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**Boulder High Panther Club Names**

**2017 Leadership & Legacy Award Winner**

Boulder High School’s Panther Club is pleased to announce Shannon Aberton will receive the 2017 Leadership & Legacy Award to be awarded at the 2017 Panther Gala on Saturday, March 11, 2017, at the Touchdown Club at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Ms. Aberton was nominated for her exemplary leadership and lasting influence as a she marks her 20th year as Boulder High’s athletic trainer.

Shannon has a wide reach across all sports and has worked with thousands of students and coaches over the years. Her nominators not only called out her technical expertise related to injuries, recovery and performance, but also her nurturing spirit and support to players, parents and coaches. As the “Heart of Boulder High Athletics”, Shannon’s genuine care and compassion often means she is addressing athletes’ external *and* internal challenges. Ms. Aberton holds the athletes to high expectations as she encourages them to be their best, reach for goals and be mentally and physically tough. For her part, she never misses a home game and is the ultimate Panther supporter.

Shannon’s leadership qualities are best expressed by her nominators:

*“For 20 years, Shannon has been "all in, all the time". Has built tremendous relationships with so many families over the years.”*

*“She has spent the last 20 years loving on these kids and making BHS athletics one of the centers of her life. She would do anything for these kids and coaches and that is revealed in her everyday commitment.”*

*“If the kids that come through her training room take away 10% of the wisdom she shares, they will have such a great chance to make an impact in the world after leaving BHS.”*

*“I wish I had a dime for every time a player came to me and said, "Well Shannon thinks I ought to...." And the conversation is nothing about SPORTS or INJURIES. It's about LIFE!”*

In a Boulder Camera article dated December 21, 2016, the headline read [*Aberton is Boulder High’s MVP*](http://www.dailycamera.com/ci_30676784/aberton-is-boulder-highs-mvp).

The Leadership & Legacy Award, established by Panther Club and sponsored by Walters & Hogsett, is presented annually at the Panther Gala to a coach, administrator, parent or alumni who has demonstrated incredible leadership, served as a positive role model, built character and self-esteem and has left a legacy imprint on BHS athletics for generations to come. Shannon Aberton, selected from a group of deserving nominees, will receive recognition and a keepsake award at the Panther Gala and her name will be added to the perpetual award in the Panther Club display case in the main hallway at Boulder High.

Tickets to the 4th Annual Panther Gala, a special evening to celebrate and support Boulder High athletics, are on sale at bhspantherclub.com. Individual tickets are $60.

**About BHS Panther Club**

**Panther Club** is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization focused on providing support for our athletic teams at Boulder High School. We provide financial assistance to purchase necessary items that are not covered by the school district. In addition, the Panther Club honors teams with recognition ceremonies and maintains a Hall of Champions display of athlete photos and plaques in the gym hallway. Donations and fundraising efforts are our main source of funds to support incremental team requests including the Panther Gala, an annual event held in the Spring of each year, as well as the sale of spirit gear and banners in the gym, football and softball fields. They can be reached at [www.bhspantherclub.com](http://www.bhspantherclub.com).



Photo credit: Boulder Daily Camera