" in the Alumni Walk. Created in 1994, the Alumni Walk has grown through brick purchases by graduates of all ages. More than 2,400 bricks have been placed in front of the flagpole and the auditorium terrace. To buy a brick, please visit the Foundation's website at [www.bronxvilleschoolfoundation.org/alumni-2/buy-a-brick/](http://www.bronxvilleschoolfoundation.org/alumni-2/buy-a-brick/).

As a token of the Foundation's deep gratitude for all that he has done over the years to support the Bronxville School and Katie's Run, a brick in Jim Agnello's name will be placed in the Alumni Walk this spring. Jim has been a deeply valued member of the school staff for 26 years and a true friend to the Bronxville community.

## We Love to Hear from the Alumni Community

It was WONDERFUL to see so many classes coming together for reunions this year!

The Foundation would like to help all Bronxville School alumni to stay connected and to hear your feedback. Did you recently move, change your email address, or do you have exciting information you'd like to share with us? The best way to stay in touch with the Bronxville School is to make sure we have your current contact information so we can send you the alumni newsletter, invitations to events, and other important alumni news. Please visit [www.bronxvilleschoolfoundation.org/alumni-2/](http://www.bronxvilleschoolfoundation.org/alumni-2/) to update your current contact information and complete our brief alumni survey.



STAY CONNECTED



Class of 1973



Classes of 1977 & 1978



Class of 1983



Class of 1993



Class of 1998



Class of 2018



Baseball Batting Cages



Percussion Equipment



Printmaking in Visual Arts



Artificial Intelligence Classes

## FACILITIES

- Athletic Training Room Upgrades
- Auditorium Projector & Projection Curtain
- Bronco Barn Bottle Filler Station
- Staff Lounge Furnishings
- Gaga Pit
- Life Skills/Speech Flexible Furniture
- Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy Suite

## EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

- Art Display Boards & Cases
- Biotech Start-up Supplies
- Decodable Texts for Reading Instruction
- Elementary School Book Vending Machine
- First Grade Classroom Flexible Seating
- Lacrosse Goals
- Percussion Equipment for Band
- Performing Arts Sound Equipment
- Probeware for Science
- Scout Field Batting Cage Refurbishment
- Steeplechase Equipment
- Track & Field Record Board
- Production Set-Building Tools & Equipment
- Velocity Training Equipment

## PROGRAM & CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

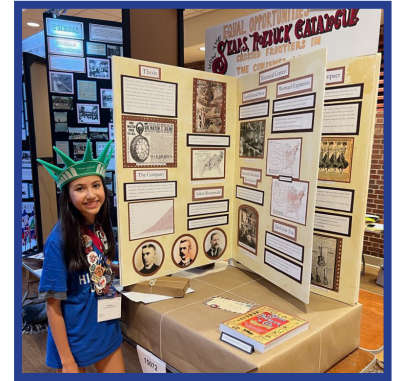
- AI Classes & Programmer in Residence
- Chamber Music Coaching Sessions
- Civil Discourse in High School
- Commissioned Musical Piece for Band
- Hacker Camp
- International Thespian Troupe - 2023
- Nat'l History Day Research & Presentation Coaches
- Social Studies Alignment for Grades 6-12

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- "Design Thinking" Sessions - Phase 2
- Scaling Up Elementary School Innovations
- "Design Thinking" Sessions - Phase 2
- Building Middle School Identity
- Orton Gillingham Reading Training

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

- Meddy Teddys for Mindfulness
- Strength & Conditioning Specialist
- Teen Mental Health Training



National History Day Coaches



Health & Wellness



The OT/PT Suite



Track Equipment

## Harriss Fund Drives History Curriculum Enhancements

With deep gratitude to the Class of '64 and many friends and family members of L. Gordon Harriss, the Bronxville School put generous Harriss Fund donations to work immediately, making valuable Social Studies curriculum enhancements in the last year. National History Day research and presentations were taken to a whole new level through a grant funding visiting coaches who specialize in film, performing arts, web, and media design, enabling students to engage the world through deeply thoughtful and creative projects.



Social Studies teachers in grades 6-12 also engaged in curriculum work to align historical thinking skills and enduring issues of history and develop lesson plans focused on annotation and writing skills. Two more grants enabled teachers to attend the National Council for Social Studies Conference and pursue professional development opportunities with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.



## Bronxville Alum Wins Primetime Emmy

Miloš Balać from the Class of 2007 recently won a Primetime Emmy award for Outstanding Unstructured Reality Program for his work on FX/Hulu's documentary series 'Welcome to Wrexham,' which follows new football club owners Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney. Miloš attended Cornell University and Columbia's School of Journalism and has subsequently worked for various news organizations and production companies. Miloš said it was "incredibly fun and satisfying to be recognized" for his work on the series.

## Former Broncos Join 30 Rock Team

Andrea Shepard, Santa Clara University '23  
Ned McCann, Villanova University '23

Andrea and Ned joined the NBCUniversal Page Program in NYC in September. The year-long rotational program provides a unique work experience in the media industry. Pages give studio tours and work audience services across shows including The Tonight Show and Saturday Night Live! Andrea is finishing up with Telemundo Corporate Communications supporting senior executives and will move to the Saturday Night Live! Desk for production services. Ned works in Advertising Sales-Business Operations collaborating with internal teams/external clients for the Apple News platform. He will join The Kelly Clarkson Show in February to lead Pages on the show assisting day-to-day operations. Best experience together? Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade! They walked the parade route ending with a front row performance of Cher.



## The Bronxville School Debuts New Theatre Technology

Bronxville High School students debuted exciting new theatre technology in their fall production of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time." Under the expert guidance of theatre director Robert Cross, the production was professional-grade with the infusion of a state-of-the-art stage projector and rear-projection screen, courtesy of a Foundation grant. Thanks to the new theatre technology and an intrepid cast and crew, stage projections transported the audience from the streets of London to outer space and everywhere in between. Going forward, Cross and his students have countless possibilities to stage the previously unstageable.



## McGrath Fund Yields Immediate Benefits to Bronco Athletes

Just a little more than a year since the Coach Bob McGrath Fund for Athletics was established, its impact has been truly amazing. Thanks to the generous donations of members of the McGrath family, alumni, and the larger Bronxville community, the McGrath Fund has already funded several grants with high impact. A newly expanded and enhanced training room allows student athletes to get pre/post practice and game treatment and rehabilitate injuries. The equipment and furniture includes a stationary bike, two treatment tables, a hydrocollator, and a multi-purpose combination rack. In addition, prominently displayed outside the doors leading to the Bronco Athletics offices and locker rooms, a new track board displays current records held by past and present members of Bronxville's Track & Field team. The new record board that displays the team's many accomplishments over the years serves as a great motivator for current and future athletes. The McGrath Fund has also funded the purchase of new lacrosse goals and velocity training equipment for Bronco athletes.



## Lacrosse Alums Back in Action



On November 24th, Bronxville lacrosse alumni played an inaugural alumni game on Hayes Field. Graduates had the unique opportunity to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones. The Bronxville Lacrosse Alumni Association strives to connect players, alumni, and friends of the Bronxville Lacrosse community, to deepen the relationships which began at the Bronxville School. For more information, contact Luke Arrighi '24 at [lukearrighi@gmail.com](mailto:lukearrighi@gmail.com) or join the group on LinkedIn.

## Former Bronco and Michigan Teammates Win College Football Playoff National Championship

Henry Donohue, a 2021 graduate of Bronxville High School and All-Section running back for the Broncos, hoped to play football in college, but the pandemic interfered with the recruiting process. While many states allowed high school football in the fall of 2020, New York postponed the season until the spring, and Donohue did not have the usual senior highlight tapes to send to schools. Undeterred, he decided to go to Michigan and hoped to walk on to the team.

Donohue reached out to the Michigan coaches during his senior year and met with them when he visited the campus. In October of his freshman year, he tried out for the team, but the coach he had been in contact with left to coach at Washington. Donohue did not give up, got in touch with that coach's replacement, and was invited to join the Wolverines in January of his freshman year.

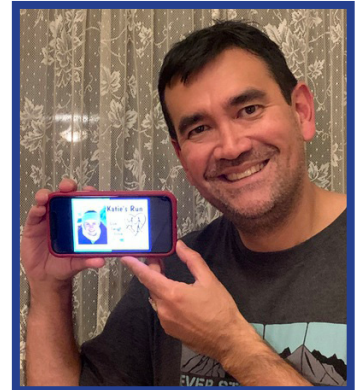


Donohue has seen the field multiple times, mostly on special teams, but he has also gotten in a couple times at running back. Donohue's hard work on the Michigan football team has also extended to the classroom. He was named a Big Ten Distinguished Scholar in 2023 and was also recognized as an Academic All-Big Ten honoree in 2022.

Michigan football made history this fall by surpassing 1000 all-time wins and becoming the winningest team in college football history. The Wolverines won the Big Ten Championship for the third year in a row, and went on to win the Rose Bowl and then the College Football Playoff National Championship.



This beloved Thanksgiving tradition, which honors the memory of Katie Welling '02, was an in-person event this year with a virtual option for out-of-towners. The event, which benefits the Bronxville School Foundation, also honors Tom Welling, Katie's dad who passed away in 2022. In its seventeenth year, Katie's Run raised over \$27,000, and turnout was extraordinary with nearly 400 participants and donors. Beyond the Bronxville area, people showed their support from California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas. Thank you to all of the participants for making the event so special!



Alumni gifts include donations to our Annual Alumni Campaign, Alumni Brick Walk, Class Gifts, and the Katie Welling Memorial Run. Our donor list includes gifts for the period between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023. Alumni donations to the Foundation benefit every aspect of current Bronxville School students' experience.

Brad Lynch '45	Kate McGrath Bailey '74	Katie Moseley Krieg '91	Patrick Clarke '05	Connor Randall '21
Shay Lynch '47	Kevin Connors '74	Michael Herman '92	Allison Gietl '05	Michael Randall '21
Linda Leary Whitney '48	Andy Paul '74	Toby Smith '92	Christopher Bush '07	Will Swenson '21
Bumpty Dietrich McGrath '49	Anne Fannon Appleby '75	Scott Sumption '93	Christie Gietl '08	James Swenson '21
Veronica Carroll Norton '50	Thomas McGehee '75	Peter Borducci, Jr. '94	Bradford Marvin III '08	Spencer Blumenreich '22
William B. Webber '50	Peggy Benziger Williams '75	Kellie Grogan '95	Tevon Troja Palermo '08	Elizabeth Burnell '22
Bob Riggs '51	Maggie Griffin Marrone '76	Christopher Harriss '95	Chris Tannen '08	Teddy Dolan '22
Richard S. Tully '52	Robert McGrath '76	Maura Fitzgerald Herman '96	Jessica Murrer Husband '09	Isabella Horvers '22
Robert Granger '53	Sarah Mollman Underhill '76	Emily Eustis Liggitt '96	Marielle Juliet Licursi '10	Maggie Krieg '22
Emily Lynch '53	Class of 1977	Alexis Pope Porter '96	Henry Palermo '11	Sabrina Latham '22
Douglas Horne '54	Suzanne Miller Bloomer '77	Jennifer Walsh Wells '96	Nicholas Converse '12	Sofia Mercado '22
Oliver Stafford '54	Douglas Bond '77	Catherine O'Connor Williams '96	Ashley Gietl '12	Kiki Tormey '22
Gail Manning Car '56	Bill Gay '77	Meghan Mitchell Allen '97	Alina Atayan '13	Julia Narkaj '22
Anne Spencer Flannery '57	Roger Goodell '77	Sandra DeFeo-Borducci '97	Courtney Campbell '14	James Rohr '22
Mary Rosenquest Pagnucco '57	Elizabeth Hunt '77	The Gerken Family '97	Madison Campbell '14	Will Stupart '22
Rupert Johnson, Jr. '58	Mike Sargent '77	Kathryn Mulcahy Godino '97	Meredith Donovan '14	Aidan Sulimirski '22
George "Punch" Pellingner '58	Brian Byrne '78	Matthew Harriss '97	Perry Meade '14	Jakob Adkins '23
Peter Hawes '59	David W. Foster '78	Bryan Hart '97	Stephen Walsh '14	Owen Atkeson '23
Betsy Grogan '62	Susan Kelty Law '78	Peter Honig '97	Caroline Cahaney '15	Anna Becker '23
Adrienne Sullivan Smith '62	Guy Longobardo '78	Kate Shearer '97	Brendan Carty '15	Gavin Benton '23
Suzanne Dyer Wise '62	Joe Pepe '78	Allison Murphy Woods '97	Killian Donohue '15	Remy Bhatia '23
Tad Campion '63	Class of 1978	Scott Burns '98	Peyton Elder '15	Rachel Conniff '23
Patricia Edwards '63	Mary Taylor Behrens '79	Stephen Kenney '98	Charlotte Reynolds '15	Fiona Denning '23
Randolph Evans '63	Catherine Brown '79	Chad DeMartini '98	Jillian Rohr '15	Munira Dhuliyawalla '23
Thomas Hughes '63	Beth Taylor Aherne '80	PJ Doyle '98	Matthew Bettino '16	Jeremy Freeman '23
Harry Tether '63	Mariellen S. Carpenter '80	Peter Goodson '98	Jack Gelinias '16	Joey Gallo '23
Mary Allen '64	Gerald J. Conway '81	Stephen Kenney '98	Andrew Harwood, Jr. '16	Ian Bernard Gegenwarth '23
Mary Koether Ballard '64	Betsy McGrath Finneran '81	Allison Walsh Pick '98	William Purdy '16	Ellis Drake Goodson '23
Christopher Canny '64	George Hardart '81	Clayton Pope '98	Ara Atayan '17	Daniel Kao '23
Elena Koutsis Kroulas '64	Jack Randall '81	Thomas Welling, Jr. '98	Daniel Bettino '18	Brooke Kaye '23
Randy Leach '64	John Zidik '81	Helen Welling	Jack McSherry '18	Dashiell Kwan '23
Bob Marshall '64	Class of 1983	Kurt Welling	Grace Randall '18	Natalie Grace Latham '23
Larry Ransom '64	Steve Elliott '84	Marnie Sanborn Burns '99	Tyler Robert Stupart '18	Jay Marshall '23
Bob Warrington '64	John Kelty '84	Mariel Rittenhouse Goodson '99	Alex Swenson '18	Jack Martin '23
James McElyea '66	Eddie Sulimirski '84	Timothy Athans '00	Katharine Ungvary '18	Aidan McBride '23
Buz Minor '66	Julie McNally Daher '85	Matt Butler '00	Margaret Anne McAllister '19	Joseph Matthews '23
Christopher Bastis '67	Steu Marshall '86	Elizabeth Hayden Fitzgerald '00	Matthew Pytosh '19	Cian Filippo Merluccio '23
MaryAnne Denniston '67	Billy Knox '87	James Fitzgerald '00	Ashton G. Smith '19	Saya Mueller '23
Peter Doyle '67	Sheila Farina '88	Joseph Manganiello '00	Sophia Sulimirski '19	Gabriela Narkaj '23
Martha Harriss '67	Mike Mandala '88	Leah Gogel Pope '00	Jacoby Dake Goodson '20	Chris O'Brien Patterson '23
Elizabeth Harriss	Carrie Moseley Mandala '88	Beth Primps Fulton '01	Grace McSherry '20	Pierce Patterson '23
Christy Patt '67	Saskia Brookfield Martin '88	Angus Smith '01	Conner Stoltz '20	Mark Pytosh '23
Tom Hutton '68	Jennifer Clark McGrath '88	Matthew Daly '02	Will Tormey '20	Manoela M. Rodembusch '23
Tom Edelman '69	Tim McGrath	Jennifer Doyle-Kenney '02	Holly Ungvary '20	Georgia B. Rowland '23
Jim Fernald '69	Chris O'Connor '88	Elizabeth DuBois '02	Ella Jane Stupart '20	Jaime Diego Valdes '23
John Moore USMC (Ret) '69	Mary Wentzel O'Connor '89	Lynn Kau '02	Timothy Atkeson '21	Albert Ward Van Ness IV '23
Holly Paul McGrath '72	Kelly Renner Patterson '89	Alexandra Glazer Murphy '02	Olivia Conniff '21	Charles van Tienhoven '23
Phyllis Bourhill Prestamo '72	Stefan Peters '89	Maureen Carey Stapleton '02	Annabelle Krause '21	Julian Vila '23
Clyde Reetz '72	Elisa Shevlin Rizzo '89	Mark Henle '03	Betsy Marshall '21	Hudson Zivic '23
Class of 1973	Kelly Mulcahy Dolan '90	Sarah George Athans '04	Skyler Martin '21	
Buzz McGrath '73	Joe Burke '91	Alex Doyle '05	Kaitlin McBride '21	

**Special thanks to Plamena Quintavella, Jackie Burton, and India Hammer from the Bronxville School's team for providing content for this newsletter and David Fenner and Walker Liggitt for their photography.**

## Bronxville School Foundation Board of Directors 2023-2024

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