

## Walnut Hills High School Ribbon Cutting for the new Christopher South Athletic Complex



Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014, was a day of celebration at Walnut Hills High School: a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Christopher South Athletic Complex. Our donor, Robert Christopher, '47, flew in from out of town to participate in the festivities. His wife, Martha Surnbrock Christopher, '44, was unable to attend. The ceremony involved not only representatives from Cincinnati Public Schools and our various partners in the project (Steed Hammond Paul Leading Design, DER Construction, The Motz Group) but also alumni, parents, and students in the Marching Blue and Gold and various sports teams (football, lacrosse, soccer, baseball and softball). The ceremony opened with the Marching Band bringing in the colors and 8 men from the Senior Ensemble gave a stirring a cappella rendition of the National Anthem. The cheerleaders wrote a special cheer in honor of the Christophers and their gift. Due to the inclement weather, the ceremony had to be moved inside.

The Christopher South Athletic Complex features an all-weather turf field, seating for 400, press box and lighting. Two additional buildings house concessions, restrooms and batting cages. Football, soccer, lacrosse, baseball/softball and fencing teams will be using the new complex as well as physical education classes.



The Christopher South Athletic Complex is one example of the partnership between the WHHS Alumni Foundation and Cincinnati Public Schools, which began in 1999 with the opening of the Alumni Arts and Science Center. The recently completed \$65 million campus renovation and building project paid for by the tax levy provided additional opportunities for enhancements which are funded by the Alumni Foundation – the new natatorium, the fitness center, multi-purpose rooms and two new courtyards to help offset seating in the cafeteria for our growing student population. A tennis complex, to bring that sport back to campus, is on the drawing boards. All of these projects, including the Christopher South Athletic Complex, are part of a current Capital Campaign. Thanks to our generous donors, our \$6 million goal is within sight.