CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOSTON COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

BC High Today
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The motto, "Ut Cognoscant Te," which is translated "That they may know Thee," is taken from the coat of arms of Richard Cardinal Cushing '19 to honor his Eminence as a distinguished alumnus and the most generous benefactor of Boston College High School. This conveys the ideal and purpose of Jesuit education.

Jesuit badge signifies that the High School is under the tutelage of the Society of Jesus.

Triple wavy line suggests the three hills for which Boston was originally called "Trimountaine," later reduced to Tremont. The present Beacon Hill area originally had three peaks, the highest of which had a beacon which was used occasionally for guidance of ships or as a warning light for the early settlers.

Crest of a cross from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Boston. The cross is the symbol of the Faith and titular of the Archdiocese (Cathedral of the Holy Cross). The terminations in "flour de lis" indicate the French origin of the Archdiocese under its first ordinary, Bishop Cheverus.

The crescent is a symbol of the Immaculate Conception. They commemorate the Church of the Immaculate Conception in South Boston which has been allied with BC High since its founding in 1863.

Three gold crowns, taken from the coat of arms of Boston in Lincolnshire, England, are said to represent the Bishops of Brittany, Richmond, and Suffolk. Boston, an abbreviation for St. Botolphs Town, derived its name from the saint who founded a monastery there about the year 650 A.D.
Fifty Plus Years of Change

By Bill MacNeill

AS BC HIGH PREPARES TO CELEBRATE ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY, it is worth noting the recent half century has occasioned a remarkable number of changes on Morrissey Boulevard. Many internal changes were at the time controversial, while others were the result of outside forces or cultural happenings. The fact is that BC High is a much different school today than when it was founded, but the Jesuit ideals and principles that helped build the solid foundation remain strong today.

In 1956, I arrived as a fresh graduate from Boston College to join a tiny band of lay faculty who served as auxiliary teachers to the Jesuits. Some, like John Farray ’26 and Bill Kirmeyer, had served loyally for many years despite low pay and no voice in the conduct of the school. Over the years, the lay staff grew and, with the presence of strong leaders like Paul Hunter ’53, Jim Cotter ’55, Bill Burke ’52, Bill Collins ’60, Norm Swain ’55, and Brian Donaher ’55, strengthened the faculty as the Jesuits began to decline in number. The shift to lay faculty was increasing, and by 2002, the selection of William Kemeza as the first lay president caused remarkably little controversy.

Despite pressures to move to a more suitable suburban location, BC High renewed its commitment to the City of Boston with the Morrissey Boulevard site selection. Gradual but consistent modifications took place over the years with the construction of the STAR Athletic complex; Cushing Hall, named after Richard Cardinal Cushing ’13; Walsh Hall, a new science center; and McNeice Pavilion.

Through the years, BC High has also undergone many major curriculum changes, probably none as big as when the strictly classical orientation slowly gave way to the intrusion of science classes. Science classes increased in popularity with the launching of Sputnik and the first man walking on the moon. Although the elimination of the Greek and Latin requirements for students was initially controversial, the result gave way to the unique Homeric Academy founded by Brian Donaher.

Economics played an important role in the past 50 years. The erosion of the subsidy provided by the Jesuit teachers moved Rev. Joseph Shea, SJ to reach out to alumni for support. Rev. Leo McGovern, SJ established the first Development Office in 1971 and the efforts by Alumni Director Rev. Francis Mahoney, SJ in collaboration with the development program resulted in greater alumni involvement and increased financial support. The wisdom of Rev. Michael Walsh, SJ and Rev. Ray Callahan, SJ, which contributed to the expansion of the Board of Trustees to include lay membership, has led to the powerful agency that supports the school today. Similarly, the expanded Office for Institutional Advancement has effectively enhanced the endowment and The Fund for BC High which are so essential to the school’s mission.

The saying ‘the more things change, the more they remain the same’ certainly applies to BC High. The talented faculty and administration are just as committed as the original founders who began the journey in 1863. I feel honored to have been personally involved in some of the events of the past 50 years at BC High. I have enjoyed my association with students, parents, alumni, fellow faculty members, and, now, as a proud grandfather. May the success of BC High continue for another 150 years.

Ad majorem Dei gloriam, for the greater glory of God.
IN THIS ISSUE

8
PROFILE
Tom Robinson ’26
A conversation with BC High’s oldest living alum. A man with true staying power.
by Thomas F. Mulvoy, Jr. ’60

10
IN DEPTH
Piercing the Irish Ceiling
How this alum from the class of 1947 over came anti-Irish prejudice in the world of old Brahmin Boston.
by Brendan P. Hughes ’98

14
PROFILE
Stewardship in Action
Robert F. Walsh ’59 and his commitment to BC High goes beyond restoring our past but to preserving our future.

16
FEATURE
Alumni Teachers Reflect
Reflections from alumni teachers from the 1950s and 1960s.

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STUDENT OUTREACH

St. Louis Project

Thursdays after school, when most are headed to other activities, a small group of dedicated students can be found in the cafeteria making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. The sandwiches are packaged with fruit and other items into simple brown paper bags. “It isn’t only about the food, but about forming relationships, hearing people’s stories, and engaging in the ministry of presence,” that has become the group’s mission statement. The St. Louis Project began when Trevor Schramm ’13, while on an exchange program through BC High with Belvedere College, S.J. experienced the “Soup Run,” a program delivering hot meals to the downtrodden and displaced in the city of Dublin, Ireland. Trevor came home and soon enlisted the help of David Coletti ’13, Paul Howard ’13, and Alex Braun ’13 to start a similar program at BC High. Today, more than 30 students and 10 faculty and staff participate weekly in the preparation of meals, prayer and visits with the Boston Common homeless population. The St. Louis Project will be celebrating its one year mark this January 2013, and already has a recognizable presence on the common. Many homeless individuals look forward to the project members as they emerge from the tent each Thursday with their brown paper bags, but as stated before it isn’t about the food, it is about being present and listening.

ON THE BOULEVARD

TEACHER, COACH, PRIEST

Rev. James Hosie, SJ honored in St. George’s College Hall of Fame

On Friday, November 23, 2012, BC High’s Rev. James Hosie, SJ was formally inducted into St. George’s College Hall of Fame. St. George’s College is a Jesuit School in Kingston, Jamaica, where Fr. Hosie served for 24 years as a teacher, coach, and priest.

St. George’s Hall of Fame is much like BC High’s St. Ignatius Award. Recipients are selected on the following criteria: community spirit, excellence and achievement in a particular field, inspiring leadership, vision and innovation, and service to St. George’s. Fr. Hosie received the award for his excellence to the community as a faculty member, coach of the tennis team and religious leader.

Rev. James Hosie, SJ, served as coach of the BC High tennis team in the 1990s.
More than 15,000 alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents, and friends of BC High and Boston College attended the afternoon Mass of the Holy Spirit at Fenway Park Saturday, September 15, 2012. Nearly 100 concelebrants of both BC High and Boston College Jesuit communities and alumni priests gathered on a stage constructed along the first base line, to celebrate the sesquicentennial anniversary of the founding of both schools.

The initial idea of a joint Fenway Mass with Boston College and BC High originated from BC High Trustee, alumnus, and current parent Jack Dunn ’79. Jack is the director of News & Public Affairs for Boston College. BC High had many celebrated roles within the Mass. Daniel Dougherty ’13, president of the BC High student body, read the Prayers of the Faithful and John Colpoys ’13 carried the cross during the processional and recessional. In addition, BC High Liturgical Choir Director Meg Felice guided the faithful in song, and President Bill Kemeza presented the second reading during the service.

Fenway Park served as a most elegant setting for the faithful, featuring live projection on the jumbotron, as well as tours of the ballpark and Green Monster following Mass.

The recently published 2012 Annual Report of Gifts proudly featured a photograph of iconic McElroy Hall and McQuillan Hall, the welcoming face of BC High, on its cover. Incredibly, the photo was taken by Ian Marx ’15. Ian is not only an accomplished photographer, but he also writes for BC High’s student newspaper, The Eagle, and is an active member of the Model United Nations program.

Eric Simonelli ’15, Pat Crane ’13, Jack Ditomassi ’15, and Ian Marx ’15 traveled with Model UN to San Francisco.
The International Colloquium on Jesuit Secondary Education

BY DAN CARMODY, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

This past summer from July 29 to August 2, BC High hosted more than 400 participants from 60 different countries and nearly 300 Jesuit secondary schools worldwide attended, the first International Colloquium on Jesuit Secondary Education (ICJSE). The ICJSE was a historical marker for Jesuit education around the world and has most notably been acknowledged as igniting a paradigm shift in Jesuit secondary education. “No doubt this colloquium has now become a landmark in the history of this worldwide network of Jesuit schools and something to be proud of. BC High can boast this green dot on the timeline and history of this network,” said Cyril Dusautoy, vice principal of Centre St. Marc in Lyon, France.

BC High has set the bar very high here. Your highest level of excellence shows great respect to our international community, that their time, travel, and resources are highly valued.

Thank you for bringing the world together!

At the ICJSE, the leadership teams quickly realized what should have been clear all along; no boundaries, be they physical or otherwise, should hinder us from reaching the true power and potential of this one-of-a-kind global network. By examining common goals, challenges, and most of all, our common mission, for ICJSE participants, the world quickly became smaller. Secretariat for Secondary and Pre-Secondary Education for the Society of Jesus, Jose Mesa, SJ, the ICJSE issued a challenge: “Our schools are part of a living tradition that challenges us not to be too comfortable with our current accomplishments. We must leave the ‘comfort zone’ of the present moment that can paralyze us and makes us blind to the new frontiers; we need always to discern what God is asking from us and how God wants us to respond to the ever changing historical context.”

Topics such as global exchange programs, virtual partnerships and collaborative professional development were all highlighted at the ICJSE. While there is certainly no question that classroom learning has for centuries prepared students for life beyond high school, the power of practical, hands-on global learning experiences has never been so potent. With the global network of Jesuit schools, the ICJSE clearly illustrated that we are primed to capitalize on these opportunities.

The ICJSE, highlighted by inspirational keynote addresses, over 50 workshops, and collaboration sessions, culminated with a universally adopted vision statement. This statement articulated the future goals of the global Jesuit network of secondary schools – a true indicator that the impact of the ICJSE will be felt for years to come. For one participant, the ICJSE was summarized quite simply. “If a conference offers a singular ‘wow,’ it will typically be a great conference. The ICJSE, however, offered a multitude of ‘wows.’”

What was the one single most gratifying “wow” moment of the ICJSE? Perhaps, for the first time, having such a wonderfully diverse group feel that we are all part of something bigger than individual institutions, and part of a worldwide community that is unprecedented in the world of education. At the end of October, BC High received an email from Fr. Arock in India asking if the BC High community had made it safely through Hurricane Sandy. The Ignatian family of Jesuit schools has never felt so strong, and for that, are all blessed.
Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Lawrence H. Hyde ’42 with a $3 million commitment, and the strong momentum from the ICJSE, BC High is well on the way to establishing the Lawrence H. Hyde ’42 Center for International Studies. Opening next fall, the Hyde Center will provide every interested BC High student the opportunity to supplement and enhance his classroom education with a globally rooted, hands-on learning experience. Grounded in mission, and focusing on culture, faith, academics, and service, each program housed in the Hyde Center will be driven by today’s need to prepare students to be internationally aware, culturally competent, and fully capable of contributing to society’s growing need for global citizens.
Q&A

with...

Michele O’Connor Daly
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
What is the role of the Vice President for Institutional Advancement?

I have the pleasure of serving BC High as the vice president in the Office for Institutional Advancement. The role of this office and the vice president is to promote and further the mission of BC High. The Office for Institutional Advancement brings together alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty, staff, and friends of the BC High community. Together, we all work to build relationships that support the work of our mission through fundraising, marketing, events, and alumni, parent, and community relations. Our office also has the privilege of thanking donors and showing how their support directly effects BC High.

BC High has a long history of financial aid scholarship, opening its doors to all students whether they could afford to pay tuition or not, why is it so important to provide financial aid and keep our doors open to all?

BC High was founded as the first Catholic high school in Boston to educate the disenfranchised Irish immigrant in the mid-late 1800’s. We never want to lose site of the Irish boy from Dorchester or Savin Hill, but today’s world is much different. What makes BC High special is its location in the City of Boston and its ability to form students who are not afraid of the world and new experiences. Each student brings a unique piece of them to BC High and help to create our environment of learning.

Through the years as the number of Jesuits declined, the composition of the faculty shifted to mostly lay men and women. With this change and the emergence of new technology and programs, the cost of a private education has become an increasingly expensive proposition. However, with this new reality, we have not lost the spirit of our early Jesuit founders; it is our goal to be able to meet a student’s full financial need when accepted to BC High. Currently, we are only able to provide approximately 64% of need. That puts a huge burden on our families and especially the middle class.

How do you think we can do this?

I like that you used “we” in the question. First, a control on tuition increases, the Board of Trustees are committed to making sure tuition is not increased beyond the rate of inflation. This is a lofty undertaking as the cost of education continues to rise. Second, we need to increase our endowment while growing our annual fund – The Fund for BC High. The spend we are able to take from our endowment plus the approximately $3 million from The Fund for BC High each year enables us to award over $4 million this year in financial aid. And yet, it is just not enough for our families.

There is no greater gift than a gift of an education. My parents believed it and the parents of our 1,600 students and 16,000 alumni believe it. We rely on gifts of every size at BC High and every gift makes a difference regardless of the amount. We could not do what we do without each and every one of you.

BC High is known for its strong alumni network and sense of community. How do you think the Office for Institutional Advancement over the past several years has enhanced that community?

In my experience, I have never seen a more caring and loving community as I have at BC High. This is a special place and it takes only a few seconds to fall in love with it. You do not have to be an alumnus to believe that either. Our office purposefully advances our rich alumni network of friends through class reunions, regional receptions, and other events. We continuously look for opportunities for our alumni to connect with the current student population and each other. We take great pride in nurturing this lifelong relationship with our alumni and the BC High alumni network.

Building on the solid foundation of the last 150 years, what do you envision for BC High’s future?

BC High is emerging as a leader of Jesuit, Catholic education, not just in Boston but in the world. With each passing year and new generation, our school continues to change and evolve, while remaining true to our mission of 150 years ago. Our future must include making BC High affordable for all families. Meeting 100% of the financial need of our families will allow access to the Jesuit, Catholic education, like our founders intended.

For 150 years, we have stood on the shoulders of giants. Gone are the days of Fathers McElroy, Gilday, Callahan, and Fahey. We simply would not be the institution we are without them, but today, you are our giants. Our students and faculty stand on your shoulders. You, lead the way into the next 150 years of Jesuit, Catholic education in the City of Boston.
THOMAS DONALD ROBINSON, SR.’26, a man of true staying power, was eager to get on with the questions as he sat for his video interview on the sofa in “the lounge” of his Belmont home.

To sit down in 2012 and talk easily with a man who drew his first breath more than 104 years earlier on Jan. 14, 1908 – when Theodore Roosevelt was in the White House – is to take a marvelous hour’s trip down memory lane that only a handful of people have traversed.

Mr. Robinson was born in Lynn, MA, but his family soon moved to Brooklyn, NY, where the young Donald got his first taste of education with a religious twist via the Christian Brothers of Ireland. “We got a good education, and an occasional spanking, followed by a visit to the gym for some boxing,” recalled Robinson.

After his father’s death in 1922, the family moved back to Massachusetts to be near relatives, staying in Dorchester for a short time before settling in Watertown, where his mother set up her own seamstress business. When it came time to look into her son’s high school prospects, Robinson’s mother heeded the advice of a “well-dressed and well-mannered” local boy. In September 1922, she and her son took the trolley, subway, and elevated train to Boston College High School in the city’s South End. The peppery Mr. Robinson tells the rest of his 90-year-old story with relish:

“The entrance exam had been held in June, but that didn’t stop my mother from asking if I could get in as a
freshman anyway. The Jesuit principal, at the time, said he might be able to find a spot if I could answer one question for him: ‘What is the most important part of a building?’ After some hesitation, I answered, ‘the foundation.’ And I was in. You could hardly get away with that today.”

Mr. Robinson spent his teen years in the middle of the Roaring Twenties – a time of prohibition and its scoffers, soaring stock market numbers, flappers, and bootleg gin – in the educational, physical, and spiritual care of the faculty and staff at BC High. How did he do with his studies? “Some up, some down, mostly in-between,” he bemuses today recalling how he grappled with a classical Jesuit curriculum of Latin, English, philosophy, and math. Mr. Robinson even commented on the confined urban setting ot the South End, noting “the basketball court was also the cafeteria. But there was also the boarding house just across the street where 1,000 young ladies lived. The teachers had to drag the students away from the windows if they wanted to get any teaching done.”

BC High did well by him, stated Mr. Robinson. “I am so lucky to have had this continuing connection to my high school. The teachers’ sole purpose was to prepare us for college, and they did that with me as I went on to graduate from Boston College and got my master’s in history there, too.”

The Watertown community also reaped the benefits of the Jesuits’ educational regimen. Mr. Robinson was hired to teach social studies, first in the lower grades and then, for the better part of his 42 years in the school system, at the junior and senior levels in high school. “Those years are the pride of my life,” Mr. Robinson says with affection. “I wasn’t a hard taskmaster like some of the other teachers. I used to tell my students that no one would fail my class if they were young ladies and gentlemen and paid attention. The town wanted me to use my social studies program to educate boys and girls in the importance of citizenship and in what it means to be a good citizen. And that’s what I aimed to do every day.” Mr. Robinson drew strength and relied heavily on lessons learned from his Jesuit education: good citizenship is being a man for others in your community.

When it came time to send his own son to high school, Mr. Robinson faced a decision of choosing the high school where he taught that was on the bottom of the street where they lived, or BC High? Again, Mr. Robinson relied on his faith, education, and desire to give the same opportunities he received at BC High to his son. Unfortunately, Tom Robinson, Jr. ‘57 did have to sit for the entrance exam, but fortunately he got in.

As Mr. Robinson looks to his 105th birthday, he tries to keep living an active, involved life, following the news in the papers and on television, getting around to see friends, keeping in touch with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and enjoying his favorite TV shows, especially reruns of the legendary “Gunsmoke” show with Marshall Matt Dillon.

As the interview came to a close, Mr. Robinson stood up to say goodbye, his casual shirt-and-tie ensemble in perfect place, his posture first-rate. He put out his hand and remarked, “I’ve been lucky, haven’t I?”

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**Tuition from 1922 – 1926 was $62 a year.**

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Piercing the Irish Ceiling

Riley standing inside the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum.
In the staid and sometimes sleepy world of Boston investment management, Robert Riley ’47 is something of a pathbreaker. By becoming the Irish Catholic CEO of a major Boston investment firm, Putnam Investments, Riley “pierced the Irish ceiling,” overcoming a century of anti-Irish prejudice in the world of old Brahmin Boston.

But Riley’s family was also pivotal in Boston Irish history. His grandmother was personally acquainted with Rev. John McElroy, SJ, BC High’s founder. His father was a political operative, entrepreneur, and man-about-town who hobnobbed with the Irish elite of the 1930s and ’40s. And, after a successful career in investment management, Riley himself was handpicked to shepherd the Kennedy family’s financial interests and investments. Now 82 years old and showing few signs of slowing down, Riley recently published an autobiography, Piercing the Irish Ceiling, and he has returned to BC High as a Trustee associate, working to ensure that the school remains a vital, vibrant institution for another 150 years.

GROWING UP IN OLD BOSTON

Riley’s family tree is the stuff of an Edwin O’Connor novel, its roots mingling with those of BC High and the Boston Irish. His grandmother grew up in the South End a few blocks from the old BC High on Harrison Avenue and knew Rev. John McElroy, SJ, the school’s founder. His grandfather, whose father and mother were both born in County Cavan Ireland, worked his way from Canada to Boston, where he ran a successful haberdashery for more than 50 years. Riley’s uncle, Charlie, was the first in his family to graduate from BC High in 1914, followed by his father, Edward, who graduated in 1923.

In his autobiography, Riley calls his father “an unforgettable character,” which seems like a vast understatement. Eddie Riley was tall and handsome, with a shock of black hair and piercing blue eyes, and could, in his son’s words, “talk a dog off a meat wagon.” After BC High, Eddie attended Boston University but dropped out after just two years and embarked on a series of short careers with varying success – traveling pots and pans salesman, stockbroker (this at the outset of the Great Depression), and manager of a colorful place called the Silver Dollar Bar located on the corner of Washington and Essex Streets in Boston. As manager, Riley writes, Eddie was in his element, “entertaining fighters, jockeys, Mafia hit men, vaudeville performers, and burlesque queens.” After his time at the Silver Dollar, Riley went into politics, working to elect Democrat Charlie Hurley ’12 as state treasurer and later governor. Ultimately, he started Riley & Co., a wholesale meat business in the Faneuil Hall Market district, which he then ran for more than 30 years.

Riley’s mother, too, was unforgettable if more muted than his garrulous father. Nina Wolfe grew up largely in foster homes and met Eddie Riley in grammar school. She was a beauty queen who became Miss Boston of 1925. In photos she looks like a silent movie star, but her glamour belied a lifelong struggle with alcoholism.

Growing up the oldest of four with a peripatetic father, former-beauty-queen mother, and Irish immigrant grandparents, Riley moved around a lot in his early years. If time is a country, then young Robert grew up a citizen of the old Boston, the Boston of bootleggers and prize fighters, coal stoves and dark barrooms, parlor Victrolas and fish on Fridays. The family bounced from Cambridge to Watertown, then Brighton to Hull, until finally coming to rest near Wollaston Beach in Quincy.
For Riley and his family, BC High was almost a forgone conclusion. “I had heard about BC High all my life,” said Riley. “It was sort of accepted that I would go there eventually if I could.” But the nuns at St. John’s School in Quincy, where Riley attended grammar school, were not so sure. “I wasn’t any great star in grammar school,” Riley recalls, and because his family had moved to Quincy more recently, “the nuns considered me and a few others to be outsiders... They were embarrassed when I got the best score on the BC High entrance exam.”

FROM QUINCY TO HARRISON AVENUE

The first challenge of Riley’s BC High career was getting to school. In the early 1940s, there was no Red Line, no MBTA bus, and no Expressway to speed the Quincy commuter’s route to Boston. And in a family with only one car (at the time considered a luxury), that meant the teenage Riley could either take two streetcars to Ashmont Station, followed by two subway rides to Northampton Street in the South End, or, a practice that was amazingly common at the time, he could hitchhike. “My second year I got a little wiser. I would take ten steps out from my house and put my thumb out,” Riley remembers. “Except for the few days my father would drive me, I hitchhiked to BC High every day for three years.”

BC High in the fall of 1943, when Riley arrived as a freshman, would be virtually unrecognizable to a student of today. The school was still located on Harrison Avenue in Boston’s South End, but a plan was already in place to move to Columbia Point. For four years, Riley says, he was a member of the “Trash Barrel Fraternity,” a group of six students who ate around a trash can in a rapidly deteriorating lunch room. Because of the impending move, “the school’s hierarchy was reluctant to install improvements in the old building,” Riley recalls.

Riley was an eager athlete, but suffered a broken foot from playing on the varsity hockey team in his senior year. In those days the BC High varsity played and practiced at what is now Matthews Arena on the campus of Northeastern University. Riley often played games of pick-up basketball in the school’s infamously low-ceilinged basement gym. “I was very interested in sports,” Riley says, “but I was not very big physically – I grew a lot more later on. In those days, participating in a varsity sport was a real project. Most high school hockey teams in the Boston area shared ice time and practiced at odd hours.”

The hours in Riley’s day not occupied by sports were dedicated to academics. While the vast majority of BC High teachers were Jesuit priests and scholastics, Riley’s most memorable instructor was a lay teacher named Jim Dailey. Nicknamed Manjo after a professional wrestler of the day, Dailey was a disciplinarian. “He had a reputation of being a warden, but he was a brilliant teacher,” Riley reminisced. “We had some pretty wild guys in our class, and our classrooms were too often bedlam. Manjo wouldn’t put up with that.” One day, Riley recalled, Dailey grabbed a particularly chatty student by the shirt and lifted him out of his seat. He bellowed at a boy sitting nearest the door to open it so he could toss the noisy student out. “There was total silence in our class from that moment on.”

After BC High, Riley went on to Holy Cross where he graduated magna cum laude with plans to attend law school – until Eddie Riley intervened. “His logic,” Riley writes in his autobiography, “was that Harvard Business School would tee me up to make more money than law school.”

PIERCING THE IRISH CEILING

We will never know if Eddie Riley was right, but Harvard Business School did tee up the son of a former nightclub manager and meat wholesaler to become the first Irish Catholic CEO of Putnam Investments, one of Boston’s elite financial institutions. This is what Riley calls “piercing the Irish ceiling, that invisible ceiling of prejudice and tradition that had generally blocked people of my background from reaching the pinnacle of a Boston financial institution.”
BC High in the fall of 1943, when Riley arrived as a freshman, would be virtually unrecognizable to a student of today. The school was still located on Harrison Avenue in Boston’s South End, but a plan was already in place to move to Columbia Point. For four years, Riley says, he was a member of the “Trash Barrel Fraternity,” a group of six students who ate around a trash can in a rapidly deteriorating lunch room. Because of the impending move, “the school’s hierarchy was reluctant to install improvements in the old building,” Riley recalls.

Hired at Putnam in 1956 as one of just seven fund managers, Riley joined a small company of 30 employees that managed only one fund with about $135 million in assets. Thanks to his leadership as CEO, Putnam years later would become one of a handful of companies to pioneer and popularize the mutual fund, now a mainstay of the average American’s investment portfolio. Today, Putnam is a multibillion dollar company with thousands of employees.

Since leaving Putnam in 1981, Riley has served in the top echelons of American business, including stints at American Express and Prudential, but his career came full circle in 1998 when the man who pierced the Irish ceiling became the head of Joseph P. Kennedy Enterprises (the Kennedy family office), and a trustee of the Kennedy family trusts. While Riley freely admits his political differences with the Kennedy clan, his admiration of their collective and individual accomplishments is immense – and there’s something historically fitting about a man who became the first Irish Catholic CEO of Putnam Investments managing the assets of the first Irish Catholic President of the United States. “I worked with 33 Kennedys over three generations. I enjoyed that,” Riley says with humility that is atypical for a man who has served at the highest level of his industry for almost a half century.

Today, Riley ascribes much of his success not to native ability or intelligence but to hard work. “I didn’t know what my IQ was, and I couldn’t have cared less,” Riley writes of his academic successes. “I was no genius. I got good grades because I worked very hard.”

With a career in high finance behind him, Riley is giving back to BC High, helping the school position itself for the next 150 years. As a member of the BC High Board of Trustees Investment Committee, he helps the school make wise investments that will help the school remain financially viable in the long term – a subject about which he feels passionately acknowledging the fact that BC High has changed since his student days on Harrison Avenue.

“I can’t say BC High was a better place [when I was a student]. It was a different environment having the priests there,” Riley says. “I think the school today is managed better than it was then. The emphasis on academics and other extracurricular opportunities – we didn’t have as many opportunities for involvement as kids today.”

While he acknowledges that the world that greets today’s BC High graduate is vastly different from the one he confronted in the early 1940s, his advice remains remarkably salient for any student, whether he’s trying to pierce the Irish ceiling or any other for that matter: “Work hard, don’t get a big head, and try to get as broad an education as possible.”

BCHigh150 Looking Back...
Tuition when Bob Riley graduated was $120 a year.
Stewardship in Action
Robert F. Walsh ’59

ROBERT (BOB) WALSH ’59 is a steward of BC High’s Jesuit, Catholic mission and has been responsible for planning and management of resources. From his involvement in re-purposing the site of the original high school to currently serving as vice-chair of the Board of Trustees, Bob’s commitment to BC High goes beyond restoring our past, to preserving our present and future success as a school.

Q: You are from the graduating class of 1959, tell us more about your background and how you came to BC High?
A: Growing up in Savin Hill, I was one of four boys who graduated from BC High. My two older brothers both attended BC High in the South End, but I was lucky enough to walk to school since BC High had moved to Dorchester near our family home. Education was a priority to my parents. My father in particular took great pride in his boys graduating from BC High and college. My dad’s work ethic was particularly inspirational because he managed to become a successful stock broker in Boston after the great depression without a high school diploma.

Q: BC High has a rich history spanning 150 years in the city of Boston. How did you and fellow alumnus Robert Kenney ’52 get involved with salvaging and re-purposing the original BC High School buildings?
A: We formed a partnership to develop the original BC High building and vacant land into housing units in the early 2000’s. The South End properties had sat vacant for almost 30 years, and even though the location was attracting private investors and experiencing a resurgence of popularity, rehabbing in a historical district created some unique challenges.

Q: What were some of those unique challenges?
A: We were charged with constructing a new building entirely within the envelope of the old building while conforming to the guidelines from the South End Landmark Commission and Boston Redevelopment Authority. Everything had to be restored, refurbished or constructed to look exactly as it did 150 years ago. Although this was a difficult task at times, the finished high school building, especially the original doors, look just as they did in 1863, minus the hundreds of boys streaming through on their way to classes.

Q: As vice-chair of the Board of Trustees, co-chair for the 150th Anniversary Celebration and chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee at BC High, why is it so important to you to be involved?
A: I believe the future of our Church will become more dependent on lay people, and BC High is poised to educate young, Catholic leaders who can positively contribute to their communities. That being said, I also believe that to attract the best possible students, we need top-notch facilities. At BC High I am privileged to work with talented people, both trustees and administration, and by offering my years of experience in building and development, hopefully I can help guide BC High to make fiscally sound planning choices during the construction of Cadigan Hall. Our students are our investment in the future.

BC High is experiencing an exciting time with the 150th Anniversary Celebration. I am looking forward to many events and special occasions in the coming year, especially the Shamrocker on March 16, 2013, a biennial benefit, and the Symphony Hall Gala being held on October 20, 2013, our signature 150th event.

Finally, I am excited for my grandson David who will be graduating this May with the Class of 2013.
Some will ask why teaching Classics is still important in today’s day of instant translations made possible with an iPhone or iPad. Few Masses are said in Latin, so why bother teaching arcane languages? Be careful whom you ask those questions of, however. There are two legendary classics teachers that have taught more than 10,000 students collectively, whom will put on a toga and debate with you for many hours that the classics are alive and well on Morrissey Boulevard and will stay that way for many years to come.
“To consider yourself an educated person you must know yourself, know your history,” says Bill Burke ’52 retired Latin teacher who taught for more than 40 years at BC High. “The study of the classical languages is our link to our history, to our vocabulary, grammar; our culture, our literature, art and drama can be traced back to the Greeks and Romans.”

Brian Donaher ’55, founder of the BC High Homeric Academy, after spending 50 years in the classroom, completely agrees with Sir Winston Churchill when he said, “I would make them all learn English: and then I would let the clever ones learn Latin as an honour, and Greek as a treat.”

When BC High opened its doors nearly 150 years ago in the South End, the first courses offered to the handful of enrolled students were Latin, math, English, and religion. As in every other Jesuit educational institution, the new BC High embraced the Ratio Studiorum, a system drawn up by the early Jesuits and completed in 1599. The system aimed to put all Jesuit schools on equal footing. The Society of Jesus had already established schools in Japan, China, India, and most of Europe utilizing this teaching method. The Ratio harmonized medieval forms of thought while incorporating present day learning.

Bill Burke recalls how he came to BC High as a teacher in 1959. He originally wanted to teach math or French, but as fate would have it, the only opening was in Latin. By the end of Burke’s career he had been department chair for 10 years and authored two Latin textbooks for classroom use.

Even though there was a time in the 1970’s when the classics were almost removed from the curriculum, Burke reminded the administration how favorably a Classical education was looked upon by college admissions. The colleges knew the rigor and demands that were placed upon BC High graduates that studied the classics. Reading the classics in the original form demands commitment from the student, fosters a precision in the use of words, and the habit of reading closely and carefully to focus the mind.

If Latin translation is not challenging enough, try reading Homer in the original Greek? That is just what Donaher challenged his students to do in 1963.

Donaher began the famed Homeric Academy which put BC High on the Classics map both locally and nationally. Evaluators from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges called the Homeric Academy the “jewel of the school.” The Homeric Academy opened Harvard’s doors to many BC High classics students. “It started simply enough,” remembered Donaher. “I wanted to do something special for BC High’s centennial celebration in 1963, I wanted our kids to read the entire Odyssey, every blessed line. The aim was to present the readings as an academic example of our achievements in the Classics department.”

Latin and Greek still have a place in the current day curriculum of BC High students, and classics teachers still have a passion for a discipline that includes the likes of Caesar, Cicero, and Xenophon. The enduring value of the classics is how it enables us to encounter ideas and figures which challenge our own thinking, while being aware of our own space and time.

The celebration of the classics continues at BC High with the Homeric Academy’s reading of The Odyssey in its entirety April 4-5, 2013, in celebration of the BC High sesquicentennial anniversary. If you would like to participate, please contact alumni@bchigh.edu.
Smiles spread across the faces of current teachers John Normant ’64, Tony Toto ’66, Bob Lynch ’67, and Paul Logan ’68 as they gathered in the John V. Murphy ’67 Alumni Room on a Friday afternoon after school. Not only do these men share common experiences of being students at BC High in the 1960s, but also all chose to return to teach at their alma mater. On this day, they came together to discuss tradition, change, and why their return to BC High was more of a surprise for some than others.

Each alumnus remembers his first impression of BC High, and surprisingly, that impression was before they had even been accepted to the school.

“On my way to the entrance exam I walked by the gym, looked inside, and saw coach Paul Hunter ’53 having varsity basketball practice,” said Normant. “I was awestruck at the size of the kids, their flashy uniforms, and the organization of the practice. I’ve always remembered that.”

Paul Logan recalls feeling lucky about the ease with which he took the entrance exam. Paul couldn’t believe his good fortune on exam day; in the previous week, the nuns in his grammar school had administered the same exact practice test. His memory of his acceptance letter has stuck with him through the years. Paul explained, “I vividly remember nervously opening the letter and reading the first line saying congratulations, and then tossing the paper in the air.”

For Bob Lynch, loyalty to BC High was a family affair. Bob was in the eighth grade when his brother Ed (class of 1966) began high school. He enjoyed spending time with his brother’s friends. “I knew right away that I was going to go to BC High, and that also passed along to my younger brothers,” Bob said. “The interesting thing about...
that is that I tested into one of the honors classes at BC High. I had taken the exam for Catholic Memorial and didn’t do as well on that exam. To this day, I take great pride when BC High defeats Catholic Memorial in any sport.”

For Tony Toto, attending BC High is something he chalks up to a higher power. “The first time I heard about ‘BC High’ I was in eighth grade at St. Joseph’s grammar school in Medford. The phone rang one night and my mom answered. It was my teacher, a nun, who said ‘Mrs. Toto your son is going to BC High, do you have any questions?’ My mom said ‘no, sister’ and that was that.” Tony didn’t know anyone that went to BC High, all of his friends were going to Malden Catholic or the public high school.

These men all fondly recall their time as students at BC High.

Bob’s journey to becoming a teacher BC High had many steps. “When I was as a senior here, I took a vocation test and it recommended that I become either a teacher or a priest. In all honesty, I did not want to be a teacher, but there was no way I was going to be a priest, either.”

Bob’s passion was always in the world of football, which eventually led him back to teaching. “The thing I liked best was football, and even though I played in college, I knew I wouldn’t play all my life. Legendary coaches Jim Cotter ’55 and Frank Casey had a lot of influence on me, because I knew I wanted to coach at BC High one day.”

While it would eventually happen, it took many years for Bob to return to BC High. He spent his early career teaching math and coaching girls’ track in Dedham Public Schools. He also served as athletic director at Dedham High School for a number of years. Although Bob began coaching football at BC High in the fall of 1972, he did not become a teacher at BC High until the Arrupe Division opened in 2007.

“When I saw BC High was opening a middle school, I talked to Jim Cotter, who then talked to the Principal, Steve Hughes ’73, which was interesting because I coached Steve in football. I hadn’t written a resume since 1970, but they offered, I signed on, and it was the best move I ever made. I made a complete circle.”

John Normant’s story also begins with coaching before he too became a teacher at BC High.

“I knew freshmen year that I wanted to teach math. The major influence for me was a Jesuit scholastic Ed Howl, SJ, who made teaching math so much fun. Another Jesuit scholastic with a strong influence on me at the time was an assistant track coach and my homeroom teacher, Donald Berry, SJ,” said Normant. Just as he began his teaching career at Boston Tech, John got a phone call from Bill MacNeill offering him a job as the head track coach at BC High. For the next 13 years John taught at Boston Tech and coached at BC High, but finally made the full switch. “There was an opening to teach at BC High, and they didn’t happen very often. I told myself, ’ok, this is it.’”

For Tony, two people guided him toward teaching at BC High. The first was his girlfriend (now wife), whom he met when he was working at a camera store in Harvard Square. “She was the first person who would ever go out with me three times in a row,” Tony said. “I figured I should straighten out my act, but I didn’t know what that meant for me.”

Tony’s girlfriend, Roxanne, was finishing a nursing degree, and Tony, a chemistry major in college, came to the rescue one day. During a study session he helped explain an obscure scientific concept. “My whole life flashed before my eyes,” he said. “I took her pencil and paper and explained it to her. I don’t know how it happened. It was as clear as day.”

Because of this, Roxanne encouraged Tony to take his first biology class at age 25. He then visited Jack Dempsey.
’55, his favorite teacher at BC High. Dempsey was the second person to guide Tony back to BC High. “I said to Jack, ‘I think I want to be a teacher,’ and Jack told me I should hang out with Arthur Bradley ’63 to watch what he does in class. And that’s how it started. If someone had asked me what I would do when I graduated from here, teaching at BC High wouldn’t even have been on the list.”

Paul also had an initial resistance to the call of teaching. “I had always thought of the priesthood; and my senior year at BC High, I submitted an application to Seminary,” Paul said. In school one day, he was called down to the principal’s office. It was there that Rev. Joe Duffy ’44, SJ asked if he was interested in becoming a Jesuit. Paul replied, “Father, the last thing I want to do is teach.”

But, when Paul graduated from St. John’s Seminary five years later, he began teaching at Pope John III in Everett. The long commute and low pay began to take its toll. He sought out another career path as an executive assistant at Gillette, but Paul turned it down because “it just didn’t feel right.” “Two weeks later, I got a phone call out of the blue asking, ‘would you ever think of teaching religious education at BC High?’ I sent in my resume and was hired.”

Over the course of the last 30 years, these four alumni faculty members have seen changes not only in what current BC High students learn, but how they learn it. “Learning used to be rote, all memorized from a textbook,” remembered John. “All you had to do was read the text, study the textbook, and the test was every Friday.”

“The work was hard, just as it is today, but the context of the work was different,” Paul commented. “Everyone got a strong background in English and Greek, a real classical education, math and science was not as fully developed in the curriculum as it is today.”

Finally, the alumni thought back on traditions, both old and new. Fondly remembering pep rallies and school rivalries, the men discussed traditions that have fallen by the wayside.

“We used to have fun slogans like ‘Flatten Latin!’” said Paul. “The work was hard, just as it is today, but there was so much adrenaline you couldn’t hear your grades,” said Tony. “When you sat down, you had to ask your friends how did I do?”

“Now that was accountability,” agreed John. “But when I think back to graduation, Baccalaureate, the white jackets...all those traditions still carry on. There isn’t much that we have lost. A lot of the important things we still have. We’ve done well hanging on to traditions.”

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Those traditions will carry on, as these graduates of the 1960’s continue to shape future leaders of great character at BC High, true “Men for Others.”
Brother Murphy entered the Jesuits on August 14, 1946. After many other assignments, he came to BC High in 1974 as our Director of the Cafeteria. That was the old cafeteria, located in the basement of McElroy Hall. Even now, years later when graduates return, they remember the wonderful lunches and desserts, and the warm, honest, gentle Director Brother Murphy.

In 2004, Brother Murphy decided it was time to change his role as he no longer wanted to be in charge of the cafeteria, but simply to serve there, which he did for six more years.

Once, when asked about his prayer, life Brother Murphy said that one meditation to which he has returned again and again is by Archbishop Romero Archbishop of San Salvador in El Salvador, who was assassinated because of his work on behalf of the poor.

That meditation states, in part, the following:

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.

The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the Church’s mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

We will miss this fellow worker but we will cherish and honor the work that he did among us for the greater glory of God.
BC HIGH ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME HONORS NEW INDUCTEES

On Tuesday, November 20, five athletes, one team, one Men for Others Award recipient, and one Cotter Courage Award recipient were inducted into the BC High Athletic Hall of Fame in a ceremony at the school. The Boston College High School Athletics Hall of Fame honors legendary BC High athletes and teams, as well as individuals who have supported the school’s athletics program. Each inductee has made a significant contribution to the winning tradition of athletics at BC High.

The 2012 athletes inducted were: David Burnes ’92, baseball, football; Stephen Cahill ’01, golf; Brian P. Fair ’97, wrestling; Roger E. Hughes ’64, basketball, football, track; Daniel McCarthy ’87, football, track. The honored team was the 2001 sailing team with Mary Farrell being inducted as sailing coach.

The Paul J. Hunter ’53 Man for Others Award was given to Mary M. Madden, Retired BC High mathematics teacher and BC High ambassador. The annual award that recognizes those who show leadership in their community, church, and profession, while supporting BC High’s academic and athletic excellence. James E. Cotter ’55 Courage Award was given to Neil R. Pallotta ’01.

CHRIS HAYES NAMED BOSTON GLOBE COACH OF THE YEAR

Golf coach and religion teacher Chris Hayes ’85 has been named Boston Globe Golf Coach of the Year. The 2012 Golf Team won the South Sectional Tournament, and came one stroke shy of winning the state tournament. In brutal conditions at Norton Country Club, the varsity golf team finished second overall at the Division 1 State Championship. Coach Hayes and the team would like to thank everyone for their encouragement and support throughout the season.
CROSS COUNTRY TEAM EARN ALL-STATE HONORS

The cross country team had one of its most successful seasons in years, which included an outstanding performance at the Division 1 Eastern Massachusetts meet to qualify as a 5th place wild card for the All-State meet. In the All-State meet, out of the hundreds of teams in Massachusetts, the cross country team finished 12th. Ian O’Leary ’13 (Conference MVP, 8th place Eastern MA) was the highest individual finisher that BC High has had in 13 years while Dave Ruuska ’13 continued his late season surge to finish as the teams 4th man. Mike Flaherty ’13 (Patriot Ledger and Conference All-Star), Brent Kelley ’13 (Patriot Ledger and Conference All Star), Noel Feeney ’14 (Conference All-Star), Tom O’Donnell ’13 (Conference All -Star), and Jack Sweeney ’13 all ran well in a solid team effort to conclude a successful season.

ROWING PROGRAM CONTINUES TO EXCEL

Congratulations to the Varsity Eight for an impressive finish at this year’s Head of the Charles Regatta. BC High finished 5th overall in a field of 85 boats and was first among US High Schools. The Varsity Four also impressed with a finish of 15th out of 85, moving up 13 spots from last year’s finish. Varsity member Conor Harrity ’13 made the United States Junior All Academic National Team and the 2012-2013 US Rowing Scholastic Honor Roll.

BC HIGH BROTHERS BACK TOGETHER ON CRIMSON SQUAD

BC High grads Obum Obukwele ’11, and his brother, Nnamdi Obukwel ’09 have enjoyed quite a season together on the Harvard football team. Nnamdi was a senior starting defensive tackle for the Crimson and Obum, a sophomore reserve defensive tackle.

FOOTBALL HONORS

Patrick Moynahan ’09 set the school record for tackles in a season, and career tackles at Davidson College this Fall. Pat’s efforts earned Pat a spot on the first team All-Pioneer Football League.

Jack McDonald ’13, one of the Captains of the BC High Football team, was named the Catholic Conference offensive lineman of the year. Jack will be playing football for University of Virginia next fall.
**Alumni News Notes**

**The 30s**

Robert D. Blute ’39, a Double Eagle, was recently featured in the Chronicle of Boston College for a sesquicentennial profile.

**The 40s**

Robert Tracy ’46, Emeritus Professor of English and Celtic Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, and his wife, Rebecca, have been honored with the Foundation Scholar Award by the American Conference for Irish Studies for their “dedication to mentoring future Irish scholars” and their “vast contribution to the Irish studies community.”

Thomas Aglio ’49 was honored during the Mass of Thanksgiving as part of the 50th anniversary of Catholic Charities celebrations. Bishop John Noonan presided over the ceremony, which was held at St. James Cathedral in Orlando, FL.

**The 50s**

Dr. William Sullivan ’50 was honored recently by BC High as a St. Ignatius Award recipient for his dedication to the health and well being of others. Bill often travels to third world countries, volunteering his expertise and providing medical services to those in need.

**The 60s**

Frederick Dunfey ’60 is joining forces in product development with his son on a sports scheduling system for Pickleball, America’s fastest growing sport.

Walter Smith ’61 is recovering from knee surgery.

Gerry Morelli ’61, former BC High faculty and basketball coach, proudly displayed his son Tim’s paintings at a local doctor’s office in Tauton. Tim’s story was written up in The Boston Globe and prints were made available for sale to raise funds for cancer research. All proceeds from Tim’s work will be donated to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in his memory.

Brian F. Sullivan ’63, a retired Army lieutenant colonel and retired FAA special agent, recently published a number of articles commemorating the United States’ entry into the Vietnam War.

Robert L. Keane SJ ’64 recently retired after 23 years as a Navy Chaplain and is now enjoying a sabbatical year of renewal.

Frank A. Smith III ’69 has been named to the inaugural Board of Directors for Sacred Heart School in Kingston, MA.

**The 70s**

Henry Wiencek ’70 authored the cover article in the October Smithsonian magazine about Thomas Jefferson based on the initial reviews of his book, Master of the Mountain: Thomas Jefferson and His Slaves.

The following alumni from 1972 came out in support of Mel Sullivan’72 and his address to the BC High 2012 Fall Business Networking Event held in November: Jack McDonough, Frank Foley, Mike Sullivan, Steve Aylward and Joe Wholley.

Richard L. Ahern ’75 was awarded the Judith A. Fong Nursing Faculty Prize to recognize and reward his extraordinary clinical excellence. The award is handed out annually by the MGH Institute of Health Professions to a nursing preceptor demonstrating distinction in the role of mentor to one or more students in the nursing program.


**Richard Port ’54** chaired the Hawaiian Democratic delegation for President Obama’s re-election campaign.

James Hennessey ’57 and his wife, Joan, recently accompanied their daughter, Lynne, to Guangzhou in the People’s Republic of China, where she adopted a bright, healthy, and happy 33-month-old, little boy.

**Francis “Bing” West ’57** introduced by fellow alum, Michael Sullivan ’72, delivered the keynote presentation at the BC High 2012 Fall Business Networking Event this past November.

**Jerry York ’63** BC’s national championship hockey coach, who recently broke the NCAA record for career wins, will deliver the 2013 Commencement address at BC High’s graduation ceremony in May. Jerry will also celebrate his 50th Reunion with classmates this spring.

**Dr. Martin J. Dunn ’53** was honored by the Missionary Society of St. James the Apostle for his humanitarian and charitable work planning the inaugural International Colloquium of Jesuit Secondary Schools, which was hosted by BC High in July.

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**BC High Class of 1967** held its annual Christmas lunch at the BC Club December 4, 2012.

Standing: Jim Pattachiola, Brian Shaughnessy, Jack Haley, Maurice Lynch, Bob Griffin, John Murphy, Paul Connolly, George Schindler, Michael Driscoll, Brendan Shea, Ed Driscoll, Tom Burke, Tim Geni, Bill Fidler


Between Phil and John is the chair that is customarily left vacant in memory of their departed classmates.
Robert Forman ’84 was named President & CEO of TriCore Solutions, LLC. Bob is a co-founder of TriCore Solutions and is charted with the shepherding of TriCore’s strategic vision and execution plan.

Chris Hayes ’85, coach of varsity golf and religion teacher at BC High was named Boston Globe Coach of The Year. The 2012 Golf Team won the South Sectional Tournament, and was just one stroke shy of winning the State Tournament.

David Chiu ’87, President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, poses with 24 BC High Model UN students inside the Board of Supervisors’ Chamber during the students’ West Coast trip earlier this year.

John McGunnigle ’87 was recently assigned to Virginia-class attack submarine USS New Hampshire (SSN 778) returning to Naval submarine base New London in Groton, CT.

Congratulations to William Lane ’89, who had the opportunity to work on the production of the last two Bob Dylan records. He currently resides in Los Angeles.

Congratulations to Randy Vera ’89 who was nominated for a song writing award named in honor of former Beatle John Lennon. After a long and difficult adjudication process, Vera’s song “Here Made of Gone” was selected as a Finalist in the Jazz category of the 2012 John Lennon Songwriting Contest.

Stephen Wuori ’94 is currently working in Equador.

Rob Peck ’94 and Ken Foraste ’91 had a chance to play at the Holy Grail of golf courses, none other than Augusta National, just not as part of The Masters. Rob lives in Georgia year round but this was quite a highlight for the two former Golf Captains that played for Coach Ron Brown.

BC High is extremely proud of all that serve our country in the military and we send a special blessing to the following two alums from the class of 1995, God speed to all our grads.

Lee Garrison ’95, First Lieutenant in the Army, is currently deployed to the Paktika Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Lee sent BC High a flag this summer that was proudly flown above the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Headquarters.

Matthew Linehan ’95 is currently deployed overseas in Afghanistan and sends his best to his classmates, current students and the entire BC High community.

Congratulations to Brian Fair ’97 who was selected to the BC High Hall of Fame as one of the all-time leaders of the school’s wrestling program.

Russell Corner ’98 and his wife Hillary welcomed daughter Riley Elizabeth Corer on April 11, 2012 at 7bs 7oz.

Michael DeLuca ’98 was promoted to detective on October 19, 2012. He received his badge from his four-year-old daughter, Gabriella, during a Boston Police Department promotion ceremony in the South End.

Tackey Chan ’91 recently came back to BC High as guest speaker for the Asian Culture Club.

Richard Davey ’91 recently became the Secretary and CEO of MassDOT. He and his team are devising transportation reform that will allow MassDOT to lead the nation in transportation excellence.
December for his volunteer work in aiding disaster stricken areas during re-building efforts. Recently, Bill has been spearheading relief efforts in Hoboken, NJ, following Hurricane Sandy.

Mark McGilvery '01 has been assisting Bill Driscoll '01 and NCHMA with clean-up efforts from Hurricane Sandy in New Jersey and New York.

On June 30, 2012, Nick Pepe '01 married Elizabeth Kilough from Lawrence, Kansas. Fellow BC High grad in attendance were Sam Pepe '04, Jim Burke '01, Pete Sylvester '01, Collins Farhat '01, Frank Ustach '01, Mark McGilvery '01, David Mac Isaac '00, David Mac Isaac '17, John Spatola Sr. '73, and Ken Mulvaney '68.

Lieutenant Kevin Gaughan ‘02 recently visited BC High to discuss service with students in the Arupe Division. He shared how his Jesuit education and experience at BC High has shaped his character and how that carried over to serving his country. Gaughan served as a commander overseeing 42 Marines during Operation Enduring Freedom in Marjah, Afghanistan. His honors include: the Purple Heart, Defense Service Medal and the Purple Heart. His honors include: the Purple Heart, Defense Service Medal and the Purple Heart.

Kevin Collins and Emily Murphy

Joseph W Cronin ‘03 recently married Morgan Dzialo and will relocate to the Los Angeles area where he will be working for the NFL.

Jonathan DeRosa ‘03 married Dina Cyfoku on June 23, 2012. Seen in picture at the celebration are fellow alumni (top, left to right): John Dwyer ‘03, Owen Collins ‘03, Jay DeRosa ‘03, Nick Doherty ‘03, John Chandler ‘03, Jonathan and Dina Cyfoku, Uncle Mike Berrigan ‘49, Tim Dee ‘04, Fr. Jack Hanwell ‘74; (bottom, left to right): Ryan Campbell ‘03, Brian O’Hanley ‘03, Sean McMaster ‘03, Paul Picarski ‘03, James Judge ‘03, Ryan Donahue ‘03, and Joe Connolly ‘03.

Cory Fantasia ‘03 is pursuing his PhD in high energy physics at Boston University. For the past two years he has been working in Switzerland at CERN (the European Organization for Nuclear Research), where in July physicists announced the discovery of a subatomic particle that appears to be the Higgs boson, a long sought after particle.

Timothy Sullivan ‘03 secured the rights to produce the UK premiere of the play, Coronado, a work by fellow alum Dennis Lehane ‘83.

Nicholas Rizzo ‘04, Air Force Airman First Class, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Airforce Base, San Antonio, TX. He earned distinction and graduated with honors.

Gregory Smith ‘02 at the annual Fordham University Rams Alumni Baseball Game with Rob McCunney ‘10.

Richard Sweeney ‘06 was recently sworn in as a licensed Embalmer and Funeral Director. His professional education and degree in Funeral Service, with highest honors, was received from Mount Ida College in May of 2012.

Kyle Carrigan ‘07 graduated from the Eisenberg School of Business at UMass Amherst.

Michael W. Cheung ‘07 graduated from Parris Island, SC, the Marine Corp Recruiting Department.

Charles J. Demarkles ‘07 and Ify Oubkwealu ‘07 enjoyed catching up with each other and other alumni at the New York Alumni reception held by BC High at the New York Athletic Club.

Chris Asmar ‘08, John Colpoys ‘13, Patrick Crane ‘13, and Mike Keefe ‘12 are a program associate for Metanexus Institute.

Joseph T. Pepdjonovic ‘09 and Colin Halpin ‘09 were named team captains of the Suffolk University Rams basketball team for the second year in a row.

The 10’s

Young alums Peter Makhlouf ‘12, Moses Adubi ‘11, and Dan Tonderys ‘10 reunited on the rugby field this fall for the annual Brown v Dartmouth matchup. Peter and Dan are both well on their way to success at Brown University while Moses is in his second year at Dartmouth College.
BC High alumni football players met in a recent matchup at Assumption College vs Bentley University. Final score was 21-14 Bentley. Bentley won in the last minute of the game. Pictured is Emanuel Riggins ’10 defensive tackle, Chris Cadigan ’10 center, Tom Snow ’09 guard, and Bill Kiley ’09 wide receiver. Bill Kiley made a touchdown catch to help Bentley get the win.

Jak Kerley ’10 recently finished production on his second full-length movie, Longview.

Moses Adubi ’11 attended a political rally where he heard Vice President Joe Biden speak at Dartmouth College. Moses, a sophomore at Dartmouth, jumped at the photo op with the Vice President.

Mike Cashman ’11, a member of the Amherst College Varsity hockey team, is looking to provide quality depth this season. Cashman is ranked among the conference’s leading scorers as a freshman.

This year’s BC High President’s Leadership Dinner was held October 3, 2012. The evening honors BC High parents for their commitment to the students and school. Peter Makhlouf ’12, a student at Brown University, was invited to the event to share his story with those in attendance.

Moses Adubi ’11
Social studies teacher and Model UN Moderator for BC High, Nicholas Argento recently returned from the 18th annual Stanford University Model United Nations conference in Palo Alto, CA. Pictured here are the 24 BC High students that traveled to San Francisco with our Model United Nations Club.

Maria Basin and Chris Rakovec traveled with a group of students to Colegio del Salvador, a Jesuit school in Buenos Aires, Argentina as part of the international exchange program at BC High.

Director of the Fund for BC High, Kevin Collins ’01 married Emily Murphy on September 29, 2012, on Martha’s Vineyard.

Sheri Dion of the high school modern language department authored the French XX Bibliography Vol. 63 for the Associated University Presses. It can be found in every major domestic and international library and it provides the most complete listing of available books, articles, and book reviews concerned with French literature since 1885.

The Head of the Charles Regatta race wasn’t just for the students. Teachers Mary Farrell, Jeff Toto ’99 and Stephen McKiernon all competed in the world’s largest two day rowing event held in Boston, MA.

Jessica Hutchinson, Director of Planned Giving and Special Gifts, and husband, Pi Beltrami, welcomed Luke Androw on September 14, 2012.

BC High students with teacher, James Hutchinson met Senate Candidate Elizabeth Warren while volunteering to work the phones for her campaign.

English teacher Ron Fletcher authored an insightful and reflective article for the Boston Globe magazine this past fall titled “Touching the Surface” on how mandatory tablets are affecting students and learning environments.

Patricia Keenan-Byrne and Noreen Landers of the Arrupe Division chaperoned 12 students on a BC High Immersion service trip to Camden, NJ. They worked at a day shelter for the homeless serving lunch and also at a nursing home for the less fortunate.


Allison Rosshirt joined the high school mathematics department at the beginning of the school year. Previously, she was a graduate student at Boston College in the Curriculum and Instruction program and worked as a Graduate Assistant in the Office of Practicum Experiences.

Jennifer Tegan took over as Director of Marketing and Communications at the beginning of the school year. Before coming to BC High Jennifer worked for a small international non-profit as Executive Director.

Dan Russo, a Latin teacher in the Arrupe Division, was awarded a Winchenbaugh Faculty Development Grant that allowed him to travel to Spain last summer to entrench himself in the culture and to record lessons along the way. With the implementation of iPads in the classroom, the need for new and exciting teaching styles has emerged. Dan’s Winchenbaugh project looked to combine new ways of connecting to students with his passion for history and legacy of the Roman Provinces of Spain.

Before coming to BC High, mathematics teacher Troy Turick spent the last decade teaching at a small co-ed Catholic school in Newton as the division head for the math and science department. Troy enjoyed coaching the boy’s soccer and girl’s softball teams in addition to teaching math.

Science teacher Sheila Fisher came to BC High from Weymouth Public Schools where she was Principal. In addition to her time spent at BC High, she continues to teach as an adjunct professor for American International College. Sheila is also the new faculty member overseeing the yearbook.

Tim Forti is new to the BC High science department this year, teaching biology and marine biology. Previously, Tim taught science at Catholic Memorial High School and Cardinal Spellman High School.

A 2007 graduate of BC High, Brian Merrigan is back teaching in the math department. He spent last year coaching football and baseball at his alma mater, Amherst College.

Patricia O’Neill joined the Arrupe language department in September 2012. Before coming to BC High, she taught all grades at St. Agatha’s school in Milton, MA.

Allison McDonald, chair of the English department, is launching a Braintree, MA chapter of the Neighborhood Brigade, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping neighbors in need.

Staci McDonnell assumed the role of Director of Parent Programs. Staci will oversee parent programs at BC High, including the upcoming biennial Shamrocker to be held on March 16, 2013.

Jen McLarnon and Michael Chapman presented to the Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers. Their presentation titled, “Science and You Can Too,” spoke to our transition to a one to one iPad program and the ways in which the students use iPads in class. They described the apps that the students and teachers use, and showed how they use iAnnotate and Notability to give feedback to students.

L to R: Steve, Maggie, Michelle, Dan Russo, Arrupe Latin teacher Steve Mederios, athletics trainer, with wife Michelle and daughter Maggie, had their 7th annual fundraising party this past summer. The Mederios family raised $900 for Shriner’s Burn Hospital.

Jennifer Cardin and Dan Russo, Latin teachers at BC High, Cardinal Spellman High School, and Weymouth Public Schools, along with two BC High students, recently held a presentation titled, “iScience and iMath” to the Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers.

Staci will oversee parent programs at BC High, including the upcoming biennial Shamrocker to be held on March 16, 2013.
CORRECTION

2012 BC High Annual Report

After a two year hiatus from printing an annual report, this fall BC High published the 2012 Annual Report of Gifts. We believe in the value of the generosity of our most loyal donors, alumni, parents and friends and were pleased to provide this publication for your review. Please find the following corrections to the 2012 report.

As of June 30, 2012

The McNeice Society - $1,000,000+
Anonymous
Mr. Gregory E. Bulger ’68
Mr. Patrick F. Cadigan PhD ’52
Estate of Anthony J. Cantela ’42 RIP
Mr. Joseph E. Corcoran ’53
Estate of Arthur H. Cotter ’52
Mr. John F. Ferraro ’73
Estate of Michael C. Havley ’56 RIP
Mr. Lawrence H. Hyde ’42
The Jesuit Community at BC High
Mr. David M. Kelly ’60
J. Frank Keohane Esq. ’53
Estate of Rev. Charles J. McCoy ’43 RIP
Mr. John A. McNeice Jr. ’50
Mr. & Mrs. John F. McQuillan Jr. ’83
Mr. Mark R. Mulvoy ’59
Mr. John V. Murphy ’67
Mr. Frank E. Previle ’61
The Shaugnessy Family
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas F. Shields
Mr. Gil Sullivan ’62
Mr. Richard D. Walsh ’65
Mr. Frank M. Ward ’61
Yewkey Foundation

$500,000+
Mr. Joseph T. Donahue ’74
J. Barry Driscoll ’48
Mr. Patrick J. Donegan Jr. ’73
Mr. Stephen J. Ricci ’63
Mr. Daniel J. Sullivan Jr. ’71
Estate of Jeremiah J. Twomey ’36 RIP
Mr. Edmond D. Villani PhD ’64

$250,000+
Mr. Dudley L. Bauerein Jr. ’64
Catholic Schools Foundation
Estate of William P. Conley ’18 RIP
Mr. John E. Conway ’49 RIP
Mr. Patrick J. Donegan Jr. ’71
Mr. Mark T. Fitzgibbon ’87
Estate of Margaret Ford Kieran
Mr. Paul E. Fuchino ’64
Mr. Robert W. Hove ’64
Mr. Robert C. Lamb Jr. ’73
Mr. William J. Laloux Jr. ’80
George Link Jr. Foundation
Mr. Robert C. Liuzzi ’62
Estate of John J. Maguire Jr.
Mr. William F. McCaill Jr. ’51
Mr. John P. McDonough ’72
Estate of John T. McKeel ’41 RIP
Mr. Paul F. McManus Jr. ’74
Mr. David J. Melville ’57
Mr. William J. Murphy Jr. ’60
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Niedermeyer Jr.
Mr. John J. Norton Esq. ’49
James W. O’Brien Foundation
Mr. Souren G. Ouzounian ’85
Mr. Robert E. Riley ’47
Mr. John P. Ryan ’61
Mr. William M. Sullivan ’81
Mr. Charles L. Readie

$100,000+
Anonymous
Mr. James N. Bailey & Ms. RoAnn Costin
Mr. Francis P. Barron ’43 RIP
Mr. Robert B. Beaumont Jr. ’67
Ms. Edna Bennett
Mr. Brendan O. Bradly ’87
Mr. Philip M. Byrne ’58
Mr. William J. Cadigan ’73
Mr. June A. Callahan
Mr. John R. Carroll ’86
Mr. Peter R. Chase ’65
Mr. John F. Coleman ’49
Mr. John A. Coppola ’61
Estate of Edward J. Conley ’23 RIP
Mr. John J. Corcoran RIP
Mr. John M. Corcoran RIP
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Corcoran Jr.
Leo J. Corcoran Esq. ’77
P. Leo Corcoran RIP
Mr. Thomas M. Corcoran
Mr. Francis X. Crowley ’43 RIP
Mr. John F. Cunningham ’60
Mr. Gerard R. Curtis
Mr. Robert J. Davis ’74
Mr. Henry Dilillo ’45 RIP
Mr. Peter F. Dolan ’79
Mr. John E. Drew ’61
Mr. Martin J. Dunn MDM ’53
Mr. Peter G. Fallon Jr. ’56
Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Finnegan
Mr. James A. Fitzpatrick ’64
Mr. John J. Flaherty ’56
Mr. Richard F. Flynn ’76
Mr. Philip J. Gill ’38 RIP
John & Barbara Giuggio Foundation
S. John Hajjar Esq.’83
Mr. Richard F. Hickey CPA ’64
Mr. Robert M. Higgins Esq. ’87
Mr. Edward F. Hines Jr. ’63 RIP
Mr. Jay W. Hughes ’48
Mr. Joseph L. Hughes ’54
Mr. Vincent Iacono MD ’63
Mr. Thomas M. Joyce ’73
Mr. Frederick J. Krupp
The Legion Foundation
Mr. John J. Lynch ’49
Mr. Philip K. Lynch ’78
Estate of Helen J. Lyons
Mr. John H. Macklinnon ’58
Mr. Robert J. Malloy ’62
Mr. Ferdinand F. Martignetti ’43 RIP
Mr. Edward W. McCahill ’75
Mr. & Mrs. John H. McCarthy
Mr. Roger J. McCormick
Mr. James J. McNimis Esq. ’53
Mr. John McLaughlin ’87
Mr. Paul J. Meaneay ’80
Mr. Leo J. Meehan III ’71
Mr. Thomas F. Monahan ’78
Mr. Robert J. Muldoon Jr. Esq. ’54
Mr. James E. Mulvoy Esq. ’66
R. Michael Murray Jr. ’57
Mr. George A. Murray ’47 RIP
Mr. Joseph E. Noremb ’64
Mr. Robert J. O’Brien Jr. ’59
Mr. Peter F. O’Connell
Mr. Peter D. O’Connor ’60
Mr. David M. O’Keefe ’73
Estate of Ruth A. Patten
Mr. Robert A. Pemberton ’58
Ms. Elsa Peretti
Mr. Francis P. Rich ’43
Michael & Mary Rizzio
Estate of Thomas Robinson
Mr. John M. Shields Esq. ’79
Mr. Leo J. Smith Jr. ’78
Mr. Vincent P. Stanton ’47
Mr. Neal Sullivan ’78
Mr. William M. Sullivan ’81
Mr. Joseph F. Szymanski ’62
Mr. Stephen P. Trapilo ’82 RIP
Mr. & Mrs. Paul V. Trendowicz
Estate of Richard J. Shea ’80
Agnus Varis RIP & Karl Leichtman
Estate of Edmund C. Wessling ’43
Mr. Michael D. White ’70
Mr. Thomas J. White RIP

Other changes:
Robert F. Walsh ’59 was incorrectly listed as anonymous under his class year.

Due to his instrumental involvement in the International Colloquium for Secondary Jesuit Education (ICSJE), Director of International Programs Dan Conroy recently was appointed the Assistant to Jose Mesa SJ, the Secretariat for Jesuit Secondary Education in Rome. Dan’s main focus will continue to be collaborative efforts throughout the Jesuit network.

Religious Education teacher Patrick Tiernan was invited to give a curriculum workshop to the faculty of Central Catholic High School in Portland, OR for their professional development. He also authored a curriculum guide published by Saint Mary’s Press entitled, “Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth Teachers.”
Recent Events

- **Fenway Park Mass of the Holy Spirit**
  Fenway Park
  September 15, 2012

- **President's Leadership Dinner**
  BC High
  October 3, 2012

- **Football Alumni and Family Night**
  BC High
  October 26, 2012

- **Hall of Fame**
  BC High
  November 20, 2012

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**Blake Reardon ’00, Joe McCabe, Hall of Fame recipient Steve Cahill ’01, and Paul Canavan ’85**

**Trusted Pat Casey, Trustee Associate Dan Sullivan ’71 and President Bill Kemeza**

**Catherine & George Jensen P ’10,’13**

**Michelle Barry P ’13, Leonard Arabia P ’12, and Kevin P. Barry ’76, P ’13**

**Vice Principal of Ignatian Mission and Identity, Mike McGonagle ’70**

**BC High face painting table**

**Mike Ferullo ’01, Steve Cahill ’01, and Chris Hayes ’85**

**Arrupe social studies teacher Stephen Kiley ’02 and Morris**

**Trustee Pat Casey, Trustee Associate Dan Sullivan ’71 and President Bill Kemeza**

**Peg English P’06,’08,’12; Director of Parent Programs Staci McDonnell; Director of Development Colleen Fitzgerald**

**Catherine & George Jensen P ’10,’13**

**Classics teacher, Paul Moynahan P’ 09, ’12, ’14**

**Vice-Chair, Board of Trustees Robert F. Walsh ’59, Chair, Board of Trustees Patrick Landers ’73, and Trustee Associate Frank Foley ’72**

**James A. Cotter ’55 Courage award recipient Neil Pallotta ’01 and family**

**2001 Sailing Team and Coach Mary Farrell**

**BC High Pep Band**
The scene: Class of 2012 Yearbook Reunion
BC High
November 24, 2012

Class of 2007 5th Reunion
BC High
November 24, 2012

Business Networking Event
Harvard Club
November 30, 2012

Magis Dinner and St. Ignatius Awards
BC High
December 6, 2012

Tom and Barbara McTigue P’12, Bernard Loughran ’78, P’12, Carol Holmes P’13, Sandy Loughran P’12, and Michael Eisenberg P’13

Michael Sullivan ’72, Bill Kernoza, and Bing West ’57

Ted O’Neill ’12, Ryan Nunes ’12, and Rom McTigue ’12

Bill Sullivan ’50, Bill Driscoll ’01, Mary Madden, and Jack MacKinnon ’58

Social studies teacher Nicholas Argento, Susan Whalen P’16 and James Labeck P’16

Patrick Flynn ’07, Colin Clark ’07, religious education teacher Pat Tierman, Ifeanyichukwu Obuikwe ’07, and Paul Gabriel ’07

Edward Murphy ’53 and Patricia O’Brien

Class of 2012

Mario Powell, SJ and Rob Herlihy ’89

Class of ’72: Jack McDonough, Frank Foley, Mike Sullivan, Steve Aylward, and Joe Wholley

Class of 2012

Class of 2007

Sean McCusker ’12, Chris McNamara ’12, Jeffrey Winsper ’12, Angelo DeNofrio ’12, and Nick Arabia ’12
**March 2013**

2  Model UN Conference and Reunion

16  Shamrocker, Biennial fundraising event

20  Corcoran Living Library lecture series

29  Good Friday Walk

**April 2013**

4-5  Homeric Read A-thon


TBD  Senior parent reception

**May 2013**

13  Mahoney Golf Classic

18  50th Reunion Liturgy and dinner

19  Graduation

**June 2013**

TBA  Class of 1953 Reunion Dinner

30  End of Fiscal Year

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**Puleo to Speak on Corcoran Lecture Series**

DATE: March 20, 2013, 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Gregory E. Bulger Center for the Performing Arts

On March 20, 2013, Stephen Puleo will give the Spring Corcoran Living Library Lecture, in the Gregory E. Bulger Performing Arts Center at 3:30pm. Steve is an author, historian, university teacher, public speaker, and communications professional. His books include *The Caning: The Assault That Drove America to Civil War*, *A City So Grand: The Rise of an American Metropolis, Boston 1850-1900*, *Boston Italians: A Story of Pride, Perseverance and Paesani*, from the *Years of the Great Immigration to the Present Day: Due to Enemy Action: The True World War II Story of the USS Eagle 56*; and his current book *Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919* will be the focus of Steve’s lecture.

A former award-winning newspaper reporter and contributor of feature stories and book reviews to American History magazine and the Boston Globe, Puleo holds a master’s degree in history (From Italy to Boston’s North End: Italian Immigration and Settlement, 1890-1910, UMass-Boston, 1994), for which he received the Dean’s Award for Academic Achievement, and was the Graduate Convocation keynote speaker. He teaches at Suffolk University in Boston. The lecture series is free and open to the public.

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**The Annual Rev. Francis J. Mahoney, SJ Golf Classic**

DATE: May 13, 2013

LOCATION: Granite Links, Quincy and Wollaston Golf Club, Milton

The annual Rev. Francis J. Mahoney Golf Classic has become a BC High tradition: graduates, parents, and friends of BC High gather to enjoy a round of golf at one of the area’s finest courses while helping current BC High students in need of financial aid. This year’s Mahoney Classic will take place at two great locations simultaneously: Granite Link in Quincy and Wollaston Golf Club in Milton.

Our goal is to continue to support Jesuit, Catholic education at Boston College High School as “men for others” through the Golf Classic. We hope you will join us this year and help us reach our goal.

**BC High Grand Reunion**

DATE: April 6, 2013

LOCATION: Hunter-Fahey Commons, BC High

AROUND THE CORNER

By President William Kemeza

THE YEAR 1863 WAS TUMULTUOUS IN BOSTON. It has been said, with some justification, that the American Civil War originated in this city. The Puritan culture that still dominated this area had little trouble seeing the moral degeneracy in slavery even if it had trouble recognizing its own bigotry in dealing with the Irish Catholics who were arriving wave upon wave.

The year began with Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves in the rebelling southern states. The city’s authorities, including Bishop John Fitzpatrick, were united in their praise. But the enormous suffering from the war was felt in most households. The casualties were appalling and the end was not in sight.

Massachusetts had sent the first military regiments to the fight but by 1863 so many more men were needed. This prompted the Commonwealth to raise up the first African American unit, the famed 54th Regiment remembered on the monument across from the State House.

In March of that year Congress passed a conscription act with the intention that all men from ages 20 to 45 would be reviewed for military service. But men of means had a way out. One could pay a waiver fee or hire a substitute. The inequity this placed on the poor, especially immigrants, led to riots in New York and, to a lesser extent, in Boston’s North End.

One could wonder what Rev. John McElroy, SJ thought of all of this as he secured the charter for our school on April 1, 1863. Looking over Father McElroy’s life and work and that of Bishop Fitzpatrick, who brought him to Boston, I believe he and the Bishop were never caught unaware. I suspect that they had what characterizes some of our best leaders—the ability to “see around the corner”—to foresee what is coming accompanied with the courage to act on what they see. One could argue that they were not just seers but animators.

The Bishop’s history bears this out. He counseled the Catholic faithful to protest but not to turn violent in the face of the continued harassment by the Nativists.

At the same time he could see the righteous cause of abolition as the root of the Civil War. He offered financial and spiritual support for the Massachusetts regiments. In 1855 he appointed the Rev. James Augustine Healy, an African American, as the first Chancellor for the Diocese of Boston.

His vision and courage animated him, in 1847, to invite Father McElroy and the Jesuits to staff St. Mary’s Church in the Irish North End of the city at a time when the stately homes of the merchant Yankees were being replaced by tenements. Their mission was pastoral but the choice of Father McElroy confirmed the Bishop’s belief that it was just a matter of time before we had a Catholic school in Boston.

John McElroy, SJ, age 65, had a proven record as a builder: of institutions, of churches, of schools. What’s more, among the citizens of Boston he was a bridge-builder who could span socioeconomic divisions. His work in Maryland and Washington was well documented. He renovated and expanded two Churches; started a Sunday school and literacy program for freed slaves; founded an orphanage; revived a free school for girls and started St. John’s Literary Institute that became St. John’s Catholic Preparatory School in Frederick, MD.

We are blessed to have had such founders. It is our responsibility to them to nurture those same qualities of leadership in our students: the imagination and intelligence to see what is ahead, to see what can and should be done and the courage to do it.

It is our responsibility to nurture the imagination and intelligence to see what’s ahead, to see what can and should be done and the courage to do it.
Saturday, March 16, 2013

Save the Date!

BCHigh 150
Shamrocker 2013

www.bchigh.edu/shamrocker