November 2022

Dear fellow AHS alumni and friends,

It feels like only yesterday I last walked the halls of AHS. Probably because it was only yesterday I last walked the halls of the high school. As a 2007 graduate and now an AHS teacher, I feel as though my education journey has come full circle. I loved high school during my four years as a student. I vividly remember listening to Mr. Ballor's enthralling tales of his world travels during humanities class, laughing at Mr. Jackson's countless Seinfeld references during history, and spending every free moment at the tennis courts. I feel that I received a top-notch education at AHS that set me up for success both in college and as a future teacher. I still find myself reflecting on and applying teaching strategies that I learned from my high school years.

With the help of the John and Roene Klusch scholarship, I enrolled at Walsh University in hopes of becoming a high school history teacher. I always loved history and many of my favorite and most influential teachers



throughout middle and high school were my social studies teachers. However, during summer break going into my junior year, I found some of my old how-to-draw books while cleaning out my closet. I spent the rest of the summer drawing and falling back in love with art. After a lot of thought and discussions with my parents, I realized that teaching art was my true calling. I returned to Alliance to finish my undergraduate degree at the University of Mount Union as an art major and education minor.

About a week after graduation from Mount Union, I was hired to teach elementary art for Salem City Schools. Salem was a great place to work, and I enjoyed the five years I spent there. When a high school position became available at Alliance, I was ecstatic. I always knew I wanted to teach older students, and I was excited about the opportunity to be able to coach tennis.

I feel very fortunate and honored to have had the financial support of the AHS Foundation. The scholarships I received significantly helped ease the financial burden of attending two private universities for my undergraduate studies. Today, it is a rewarding experience to teach at my alma mater and be on the other end of the scholarship process. Every year, I write multiple letters of recommendation for students deserving of a scholarship. In the six years I have taught at AHS, I have had the opportunity to teach and coach so many truly amazing students.

I am forever grateful for the financial support the AHS Foundation has given me, as well as countless other Alliance students throughout the years. The foundation consistently awards over \$100,000 to graduating seniors every year. That support transformed my life and the lives of so many others. This is why I am excited to pay that support forward to the next generation of Aviators by supporting the AHS Foundation.

Will you join me in making a difference with a contribution to the AHS Foundation today? Your gift will directly impact current and future students as they pursue their college education and professional dreams, just like me.

Steve Cabassa '07

Patrick D. Heddleston '82 AHS Foundation President

	o support the AHS Foundation p Fund with my Annual Fund gift.
NAME	Class
Address	(Maiden Name)
Email	
□ \$2, 500 Squadron Commander □ \$1,000 Top C	Gun □ \$500 Pilot □ \$250 Aviator □ \$100 Navigator
□ Other	
Donations are Tay deductible	• Please make checks payable to: AHS Foundation

- Donations are Tax deductible.
- Your cancelled check will be your receipt.

- Please make checks payable to: AHS Foundation
- Enclosed is my company's matching gift form.