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CLASS OF '62 SCHOLARSHIPS GIVE—AND GIVE BACK

We don't want to get too impressed with ourselves, but we do deserve a little fanfare for providing the most scholarship money each year at DHS's annual awards ceremony of any other class or organization. We began in 2002 with a \$5000 award, and have been able to keep up with ourselves all along. Now we'd like to hit the \$7000 mark so that we can always count on a little "cushion" for security. Contributions are welcome all year round, but tend to make a surge in the late winter/early spring months. Consult Ginny (Beard) Gray for info on how and when to contribute (ginnygray@comcast.net).

The students eligible for scholarships are chosen by DHS faculty members, and are then selected by a faculty/staff committee that places each award with a particular student. Our scholarship board is then notified of their choice, and we provide a "presenter" who appears at the May event to represent us and make the award.

This committee takes great pride and joy in providing much-needed dollars to the graduates who deserve them. We also keep up with our awardees, and are delighted with their successes. Here are some of their follow-up letters written this spring:

First year (2002) winner **Katie Peterka** reports that she is "... having a great time at Bel Air High School. I now teach Honors Trigonometry and Honors PreCalculus...and also coach the Academic Team. Bel Air High School hosted one of the main tournaments this year. We made it to the semi-finals! In addition, I am still working on my Master's Degree in Mathematics Education and hope to finish by Spring 2010. I am sure the class of 1962 will exceed \$7,000 this year!"

Justin Wilson, our second-time winner (2003) writes, "... graduation is next month. Right now, I am working for a startup company called Psyleron and taking classes part-time. I completed my undergraduate degree with a 3.94 cumulative GPA, so I received the Presidential Scholarship, which is a fifth year tuition-free at Lehigh. My college experience has been a great one and full of opportunities. When I walk across the stage in May, I will definitely have the DHS Class of 1962 in mind as you have made this all possible."

Michael Glinicki (DHS 2004) opted for culinary school, where he is doing very well. He writes, "I have a current GPA of 3.67 and am concluding my junior year for my Bachelors in Culinary Arts. The scholarship money is used for living expenses while at school, such as food, rent, and utilities."

In 2005, **Kasey Mikula** began studying for a nursing career and is finding success. "I finished up last semester with a 3.87 GPA. I have gained experience in a clinical setting, an orthopedic floor, and pediatric rotations in various community settings. I really enjoy nursing and can't wait to start my career, and after graduation hope to work on a pediatric, NICU, or labor and delivery floor. Thanks again for all your help and support in my school experience! It means so much."

Hannah Gerlach (2006) shows the true Dundalk spirit as she makes her way through school. She says, "I am doing quite well. I am very happy here. I am currently taking 18 credits while managing two part time jobs, which is a little much, I know, but it helps me stay on my toes. In my spare time, I

play squash, piano, and tutor my colleagues in calculus and other subjects. I cannot tell you how helpful this scholarship is. I would not be here without it.”

In 2007 we awarded our scholarship to **Shannon Pijanowski**, who now attends Clemson U. Her report is glowing. “ I love it! I’m shadowing a marketing major and [probably] advertising minor. I now have a 3.2 GPA and am very involved in campus and community activities such as Habitat for Humanity . I can't express my gratitude for this scholarship in words to show how I feel it! It's made me fortunate enough not to have to get a job during the school semester, which has in turn allowed me to get involved on campus”.

If you’d like to be part of our Scholarship Committee, you’ll know how good it feels to be “giving back” to DHS a portion of what it gave to us. The committee has some openings now on its board—and it’s an easy committee to join and participate in! Most of its business is conducted via phone/e-mail, and it meets only 3 times a year (often as an adjunct to parties with pizza!).

Want to be a real friend and supporter of your alma mater and its current grads? Just tell chairman Dick Marcheski at marcheski@comcast.net.