

Washburn Rural High School



Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Washburn Rural High School
5900 SW 61st Street
Topeka, Kansas 66619

Produced by: WRHS Business Communications

April 8, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Washburn Rural High School History

On April 3, 1918, Washburn University President Parley Womer announced plans to establish an accredited four year public high school on its campus. Washburn High School (WHS) opened in the fall of 1918. Classes were held in the basement of the MacVicar Chapel from 1918-39 then moved during the 1939-40 term to the Old Ichabod Inn on the Washburn campus. Since the high school was located on WU's campus, the same colors of blue and white and the college mascot, Ichabod Washburn, were adopted by the high school. Students from WHS became known as the Junior Ichabods. In 1919, the first self-governing body of WHS was organized. The first yearbook was published and the first school play was performed in 1920. The Class of 1921 named their yearbook the Chimes—the title was reminiscent of the bells that rang from the Thomas gymnasium tower; to this date, the Chimes is still used as our yearbook name.

By 1939, crowded conditions on the campus forced WHS to relocate. In the fall of 1940, WHS moved into its own building located at 19th and Hope Street. By 1943, the second generation of Junior Ichabods was attending WHS. In 1946, the school became officially known as Washburn Rural High School. For many years the high school enjoyed its own building, which began in a rural setting; however, by 1953, the city had expanded surrounding the school. In the summer and fall of 1953 a new school on Wanamaker Road was built and the entire staff assisted in the move to the new building. The first Homecoming and "Queen" traditions were started in 1954. In the fall of 1958, the school newspaper, the Bluestreak, was published. The first recorded "King and Queen of Courts" ceremony was in February 1962. The last year for the high school at this location would be 1964. The fall of '64 found the high school staff and students enjoying a new building at the current location. W.A. McElroy was the first superintendent appointed.

The 70's saw "This Generation" vocal group started and mobile classrooms to handle student growth. In 1981 the mascot became "Junior Blues." Our school community has a rich and deep tradition steeped in pride and excellence.

2020 Inductees

Patty Brockman, Faculty
Brigadier General Michael Flowers, Alumni
2009 Men's Soccer Team

2019 Inductees

Brenda Holaday, Faculty
Trey Lewis, Alumni
2015 Men's Golf Team

2018 Inductees

Scott Shufelberger, Faculty
Stephan Groth, Alumni
2005 Men's Tennis Team

2017 Inductees

Elaine Pardee, Faculty
Brett Durbin, Alumni
2004 Volleyball Team

2014 Inductees

Bill Annan, Faculty
Taiju Takahashi, Alumni

2013 Inductees

Jerry Beardslee, Faculty
Jeff Kready, Alumni

2012 Inductees

Clifford Manning, Faculty
Wayne Peterson, Faculty
Colonel Chris Toner, Alumni

2011 Inductees

Donald E. Gifford, Faculty
Howard L. Shuler, Faculty
Dr. J. Kirk Romary, Alumni

2010 Inductees

William Edwards, Faculty
Tracy Johnson, Alumni

2009 Inductees

Ray Glaze, Faculty
Ken Berry, Alumni

2008 Inductees

Ron Bowen, Faculty
Edward Albert, Alumni

2007 Inductees

Dennis L. Ary, Faculty
Kenneth A. Forsyth, Faculty
David M. Hupp, Alumni
Ronald L. Wasserstein, Alumni

2006 Inductees

Wilbur A. McElroy, Faculty
Gregg Binkley, Alumni
Robert McElroy, Alumni

2005 Inductees

Sherryl Longhofer, Faculty
Jane Gilliland Dalton, Alumni
James A. McClinton, Alumni

2004 Inductees

Jean E. Jones, Faculty
Warren Corman, Alumni
Vanessa Lavender, Alumni

2003 Inductees

Wayne W. Howbert, Faculty
Carolyn H. Jones, Faculty
Kris W. Kobach, Alumni

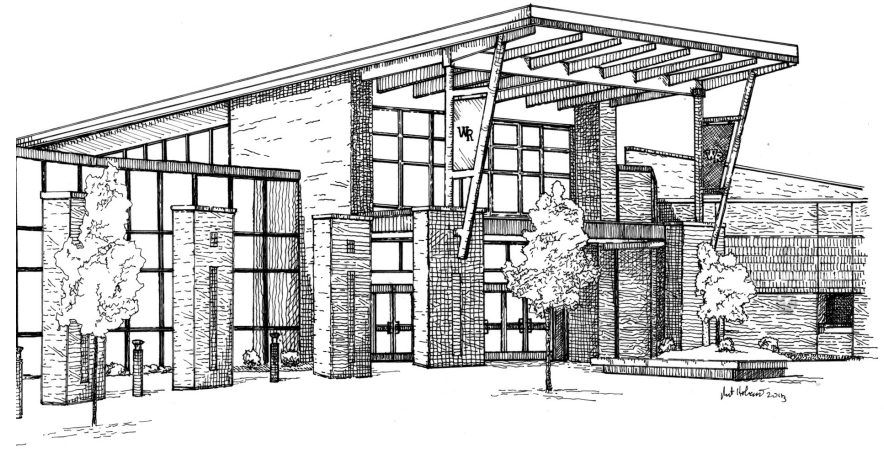
Our Vision

We want all students to have a voice, to realize their dreams, and to fulfill their potential.

Our Vision is to inspire and empower our school community as we ***Embrace Exceptional Education.***

Our Mission

Washburn Rural High School provides a progressive environment of world-class academics, athletics, and activities to foster all students' desires to learn and achieve through open discussion and self-discovery. As educators in pursuit of student success, we continually enhance our skills and knowledge so we may offer the most relevant, effective curriculum in order to achieve our Vision.



Washburn Rural High School Hall of Fame

Re-established in 2003, the Washburn Rural High School Hall of Fame honors graduates and staff members who have excelled and achieved significant accomplishments. It is our privilege to recognize these individuals.

Nominations for the Hall of Fame are accepted year round. Annual selections are made in May. Criteria necessary for recognition and nomination forms can be made directly from the District website (<http://www.usd437.net>).

Inductions occur during the spring semester. The Hall of Fame plaques are displayed near the WRHS auditorium. Please consider nominating an outstanding alumnus or faculty member.

Initial Years of the Washburn Rural Hall of Fame

In looking through the history of the school, it is worth noting that in 1976, the Hall of Fame was established. In the spring of 1975, the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) began their campaign for nominees to their Hall of Fame recognition. Rural, like so many other Kansas schools, formed a committee to nominate staff, alumni and supporters for KSHSAA's Hall of Fame. Individuals that were nominated received a plaque and a scrapbook by the WRHS Hall of Fame committee. Between 1976 and 1984, the local Hall of Fame recognized these seven individuals.

1976 – Jay Shideler – Board of Education

1976 – Ron Paradis – Alumni

1977 – Wilbur A. McElroy – Staff

1978 – Alton Haun – Staff

1980 – Dr. W. Parkinson Popenoe – Alumni

1982 – Maxwell Sloop – Staff

1983 – Delvy Lewis – Alumni

Washburn Rural High School takes great pride in keeping the accomplishments of these individuals, as well as those most recent inductees, in the minds of our community.

WRHS Fight Song

Washburn, Washburn, Hail White and Blue
Washburn, Washburn, We're backing you
We'll be loyal come what might
But we'd like to (Go) win this game tonight
So Washburn, show us what you can do
Fight for the White and Blue
Work up some steam, get in and fight
So we can win this game tonight



The Washburn Alma Mater

Washburn, thy halls in glory dwell
Thy words of truth and beauty tell
For knowledge, hope, and friendship true
Washburn, our praise we sing to you
You, in tradition, hold the victors' name
Your halls of learning known in fame
Classmates in honor stand and praise
Washburn, our guide through high school days

Hall of Fame Inductee 1960 Class A Men's Basketball Team



Front Row: Jim Stevick, Mike Laughon, Coach Bryce Stallard, Del Lewis,
Ronnie Paradis, John Richarson.

Second Row: Asst. Coach Bob Peel, Jerry Marstall, Darrell Siecgrist,
Rodney McMaster, John Garcia, Don Williams

Not pictured: Ned Nusbaum

1960 Class A Basketball State Champions
25 Wins 1 Loss

Jayhawk League Champions

First City team to win State Championship since 1923

Washburn Rural High School's First State Basketball Championship

Washburn Rural High School Hall of Fame Induction Reception & Ceremony

April 8, 2021
6:00 p.m.
WRHS Cafeteria

Welcome & Introductions:

Maggie Decker and Karla Navarrete —STUCO Presidents

Induction Ceremony Presenters

Steve Rottinghaus, Kevin Bordewick, Mike Laughon

2021 Inductees

Mary Lou Bowen - Staff

Jessica Dorsey - Alumnus

1960 Class A Men's Basketball Team

Recognition of Inductees

7:00 p.m.

WRHS McElroy Soccer Field

Hall of Fame Inductee

Mary Lou Bowen - Staff



Mary Lou Bowen's first 10 years were spent in Thomas County, KS, in the little town of Rexford, where she was born. Then her family moved to the farm in Atchison County, in NE Kansas, after suffering through "five wheat failures" as the story went. The family operated a Grade A Dairy farm from then on. *(As a senior she was named Atchison County's first Dairy Princess.) Her final two elementary grades were completed at Rose Valley, a one room country school to which she and her younger brother often rode horseback in inclement weather. Their horses were stabled in the coal shed for the day. Lunches from home were often heated on the Warm Morning coal stove in the middle of the room.*

High school days were at Atchison County Community High School in Effingham, with graduation in 1956. There she studied art and music, her first two loves. As a soloist she won several Federation of Music competitions and earned a gold medal at

Kansas State High School contest. The school music ensembles and duos performed with her 4-year vocal partner entertained often in the community. She and her brother also frequently entertained in the area, accompanied by their mother, a former teacher. Mary Lou played first chair baritone in concert and pep band and loved marching band. She enjoyed her journalism classes and served as editor of the school paper and art editor of the yearbook. She gives credit to her high school journalism instructor for some of the best teaching advice she ever received. It proved beneficial in her teaching career.

She was active in FHA and Kayettes in high school and for many years in 4-H, serving in offices, winning awards in cooking, sewing, demonstrations, public speaking, poultry and talent shows. She won medals in home economics and livestock judging at the State Fair. With her children in 4-H, she served as a club and project leader, and judged at other county fairs.

Enrolled at Kansas State Teachers College, now Emporia State University, she studied journalism, with emphasis on radio. Since broadcasting discriminated against females at the time Mary Lou concentrated on the written word. She wrote frequent articles, served as Feature Editor and eventually as Editor of The Bulletin, the college paper, spending 45-60 hours weekly for the huge stipend of \$75 monthly. She earned certification to teach literature, creative writing, regular English/grammar, art, psychology and theatre as well as journalism. In the 39 years that followed, she taught 27 years in Kansas Public Schools (15 at WRHS) and two years for the Kansas Extension Service. While teaching at WRHS, Mary Lou enjoyed terms on the Executive Board of Directors of Kansas Scholastic Press Association, and terms as Vice-President and President. She and co-teacher Roseann Gish frequently gave presentations and judged at the state and national conference levels as they accompanied students to the conferences/competitions. *She served as co-sponsor of FCA from its organization until her 1998 retirement.*

After retirement, she became active in the Family and Community Education organization, serving as local and county president, and again enjoying presenting lessons and demonstrating crafts locally and at conferences. Mary Lou became a certified instructor for Community Emergency Response Team training in the county and served as chair of the Atchison County governing committee for the program for many years. During her tenure, the group trained and certified 58 citizens as backup support for first responders. She has served her church as an occasional lay speaker, soloist, secretary and church school director.

Mary Lou and husband Ron graduated from college in 1959, have been married 63 years and are parents of five children, Cindy, deceased, Damon, M'Lissa, Andrea and Heather, and are proud of their 18 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Hall of Fame Inductee

Jessica Dorsey, J.D., LL.M. - Alumna



Jessica Dorsey graduated from Washburn Rural in 2000 and obtained a B.A. in English in 2004 from the University of Kansas, with a focus on grammar and usage of the language. Her first job was as an Editorial Assistant at a major publishing house in Birmingham, Alabama, but it was a "happy accident" involving the incorrect installment of a car headlight at a repair shop that lit the fire for her to pursue a career in law. She moved back to Topeka and graduated from Washburn University School of Law in 2008 with her Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree, after focusing on civil, constitutional and human rights, and received a Certificate in International and Comparative Law, with distinction. That same year, she moved to the Netherlands with its many international law opportunities to pursue an additional specialization, a master's in law degree (LL.M.) in Public International Law, Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law at Utrecht University School of Law in 2010. Jessica worked for the Municipality of Utrecht on a human rights initiative and taught at the

University of Utrecht School of Law before taking a position as a legal researcher in human rights and humanitarian law at the internationally renowned T.M.C. Asser Institute in The Hague. Her work on drone warfare and accountability and transparency for military actions led to her becoming a prominent name in Europe for her expertise. Since 2013, she has also been an Associate Fellow of the International Center for Counterterrorism—The Hague. In 2016, she left the Asser Institute for work at the Dutch human rights non-governmental organization PAX, where she led the European Forum on Armed Drones and did advocacy work at the national, European and international levels on human rights and counterterrorism issues. She has spoken at the United Nations General Assembly in New York and Nairobi on issues related to accountability and transparency for drone strikes and targeted killings and aspects related to the costs of armed conflict on the environment. In 2017, the European Parliament contracted Jessica to advise its Subcommittee on Human Rights about the legal contours of the acquisition and military use of armed drones.

In 2019, in order to return to inspiring the human rights defenders of the future, she took a position as a lecturer at the University of Amsterdam in the interdisciplinary Politics, Psychology, Law and Economics honor's program. In 2020, she elected to switch universities and is now working as an Assistant Professor at the Utrecht University School of Law, where she teaches European law, international human rights and humanitarian law courses and develops legal skills initiatives in Bachelor's and Master's programs alongside her consultancy work related to the use of armed drones. Jessica is also an Executive Board member of Airwars, a London-based non-governmental organization dedicated to monitoring and assessing civilian harm from airpower-dominated international military actions.

In 2018, the Alumni Association of the Washburn University School of Law presented Jessica with the Graduate of the Last Decade award, which "honors recent Washburn Law graduates whose performance and commitment has set an example of professionalism and demonstrated leadership in the legal field, in their community, or to the School of Law." Jessica travels as frequently as she can back to Topeka, where her parents still reside, and does outreach such as giving talks or lectures about her work to groups or consulting with current law students about careers in international law. Jessica resides in Maarsbergen, The Netherlands, and is married to Stijn, a Dutch journalist and author. They have two children, Sebastiaan and Noa, and a feisty Spanish terrier named Max.