



Mission Statement
Grand Forks Public Schools will provide an environment of educational excellence that engages all learners to develop their maximum potential for community and global success.

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Third Class of Grand Forks Central Distinguished Alumni Selected

GRAND FORKS, N.D. – Grand Forks Central High School has selected three alumni to join its group of Distinguished Alumni.

Lucy Dalglish, Pete Markovich, and Jill Techel will be formally inducted during a school assembly on September 25 at 2 p.m. The inductees will also be honored during halftime of the Grand Forks Central football game at 7 p.m. that same day.

The Distinguished Alumni designation honors graduates of Grand Forks Central who have made a significant impact on their communities and professions and serve as models of success to current Grand Forks Central students.

The 2015 Distinguished Alumni are the third class to be inducted among the 129 years of Central graduating classes.

Portraits and biographies of the three inductees will hang in the hallways of Grand Forks Central, joining past inductees Dr. Tom Amberry, Ronald Davies, Hal Gershman, Jeffrey Holmes, Peter Lindgren, Stuart McDonald, Dr. Casey Ryan, Wes Rydell, and Dr. Kathryn Uhrich.

2015 Grand Forks Central Distinguished Alumni Class

Lucy Dalglish

Lucy Dalglish, a 1977 graduate of Grand Forks Central High School, has served since 2012 as professor and dean of the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland, one of the nation's leading journalism schools.

After graduating from the University of North Dakota in 1980, she worked as a reporter and editor at the St. Paul Pioneer Press for 13 years. Along the way, she earned a master's degree from Yale Law School and a J.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Law, and spent five years as a trial lawyer specializing in media law at the Minneapolis law firm of Dorsey & Whitney.



Dalglish was inducted into the inaugural class of the National Freedom of Information Act Hall of Fame in 1996 and was honored with the Distinguished Service to Journalism Award by the National Press Foundation in 2012. She has also been honored by the Society of Professional Journalists by earning its highest honor - the Wells Memorial Key - in 1995 for service to the society, as well as being named a fellow of the society in 2015.

Paul Markovich

Paul Markovich, a 1984 graduate of Grand Forks Central High School, is the current president and chief executive officer of Blue Shield of California, one of the largest private health insurers in the country.

Markovich, who has worked with Blue Shield of California for over 17 years, ascended to executive management in 2009 when he became chief operating officer, a position he held until 2012, when he was named president and chief executive officer of the company.

Markovich, a Colorado College graduate, was the recipient of a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, which allowed him to complete his graduate studies at Oxford University in the United Kingdom.

Markovich resides with his family in northern California.



Jill Techel

Jill Techel graduated from Grand Forks Central in 1965, and the University of North Dakota in 1969. Upon her graduation from UND, Techel moved west, and eventually settled in Napa, Calif. in 1971. Since that time, Techel has been a very active member of her community serving with the Napa Parks and Recreation commission, Napa-Vallejo Waste Management Authority, Napa County Flood and Water Conservation Board, and as the president of the Napa Valley Unified School District Board.

Techel has also served on the Napa City Council since 1996; and in 2005, she was elected mayor of Napa, a position she still holds today.



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