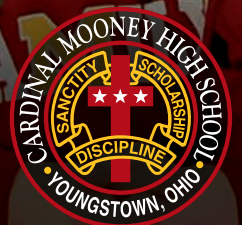


THE MOONEY MESSENGER

AN INFORMATION MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF CARDINAL MOONEY HIGH SCHOOL

Block Scheduling *pg. 4-5* | Ways to Give *pg. 6-9*
Celebrate Mooney Auction *pg. 10-11* | Mooney Scholars *pg. 12-13*
Alumni Spotlight *pg. 16-17* | Annual Fund Update *pg. 21*



President's Message

Greetings and Happy Easter!

By the time this issue of the *Mooney Messenger* goes to press, we will be well into our Lenten journey and on our way to rejoicing in the Easter season! Cardinal Mooney is proud to share this issue with you, in hopes that you'll take time as you gather with family to read about the amazing things going on at our school!



The unifying theme of this issue is "Why Mooney?" We ask this question of ourselves, our readers, our students both current and prospective, our staff, and our donors. Why Mooney for your education, for your profession, and for your support. We believe that the pieces contained herein answer this question by bringing you inspiring stories of students' achievements, our faculty's contributions to learning, and our donors' unwavering support.

In this issue, we will share stories about our Mooney Scholars, extraordinary students pushing themselves to succeed. We will talk to Shanice St. Thomas, a Sophomore, who takes advantage of all that Mooney has to offer — from the classroom to the softball field. Mooney's reverence for the "A" in STEAM education will be explored as we showcase our Visual Arts Department. We discuss the origins of "the Block" through a talk with the legendary Mr. Cooney!

We showcase our donors' various ways of giving, including E. Jewelle Johnson ('90) who started a scholarship in her mother's memory; the Simons-Cox Family who continually amaze us with their support; George Rovder ('68) who gave for the first time after being inspired by the stories in our last issue; and Adeline Wharton ('00) who gives back to Mooney on a monthly basis.

We will also share the details of our Celebrate Mooney Auction set for Saturday, April 28th, — our largest annual fundraiser and quite possibly one of the best nights of the year!

Thank you all for your continued support! You are in my prayers every day and I humbly ask that you please pray for the entire Mooney Family.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Oles '01".

Mark Oles '01

2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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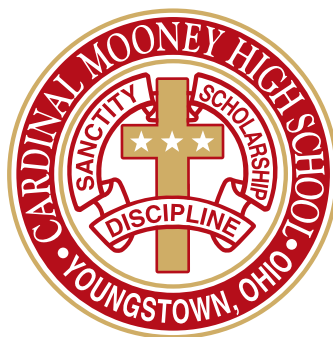


CARDINAL MOONEY HIGH SCHOOL

TODAY'S LEARNERS.
TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Cardinal Mooney High School, a Roman Catholic school of the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio, is committed to providing a quality education in the supportive atmosphere of the Mooney Family. Our embrace of Gospel values, and our tradition of Sanctity, Scholarship and Discipline, enable our students to achieve personal excellence. We strive to develop leaders dedicated to social justice and service in the world community.

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Visual Arts

AT CARDINAL MOONEY



STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Education has been hailed as the way forward for years in American academic circles. Recently though, a new letter has been added to the acronym accounting for **STEAM Education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics.)** The inclusion of Arts into the prescribed curriculum standards has been embraced at Cardinal Mooney.



Sean Butler

The Cardinal Mooney Visual Arts Department, headed by **Mr. Sean Butler ('85)** offers a vast array of courses rooted in fundamentals and progressing through Advanced Placement opportunities. Each student at CMHS must complete one full credit in the Arts in order to graduate from CMHS. This requirement is satisfied through a variety of options. Through this experience, students garner the creative skills so crucial in implementing the more analytical aspects of STEM. For example, in order for an engineer to successfully execute a design or for a surgeon to complete a procedure,

they must be able to conceptualize the physical aspects of their goal. This is where the Arts can be critical. Beginning with Art I, CMHS students begin their mastery of sketching, sculpture and painting. Similarly, **Mrs. Maureen Kandray's Photography courses** explore real-life aspects of dimension and the interconnectivity of forms. STEM professionals must be able to articulate their vision; CMHS Arts are the first step.

However, the Arts at Mooney are also an invaluable source of self-expression. Students are called upon to translate their emotions and observations into swirling swaths of color or detailed portraits of their heroes. Technology increasingly enters into the Arts courses. Mr. Butler and Mrs. Kandray routinely utilize Apple computers, Photoshop and Wacom tablets in their Digital Photography and 3-D Art classes. Further courses in the Arts series allow students to enhance their skills and explore new media.

Unique to Mooney is the AP Art Course. This is an intense course in which students create five quality pieces in any medium and twelve breadth pieces in one concentration with a common theme. The pieces are then sent to an evaluation board and assessed according to the AP guidelines. Students are thus, essentially, afforded an opportunity to become juried artists early in their careers. The evidence is clear that STEAM Education is one of the most well-rounded academic advantages that students can experience. At CMHS we put that education into action with Cardinal Mooney Visual Arts, not only bringing joy to our darkest winters but inspiring creativity in our daily lives!



American Scholars Group: One Student's Story

Like most Freshmen, **Angela Peng** was nervous to start high school. However, while most students worry about with whom they will eat lunch and whether or not they'll be able to find their classes, Angela has had bigger fears. She had just relocated 8,000 miles from her hometown of Chong Quing, a city of over 30 million people in Southern China, to Youngstown, Ohio to start her high school career at Cardinal Mooney.



Angela found Cardinal Mooney through **the American Scholars Group**, an educational consulting company based in Greenville, Pennsylvania that matches international students looking to study abroad with American high schools. With a brother already studying Business at college in New York, Angela knew she wanted to have a similar experience, but one that was more closely related to her interests than the options in China. "In China," Angela explains, "there is a lot of emphasis on math. I prefer to study language and had an interest in improving my English. So my parents contacted ASG and once they visited Cardinal Mooney, they knew that it would be a good fit for me." That "good fit" included an individualized study track for Angela that allowed her to further explore English courses and the Arts. **One of her favorite classes has been Dr. Mattiussi's History of the Catholic Church.** Angela appreciates the ways in which Dr. Mattiussi challenges his students to examine the origins of the Church and debate their views in class.

As a Cardinal, Angela lives in an ASG dorm in Struthers, Ohio with eighteen other international students who also attend Mooney, including girls from China, Korea, and Vietnam. For a time, Angela stayed close to her dorm, giving in to her insecurities. However, this year, her Junior year, Angela made an effort to branch out and states that she couldn't be happier! This year, she has expanded her friend group to include more American students, including **Junior Alana Bowser**. The two of them, along with a close-knit group of other Juniors, spend their weekends shopping, going to the movies, and enjoying dinner at Mizu Japanese Restaurant. Of course, they also make sure to cheer on the Cardinals at Mooney sporting events! A highlight of her life at Mooney has been the extracurricular opportunities, including Art Club, Yearbook and YES Fest.

Angela's Chinese name is Liyun which means "pretty cloud." Much like her name, Angela has the abilities and confidence after her time at Mooney to travel far and wide in her pursuits. She hopes to study Business and Economics at UCLA after her graduation next year. Perhaps, she thinks, she might work in International Business, splitting her time between China and the United States. Wherever she goes, Angela can be sure that her Mooney Family will be supporting her!

For more information on the American Scholars Group, please visit their site at www.americanscholargroup.com



When asked what sets Cardinal Mooney apart from other area high schools, there are as many answers as there are members of the Mooney Family. From athletics, to lifelong friendships, to those famous cookies in our cafeteria, nearly everyone has one thing that they hold dear. However, upon closer inspection, most of those familiar with the unique Mooney Way will undoubtedly cite the school's Block Scheduling as the outstanding aspect of their high school experience. **What is this Block Scheduling? How and why did Mooney institute this unique way of course arrangement? What exactly are the benefits of “the Block” as it’s called?**

In 1999, “the Block” was instituted at Cardinal Mooney out of a necessity. Traditionally, over 98% of Mooney graduates go on to college. These students were looking for a way to secure an academic advantage over their peers. Thus, in the late 1990s a group of Mooney Administrators led by then Assistant Principal Jim Cooney set out on a three-year quest to find out the best way to accommodate more in-depth academics at the school without tacking on extra hours to each day. It was determined after an exhaustive examination of other high-achieving Ohio high schools that a daily schedule consisting of four classes, each 90 minutes long, (as opposed to the traditional six or seven 45-minute classes at many other schools) was the best solution. Mooney students earn 8 credits per year under this system— which changes class schedules either at the quarter or semester. At the first semester’s conclusion in January four full credits are awarded to students, and four additional credits are awarded at the end of the second semester in June. Semester-long courses are core subjects, including Math, Science, English and Foreign Language among others. Quarter-length courses tend to be of the elective variety, such as Photography, Business, Forensic Science, and those specially chosen by students to explore their individual interests. Mooney graduates receive 31½ credits versus the 27½ at traditional high schools.

Prior to the installation of the Block, teachers attended an in-service on how best to engage students in learning for 90 minutes. While college-level courses tend to stretch out for longer periods, high schoolers need consistent engagement to retain their interest.

BLOCK SCHEDULING: An Innovative Approach to Academics



Hence, faculty were educated in varying teaching styles and strategies on how to maximize the extended periods, such as changing instructional strategies up to three times per class period. Often, a teacher will follow a pattern of traditional instruction, implementation of skills through a lab or in-class exercise, then a reinforcement lesson.

The benefits of Block Scheduling are varied. While students have the opportunity to earn more credits, thus putting them at a competitive and academic advantage in college admissions, there is also a reverence for more content and personalized educational methodologies. Students have more one-on-one time with teachers whereby they can receive immediate intervention. Additionally, with only four classes per day, students have less homework in fewer courses, allowing time for

extracurricular involvement. Science classes, in particular, thrive under the Block, with ample time to complete an instructional lesson and active lab within the same class period. Photography and other Arts courses allow for students to fully complete their artistic vision in one sitting rather than interrupting their process. With an extended 90-minute period, the Mooney Service Class is able to travel off-campus to assist at local nursing homes and elementary schools on a daily basis.

Current Social Studies Department Head Mr. Jim Jablonski thoroughly enjoys teaching within the Block. **Mr. Jablonski ('98)** teaches a range of courses from American Government to AP Psychology. He states that with the extended class time, he is able to bring current events discussions into his government and history courses, allowing for students to debate ideas and examine the similarities of the human condition over the centuries. Mr. Jablonski states, "with Block Scheduling, I feel that the students are able to receive a well-rounded educational experience. The extra time lets us move beyond rote memorization. We aren't teaching for the test, but instead we are developing a thought process that prepares kids for academics beyond the high school level. This is particularly important in the challenging AP classes, where students earn college credit while still in high school. The content with these courses requires a high level of dedication to the subject at hand. The Block is a necessity."



Mr. Jablonski teaching an American Government class under Mooney's Block Schedule

Block Scheduling has proven to be a success at Cardinal Mooney. Routinely, CMHS students enter college beyond the entry level, especially when their schedules are enhanced with the vast array of AP and Honors courses offered. To explore the ways in which Block Scheduling can positively impact your child's academic future, please visit www.cardinalmooney.com or contact our Director of Admissions Rebecca Bayley at rbayley@youngstowndiocese.org to arrange a tour or Shadow Day for your child.

LOVE THE BLOCK? **THANK MR. COONEY!**

Jim Cooney could be called the Father of the Mooney Family! He is after all, one of the main architects of Block Scheduling. Generations of Cardinals have stories of Mr. Cooney's legendary ability to draw a perfect circle without looking or a word of encouragement from the former educator that sticks with them to this day. Few members of the Mooney Family evoke such respect as Mr. Cooney. With 46 years as a member of the faculty and Administration, he continues to serve the school as a member of the Board. After earning a BA from the Athenaeum in Cincinnati and an MA in Education from Xavier University,



Mr. Cooney tutors CMHS Junior Jack Keffler ('19) in the school library.

Mr. Cooney began his storied Mooney career as a Religion teacher in 1964 before moving onto Mathematics for 43 years. He also holds a certification in Building Administration from Youngstown State University, which he put to good use as Dean of Boys then Assistant Principal at Mooney for 37 years including time as Assistant Principal. Although, he's an Ursuline High School graduate ('57), Mr. Cooney defines what it means to be a Cardinal. He is Brave, Loyal, and True to the Family! He even met his wife, Mrs. MaryAnn Cooney after being introduced by her daughter while she was a student of Mr. Cooney's! Still a fixture in the halls of CMHS, Mr. Cooney continues to serve the school through his dedication to the Board and as an organizer of the Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Ron Stoops Dinner. He has also established a scholarship in his name at the school. To honor the good works of Mr. Cooney, please consider donating to the James M. Cooney Scholarship at Cardinal Mooney and assist our students in achieving their goals. You can donate at www.support.cardinalmooney.com

Securing Our

Ways to Give

Sustaining the traditions of Sanctity, Scholarship, and Discipline is a combined effort of the entire Mooney Family. Beginning with the sweat equity of our volunteers and continuing through to the financial generosity of our Alumni and community, there is a nearly endless variety of ways in which stakeholders can support our mission to provide a safe, nurturing environment for our students. Below, we pay respect to several donors and explore support opportunities.

Sustaining the Mission Through Scholarships

When superstar Georgia attorney E. Jewelle Johnson ('90) was looking for a way in which to best support her alma mater, she knew that she wanted to accomplish two things. Initially, she wanted to make sure that current students had the opportunity to benefit from the Mooney Way. She also wanted to pay homage to her mother, the woman that helped support Jewelle's own way through Mooney and beyond. To accomplish these goals, Jewelle established the **Lizzie L. Johnson Scholarship at Cardinal Mooney** to assist students.

Recipients of this scholarship must meet the following criteria:

- An African-American student residing in the 44507 zip code
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better
- A minimum of 25 volunteer hours in the local community within the prior year

It is clear when looking at Jewelle's impressive post-Mooney life why she would want to ease access to education for others. Jewelle earned both her Bachelor of Philosophy and Bachelor of Arts degrees from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in 1994. She graduated with her Juris Doctorate from the Duke University School of Law in 1997. Currently, Jewelle is Assistant General Counsel and Chief Employment Counsel for Graphic Packaging International, LLC in Atlanta, Georgia — where she handles domestic and international labor, employment, benefits and safety-related matters impacting the company's 17,000 employees worldwide.

A recipient of numerous awards, including the State Bar of Georgia's Commitment to Equality Award, Jewelle was appointed by Georgia Governor Nathan Deal to the State of Georgia's Employee Benefits Plan Council and the State Personnel Board. She also serves as a Director on the Boards of the National Employment Law Council and the Care and Counseling Centers of Georgia — as well as sitting on the planning committee for the 2018 Women, Influence & Power in Law Conference. She served as a prior President of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA). Jewelle's other leadership activities have included the Georgia Supreme Court's Commission on Access and Fairness in the Courts, the State Bar of Georgia Committee to Promote Inclusion in the Profession, the Atlanta Legal Aide Society's Advisory Committee, the Fulton County Chapter of the Metropolitan Atlanta Boys and Girls Clubs, the Atlanta Business League, and the Atlanta Legal Diversity Consortium.



The Mooney Messenger recently corresponded with Jewelle to gather some insight into her thoughts on why she decided to support CMHS.

What prompted you to establish a scholarship at CMHS?

I started the scholarship in honor of my mother, Lizzie L. Johnson. She was a huge proponent of education in general and Cardinal Mooney in particular. She believed, and I agree, that the quality of the education at Mooney set the stage for me to be successful as an attorney and as a citizen of the world. As a result, she was very supportive of the school, and I could think of no better way to honor her memory and the sacrifices she made for me than to reach back and help others experience all that Mooney has to offer.

Continued on next page

Students' Future

How did Mooney help prepare you for life after Graduation?

Mooney helped transform me from a shy, introverted child who would refrain from reading an announcement over the loudspeaker into an athlete, a performer and an advocate. As a result of the academic programs at Mooney, I was extremely prepared for college and able to succeed in a competitive environment with people from across the globe. However, the extracurricular activities were just as impactful. I played basketball, sang in the chorus, performed in theatrical productions, and participated in Student Council, the speech team and Physics Club. All of these activities allowed me to develop wonderful relationships with people of different ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds and to challenge myself in various ways while maintaining and reinforcing the Christian values with which I had been raised. I was voted Most Likely to Succeed my Senior year at Mooney, and I have always used that as part of my inspiration to live up to the potential that my classmates saw in me.

Why should someone give to Mooney?

Cardinal Mooney is a lighthouse in the raging storm. It is a place where students can develop their talents in a safe environment with teachers who are truly vested in their success and an academic program that will more than prepare them for college. It is an institution that instills Christian and moral values and gives children the gift of opportunity. The sports program is outstanding, and not just with respect to football (though you cannot help but love Mooney football), but also tennis, track, volleyball, baseball and basketball. More than anything, Mooney is family. I moved away from Youngstown after college and rarely return. However, I remain connected to classmates who are successful and thriving and who would be there for me if ever the need arose. My goddaughters, who are 20 years younger than me, both graduated from Mooney and love the school as much as I do. We still sing the Mooney Fight Song. There is no generational divide with the Mooney experience because the spirit of Mooney truly never, ever dies.

Cardinal Mooney is extremely grateful for E. Jewelle Johnson's generosity toward our school. We look to others to follow her example and establish a scholarship to make it possible for deserving students to attend Mooney. If you would like to establish a scholarship, please contact the CMHS Office of Advancement at 330-788-5113 or reach out to President Mark Oles at moles@youngstowndiocese.org. You can also contribute to our existing scholarship fund by visiting www.support.cardinalmooney.com

Giving Through the Generations

For the Simons-Cox Family, giving back is a way of life. Husband and wife **Toby Cox ('89)** and **Kim Simons-Cox ('89)** have given generously over many years to Cardinal Mooney. Most recently, Toby and Kim donated funds to acquire a vacant house bordering our growing campus. Currently, Mooney is in the process of demolishing the house to beautify the parcel through the establishment of an Alumni garden. This past December, the family also established a scholarship to honor Kim's father, **William Simons ('65)** and his love for Mooney.

The Mooney Family wishes to thank the Simons-Cox Family for their unwavering support!

Kim Simons-Cox ('89) and Toby Cox ('89) stand near the house they purchased to make way for Mooney's campus expansion.



Monthly Planned Giving Continued Support

The generosity Adeline (Santistevan) Wharton ('00) exemplifies ease in giving. Beginning in 2017, Adeline and her family established recurring monthly payments to support Cardinal Mooney. Monthly planned giving is a commitment to providing necessary funding throughout the year. Adeline was kind enough to speak with the Messenger from her home in Michigan about her decision to make monthly giving a priority for her family.

"I became a Cardinal Mooney Alumna in 2000. The Mooney Family showed me that there are opportunities in life for all within an arm's reach."

"I grew up on the South Side of Youngstown with a hard-working single mother, Mary Ann (Kirin) Santistevan ('80) who was a Mooney alumna herself. As a child, I envied the educational opportunity that my grandparents, Steve and Audrey Kirin, afforded her. They were of the Depression Era and believed in higher education and the importance of working hard for the future. Due to World War II, my grandparents never finished high school, let alone college. However, they taught us the value of hard work, support, and giving back to family, friends and our community. As a young parishioner of Sts. Peter and Paul in Youngstown, I witnessed first-hand how to give back. It was inspiring to watch multiple generations working together as one."

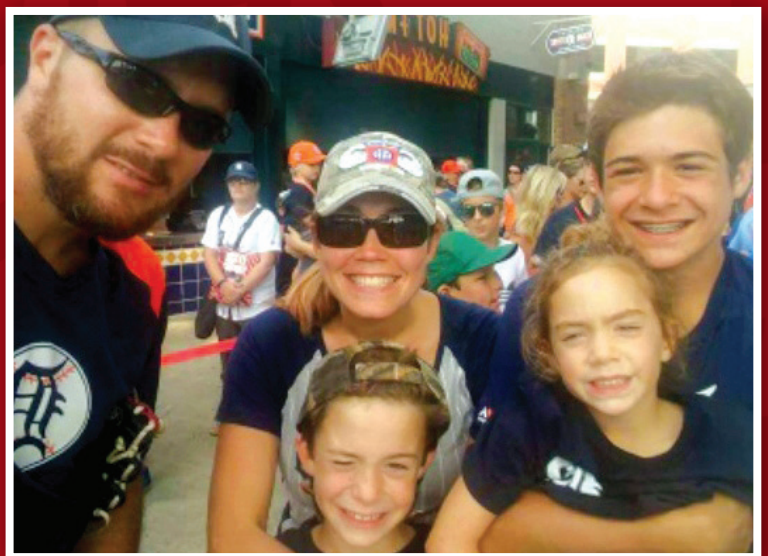
"In 1996, it was my turn to attend Cardinal Mooney. It wasn't until I had my first child that I learned who financed my high school tuition. Thankfully our family's church — Sts. Peter & Paul — helped to pay for my tuition. From then on I worked towards giving back, whether through volunteering or a financial contribution."

"Later when I married my husband Brandon, we decided to donate annually to a few organizations close to our hearts. As a retired military family, we donate to organizations ranging from wounded military nonprofit groups and JDRF (formerly Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) because of our Type 1 diabetic son. I chose to give to Cardinal Mooney in hopes that my meager contribution will afford a child like me more opportunities for their future."

"It is our hope as a family that we pass down to our children the importance of contributing to organizations that make an impact on us and our community. In the future I plan to create a family scholarship in the name of my grandparents. They are the ones that started it all!"

- Adeline (Santistevan) Wharton ('00)

Cardinal Mooney applauds and appreciates the consistency of monthly donations like Adeline's. Their reliability allows our school to properly plan for continued funding for our students' educations. We thank the Wharton, Santistevan, and Kirin Families for their continued support!



Adeline (Santistevan) Wharton ('00) with her husband, Brandon and their children



First-Time Donor. Why Mooney?

Since the launch of the revamped Mooney Messenger our inboxes have been flooded with positive feedback from so many supporters! Inspired by the great works that we're doing at CMHS, many of these notes came with pledges of financial support from first-time donors. One such donor is George Rovder ('68). After receiving a substantial gift from George at the close of 2017, President Mark Oles reached out to George to personally thank him. During the conversation, President Oles asked George "Why Mooney and why now?" George stated that the stories of the current Mooney students' accomplishments and recent Mooney graduates' achievements inspired him to give back. George mentioned his love for Mooney, the ways in which our school taught him about life, and the impact that it had on his own successes. George's gift is a thank you for the past, but also a base to build toward the future. George acknowledged that his gift was long overdue and hopes that others will be inspired to follow his lead and become a first-time donor.

Will you follow George's lead and contribute to the future of Cardinal Mooney? To become an integral part of our success, simply return the enclosed envelope with your donation or visit www.support.cardinalmooney.com to give.

Matching Gifts: An Easy Way to Support Your Alma Mater

Increasingly, companies are promoting atmospheres of giving. To accomplish this, many organizations are encouraging charitable contributions by matching dollar amounts their employees donate throughout the year. Matching gift programs are an easy way to increase your charitable contributions to Cardinal Mooney. Employee matching gifts are typically at a dollar-for-dollar rate, but some companies go even further by tripling or quadrupling their employees' donations. Listed are some companies that engage in matching gift programs:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Bank of America | • Los Alamos |
| • Benevity | • PNC |
| • Boeing | • Los Alamos |
| • Brighthouse | • Sherman Williams |
| • Dominion | • State Farm |
| • GE Foundation | Companies |
| • Good Done Great | • Truist |
| • Lily | • U.S. Bank |

To see if your company participates in a matching gift program, please visit the following site:
<https://doublethedonation.com/matching-grant-resources/list-matching-gifts-companies/>



SHERWIN-WILLIAMS



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Auction

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AND ACADEMIC INITIATIVES



CARDINAL MOONEY
HIGH SCHOOL

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CardinalMooney.com

You can also show your support for the Mooney Family by becoming a

SPONSOR OF OUR CELEBRATE MOONEY AUCTION!

Sponsorship levels and benefits are:

_____ **Title Sponsor** - \$10,000, 16 tickets with preferred seating, premium bottle of wine at your tables, full page ad in the program, personalized cocktail server, premiere signage at the live auction stage and logo placement on all online media and print materials including the scoreboard throughout the night.

_____ **Gold Sponsor** - \$5,000, 12 tickets with preferred seating, premium bottle of wine at your tables, half page ad in the program, personalized cocktail server, recognition signage at the auction and at your tables.

_____ **Cardinal Sponsor** - \$2,500, 8 tickets with preferred seating, premium bottle of wine at your table, quarter page ad in the program, personalized cocktail server, recognition signage at the auction and at your table.

_____ **Silver Sponsor** - \$1,000, 8 tickets with preferred seating, quarter page ad in the program, recognition signage at the auction and at your table.

_____ **Table Sponsor** - \$600, 8 tickets with recognition signage at your table.

In-kind gifts and money donations are also being accepted.

If you would like to secure a Sponsorship or request to have an Auction invitation mailed to your home, please contact our Development Coordinator Sue Brandenstein at 330-788-5113 or sbrandenstein@youngstowndiocese.org or by mail at Development Office, Cardinal Mooney High School, 2545 Erie St., Youngstown, OH 44507.

Tickets, sponsorship information, and online bidding available at bidpal.net/mooney

Celebrate Mooney Auction

PURSE PULL

The Purse Pull is a CMHS Auction tradition giving entrants the chance to win a luxury handbag for a fraction of the price!

This year's bag is a Louis Vuitton "Neverfull" Tote valued at over \$1200!

- **Free monogramming is available to the winner!**
- **Tickets are limited to 250 and cost only \$20!**
- **Prizes will also be given for the 1st, 50th, 100th, 150th, and 200th picks!**
- **The last ticket drawn takes home this sought-after prize! (Winner need not be present)**

To purchase a ticket send your money to:
Cardinal Mooney High School • Purse Pull
2545 Erie St • Youngstown, OH 44507
or visit bidpal.net/mooney





Matthew Rossi ('19) is a Junior that has distinguished himself in the classroom and the stage. Recently, Matthew scored a 35 (out of 36) on his ACT, placing him in contention along with his 4.564 (out of 4.0) for admissions into elite universities. **As brother of Andrew ('14) and son of Greg ('83),** Matthew was well-

acquainted with the expectations of Mooney before his Freshman year. He anticipated being challenged by Honors and AP coursework, though what pleasantly surprised him was the benefits of extracurricular involvement. With a demanding class load, Matthew still finds time to participate in Speech and Debate, Theater, Link Crew, Soccer, Tennis, Gardening Club, and other activities. He states that involvement outside of the classroom has actually improved his academic performance as it teaches him time-management skills along with a support system of similarly engaged students. Block Scheduling, too, has helped Matthew succeed with less homework each night and a more manageable daily schedule. Recently, Matthew was able to use his schedule to his advantage as he performed in CMHS's Theater Department's musical production of **Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella**. Upon graduation, Matthew looks to join his brother at Notre Dame University and major in Engineering.



Shannon Reardon ('18) is a force to be reckoned with! Early on Shannon knew she wanted to study Pre-Med at the Ohio State University and become a Pediatrician. Therefore, she dedicated her time at Mooney to taking as many AP and Honors courses as possible. With 8 AP classes under her belt, Shannon anticipates entering

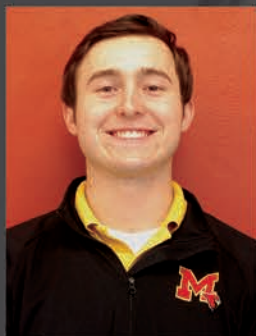
OSU as a Sophomore this Fall just like her sister **Joan ('17)** did after she graduated Mooney last year. With a 32 on her ACT and a GPA of 4.623, Shannon is on target to reach this goal! Encouraged by her parents **Tim ('85) and Suzanne**, Shannon is a voice of support for her fellow students, advocating for others while participating in a bevy of extracurriculars. These include National Honor Society, Speech and Debate Team, Interact Club, and Golf to name a few. Shannon states that her time at Mooney has taught her that one cannot cut corners on the path to success. In order to achieve all of one's goals, a person must fully dedicate themselves to see their commitments through to the best of their abilities. CMHS will miss Shannon's enthusiasm for all things Mooney when she graduates this year, but we look forward to having another Reardon in our halls when her younger brother Tim enrolls in the Class of 2023!

A St. Nick's Alumna

While Mooney enjoys amazingly talented, impressive students from a variety of elementary and other schools, there is one school that never fails to warm our hearts when we visit or meet a prospective family. That school is **St. Nicholas Elementary School** in Struthers, where its atmosphere of joy shines through in the students that hail from that little school on Fifth Street. One such student is CMHS **Sophomore Shanice St. Thomas**. Shanice embodies the St. Nick spirit of joy, always with a smile on her face even when her honors courses are testing her limits and her schedule is jam-packed with extracurriculars like Speech and Debate, Softball or Bowling. **Shanice and her mother Margaret Beniston attended St. Nick's, with her younger brother Samuel McGaha** still currently attending. After spending her elementary years there, Ms. Beniston knew that she wanted her children to experience the spiritual and academic substance of a Catholic Education.

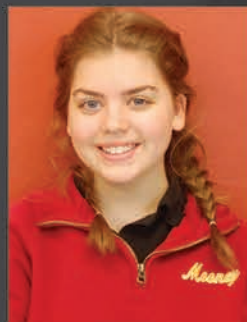
Recently, Shanice returned to her *alma mater* to share with St. Nick's students the benefits of her Mooney experience, stating, "I feel that Cardinal Mooney is preparing me for my future in the best possible way. I get the advantage of having smaller classes, which allows more time with my teachers to help when needed. Also, Block Scheduling is a big one because it's preparing you for the length of college classes. They also offer so many electives and courses that can help you in the medical field, all the way to acting. At CMHS they discipline me in a way that, I feel, public school wouldn't be able to."

SCHOLARS



Will Valentini ('18) is nicknamed "the Senator" on the CMHS Hospitality Team. So- named because of his willingness to debate public policy or religious ethics at the drop of a hat, Will demonstrates a commitment to academics as strong as his commitment to politics. Despite his current confidence, Will wasn't always self-

assured, though. During his Freshman year, Will got his first C grade in Honors Algebra. He considered this a wakeup call that academics at Mooney would be a challenging endeavor. He refocused his attentions and now Will maintains a 4.309 GPA. Will also is heavily involved in athletics through Baseball as well as Academic Challenge, NHS, Link Crew and much more. He is part of a long Mooney Tradition including his father **Joe ('79)** and siblings **Victoria ('07)**, **Olivia ('11)**, and **Joey ('15)**. Both the Valentinis and the larger Mooney Family look forward to see where Will's future will take him after he completes his undergraduate and Law School education at Walsh University under their accelerated 3/3 track (3 years as an undergrad then 3 in law school).



Much like Will, **Alexis Santor ('19)** isn't afraid to speak her mind, especially when it comes to challenging others through the Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum categories on the Speech and Debate Team. Contrary to popular belief, modern education at a school like Cardinal Mooney accepts diversity of thought and expects thoughtful

analysis from its students in many courses. Alexis was surprised entering into Mooney from a public school at how Block Scheduling allowed her the time to research and study topics that are dear to her. Be it the history of the Civil Rights and Women's Movements in her AP US History course or the History of the Catholic Church, Alexis appreciates the in-depth nature of the curriculum at our school. Mooney's many extracurricular options have also allowed her to make friends from diverse groups as she acts as Lead Ambassador to the CMHS Hospitality Team welcoming families and students from around the Valley and world (literally!) into our Family. With a GPA of 4.033 and a firm desire to help others, **with the support of her father Andy ('83)**, Alexis looks to enter George Washington University and study International Relations and Economics.

These four students are examples of the quality of individual that Cardinal Mooney is blessed to count among our ranks. There are countless stories like theirs through the years and currently walking our halls. While we shout it many times from the stands to cheer on our athletes, to show our support for the outstanding academic achievements of Mooney Scholars, encouraging them in their bright futures we offer an enthusiastic GO CARDS!

at Cardinal Mooney

We feel fortunate to have Shanice as a Cardinal along with other students from **St. Nicholas, St. Charles, St. Christine, Holy Family, St. Paul, Horizon Science Academy** and all of the other wonderful institutions that have prepared their children for life at Mooney! We salute the hard work of the teachers and staffs at these schools as we gratefully count them part of the Mooney Family!

To have your child experience a Day in the Life of a Cardinal, please visit www.cardinalmooney.com and fill out a Shadow Day Inquiry Form under the 'Apply Now' tab!

Samuel McGaha, Margaret Beniston, St. Nicholas Pastor Fr. Martin Celuch, JCL, Shanice St. Thomas ('20), and St. Nicholas Principal Mrs. Betty McCullough ('71)



Catholic Schools Week at CARDINAL MOONEY



Catholic Schools Week is a national celebration of Catholic Education that takes place annually the last week of January. The theme of this year's CSW was **Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.** During the week from January 27th to February 4th (we extended our CSW to include our Winter Open House!) each member of the Mooney Family contributed to the celebration of our school. Events included helping St. Charles Elementary School students make rosaries and our Academic Awards ceremony honoring academic excellence at Mooney. Special this year was a school-wide service project to benefit the patients at Akron Children's Hospital of the Mahoning Valley. Each member of the school contributed to the creation of care packages for the children. Students participated in a Dress Down Day to raise funds for the purchase of materials to make blankets for the children. **Mrs. Trewella's Service Class** then spent a day making them. All other students during Mentoring Period were either assigned the creation of an encouraging card containing Bible passages or words inspiring hope, or they made origami cardinals to include in the packages. **Sophomores Gina Ricciardi and Annie Driscoll** helped coordinate the project along with members of Hospitality Team and Interact Club.



St. Charles Alumni volunteer at their alma mater



Annie Driscoll ('20) provides refreshments for Winter Open House



Seniors Mackenzie Hammond and Ryan Stefanec welcome guests at the Winter Open House



Courtney Love ('13) addresses CMHS students via the Reese Family Scoreboards



Freshmen Brandon Mikos, Marissa Landers, Kayla Jadue, and Pat Howlett make origami cardinals during CSW

We celebrated the achievements of our Winter Sports and Speech & Debate Teams with a rally that included an interactive, inspirational talk from **CMHS Alumnus ('13) and University of Kentucky football standout Courtney Love**. Mr. Love spoke with students via our new Scorevision Reese Family Scoreboards. Also on display were student-produced “hype videos” celebrating the various teams.

We wrapped up Catholic Schools Week with our Winter Open House on February 4th. It was a great time to be sure, with student-led tours, tuition raffles and class information. We even treated our guests to lunch in our special Cardinals Superbowl Café catered by Texas Roadhouse! A cookie table was provided by Cookies from the Heart, a charity created by Annie Driscoll to bring baked goods to local nursing homes and food pantries, spreading “a little taste of love” to members of our community!

As the saying goes, “When Cardinals appear, Angels are near.” This was certainly true during Catholic Schools Week as our Cards turned out in full force to celebrate the blessing that is Catholic Education!



Mrs. Trewella's Service Class make blankets for Akron Children's Hospital



Sophomore Nyla Stokes participates in CSW activities

alumni spotlight

SPENCER OLESH CMHS CLASS OF 2014



Spencer Olesh

Hello, my name is Spencer Olesh and I am currently a 4th-year student at Case Western Reserve University studying Mechanical Engineering. I attended Cardinal Mooney High School, graduating with the class of 2014. During my time at Cardinal Mooney I was a member of the Baseball Team, Speech and Debate Team, Link Crew, and National Honor Society. The time I spent at Cardinal Mooney was instrumental in my growth both academically and spiritually.

While attending Cardinal Mooney, I was blessed to be on the “honors track” of classes. I have always challenged myself when it comes to my schoolwork. Cardinal Mooney gave me the opportunity to enroll in as many advanced classes as I could handle, allowing me to achieve my highest academic potential. The curriculum was certainly difficult at times, but the work ethic I developed as a result has helped me succeed both in my collegiate and (the beginning of) my professional careers. The faculty at Cardinal Mooney had high expectations for me and my peers, ensuring that I got the requisite tools to excel in my future endeavors. By taking advantage of the many Advanced Placement classes offered by Cardinal Mooney, guided by the many great teachers, I was able to earn 20 credits toward my college education while still in high school. These credits put me ahead of schedule in my collegiate studies and allowed me to graduate a semester early from CWRU this December. This would not be possible if not for the opportunity that Cardinal Mooney provides in allowing students to enroll in challenging classes and providing the proper instruction.

In addition to the academic excellence I found at Cardinal Mooney, there was a great sense of spiritual growth that I experienced during my time there. Whether it was the time spent in the various religion classes; learning about the past, present and future of our faith; the countless gatherings in the Chapel or auditorium to celebrate Mass as a faith community or the daily prayers read at the beginning of the day; there was no shortage of faith at Cardinal Mooney.

The foundation of Cardinal Mooney is rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, and that fact is evident to anyone who experiences any small part of the school. As students, we were encouraged to grow in faith and given every chance to express that faith. It is my experience that this is unfortunately the exception to the rule in many schools, and I am grateful that I was blessed to experience God in my everyday life.

Everything that I learned at Cardinal Mooney, from the theories of Calculus and Physics to the best ways to express and spread the Word of God, I have put to good use during my time at Case Western Reserve University. As mentioned, I am wrapping up my degree in Mechanical Engineering. While doing so I also am an active member of our university's Newman Catholic Campus Ministry and an active member of the local parish, Holy Rosary. I am getting ready to lead a group of university freshmen in a spiritual guidance program this semester and I am excited to use the skills I gained during my high school years, both in leadership and spiritual guidance. I am of the belief that I would not be in the position I am today, where I am able to balance a work-intensive education with an involvement in my faith, if I did not attend Cardinal Mooney. I am eternally grateful that my parents made the sacrifice to send me to Cardinal Mooney, and I hope that I will one day be able to send my own children to the school that gave me the ability to be who I am today.

Thank you for your time and may God bless you,
Spencer Olesh '14



(L-R) The Olesh Siblings Brennan ('18), Cameryn ('19), cousin Emerson ('34), Madison ('12), Spencer ('14), Delanie ('25), and Decklan ('30)

alumni spotlight

VALERIE ZAJAC CMHS CLASS OF 2003



Valerie Zajac

Professional Experience

Valerie currently works at Centennial Peaks Hospital in Colorado, performing patient mental health evaluations in the ER/hospital setting. She has also conducted inmate evaluations in area county jails and has focused on working in forensic settings.

She has earned two different mental health licenses: Licensed Professional Counselor, LPC and Licensed Addic-

tion Counselor, LAC. Val previously facilitated group and individual therapy, and provided clinical supervision to other clinicians working toward their licensures.

Education & Honors

Valerie attended the University of Nebraska Lincoln on the Ruth Leverton Academic Scholarship, graduating in 2007 with her degree in Psychology.

While at Nebraska, Valerie was on the Honors Dean's list for several semesters, as well as the Commissioner's Honor Roll as part of the Athletic Department. She was awarded the Czech Language Scholarship and was on both the track and cross-country teams.

In college, Val volunteered at Lincoln Regional Center, an inpatient rehabilitation facility for sex offenders and assisted with two research projects: the Newly Wed Project, analyzing couples' communication styles as well as assisting with analysis of the effects of PCP.

In 2010, Valerie earned her Master of Arts (MA) in Clinical Psychology at the University of the Rockies in Colorado Springs with a 4.0 GPA.

Mooney Reflection

Valerie first became interested in psychology because of a class at Cardinal Mooney. She truly enjoyed class lectures about Freud and a project she completed on the topic of dream analysis. She found the topic fascinating and looked forward to her psych class every day.

Valerie also appreciated the lessons learned in Mr. Voitius' AP Chemistry class and Miss Bacha's English class. Miss Bacha may have been tough, but Val believes she was "spot on!" Miss Bacha's lessons on how to write a proper research paper prepared Val well for the writing demands of graduate school.

Val has so many fond memories outside of the classroom as well, especially running track and cross country. Val believes that Mr. Mangino was the best coach she has ever had. Coach Mangino

had a perfect race strategy for every meet and knew how to help athletes relax, prepare, and focus on the task at hand. Mr. Mangino was also supportive of Val after her graduation from CMHS, when she finished her first 100-mile race (ultra-marathon)! His words of wisdom resonate with her each day: "even when you think you're done, you still have 33.3 percent left". His inspiration has helped Val to succeed professionally and personally.

Valerie will never forget her "conditioning runs" up Cardinal Hill nor her trips to Columbus for the state meet and cheering the boys' team on to a win in 1999. She competed at the state level six times herself; four times in cross country, and twice in track events (in the 3200 in 2000 and in the 4x800 in 2002 competing with 3 of her awesome Mooney teammates). Val is thrilled to see Mark Oles as President of CMHS, as he is a part of all her track and cross country memories!

In addition to her track and cross country experiences, Val fondly remembers the boys' 2002 State Soccer Championship title and all the fun she had at school football rallies and games.

Still today, Val is positively impacted by her CMHS teachers and coaches. So many of them helped pave the road for her future by encouraging her to dream big and push herself harder.

Personal Life & Interests

Valerie currently lives in Westminster, Colorado with her boyfriend, Heath, and their cat Nadia. Her favorite activities are camping, skiing, hiking, and road tripping, with her favorite spots being Zion National Park, Breckenridge & Leadville, CO. and the hot springs in Thermopolis, WY.

Val still loves running! Not only has she completed more than ten, 30-50 mile races over the last six years, as first noted above, she has also completed four **ultra-marathons**, which took Val over challenging 100-mile courses for more than 24 hours. Completing these races is a unique and amazing accomplishment, exemplifying strength of mind, body and soul. Val finds new inspiration all the time while running with friends in the high Rockies!

Val comes from a family of running enthusiasts. Her dad, **John Zajac, CMHS class of 1974 and Distinguished Alumni 2017**, established and then coached the Youngstown area 7th and 8th grade feeder school cross country program for twelve years. He also founded the K through 6th grade *Parochial Cross Country Racing Series*.

Val enjoys her trips back home to Youngstown where she can run in beautiful Mill Creek Park and can enjoy Handel's Ice Cream and delicious homemade Italian food!

2ND ANNUAL

Dave Petty Alumni Basketball Game

in honor of Dave Petty

On Wednesday, December 27, 2017 Cardinal Mooney High School hosted its 2nd Annual Men's & Women's Alumni Basketball Game in honor of Alumnus Dave Petty '84. Mr. Petty was a beloved alum, coach, and teacher at CMHS before his untimely passing in 2010.

To honor Mr. Petty's legacy, CMHS hosted a co-ed basketball game to benefit its Adopt-A-Student Scholarship Fund. Over 200 attendees helped raise over \$2500 for Adopt-A-Student which provides tuition assistance for deserving and at-need students.

The teams (Gray and White) largely coached themselves, with the current CMHS Boys' Basketball Coach Carey Palermo and Girls' Coach Jason Baker acting as referees.



Dave Petty's daughter Magen (CMHS '20), Mrs. Raynae Petty, Dave Petty's Widow, and son William (CMHS '24).

The Victorious Gray Team

Back Row (L-R): Ryan Farragher, Eddie Reese, Pat DePizzo, John Stoops, Patsy Daltorio

Middle (L-R): Timothy Durkin, Jaron Howell, Scott Brandenstein, Nicholas Vazquez, Joe Kleeh

Front (L-R): Macy Marlowe and Lori Lucas



The Opposing White Team

Back Row (L-R): Matthew Polkovitz, Joe Cunningham, Doug Caputo, PJ Quinn, Dina Daltorio, and Joe Stoops

Front Row (L-R): Karrington Griffin, Dan Martin, Johnny Durkin, Pat Kiraly, and Joe Chahine



Mahoning Reunions

UPCOMING REUNIONS

Recently Celebrated Reunions

Class of 1963

Class of 1963 is planning a reunion for **October 2018**.
For more information please contact John Marino at
330-533-6386 or jamco@att.net.

Class of 1968

Friday-Saturday-Sunday, August 10-12, 2018

Friday Get-Together

Holiday Inn • 7410 South Ave • Boardman

Saturday Dinner and Sunday Breakfast

Tippecanoe Country Club • 5870 Tippecanoe Rd • Canfield

Contact: Robert Brentin: robert.brentin@gmail.com

Class of 1978

Friday, November 23, 2018, 6:00 pm

Albatross Bar & Grill (owned by classmate Dave Ezzo)

Located inside the Mahoning Valley Country Club
710 E. Liberty Street • Girard

Cost: TDB

Contact:

- Sue Koken Brandenstein:
sbrandenstein@youngstowndiocese.org
- Mike Iacobucci: miacobucci59@gmail.com
- Lori Frank Babich: lbabich34@icloud.com
- Dave Ezzo: mahoninggolf@prodigy.net



Class of 1997

The Class of 1997 gathered at Cassese's MVR over the Thanksgiving Weekend 2017 to share their Mooney Memories!



Class of 1962

In August of 2017, the Class of 1962 celebrated their 55th reunion at Johnny's Restaurant. Classmates came from as far as California, Las Vegas and Colorado.

The St. Jude Fund: An Appeal for Those in Need of Hope



In our last issue, we introduced Cardinal Mooney's St. Jude Fund. Many students have benefitted from this fund since President Mark Oles started the Fund last year after he recognized the need of families facing extraordinary circumstances. In response, the Fund has raised over \$25,000 to help our Mooney Family members in need of hope and help.

You can assist in St. Jude's mission by making a tax-deductible donation at www.cardinalmooney.com/support and indicating "St. Jude Fund" in the Comments box.



Get your new 2018
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- Polos
- Hats
- Jackets
- Novelty items
- Letterman Jackets
- Football Game Tickets

Look for all our merchandise at www.CardinalMooney.com

Monday: 10 - 2 • Tuesday: 8 - 3:15 • Wednesday: 10 - 2 • Thursday: 8 - 3:15 • Friday: 10 - 2

Cardinal Mooney High School's Annual Fund Reaches \$114,000

This year to commemorate the Fund's nearly 30 years, a new campaign structure was introduced with a special committee established to oversee the administration of this year's Annual Fund. The committee is comprised of a Chairman and three Vice Chairs. Each Chair helms a team of volunteers who host various fundraising events throughout the year. Additionally, Mooney Alumni have banded together in various Phone-a-thon events calling former classmates to inform them of developments at the school and secure pledges. Proceeds from the Annual Fund go toward scholarships and operations at the school.

To contribute to the Mooney Annual Fund and assist the school in reaching its goal, please visit www.support.cardinalmooney.com. The Cardinal Mooney High School's Annual Fund has reached \$114,000. With the Fund scheduled to wrap up in June 2018, an initial goal of \$120,000 was set for the year. The school is on pace to far exceed this goal with the latest total.



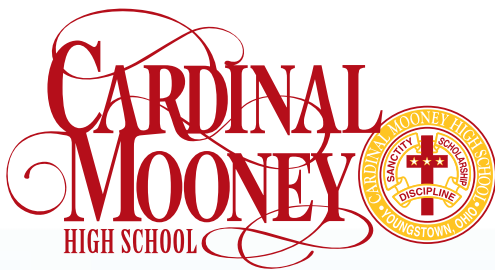
*Members of the Mooney Family launched this year's Annual Fund at a reception in October. **Back Row (L-R):** Rebel Strollo, Brennan Olesh, Annual Fund Chairman Andrew Bushey, Louis Gentile, Co-Chair Joe Cassese, Vinnie Gentile, Co-Chair Dayna Terrell, Co-Chair Brad Handel, CMHS President Mark Oles, Tommy DeCesare. **Front Row (L-R)** Leah Fecko, Sydni Armstrong, Mary Kate Zeno, Shanice St. Thomas, Mackenzie Hammond, Diosa Estrada and Alexis Santor.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Yes Fest **April 11th**
- School-wide Service Project **April 14th**
- Distinguished Alumni Ceremony **April 27th**
- Celebrate Mooney Auction **April 28th**
- Awards Ceremony & Baccalaureate **May 24th**
- Graduation **May 27th**
- Ron Stoops Sr./Anthony Pelini Bocce Tournament **June 24th**

A new mural in Hughes Hall created by Senior Allie Sayhoun





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Shown:

The Cardinal Mooney Baseball/Softball indoor facility located on our campus behind the football field. This 6,000 square foot facility provides our baseball and softball teams the very best our area has to offer for year-round training.

This complex is fully-heated and boasts a high-end turf surface with two hitting machines and three designated hitting areas. Other notables include, boys' and girls' restrooms, a dedicated dugout area, weight-training area, changing room, elevated viewing area, coaches' offices, stretch band stations, and much more!

