

JOE BENO



TRUSTEE

ABOUT

LHS CLASS OF 1991

I am a 3rd generation LHS graduate and my daughter Charlotte will soon be a 4th generation graduate in 2023. My family history is based on the east end of Lakewood in the Birdtown area where my great grandfather operated a dairy on Dowd next to Harrison School. Both sets of my grandparents grew up and raised their families blocks apart from each other in the area near St. Cyril and Methodius church and school. The first house that my wife and I purchased and raised our daughter in was 2 houses from where my mom grew up and my parents still live in the neighborhood. I attended grade school at St. Cyril's to 8th grade before attending LHS. Though I myself am an only child, I have numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins that took the same path attending St. Cyril's and then LHS. If you graduated from LHS between 1965 and 1982, you most likely had a Beno in your class.

After LHS, I attended Case Western Reserve University and received a BS in Civil Engineering. I began working for the Great Lakes Construction Company after graduating and have supervised many infrastructure projects in the Cleveland and Northeast Ohio area. In 2008, I made a career change and took the position of Public Works Director for the City of Lakewood. While working in this position I got to work in and for my hometown city. The best part of this job was working with the great people and businesses of the city. One of my supervisors was Mayor Mike Summers, LHS Class of 1972. He was very inspiring to work for and encouraged me to attend graduate school at the University of Akron campus in Lakewood and I received an MBA in 2013. When it was time to move from working for Lakewood, I returned to Great Lakes Construction to manage their logistics division. Though I moved on from working for the city, I continue to live here to raise a family. Becoming a trustee for LREF in 2019 was a great way for me to continue being involved with the Lakewood community when my career here was finished.