

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS SEMINARY

St. Mary's Preparatory

St. Mary's College

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Dear Alumni Friends:

I would first like to introduce myself and extend well wishes to each and every one of you. My name is Fred Lyons and I graduated from the Preparatory in 1998. I live in Rochester Hills, MI with my wife Michele and dogs Bella and Lucy. I am an owner of an insurance repair contracting and consulting company called Hexagon General Contractors located in Bloomfield Hills, MI and am now serving as your President of the OLS Alumni Association Board. On March 1st, 2017 we held our first alumni meeting that was called by our new Alumni Director, Mr. Don Buchanan. Mr. Buchanan called a vote for the Executive team and our fellow alumni voted in myself, along with Chad Bush (P'94) who is the Vice President and Mason Porritt (P'12) who is the Executive Secretary. We are all very honored and excited to lead the next generation of the Alumni Board for you and the school we love and cherish.

Our goals are very simple. We want to create an atmosphere and mindset that each and every alumnus is proud of the alumni association and looks forward to coming back to Orchard Lake Schools. This is a brotherhood unlike any other, and we want to expose all our resources to help our brothers, be it to find a job or hire someone, or simply to reach out and talk. We want to increase the traffic in and out of Orchard Lake Schools, which means us as alumni are more active in our Alma Mater, and by extension, each other.

You notice this letter refers to "We" a lot. It is this board's hope and belief that We as alumni can make this association something we are both proud of and passionate about. We came up with a motto within the last month, "We are Alumni Working for Alumni". We will provide as much clarity, openness, honesty, and be forthright to our brethren when generating ideas and making decisions for the better of the alumni and schools.

We as an association are excited to share some ideas with how we wish to use the funding we raise, and welcome your ideas as well. First, we are looking to provide aid in scholarship form that we are hoping will go to a student or students that show the enthusiasm, positive attitude and a genuine love for OLS which we will refer to as the Alumni Scholarship. Second, we are looking to aid the Orchard Lake Schools with special projects that are in need of attention where we can have a plaque generated to say "Donated by the Alumni of Orchard Lake Schools". Third and not necessarily last, we are hoping to generate enough funding that we can not only give back to Orchard Lake, but the alumni itself. We would like to provide some financial assistance for the classes who are having their reunions at Orchard Lake, annually, in order to help bring people back and rekindle that love we all share for our Alma Mater.

In closing, we have now had two Alumni Association meetings, the second which took place on May 4th. We welcome you to attend our next meeting which is Thursday September 7th. So far we have had some great dialogue and reminiscing about the "good old days" and we hope to see many more faces as we set up more alumni events. Below I have included my cell number and email address should anyone wish to hear more and discuss how we can collectively make our Alumni Association one of the best around. Because after all, OLSM #1 in Michigan!

Fred J Lyons

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