

*“The Power of One-
Walking In Your Purpose “*



Early College High School
Class of 2022 Senior Dinner
Friday, May 13, 2022
6:00 PM

Early College at Lehman
1400 Broad Ave. NW, Canton Ohio 44708

Administration:

Jeffery Talbert, Superintendent; Mallory Floyd, Deputy Superintendent; Jason Dixon, Assistant Superintendent; Jeff Gruber, Treasurer; Kenneth L. Brunner, EC @ Lehman Principal

Board of Education:

John M. Rinaldi, President; Scott Russ, Vice President; Kim Brown, Member; David Kaminski, Member; Eric Resnick, Member

Stevens Family Foundation



Stevens Family Education Fund at Stark Community Foundation

ESTABLISHED 2015

A family of eight siblings came together to establish a fund in honor of their parents, Eddie L. and Madeline L. Stevens of Waynesburg, to support educational initiatives in the community that the Stevens family feels passionate about. One program in particular is an annual celebration for graduating seniors in the Early College High School Program (ECHS), a program designed to offer Canton City high school students the opportunity to earn an associate degree while completing four years of high school. ECHS provides students valuable college readiness training, preparing them for the next step in their educational career. Spearheaded by daughter Carrilyn E. Long, the fund will eventually be passed down to future generations to perpetuate her parents' legacy.

(Reference: Stark Community Foundation; 400 Market Avenue North; Suite 200; Canton, OH 44702)

Donations accepted by the Stark Community Foundation. All checks should be made payable to the Stark Community Foundation.

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Master of Ceremony Korey Stevens
Stevens Family Foundation

Greetings Thomas West
Ohio House of Representatives—District 49

Prayer Phillip Stevens
Stevens Family Foundation

Dinner

Reflections Jeff Talbert, Superintendent
Canton City School District

Taylor McCarthy
ECHS Class of 2018

Aashawnti West
ECHS Class of 2015
Walsh University Class of 2022
Masters Degree in Business Administration

Senior Class Speaker Matthew Kokensparger

Guest Speaker Dr. Para Jones, President
Stark State College

Presentation of Medals and Certificates

Closing Remarks Ken Brunner, Principal
Early College High School

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PARA M. JONES, Ph.D.

President, Stark State College



Stark State College President Para M. Jones, Ph.D., is deeply committed to Northeast Ohio students, businesses and communities, as evidenced by her more than 30 years of service at Stark State.

Dr. Jones began her academic career at Stark State and worked in various leadership capacities, from director of marketing to vice president, before being named President of Spartanburg Community College in South Carolina. After three years at Spartanburg, Dr. Jones returned to Stark State College, where she has served as President for nine years.

Prior to academia, she worked in corporate marketing and communications for Roadway Express and as a technical editor for Goodyear Aerospace.

Dr. Jones holds a PhD from the University of Nebraska, an MBA with honors from Ashland University and a bachelor's degree magna cum laude from the University of Mount Union.

Dr. Jones's passion for the community college mission is driven by her belief that students are best served by affordable, quality education that leads to rewarding careers in our community and region.

She currently serves or has served on the boards of many state and local boards and professional organizations, including: Governor's Executive Workforce Board, Executive Committee of Greater Akron Chamber of Commerce, Executive Committee of Stark Economic Development Board (SEDB), Strengthening Stark Governance Committee, Stark and Tuscarawas County Ohio Means Jobs (OMJ) Workforce Development Board, Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, Stark Education Partnership, Akron Urban League, Akron Growth Council, Cleveland Clinic/Akron General's Community Advisory Council, ConxusNEO and MAGNET (Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network).

She also is a member of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) Education Council in Washington, DC and served on TeamNEO's Business Development Council.

Dr. Jones and her husband Greg live in Canton. They have twin sons and twin granddaughters.

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Korey Stevens

Stevens Family Foundation

Korey Stevens also known as Coach Korey: A 1988 graduate of Canton McKinley Senior High School. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education and Special Education from Grand Canyon University in 2015. Korey worked and coached for Canton City Schools from 2005 - 2021. Korey is presently employed by Akron Public Schools and coaching at St. Thomas Aquinas. Korey's Family includes wife Valerie Stevens, daughter Korie Stevens, and special Godson Coreon Brown.

Korey is also a minister in training at Dayspring Family Church and a lifetime member of The Stevens Family!



Thomas West

Ohio State Representative

State Representative Thomas West serves the 49th House District, a diverse district that consists of a portion of Stark County, including Canton and most of Massillon. Rep. West served as a Canton City Council member for 13 years before he was elected to the state legislature.

Before serving in local government, West worked as a mental health professional for over 25 years. During that time he served a range of communities in a variety of roles- both at the individual direct client services level as a licensed clinical social worker and at the macro-level as an advocate, program founder, and program administrator. His work in the community has garnered both local and national recognition. His experience as a social worker enables him to bring a unique perspective to the legislature - one of which he is proud. His passion for ensuring people have the tools and opportunities to live a life of dignity is apparent through his time of service to the community.

In addition to serving in several legislative committees in his role as state representative, West serves as the current president of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus. He is also an appointed member of the Ohio Commission of Fatherhood, Ohio Advisory Council on Aging, and Governor's Executive Workforce Board.

West earned a bachelor's and master's degree in social work from the University of Akron after earning a bachelor's degree in business administration from Mount Union College.

West and his wife have two children and reside in Canton.

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Early College High School

~~~Class of 2022~~~

Samantha Bailey

Taliyah Baker

Jaylin Bell

Jada Benison

Robbyayre Blakely

Sierra Blemler

Mary Bliese

Kayla Bonilla

Myonna Boykins

Kaylee Boynton

Kristyna Brunner

Francis Campbell

Issiah Carpenter

Jasmine Cedillo

Meiying Crawford

Nadia Diuk

Gwyneth Douce

Kenzie Duffie

Deladeaye Earley

Abigail Eckard

Aja Eick

Caligha Ellis

Rylee Emery

Brookelyn Foster

Teagan Fuller

Kristopher Gibson

Lillian Gotschall

Yohanna Gray

Austin Haines

Julian Hanlin

Jessica Horner

Tyler Hunt

Olivia Hunter

Patience Jack

Willow Jernigan

Alexa Jessup

Matthew Kokensparger

Matthew Kuhn

McKinzie Lovaty

Camille Marchesani

Sa'Laura Mathis

Treasure McClain

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Early College High School

Class of 2022

Makayla McCrea

Soren Stover

Malakee McGuier

Dustin Sweet

Luxas Miller

Charlize Travis

Riley Miller

Brooke Tucker

Stefan Monahan

Jacob Turner

Kiya Moore

Kailee Villa

Liza'ya Motley

Landon Waller

Kaprie Nelson

Taylor Wartley

Christopher Orr

Zachariah Wartman

Brea Parsons

Ava Wells

Dacoda Purdy

Jake Wessel

Sarahi Quintero

Troy Whiteaker

De'Asia Rampey

Kenyon Wise

Autumn Reed

Anthony Yoho

Anna Riehl

Makenna Young

Dedra Robbins

Derek Sexton

Haley Shahan

Eliana Shaheen

Alejzha Singleton

Kaylei Storesina

“What Early College Means to Me”

Reflections from the Class of 2022

Early College has prepared me to be a real college student and has taught me discipline. All the work I've been doing didn't seem worth it at the time, but the end goal will be well worth it when I graduate with my associates and get the opportunity to graduate twice. Every teacher and professor I have had has been super helpful and only wants the best for me. **-Robbyayre Blakely**

Early college is very important to me. It gave me an opportunity that not many get and I took advantage of it. Being able to take these college courses and get an associates degree gives me a great head start on life. My teachers and classmates have been great along the way. I have loved the early college experience. **-Tyler Hunt**

Early College has allowed me to be ahead of the game when it comes to possessing credits towards my future goal. In the competitive job field in today's age, it is difficult to compete while also going to college and gaining experience. Having both the background experience and education has meant a lot to me in widening my range of possibilities and knowing how to reach my goals. **-Taliyah Baker**

Early college gave me a boost to my education so I can be further ahead. It has been a huge motivation for me to go further. In addition, it has given me a taste of college so that I can be prepared for the future. **-Kristopher Gibson**

This program has helped me tremendously with my academic goals. I am very appreciative of this Early College program for helping me obtain the credits I needed for my associates degrees. This program has pushed me to reach for my goals and realize I am someone who can make it through college. **-Derek Sexton**

Early College has been an excellent opportunity for me to get a high school and college experience all-in-one. I've met some nice people, taken some interesting classes, and learned a lot about myself. I have even had the ability to take over 60 credit hours for free! I am taking all of my classes at Stark State main campus this semester, and it is really helping to prepare me for when I move off to the University of Akron in the fall. **-Matthew Kokensparger**

Through Early College I have been able to achieve my associate's degrees of arts and science. I have also met many great people and gained new friends along the way. **-Sierra Blemler**

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“What Early College Means to Me”

Reflections from the Class of 2022

Early college has given me another family, whether it was the friends made along the way or the amazing staff that have become life guides for me. This place is honestly amazing in what it does for your future, giving the experiences needed for higher education and even just the world after high school. I am beyond happy to be able to say I went to Early College High school. - **Matt Kuhn**

The Early College Program has been an important part of my life for the last 7 years and it has gotten me to a spot where I feel like I'm ready to go off to school and start my career and I am not too stressed out about it. I feel so thankful for the opportunities I have had here and I am so appreciative of the teachers who put in effort for us everyday. -**Yohanna Gray**

Early College has helped me stay focused on school and prepare for my future. - **Gwyneth Douce**

Early college has been very important and influential in my life. It has provided me with opportunities and experiences that I never otherwise would have access to. Through early college I have grown both academically and mentally. Overall, Early college has had a very positive impact on my life and has changed the course of my life for the better. -**Malakee McGuier**

The program has given me the opportunity to get a feel for how college will be. It gave me the experience of getting used to the coursework I should expect for my future. It also has given me not only one, but two associate degrees at only 18. -**Rylee Emery**

Early College, to me, means success. And not in a cocky or all-mighty way, but simply in an ambitious and confident way. It has brought me fortune, and a new sense of gratefulness I have never felt before. I have pushed myself and found new abilities within myself, all thanks to my time here. I feel accomplished, and I'm so highly grateful for the success.- **Teagan Fuller**

The Early College program has meant so much to me. My older sister was involved in this program. I am almost done with this program and my brother is a freshman and just getting started into this program. Early College isn't just a school, it's a family and I'm so glad that I'm a part of it. -**Eliana Shaheen**

This program has meant a lot to me. It has allowed me to earn two associate degrees at the same time as I was earning my high school diploma. Early College has also prepared me very well for college, so I know I will be successful in the fall. - **Anthony Yoho**

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“What Early College Means to Me”

Reflections from the Class of 2022

Early College has had such a great impact on my high school career. It has helped me earn many college credits which will benefit me in college. This program has also offered me many opportunities to become more professional, and to receive more resources and technology to aid me. This program has meant a lot to me and I highly recommend this to other incoming high schoolers! **-Isaiah Carpenter**

I loved being a part of a program with teachers and advisors that helped me reach my goals for the future and even beyond. **-Ava Wells**

It has provided a great opportunity to challenge myself academically and push myself to achieve greatness. **-Francis Campbell**

I have learned what it means to be a college student. I have also been able to earn credits that allow me to go to college for a shorter amount of time. **-Treasure McClain**

Early college means a lot to me because in a way it shaped who I am. This school has been one of the most challenging but most enjoyable experiences of my life. I've met so many different people and experienced so many different things in this program that I wouldn't have if I never applied to this program. **-Kapie Nelson**

The program has pushed me to many different limits. The teachers here are like a family to me. They would always make sure we are doing the work. Also, it gives me two free associate's degrees and 63+ credits. The counselor has helped me through many difficult times during this program. **-McKinzie Lovaty**

I had a really hard time but it was an experience. Honestly it has taught me a lot about time management and the importance of what self discipline holds for your future. **-Charlize Travis**

ECHS has provided us with many opportunities and takes us one step ahead from other high schoolers. **-Sarahi Quintero**

Early college has allowed me to get a head start on college, earning many credits. It provides a great opportunity to better myself and prepare me for the future. **-Landon Waller**

This program means a lot to me and has helped me out so much when it comes to my future and is putting me farther ahead than others, although the program is very stressful and requires lots and lots of hard work. It's hard and there's been multiple times I wanted to give up over the 4 years but I pushed through. **-Jada Benison**

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Early College High School and the Stevens Family Foundation would like to express appreciation to the following for their abundant generosity, kindness, and support:

Timken Foundation - Mr. and Mrs. Jack Timken

Stark State College

Canton City Schools

Representative Thomas West

"A Difference In Dining" Caterers- Sue Stevens
Valentine

Stevens Family Foundation

