June 2019 Superintendent Corner

On behalf of the Mount Markham Board of Education, I would like to congratulate the members of the Class of 2019, the school administration, faculty and staff who helped to prepare our graduates for success in college, career and military service. Our community can be very proud of our graduating seniors. They have excelled in the classroom; they have displayed tremendous talent and creativity in the arts; they have demonstrated athletic ability and sportsmanship on the field, and importantly, they have shown that they understand the value of community service and positive character. We have a chance to celebrate with our graduates, their family and friends on Friday, June 28 at 7PM at Mustang Stadium (weather permitting).

Prior to the graduation ceremony, we will celebrate the accomplishments of a Mount Markham Alumni, Fran Duskieiwicz, Class of 71, who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at a program beginning at 5PM in the Hall of Fame area of the high school auditorium lobby. During his years at Mount Markham, Fran was a high achieving and involved student. He was a member of a scholastic quiz bowl team that won a televised competition that resulted in a number of scholarships being awarded to Mount Markham students. Fran graduated from Colgate University and taught English and Reading at Mount Markham before beginning a career with the Nice N Easy Convenient Store Company. Fran rose from store manager to chief executive of the company. Nice N Easy had nearly half a billion dollars in sales, hundreds of locations and thousands of employees during Fran’s service with the company. Now retired and living in Florida, Fran continues to mentor young corporate executives and writes for an industry journal. Fran will also have the opportunity to address the graduates after his induction.

The Hall of Fame was created in 1994 when the school district was celebrating its 25th anniversary. The engine behind the creation of the Hall of Fame, the Mount Markham Central School District Foundation remains a critical supporter of school district activities. The Foundation supports scholarships and provides funding for programs within the school district such as the SADD After Prom Party, Fit To Read/Books In Homes, Positivity Project, the Speech and Debate Club and much, much more. You can support these efforts by sending your tax deductible donation to the Foundation care of the Mount Markham District Office, 500 Fairground Road, West Winfield, NY 13491. On June 27, the Foundation will hold its annual golf tournament at Cedar Lake Golf Course. The tournament is in its 22nd year and is completely organized by volunteers and supported by wonderful community members, local businesses and friends of the Mount Markham school community.

Just days before graduation, an important group of community members and alumni will meet to continue to plan activities to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Mount Markham Central School District. The committee will meet at 3:30 PM in the middle school boardroom on Wednesday, June 19. The committee is looking for enthusiastic classmates to serve as points of contact for their class; the committee is also looking for Mount Markham supporters who are eager to join in the planning of ways to celebrate this important anniversary. Contact the district office at 315-822-2824 for more information.

Let me close by offering best wishes to all of the members of the Class of 2019. It has been an honor and a privilege to observe your growth and development, particularly over these last four years. Remember, you will always be Mustangs and you are always welcome home! Pursue meaningful lives that involve service and work that you enjoy; continue to be good sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and friends. Congratulations to the parents and family members of our graduates! Thank you to our board of education, school administration, faculty and staff for all that you do each day to support all of our students.