



Alumni Pulse

Athletics

February 2017

Athletics at Steiner: A Home

Rose Dumbrigue



For RSSAA students, the athletics program does not just provide after school activities: it creates a home, and for many students such as Caroline Terrill, it's much more than that. As she prepared to come to the high school in 2012, Caroline was diagnosed with cancer. She remembered, "The moment I was told I wouldn't be able to play basketball anymore I cried harder than when I was told I had cancer. But at Steiner, you aren't just another number. That motivated me to get back the following season." Since then, with the support of her teammates, the athletics program, and the entire school community, Caroline made a full recovery and was a critical player on the 2016 girls' basketball team that finished 18-4, won the conference championship, and won an incredibly difficult district championship against a school twice our size.



Caroline isn't the only student who has benefited from the love and support of the athletics community. Sixty percent of our high school students participate in at least one varsity sport and fifty-five percent of our middle school students in an athletic team. Parent and former coach Becky Chapin says, "What I like about Steiner athletes is that they are multi-dimensional. They are the kindest athletes and naturally show good sportsmanship that's not seen, because it's not the only thing they do. It's not their identity so winning and losing is not the most important thing. When they lose, they don't lose who they are." The girls' basketball program has now won 4 district championships and 4 consecutive conference championships. The boys' soccer team won 3 straight conference championships, the boys' basketball team 3 conference championships, and the volleyball team has won 5 out of 7 conference championships, 2 district championships, and the 2012 regional championship. But something is still missing. Students must travel for all practices and even home games because there is not a gym. This is difficult on the students and fans and even with all the support, we lose the feeling of a home court advantage.

Our athletic success and the outstanding empowerment and growth our students experience has come from the love and support of this community. What does the future of athletics hold at the Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor? The vision of an Athletic and Performance Center. It will be a state-of-the-art facility with a beautiful entrance lobby and concession space - housing expandable seating for 250, 2 practice volleyball and basketball courts, 1 full basketball and volleyball court, a gym



divider, and locker rooms. As Caroline hopes for the future, “a community that gave me more than a home will now be able to have a space that we can call our home.”

The *Inspire. Create. Lead. Capital Campaign* is raising funds for the next phase to create a High School campus expansion. This expansion is not possible without contributions from our wonderful alumni, parents, extended families and wider community who support our school.

You can be a part of the next phase of our campaign. Contact Katrina Klaphake, Development Director at kklaphake@steinerschool.org or 734-669-9394.

[Donate Now](#)

Upcoming Events:

Fri, March 17: HS Classics Concert *12pm*

Thur, March 30: Grade 10 Greek Play *7pm*



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