

June 12, 2023

Good morning,

The WCS Alumni Association is proud to announce that we raised enough money to award two \$500 scholarships this year. Congratulations to the recipients of the very first Alumni Association scholarships: **Madison Miller and Brooke Johnpier!** (Because we did not have any students apply who were seeking a union apprenticeship or continuing education in a vocational field, both scholarships were awarded to students pursuing a college degree. Scholarship details are available online at wilsoncsd.org/Page/1867.) Additionally, all members of the Class of 2023 are receiving complimentary one-year memberships to the Association.

One of our missions is to support the school community and instill a lifelong relationship with WCS. As members of the Association, we know the importance of remembering our roots and paying it forward to the next generation of alumni. Currently, our primary way of raising funds is through membership dues and collecting donations. If you are a graduate who would like to have a direct impact on the current students of WCS, please consider becoming a dues-paying member or making a donation today. Applications are available online (wilsoncsd.org/Page/947) and accepted forms of payment include cash, check and PayPal.

We are always seeking volunteers to help the Association reach its goals, so if you would like to become part of our team, please reach out to president **Ed Kent** at obx227@yahoo.com. To keep in touch, alumni are welcome to visit the Association's Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/182113249676862, and/or check out the Alumni link on the WCS district website at wilsoncsd.org/Page/947.

This will be my last email on behalf of the Association, as I am 'retiring' from the Executive Council and handing off communications to other members. Our goal of founding an official Alumni Association was born in 2017, during an exhibition basketball game for alumni. *Walter 'Putt' Evans* (Class of 1942) was the Guest of Honor, and there was such a favorable response to the event that I started collecting contact information and eventually created a database of over 650 alumni. A group of volunteers met in 2018 to establish an Executive Council, and after a few years of delay caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Association became an official 501(c)(3) in July 2022. Since then, 130 alumni have become dues-paying members and helped establish funds to be used for scholarships and additional activities and events. It has been an honor to help found the official Alumni Association for Wilson Central School, and I wish the group continued success!

Go Lakemen!

Maureen Mahar

Class of 1987