

## Welcome

Dear Baker friends,

We hope you are enjoying our monthly email newsletter for alumni, alumni parents, and friends of Baker! Our school has a lot of exciting things happening, and we look forward to keeping you connected with Baker news, events, and one another!

Sincerely,

[Gena Johnson](#)

Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations

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## Class of 2016

Congratulations to our newest alumni, the eighth-grade Class of 2016! They moved family, friends, faculty, and staff to tears with their speeches, artwork, and songs at graduation this month, and we look forward to watching them thrive at many of Chicagoland's [most challenging and competitive high schools](#).

These graduates leave behind a [gaga](#) pit as a lasting expression of their appreciation to Baker! Students worked hard to raise funds for the gift, raising \$2,000 by renting out the school parking lot for Northwestern football games and hosting babysitting nights.

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## What's It Like at Baker?

Have you seen our latest video about Baker? We asked students of all ages to tell us what they love about their school!

[Watch the Video](#)



## Baker 5K

The Baker community came together May 27 to celebrate physical fitness and community spirit at the Baker 5K, a cooperative run completed by all students in grades 1-8 – and more than a few adults!

Reflecting Baker's commitment to daily physical education as an integral part of



child-centered learning, the 5K was created in 2004 to provide a healthy challenge for students to become stronger mentally and physically. The run is not a competition, but a key part of Baker's goal of instilling in students a lifelong appreciation of physical health and fitness.

Baker parent David Beazley ran alongside his son for the second straight year, and wrote a wonderful [essay](#) about the immeasurable impact of the experience.

[Read More](#)



## Ms. Widlicka Retires

Thank you to Lori Widlicka, our amazing teacher of "The Twos," who retired this school year after many years at Baker, working with our youngest students to lay an educational foundation and instill a love of learning that carries them throughout their time here. She truly has had a tremendous impact on generations of toddlers and their families!

Next time you're on campus, take a look at the three new lilac bushes near the main entrance to the parking lot. These were planted in Ms. Widlicka's honor this spring, with funds raised by our preschool.

Did you have Ms. Widlicka as a teacher? We'd love to hear your stories! Email [alumni@bakerdemschool.org](mailto:alumni@bakerdemschool.org).

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## Latin Medalists Abound

It was another fantastic year for Baker's Latin program, which fielded a strong Certamen team (pictured above) and saw a host of students and recent alumni shine in the annual National Latin Exam. Seventh-grader Ezra Steinberg achieved a perfect score on the Latin I exam, one of only 929 students (among more than 140,000 test-takers worldwide) to reach that mark.

[Read More](#)



## Race Against Hate

Dozens of Baker families, friends, and alumni participated in one of our favorite community events, the YWCA's annual Race Against Hate!

[See Photos](#)

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## Stay Connected

Stay connected with all things Baker by joining our [Alumni Facebook group](#) or following us [@bakerdemschool](#) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)! We also invite alumni to [take our brief survey](#) to tell us what's important to you in an alumni program.

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