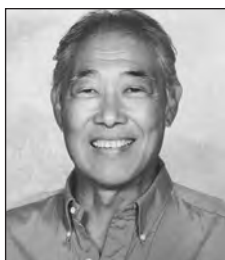


## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



NEAL TAKAMORI

2016 was a very fantastic year for McKinley. We celebrated 150 years of "Tiger Pride and Tradition" with many functions. The grand finale on April 28th was enjoyed by many alumni and friends of McKinley. The McKinley Band made history at Carnegie Hall and in May the Foundation awarded 57 deserving seniors with scholarships.

One of my passions at McKinley has always been to enhance the athletic department with facilities that are not only safe and inviting for our students, but also a venue that would accommodate state wide tournaments and events. With our central location and parking McKinley is an ideal location for a facility that would encompass all of our "wish list". The progress of where we are is an article located in our newsletter.

The Board of Directors of the Foundation are volunteers who devote many hours to the success of our many programs – especially our Scholarship Program, chaired by Brian Maeshiro and his very hard working assistant Reiko Lin. These two individuals coordinate the committee who will review the applications, distribute the applications (which range in the 100 area) and organize meetings of the committee. A very grateful shout out to both of them! The diligent and time consuming work of Ben Nakaoka, our treasurer is one that cannot be duplicated. He tirelessly keeps our books and even does our tax returns, Ben has been doing this for over ten years and we cannot thank him enough.

As we look forward to the year 2017 we reflect back on just how fortunate we are. Without the support from each of you our goals would not be met. From the bottom of our hearts a very warm "Mahalo".

We wish you a very joyous and blessed holiday season and may the New Year bring you happiness and good health.

As always, we are grateful for your contributions and welcome your input. Please feel free to contact us at any time.

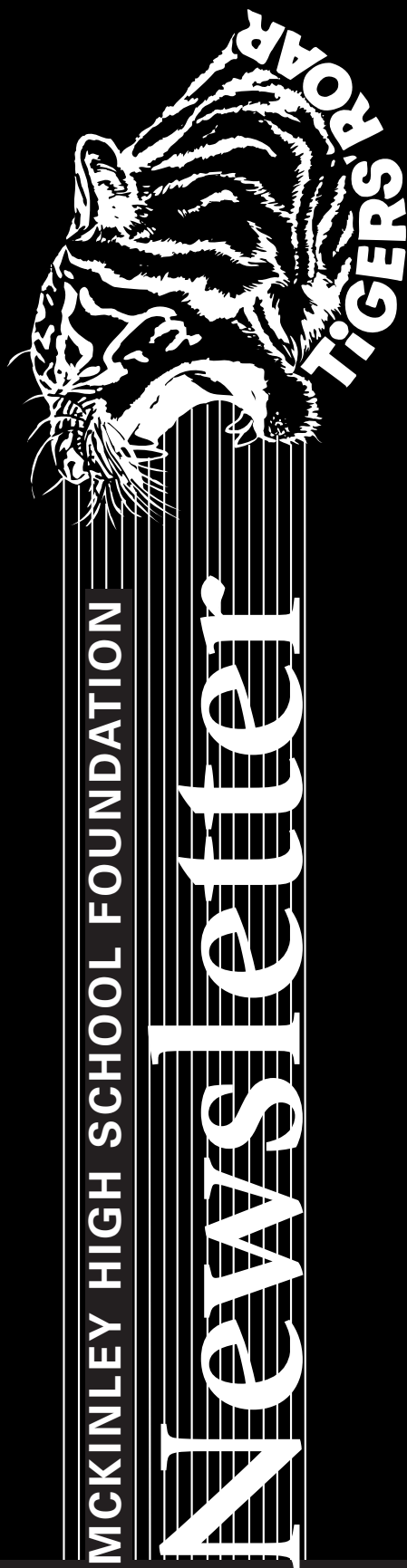
Aloha,

Neal Takamori  
President

### Do we have your correct information?

Please help us update our data by sending us the correct information. You can either call the Foundation at 536-3832 or write us at:

McKinley High School Foundation  
1039 South King Sreet  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814



# Newsletter

December 2016

[www.mckinleyfoundation.org](http://www.mckinleyfoundation.org)

## MEET THE 57 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2016!!

As part of the application process for a scholarship applicants were asked to write about a situation or an experience in their life where they had to decide between taking a risk and playing it safe. Or they could write about an experience in their life, was a failure or a disappointment and how did it affect you. We at the Foundation continue to be amazed at the maturity and outstanding “Tigers” that emerge from McKinley, please enjoy reading about their experiences.



### Vivien Chen

Applying for The Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America (LEDA) Summer Institute was a decision that Vivien made on a whim and after being accepted she began to have some apprehension. Always wanting to be in control of her environment with back up plans in place in case things don't go as expected she found herself five thousand miles from home at Princeton University for seven weeks on the verge of having a panic attack. She hid from her roommate for a few minutes and after pulling herself together emerged with a determination to embrace all that the program offered. She learned to reach out for help instead of shutting down and expecting everything to go wrong. LEDA made her realize that nothing has to go according to plan, but one can still achieve great results anyway. Vivien is attending Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering where her major is Electrical Engineering. She is the recipient of the Alexander & Baldwin, Inc./Matson Inc./Robert J. Pfeiffer Community Scholarship in the amount of \$4,000.



### Bao-Xin Liang

Having won her election as Student Body President should have been a success that Bao-Xin embraced. However, it was marred by having received more votes than a fellow council member who was now vice president. She instinctively knew that the other person would feel bad and resent that Bao-Xin was responsible for her loss. Instead of handling the situation head on she chose to ignore the underlying tension until it became apparent that the situation became turbulent and confusing. On discovering their inability to work together their advisor stepped in to remedy the situation. Bao-Xin learned a valuable lesson that she says she could have prevented a regrettable outcome, she should have talked to the other person to make sure that they could work together. Stepping out of one's comfort-zone is powerful precisely because one is expanding her or his ideals and perspectives. She is attending the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York majoring in Molecular Biology. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Abraham & Shin Quon Wong Goo in the amount of \$4,000.



### Hiu Shan Au

During her sophomore year at McKinley Hiu Shan attended the Summer Engineering Academy at Honolulu Community College. Assigned to build a Rube Goldberg in five days she felt the challenge was going to be simple. She soon found out this was a deception – one of her biggest obstacle was figuring out how to use a hot-glue gun. Her other big problem was a decision to decorating her machine, which took far more time than she had anticipated. Frustrated and tired she finally finished the project, which did end up taking third place, and learned what she states as a life learning lesson – have concrete plans but be ready to make changes if needed but most of all be willing to work hard and stick to our purpose. She is attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where her major is Environmental Engineering. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Eyvinne & Kay Lee in the amount of \$4,000.



### Colleen Duong

In Elementary School, because her parents worked many hours Colleen did not participate in any outside activities. After school, she would go home finish her homework, play by herself or occasionally watch television. Then during her freshman year at McKinley, she found herself in the doorway of the robotics shop. Peering in she knew that she had to join, even if her parents didn't want her to. Her sister tried to discourage her by telling her it would consume many hours and even might require staying overnight to complete a project. She took the leap and joined, in her junior year she was given the opportunity to become the coach for her team. Through hard work from her fellow teammates they made Hawaiian Robotics history, winning their division and making it to the Einstein field. Colleen learned that working together is what made her team a winning team and is determined to make that a life-long goal to always be willing to work side by side with others. She is attending Carnegie Mellon University majoring in Engineering/Architecture. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Eyvinne & Kay Lee in the amount of \$4,000.



### Velda Li

Not being accepted into the National Honor Society the first time she applied was a situation that Velda says taught her a very valuable lesson. She was so disappointed that she made up her mind that she would not apply again. Her parents encouraged her to analyze the situation and determine what she needed to do to be accepted. Taking this to heart she got a renewed sense of determination and applied the following year and was overjoyed when she was accepted. Lesson learned? To never give up because life will come with successes but these successes are not made without the failures that come with them. Velda is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Biology. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Abraham and Shin Quon Wong Goo in the amount of \$3,000



### Sharon Washio

Always being shy and not speaking up in class was a way of life for Sharon. Staying quiet and simply complying got her through Elementary and Middle schools without any conflict from her peers. It wasn't until she attended a seven-week summer program at Princeton University that she found her voice and the confidence to speak out without fear of being ridiculed, in fact she discovered that she rather enjoys the experience. It has allowed her to connect with strangers, deepens her bonds with friends and she became a reliable leader and recruiter for clubs and activities. She is attending Princeton University where her major is medicine. She is the recipient of a Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.



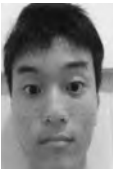
### Kelly Zheng

Being extremely shy was a something that took Kelly years to overcome. However, she did overcome her shyness and one needs to fast forward to Kelly's senior project which was "Alternative Approaches to Delaying Alzheimer's Disease", to grasp just how far she has come. To give her a better understanding of the disease she volunteered at Kuakini's Hale Pulama Mau, a Care facility for the elderly. Working with residents who had the disease as well as the ones who did not gave her insight that she had not expected. Residents with no signs of the disease and who did not participate in activities were generally unhappy. Her conclusion is that all senior citizens, both with or without Alzheimer's disease, should participate in mentally stimulating activities and socialize for their emotional health and "presence." She is attending The University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Finance and Human Resources. She is the recipient of a Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.



### Amber Kim

Considering herself to be shy and not assertive Amber had no intentions of running for Student Government. But upon being approached by an upper classman she took the plunge and ran, little did she know that for the next four years she would play an integral part in her class. However, things got challenging in her senior year when everything seemed to go wrong, including having to reschedule the Senior Luau because the company forgot to dispatch buses. It was rough going, she was bombarded with negative comments that were posted on social media that her peers were disappointed with the council and her for the mishap. As time passed she became less upset and learned to accept her mistakes and found pride in herself for prevailing through everything. She also learned about the importance of upholding a positive attitude and showing appreciation for others. She is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Computer Science. She is the recipient of a Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.



### Daniel Zhu

Daniel has very high expectations for himself. His goal for his time at McKinley was to graduate with straight A's. Breezing through his freshman year gave him high hopes as he entered his sophomore year. Then, as he puts it, he faced a major roadblock. He began to have difficulty in his Algebra II class and got a B – this was deeply disappointing to him and even though he knew he should have asked for help he didn't because in his mind he had already failed to meet his goal. It took 2 more quarters before he got that A and it bumped his final grade up to an A. The most important lesson he learned is to continue moving on after you fail because achieving your goals will be worth all the time you suffered. Daniel is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in chemistry. He is the recipient of a Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.



### Yoo Been Chang

Yoo Been has vivid memories of having stage fright as a young girl in the Koyang Region in Korea. This stayed with her when she moved to the United States. As a sophomore, she joined a dance studio and her group performed at Ala Moana. Standing on that stage and seeing the audience sent her heart pounding bringing back the memory from years ago. It took total concentration to focus on the choreography of her dance team, reminding herself that they had practiced it many times. After the performance, she discovered one her teammates suffered from stage fright far worse than her. The lesson she learned was you never know what your future will hold and that unexpected part of your life could be the major turning point, therefore take the risk. She is attending Boston University where her major is Human Physiology. She is the recipient of the Kingo Hayashi, Mikako Hayashi & the McKinley Class of 1934 Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.



### Jenny Nguyen

Procrastinating and missing deadlines for her senior project taught Jenny a lifelong lesson. By the time she came to grips with her situation time was really short and she now had to make the decision to give up soccer or complete a project that would impact her Academic Honors. In the end, she chose completing her project and had to miss the second half of soccer season. If she had to do it over again she says she would have worked on her project earlier, but given the choice she picked education over athletics because for her it was the right thing to do. She says that one experience has taught her how important time management is. Jenny is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Pre-Medicine. She is the recipient of the Steve & Lois Mihaylo Family Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.



### James Lee

Being hospitalized for six months left James unable to complete his junior year and he had to repeat it. The feeling of hopelessness kept him emotionally trapped and he felt his life was ruined. Then an opportunity arose that put him back in the game. He moved to Hawaii to live with his grandparents and found his way to McKinley. With the help from caring teachers he immersed himself in every opportunity that came his way. He was able to participate in many activities including Science Olympiad, HOSA Competition, Chemistry Olympiad and an internship at the University of Hawaii Cancer Center. He realizes now that experiences no matter how horrid, cannot define who a person is. His experience, although he would not want to endure it again allowed him to be where he is today. He is attending Dartmouth College where his major is Molecular Biology. James is the recipient of The Cades Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.



### Shih-Yu Lu

Disappointments many times can be the one situation/experience that is a turning point in one's life. This is true with Shih-Yu, playing basketball was his dream and so as a freshman he tried out for McKinley's basketball team. Although he made it on the team he was the last player on the coach's list. He did not get his uniform until the beginning of the regular season, unlike his teammates who got theirs for the preseason game. He got a whopping five minutes of playing time at the end of the first season. He knew he would have to step up his game so he began to practice as much as he could. His sophomore year he started every game, but it didn't go as planned. He learned that selfishness could undermine team success. Taking this and moving forward he committed himself to a team-first mentality in his junior year and willingly embraced his role. Each lesson he has learned has defined the person he is today. He says "It's amazing how my passion for a sport has grown into such a big part of my life. From a hobby to my favorite experience in high school, basketball has made me the person I am today." Shih-Yu is attending the University of San Francisco majoring in Kinesiology. He is the recipient of a Carole Kai Charities Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500.



### Irene Chen

Irene's first job was a true learning experience and also a stressful situation. Her manager, although pleasant to her, was mistreating her coworkers. She was afraid to speak up because she thought she would lose her job, this was emphasized when the manager took her aside and told her to keep quiet about his management style. One day the owner asked to see her and she found the courage to tell him what was happening. The manager was replaced and although she was offered a shift leader position she felt that there were other employees who had been there longer than her and they deserved the opportunity. She says that she would now speak up sooner when she sees abuse, a lesson that will be her motto in the future. Irene is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Medicine. She is the recipient of a Carole Kai Charities Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500.



### Anna Chen

An assignment of a class debate was a life changing experience for Anna. She feared speaking in front of an audience, when she had to give a speech she would break out in a cold sweat. So, this was a real challenge for her and to top it off she was up against the top debater in the class. Strangely when the debate began she did not worry about her fear of speaking in front of people or for that matter what kind of grade she would get, her only concern was convincing her classmates that her side of the debate was what they should embrace. She lost that debate by one vote, though she was consumed by the failure she congratulated the winner. She says that "Ultimately, the inevitable failures in my life are natural, and with it I have to learn to accept the fact that I am not perfect. This debate was more than an assignment but a failure that I had to endure, shrugged off, and moved on." Anna is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Accounting and International Business. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Dr. Raymond Yap in the amount of \$1,500.



### Arlene Chan

Moving from Hong Kong to Hawaii was something that Arlene's mother wanted so that her children would have more opportunities. Her mother was a nurse in Hong Kong and the family went through some really hard times until she could find a permanent job here. During those hard times Arlene, would help the family financially by doing odd jobs around the neighborhood, including mowing lawns, walking dogs and babysitting. She credits these experiences with giving her the motivation to do well and persevere no matter what obstacle is in the way. During those first years in Hawaii she matured into a caring lady who will work hard to reach her goals. She is attending The University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Medicine. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Patsy Young in the amount of \$1,500.



### Allison Lee

Being the chairperson for the Senior Luau was an event that will be forever imbedded in Allison's mind. The buses that she had contracted to bring them to the event did not show up. The event had to be rescheduled and eventually it did take place but Allison was devastated. In an effort to make it up to her classmates she ordered door prizes and sunglasses for all attendees as an apology. From this experience, she learned that life can throw unexpected problems at us, but it is important not to dwell on them, stay positive, and simply

search for ways to make it right. Allison is attending the University of Washington majoring in Computer Engineering. She is the recipient of the Daniel B.T. Lau McKinley Class of 1937 Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,250.



### Jocelyn Ho

Being shy and the quiet type Jocelyn rarely ventured out of her comfort zone. Then in Intermediate School she joined the Orchestra and played the violin. She chose it because many others had too and when performing they drowned out her mistakes. When she took the violin home on weekends to practice she began to take a real interest in how other musicians played and would find sheet music on the internet. Soon she became quite comfortable at playing the violin when graduating she was third chair in the Orchestra. Jocelyn says she learned that even though she made the decision to play the violin for the “wrong” reason it was how she came to understand and love it that was most valuable to her. She says not all decision are made for the “right” reason, but once made we need to make the best of it. She is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Graphic Design/Communications. She is the recipient of the Jeanette (Lee) Kawamura Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,250.



### Justin Yasunaga

Receiving a 3.8 grade point average his first quarter as a senior was a major disappointment to Justin. He always viewed himself as an achiever who would maintain a 4.0. While this might not seem like a big deal to others it put Justin in a state of depression and even though he brought his grade point average up to 4.1 he still dwelled on that initial failure. In the end, he realized that one of the reasons this happened was because he did not seek help, being independent he thought he could do it on his own. The lesson he said he learned is that he realized that asking for help does not mean you are hopeless. Justin is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Civil or Environmental Engineering. He is the recipient of a Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Briane Mae Martinez

Moving to Hawaii from the Philippines when she was in Elementary School was life changing for Briane. She thought they would be coming to live in a big beautiful mansion, but in fact they lived in a two-bedroom apartment shared by her aunt and uncle. School became her sanctuary and she got involved in everything she could get her hands on. While she had dreams of moving to Hawaii and living a “fairytale” life, she says she has found her happy ending, but this is definitely not the end. Briane says she will work hard to reach her goals no matter what obstacle is placed in front of her. She is attending the University of San Francisco where her major is Nursing. She is the recipient of a Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Mariel Navarro

When Mariel was a junior at McKinley she took a part time job to help her family out. Soon she got enthralled with making money and her grades began to go down and she was losing the motivation to study. When her mother found out she insisted that Mariel work shorter hours and bring her grades back up. Her mother wanted more for her and Mariel is eternally grateful that she listened to her. Her grades improved greatly and with the help of amazing teachers she is on her way to a brighter future. Mariel is attending Chaminade University majoring in Nursing. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation



### Arenson Kaizawa

Arenson credits his mother for his positive can do outlook on life. He says that her solid work ethic, and her effortless dedication to the family has instilled in him a desire to strive for success. At McKinley, he took on various Honors and AP courses as well as different activities including cross country, track and orchestra and also worked twenty hours a week as a barista. He embraces his mother's attitude that hard work prevails. Arenson is attending The University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Civil Engineering. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Abraham & Shin Quon Wong Goo in the amount of \$1,000.



### Tran To Trinh

Not winning an award at the annual science fair her sophomore year ended up being a life changing experience for Tran To. She admits that her preparation for the science fair was done half-heartedly and was not prepared for the disappointment that came when she didn't win anything. This made her reflect on the fact that she did not put forth the effort that she was capable of. This realization along with the feeling of disappointment encouraged her to enhance her work ethics. In her junior year, she put her newly found work ethic to work and entered the science fair again and placed in the top twenty. Tran To is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa, she has not decided on her major yet. She is the recipient of the Shiro & Jean K. Matsuo Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Raymond Li

Being part of the swim team was one of the best parts of his time at McKinley. But there was a downside to it, his timing was good, he practiced hard and it paid off, it was his diving that disappointed him. Try as hard as he could he could not perfect his dive, it affected him because he was conditioned to be nervous every time he had to dive. It took the encouragement of his relay teammates to let him know that it was his strokes that helped them win and to concentrate on that. He eventually did perfect his dive but says that it taught him that you can overcome

your struggles through hard work and dedication. Raymond is attending Santa Clara University majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the amount of \$1,000.



#### Landon Li

When he was in Elementary School Landon's world consisted of school and home. He loved being home because it was familiar and it became his haven. During Middle School, he ventured out with his friends to the mall as was awestruck by all the stores and activities. They ate at the California Pizza Kitchen and he found the food to be amazingly different – he was accustomed to fried rice and char siu pork he would have at restaurants with his family. This experience was euphoric to him and he jumped at every new opportunity that came his way. He joined the orchestra, speech club, debate club, the cross-country team and in his senior year vice-president of the senior class. Landon is attending University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Psychology. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the amount of \$1,000.



#### Shirley Huang

Shirley received an invitation via email from Social Native Marketing company to work with “Instagram Promotion” to advertise products. At first she was a bit skeptical thinking it could be a ploy to get her personal information, but she did accept and is now glad she did because she has learned how the marketing industry works and even improved her photo skills. Although this worked out well for her, Shirley says it is important to be cautious when answering emails, that being said this was a risk that she is glad she took. She is attending California State University of Sacramento majoring in Computer Science and Marketing and Advertising. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Stanley Seki in the amount of \$1,000.



#### Yasmine Cheang

Attending an English Section at Sacred Heart Canossian College in Macau, China was for Yasmine a life changing experience. Her mother encouraged her to enroll and though she was hesitant she listened to her mother. The work was hard and new to her and there were times when she wanted to quit. But she says that three years makes a difference and when her family moved to Hawaii those three years made her transition to McKinley much easier and helped her get use to her new environment. She is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Chemistry. She is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 1954 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



#### Guangjie Xue

Guangjie's family immigrated to Hawaii when he was young. In Elementary School his parents could not help with school work because they didn't speak English. So, he devised this system instead of not thinking negatively, his mindset was that he would do well and for the most part he did. He called it unwavering confidence. Then it was time to take the SAT, thinking his system would work he only studied the day before the exam. His score was good enough for the University of Hawaii but he wanted to go to the mainland. It devastated him, he knew he could do much better so for the next test he studied diligently – it worked! He brought his score up 250 points from his original score. He still tackles things with blind confidence but at a reserved amount, he now understands that you cannot do the work and expect fulfillment and you should try your best no matter what. He is attending Gonzaga University majoring in Business. He is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 1954 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



#### Alex Nguyen

Asking to be president of the E-Sports club was an experience that made Alex a better person. He had grave doubts about the club because it seemed that the interest in keeping it going was waning. His friends told him the club was going downhill and there was no point in trying to lead nothing. He talked to the advisor asking “do you think we should continue the club?” – the advisor said, “Alex I can't make that decision for you, but if you decide to continue it, I would be glad to be your advisor next year.” He made the decision to be president and at their first meeting there were so many students who showed interest they had to have the meeting in the hallway. He is so glad he made that decision and says he will apply everything he learned from the experience while attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he has not yet decided on a Major. He is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 1954 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



#### Aliya Chen

When Aliya was young she became accustomed to playing it “safe”. Always doing as asked and never making any waves. There were times when she knew that she should have told her mother about certain things but she chose not to. Looking back, she thinks that playing it safe all the time is not necessarily the right thing to do. Sometimes we need to step out of our comfort zone and take the risk. Aliya is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Business. She is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 1954 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



#### Sophia Guo

Not being accepted into the National Honor Society was a blow to Sophia. Worse yet was when she went to her sister for help she got a lecture instead. Her sister scolded her telling her that her laid back attitude had more to do with her not being accepted than the fact that she is extremely capable and needed only to put forth more effort. Her last words were, “I know you have the ability and the desire – apply again next year but first put more work

into it.” She took those words to heart and in her junior year was accepted. She now says that this experience will help her succeed in the future. Sophia is attending Pace University in Westchester, New York majoring in Accounting and Marketing. She is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 1954 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Jason Maligon

As a junior Jason was faced with a decision that he knew would have a big impact on his senior year at McKinley. That decision was would he remain on the ballot for an officer position for the Band and Orchestra program. He knew that it would require a lot of time away from studies and other activities and was not certain if he had the leadership skills for the position. In the end, he did run for a position and was elected to be the Band Treasurer. He says things always did not go as planned but it helped him to grow as a person and the experience taught him that one must expect the unexpected. Jason is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Computer Science. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Dr. Ruth Ono in the amount of \$1,000.



### Chunru Zheng

Getting a lower grade in her English class because of her fear of speaking in front of the class was a changing experience for Chunru. This fear of speaking went back to Middle School where the chance to get a better grade by presenting her project to her class. When it came time to do her senior project she knew that she had to conquer the fear of public speaking. To prepare for the presentation she worked hard on her paper and became so familiar with the subject that she gained the confidence to present it before her classmates. She did get a better grade but says that the most important result came from the process of preparing for it. Chunru is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Business. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in Memory of Lawrence Hirohata in the amount of \$1,000.



### So Hye Jang

Soccer is So Hye's passion. She loves the game and practiced hard as a member of the McKinley Soccer team. Her biggest dream was to score a goal, not very likely because she is a defensive player keeping the other team from scoring a goal. During a game before the playoff games her coach gave her the go ahead to dribble up the field and take a shot. She saw an opportunity to make a goal and took a shot, begging that ball to find its place in the goal. It didn't happen and as she road on the bus back home she reflected on what she should have or could have done to make the outcome better. Then she recalled what her coach Mrs. Costa always told her, "you'll miss 100% of the shots you don't take." So Hye says that this has motivated her to practice harder and realizes that the best lessons come from mistakes and failures. So Hye is attending Washington State University where her major is Nursing. She is the recipient of the Island Insurance Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Phuong Nguyen

Her family went through a difficult time when Phuong was a young child and ended up moving to Vietnam where she and her sister attended school. It was not easy for her because of the language barrier and if it weren't for some very helpful teachers she would not have succeeded. She was overjoyed when the family moved back to Hawaii and she could resume an English education. Looking back, she wouldn't change the experience of living in Vietnam but is grateful to be able to live in Hawaii as a normal teenager. Phuong is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Elementary Education. She is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 1994 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Jocelyn Lam

Not completing her senior project was an experience that Jocelyn will never forget. Her brother was her role model, he graduated with honors and she wanted to follow in his footsteps. The first topic she chose was Optometry, she was fascinated by her Optometrist's work, so decided that the pros and cons of the use of glasses and contact lenses would be her project. Half way through the paper she changed her mind and switched it to learning about Alzheimer's disease because she didn't know a lot about the disease and she likes elderly people. When she got her paper back it had many negative comments. This caused her to think that she could not do a senior project because of the stress and she lacked the motivation to finish it. She learned that she needs to take the initiative on her own without waiting for others to do things for her. In a positive light the failure pushed her to do more for her community by volunteering. Jocelyn is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Engineering or Medicine. She is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 2013 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Jasmine Kim

Jasmine was involved in many different activities at McKinley – ranging from sports to music. Being on the Tennis team as well as a leadership position for the team was something she truly loved. Having a leadership position in the band was also a passion for her. But both of these activities took a lot of time and she began to feel like she was being pulled in two different directions. She made the decision to give up tennis and concentrate on music. Music has changed her life significantly and helped her gain confidence. Devoting herself to music was one of the first choices that she has made on her own for her life and she is happy with it. Jasmine is attending the University of Oregon majoring in Music. She is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 2014 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Meaghan-Claire Ababa

As a member of the McKinley Girls Soccer Team Meaghan-Claire played her heart out. She loves the game and along with her teammates wanted to win a title for McKinley. They were playing Waianae at the 1st round of playoff games and the game was tied 1-1, going into a 10-minute overtime and then into penalty kicks. Waianae won the game by outscoring McKinley on the penalty kicks. She was devastated and could only think about the “what if’s” as in what if she had made an extra effort to get to the ball, or what if I ran faster to score a goal – could the outcome have been different? She says the game has taught her not to have regrets both off and on the field. Try your very best and don’t reflect on the negatives. Meaghan-Claire is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Criminology. She is the recipient of a Suzanne Hahn Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Annie Chang

Being called dumb motivated Annie to prove her tutor wrong. She was having a very hard time in Geometry, she just didn’t understand it. Getting a failing grade was not acceptable and she was determined to change her grade to an A. She studied hours every day and attended additional tutoring classes. But for some reason she still could not grasp the concept and when her tutor called her dumb she thought maybe he was right. On reflection, she told herself are you going to give up because someone called you dumb? That was the moment when she knew she was back on track, she would have revenge and get that A. She indeed did get that A and also learned a very important lesson – never give up and always believe in yourself. Annie is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Law. She is the recipient of The John Kwai Heen Yee (1939) & Gladys Kwai Chan (1941) Lum Yee Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Jacky Hua-Vo

Jacky wants to be a writer. She even published some of her stories online. She anxiously waited for responses to her published stories. When she finally got a response, it was not what she had hoped for. The person said it was a good idea for a story, very interesting, but the grammar errors kept distracting them and the story had confusing parts, because it went from one thing to another with not much explanation. Instead of being angry or hurt Jacky revised that story several more times with the reader offering feedback. On her last revision, the reviewer sent her a resounding it is PERFECT! She was elated. She says this experience showed her that sometimes it takes an outsider to help us learn and improve. Jacky is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Literature. She is the recipient of The McKinley National Honor Society Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Jathryn Racasa

Jathryn joined Kpop in Paradise when she was a freshman. Kpop in Paradise is a local dance group that perform in events. They were holding auditions and though she is very shy Jathryn decided to audition. She practiced after school and on the day of the audition stayed by herself as others practiced together. During the audition, she kept looking at the ground while she danced and despite her lack of confidence she passed the audition. Joining this group has helped her become more comfortable performing in front of an audience as well as becoming a better dancer. Taking that risk of possibly not being accepted gave her the courage to try more new things. Jathryn is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Music. She is the recipient of a McKinley Class of 1983 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Shania Custodio-Velasco

Not one to join clubs or participate in extracurricular activities Shania says her main focus was to do well academically in school. Then her sophomore year she joined the McKinley High School Paddle team. In the beginning, not being athletic and knowing nothing about the sport, she wanted to quit and stay home and study. But, she stuck with it and ended up loving the sport. She says that her coaches and teammates taught her a lot about dedication, effort and commitment. The experience on the team will be one she will always cherish and it has given her the motivation be more adventurous. Shania is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Pre-Physical Therapy. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Cai Yan Fang:

Playing it safe can sometimes be the right thing to do. Cai Yan used this tactic while competing in a tennis match. She and her partner were challenging team with much more experience and physical strength than they had. Considering that their opponents had better tennis skills she began to make the same decisions over again. If she was to take a risky shot her chances of scoring a point would be low. She used their momentum to return the ball almost controlling the game. The result of the match was not what she wanted but says that she learned that not taking a risk can be the right thing to do, and she also learned valuable new tennis strategies. Cai Yan is attending Chaminade University majoring in International Studies. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.





### Wun-Shen Chen

His father suffering a stroke when Wun-Shen was in eighth grade was life changing for him. Being the oldest son he became a multi-tasked person, helping out at home, juggling school clubs, school sports and obtaining high grades. Because of this he says that he has learned to be an independent well rounded individual. He is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Aeronautical/Maintenance Tech/Automotive Tech. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Dr. Richard Kosaki in the amount of \$1,000



### Jeanette Quach

Her family is a great joy and the most important thing in Jeanette's life. She is especially close to her father and mother, stating they mean the world to her. She made the decision to find a job to help out financially when she was old enough. It gave her a wonderful feeling of satisfaction that she was able to help support them. She says that when it is time for her to raise a family she wants to instill in them the same principles that her parents have instilled in her and her sisters. Jeanette is attending Kapiolani Community College majoring in Business, Hospitality and Tourism. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Ryan Sacro

Moving to Hawaii when he was in Elementary School was traumatic for Ryan. He had very low self-esteem and had a hard time making friends. He was isolated and very shy, mainly because he could not speak English very well. He made himself a promise when he entered Middle School that he would make new friends. He stuck to his words and did make new friends. He says that the teachers took notice of him and credits one of them, Ms. Rossi, for instilling him confidence to speak in public and express himself. Ryan is attending Kapiolani Community College where his major is Culinary Arts/Business. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Jordan Brown

Jordan said that during Elementary School he struggled to get good grades and keep up with his classmates. His mother was his rock during those years telling him to never give up and to always try his best. When he was in Middle School he began to see results of all of the hard work he had put into studying. His freshman year at McKinley he got a 4.0 on his report card this was a very big moment in his life! The lesson he learned is to never underestimate others or yourself, if you keep your eye on the big picture nothing will ever stop you from achieving it. Jordan is attending Honolulu Community College majoring in Liberal Arts. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Renz Balbas

Living in Kapolei Renz had to get up early to get to school on time. If that isn't daunting enough add the fact that he joined the McKinley High School Band and one can only imagine his schedule. Band practice can go late if they are rehearsing for a concert but that did not deter Renz, he is very grateful for the experience and plans to take marching band at the University of Hawaii one day. He says if you truly love something pursue it – it can be the most rewarding thing in your life. He is attending Honolulu Community College where is major is Automotive Technology. He is the recipient of a McKinley Class of 2011 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Courtney Oh

Courtney says that disappointments are a part of everyone's life, but it is how a person overcomes a disappointment that shows a lot about a person's character. Her biggest disappointment was being 5 seconds short of going to OIA State Championship for swimming her junior year. To overcome that, together with her coach, she worked extra hard and pushed herself to better her time. It paid off when she beat her personal best time at this year's OIA State Finals, it wasn't good enough for State Championships on the Big Island, but she didn't despair because she did the best she could. Courtney is attending Leeward Community College majoring in Education. She is the recipient of a McKinley Class of 2011 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Tommy Pathammavong:

Cheerleading has played a vital role in Tommy's life. He has been cheering since he was a freshman at McKinley and also competed in all-star cheer. During his sophomore year, he got an invitation to compete in one of the most prestigious cheerleading competitions in the world, The Summit, hosted at Disney World. Because of the cost involved he was not able to accept. Then a few months later his coach called and offered him a paid trip to the competition, one of the girls going was badly injured and could not go. The catch was he had to leave the next morning. After talking to his parents, it was decided he would go. Tommy says it was the best decision of his life, they had a perfect score of 94 out of 100. He is so grateful to his coaches, team and parents because this was the happiest time of his life. Tommy is attending Santa Monica College in Los Angeles, California where his major is Management & International Business. He is the recipient of a McKinley Class of 2013 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



### Deevon Donre

As a freshman at McKinley Deevon wanted to do whatever her friends did. So, when they tried out for basketball she did too, they were excited and confident – she was terrified because she was clueless about basketball. During tryouts, she ended up vomiting and fainting after an hour of playing. The coach kindly told her maybe basketball wasn't for her. She could either continue to humiliate herself or take the easy road out and walk away – she took the easy way out and walked away. But this does have a happy ending – she took up soccer with some of her other friends and ended up liking it. She says she is not half bad at soccer and is thinking of pursuing it in college. Deevon is attending Kapiolani Community College majoring in Education. She is the recipient of a McKinley Class of 2014 Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



### Maura Van Antwerp

Maura says her one big defining moment in her life was when she discovered she does not have to be perfect. Throughout her early years at Elementary and Middle school she believed that being perfect was being thin and beautiful. This idea consumed her and it began to affect her school work. One day a friend helped her realize that beauty comes from within and you only need to believe in yourself to be a success. This became her new philosophy on life and says it will help her make the right decisions in the future. Maura is attending Kapiolani Community College where she has not yet decided on a major. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



### Qian Wu

Wanting to find a job was not easy for Qian because she did not speak English. Finally, one day she found a job as a cashier in a Korean restaurant. She had a hard time because it was a very busy place. She forgot to write down phone orders and sometimes gave a customer the wrong order. And the kitchen staff was not friendly at all. One day she worked with a cashier who told her that it can be difficult to understand what a customer wants and that the kitchen staff treated everyone the same way. From that day forward she was diligent about writing down orders and even helped the kitchen staff clean up. Soon they were greeting her when she came to work. She is so grateful to her fellow cashier – she had been ready to quit and he helped her through a very trying time. She is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Health and Hotel Management. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



### Minfeng Yu

Minfeng said the one hard decision that he had to make was deciding if he should take an AP class. He knew that the class would be hard and require extra studying time, but it would also help him when he went to college. He ended up taking AP Psychology. Having to take lots of notes and because there was a quiz at the next class period made this class exhausting. He says that it was the right decision because it gave him a glimpse at what he would experience in college. He would make that same decision again. Minfeng is attending Kapiolani Community College majoring in Accounting. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.

### Yu Ting Hsu



When he was fifteen Yu Ting needed to make a life changing decision. He could stay in Taiwan and continuing living with his grandparents or he could move to Hawaii his parents. Taiwan was familiar to him but the idea of living in America was so appealing that he chose to come to Hawaii. In the beginning, it was hard and he struggled with the language. He met Tiger Yang, who became his mentor and helped him to make good solid decisions. Yu Ting says if he had to make that fateful decision again, it would be the same, he is grateful and appreciative for the opportunity to live in Hawaii. Yu Ting is attending Kapiolani Community College where his major is Nursing. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



### Leila Hew-Chang

When she was young her grandmother and uncle took her to a water park even though she didn't know how to swim. She was in her glory going down a slide that she didn't realize was very deep at the end. She nearly drowned and her grandmother quickly pulled her to safety. This experience made her realize how important it is to learn to swim when we are surrounded by water. She then took swimming lessons and says that this was one of the best decisions she has made. Leila is attending Kapiolani Community College majoring in Civil Engineering or Nursing. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



### Risa Higa

Risa says that competing in the 2015 HHSAA state championship for judo was one of the best and one of the most disappointing days of her life. It was the most disappointing because she did not win a state championship position. It was the best because it was the highest she had ever placed in a state championship competition. She said she was over confident and that led to her coming in second place. She then took up wrestling and placed third in the state tournament. She said the lesson she learned was one should be confident but not so confident that you don't work hard. Risa is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Psychology. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.

# MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION

## JUNE 21, 2016 - NOVEMBER 18, 2016

# 11

**Class of '40**  
Haruyuki Kamemoto

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Noriko Kasahara

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Isamu Furuya  
Abraham & Shin Quon Wong Goo  
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Her sisters – all proud Tigers  
Masako, Aiko, Sadako And Tomiko

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Seiko Tokuda  
In honor of the Class of '43

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Takashi Murayama

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Class of '45

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I. Morita Class of '70  
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'36 & Thomas Goto Class of '39

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Richard Kikuyama  
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In memory of Richard Shigemura

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In memory of Dr. Miles Carey (principal)

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In memory of George Murakami Class  
of '48 & Paul Ishizaki Class of '48

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Wilbert Hashimoto  
Herbert K. Kobayashi  
In memory of Anthony Burnett  
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For MHS Band, Ms. Donna Hesch  
Continue Splendid work  
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In memory of Charles S. Kakigi  
Class of '52  
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Harriet Sakai  
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In memory of Violet (Imado) Endo

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The Entire Class of 1954 Celebrating  
Their 80th Birthdays and McKinley's  
150th Anniversary  
The Class of 1954 Scholarship Fund  
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Dorothy (Hasegawa) Igawa  
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Jane Iwai  
In memory of Robert Iwai  
Joseph H. Kawamoto  
Eugene S. Mukai  
Barbara (Nee Okabe) Okumura  
In memory of June (Okabe) Yamasaki  
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In memory of Ethel Sueko (Yoda) Mukai  
Class of '54  
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In memory of Robert Iwai  
Class of '54 & in memory of  
Violet (Imado) Endo Class of '54  
Nancy (Higa) Shimokawa  
In memory of Robert Iwai  
Class of '54 & in memory of  
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In honor of Lawrence Siu Class of '54  
Eleanor (Kajioka) Tokunaga  
In memory of Robert Iwai Class of '54  
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Class of '57

Maizie (Masuoka) Okimoto  
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In memory of Harold Sasahara  
Class of '45 and Yoshiko Sasahara  
Dennis K. Toyama  
Band to Carnegie Hall  
And Scholarship Fund

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in memory of Kewalo Holy Ghost  
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Class of '59 passed away 5/25/2016  
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Kathleen (Kotsubo) Lyons  
David Mattson  
Lynn L. Nakamura  
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Grace (Hiramatsu) Saito  
150 McKinley Celebration  
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## **A FOND ALOHA TO LT. COLONEL ROBERT IWAI CLASS OF 1954**

In 2007 Robert contacted the Foundation to establish a scholarship for the Class of 1954. He generously donated stock to the Foundation and encouraged his fellow classmates to make contributions for scholarships. Robert and his classmates enjoyed many trips to the “9th Island” in Las Vegas. They donated residual funds to the Foundation. In 2008 the first Class of 1954 Scholarship was awarded to Eric Wu. Since that time seventeen graduating seniors have received scholarships from the Class of 1954. Robert had many fond memories of his time at McKinley and he wanted to give back. He recognized the financial burden that families go through when students pursue higher education – he also felt deeply about the importance of getting a college degree. Robert passed away on July 7, 2016 at the age of 80. He will be dearly missed and we at the Foundation are grateful to him for all of his support and contributions, he was indeed, a very proud “Tiger”.

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### **The Athletic Complex is an ongoing project at McKinley – here is what has transpired over the years and what we hope to complete in the future.**

The renovation of the synthetic track, artificial turf football and soccer field is being completed. Completion date is scheduled for January 2017.

New tennis courts scheduled for completion in January of 2017.

Completed: Girls Athletic Locker Room

Completed: Softball Stadium (is the venue for OIA League and Playoff Games, and the State Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) games. Also, a venue for some collegiate games

Being pursued: Stadium bleachers for the football and soccer field with lights, concessions, restrooms, athletic and Physical Education locker rooms, training room and weight room.

Being pursued: A new rifle range that would be able to accommodate Olympic competition.

In the future – a new gym (that would enable the championship tournaments of the OIA and State Playoffs to continue at McKinley.