



Alliance High School Foundation

P.O. Box 3123
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www.ahsalumnifoundation.org

November 2023

Dear Fellow AHS Alumni and Friends,

It's hard to believe that it's been nearly a decade since I last walked the halls of Alliance High School as a student. I will admit, high school wasn't the easiest time for me. During my freshman year, my mother was diagnosed with stage IV cancer. As you can imagine, news like that can take a toll on a 14 year old. School became a safe haven for me; even more so when she lost her battle with cancer a couple weeks before my junior year. Staff members at AHS, especially Mr. Dick Morris, Miss Kim Knowles and Mrs. Julie Krichbaum, showed me so much kindness and understanding when I was going through some of the hardest times in my life. They showed me unconditional support and always seemed to know when I was having a rough time and showed me a little extra patience that day. The kindness of the staff is what I remember the most about my time at Alliance High School.



Cheyenne Gonzales '14

Towards the end of my junior year, as all high schoolers do, I began to think about my plans after graduation. My parents had always encouraged me to go to college, but when the time came, I had no idea how I was going to pay for it. Medical bills made it hard for my dad to help me, but he was going to do everything he could if college was the path I chose. I was more than halfway through my senior year and I still hadn't applied to any colleges. I was leaning towards taking a couple years to work and maybe going to school after I had saved up some money. Fortunately, fate had other plans for me.

I will never forget the day in March of 2014 when my sister sent me an article from the Alliance Review announcing a new program and partnership between Alliance City Schools and the University of Mount Union. This was the first time I had heard about the Investment Alliance Scholarship program. The article stated the top 15 students in the 2014 AHS graduating class would receive a full-tuition scholarship to Mount Union- I was ranked 8th in the class. This program and partnership changed the course of my life. I applied to Mount Union and was accepted within a couple weeks. The tagline of the program is to keep the best and brightest in Alliance, but what they also did is provide me and many other students with the opportunity to further our education when we may not have been able to otherwise. This amazing program has continued since 2014 and has had such a positive impact on so many Aviators over the last decade. I am always proud to say I am a member of the inaugural class of Investment Alliance Scholars and that I am the first college graduate in my family because of this program. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity that I was given.

The Investment Alliance Scholarship covered my tuition for all four years and the scholarships I received from the Alliance High School Alumni Foundation, including the AHS non-renewable scholarship, helped to cover the cost of my books each semester. I went from having no idea how I was going to pay for college to having my entire college education paid for through the Investment Alliance program and the AHS Alumni Foundation.

Shortly after graduating from Mount Union, I returned to Alliance City Schools as the district's sole communications liaison, now communications coordinator. My job is to tell the amazing stories of the district. Each day, I walk the halls of AHS and the five other schools in the district, usually with my camera in hand, and I see the interactions between the staff and students. I hear all the good things happening and have the pleasure of sharing those stories on the Alliance City Schools social media channels and website for others to see. It's a job I truly enjoy because it allows me to give back to the district that helped to shape me into the person I am today.

Through my position, I have the distinct pleasure of seeing the generosity of the AHS Alumni Foundation each spring as they award more than \$100,000 to the graduating seniors. The Foundation wouldn't have such a resounding impact on the students at Alliance High School without your support by way of donations. Last year's annual drive raised \$20,000! On behalf of the AHS Alumni Foundation and Alliance High School, I want to thank you for helping to change the lives of our Aviators.

Please join me in donating to the Alliance High School Alumni Foundation so we can continue to have a positive impact on the lives of our Aviators!

Cheyenne Gonzales '14

Patrick D. Heddeleston '82
AHS Foundation President

YES! I am proud to support the AHS Foundation
General Scholarship Fund with my Annual Fund gift.

NAME _____ Class _____
(Maiden Name)

Address _____

Email _____

- \$2,500 Squadron Commander
- \$1,000 Top Gun
- \$500 Pilot
- \$250 Aviator
- \$100 Navigator
- Other _____

- 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.

PayPal donations may be made through the AHS Foundation website, www.ahsalumnifoundation.org