



FOR THE MUSTANGS OF 1964

Greetings! This comes to you from the Class of 1964 Myers Park High School Reunion Committee. Our names are shown below. As we look forward to our reunion later this month when we will celebrate the 60th anniversary of our graduation from Myers Park, we want to acquaint you with the Myers Park High School Foundation – an organization whose important mission and work we believe merit the support of all Myers Park graduates, but particularly this year, the great Class of 1964

Myers Park High is the largest public school in North Carolina, with approximately 3,238 students. About 1,000 students, almost one-third, live below the federal poverty family level – a huge number to be sure but not sufficient to entitle the school to receive additional resources to enhance student outcomes.

Great schools combine the power of public resources with innovation and flexibility fueled by private funds. In 2012, several members of the “Classic Class of 1955” collaborated with the school administration and parent leaders to create the Myers Park High School Foundation, partnering with the effective Communities in Schools organization.

The Myers Park High School Foundation strategically concentrates on these main areas:

- Comprehensive programming for 9th – 12th grade at-risk students to get them on track for graduation
- Scholarships for students or programs
- Shannon Scholarship Fund Money donated by friends and family in memory of David Shannon (Class of 2012) funds college scholarship for Myers Park students.

Funds raised by the Foundation support an array of critical Programs at Myers Park:

Communities in Schools – Myers Park High School has 2 Site Coordinators, and the Foundation has fully funded one Site Coordinator position since 2012. The Site Coordinators bring the proven Communities in Schools model to Myers Park by case managing students across a broad at-risk spectrum, from students facing traumatic or crisis-level challenges to students seeking college and career guidance. Nearly all Myers Park seniors supported by Communities in Schools have graduated.

Graduation Coach – In 2023, the Foundation funded a Graduation Coach that is a full-time position at Myers Park High School. The Graduation Coach works with students who are at risk of not graduating on time with their cohorts.





Mustangs Matter – This after-school program began in 2016, providing academic support, mentoring, recreation and the life skills for ninth graders as they make their transition to high school. Going into year four, Mustangs Matter celebrated its first class of graduating seniors in 2020. A re-launch and rebuild of the program occurred as school returned to in-person after the pandemic. The program now includes students in all grades, many of whom credit the staff with keeping them on track.

Student Wellness Center – The Student Wellness Center opened at Myers Park High School in the fall of 2023. This special space, inspired by and dedicated to the memory of Jason Huff, Jr., has the intention of improving the mental health of teenagers at Myers Park. The school is comprised of a mix of all socio-economic backgrounds who suffer all types of stressors from anxiety disorders and mental health disease to abusive households to non-English speaking immigrants to homelessness. Mental health diseases and struggles cut across all socio-economic strata. The foundation was pleased to be able to provide a new Student Wellness Center that welcomes all into a home-like environment on campus.

The Foundation will continue to encourage and support innovative efforts to make Myers Park a model of urban educational excellence.

To Donate and for more information, see www.mphsfoundation.org.

Student Body Profile for 2024-2025:

- Total Students: 3,238
- Diverse: 51.5% White, 22.7% Afro-American, 19.8% Hispanic, 2.7% Asian, 3.3% Other
- Socio-economically Stratified: Students in all income brackets; nearly one-third of MPHS students live below the poverty line or receive some form of public assistance
- Homeless students: Fluctuating population approaching 100+ per year

Your Planning Committee:

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