

Bellevue  
Public  
Schools



Alumni  
Spotlight



# Kris Covi

## Bellevue West, 1991

Welcome to our new Alumni Spotlight column where we shine a light on some of the amazing alumni that have graduated from Bellevue Public Schools!

Kris Covi graduated from Bellevue West in 1991. He went on to earn a B.A. in political science from Drake University in 1995 and he received his law degree from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1998.

Part of what makes Kris's story unique is that he is part of a very small percentage of Lawyer-Comedians in the country.



Kris recently took some time to answer a few of our questions.

Kris told us, “I was always the class clown growing up so when I got an opportunity to try stand up in college, I jumped at it. I did well in an amateur contest on campus and that opened the door to start working at a local club in Des Moines. When I graduated I had to choose between trying to make it as a comic or going to law school and I chose law school at the University of Nebraska. I was rewarded with two national championships during my three years there. I did well in law school and returned to Omaha and began working at McGrath North where I am today. I am a trial lawyer focusing primarily on real estate, environmental, and estate litigation.

About 6 years ago on a whim I got back on stage and had a blast. Stand up comedy never leaves your blood. I did a few shows here and there for a while and then a few years ago I won a few contests and through those connections I started to travel to clubs and festivals. Now I am balancing the two and do about 80-90 shows a year which includes some charity work as an emcee and auctioneer. Most of my gigs are private corporate events and fundraisers.



If being a lawyer/comedian sounds absurd, let me tell you about mustaches. I am on the Board of Directors for a non-profit called Mustaches for Kids. Every May we get as many dudes as we can to shave their faces completely clean, and then for 30 days we grow nothing but mustaches. During this time we hit up our friends and family for donations to sponsor our mustaches and all those dollars go to a different local children's charity. We started as a joke 10 years ago but now Omaha is the biggest chapter in the country and we've raised over \$2.4 million for a variety of local children's charities. “

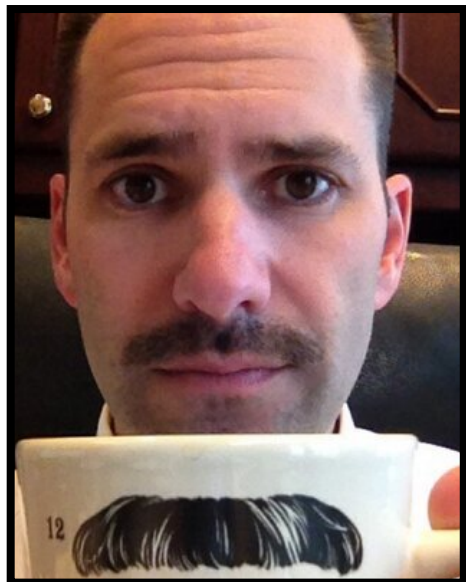
Some of the comedy awards Kris has won include: Funny Bone Clash of the Comics, Winner of the World Series of Comedy Chicago Contest, Finalist out of 450 comics at the

Kris Performing Live

## World Series of Comedy in Las Vegas, and the Great American Comedy Festival

### Tell us about your family

My wife Jessica and I have three kids, Caroline, Elsa, and Finn. We live in Millard now (boo!) where it has taken me 15 years to realize that when someone says "West" they don't mean Bellevue West (it will always be the true West to me). My wife is a full time community volunteer and my kids span from 1st grade to a junior in high school. If you want to hear more about them and how they are prematurely aging me come see a show.



Kris also serves as the President of Mustaches for Kids, a local nonprofit that has raised over \$2.4 Million dollars for local Youth Charities over the first 10 years!

### Who was one of your favorite teachers?

I had so many great ones (Ft. Crook, Logan, West) but my favorite was and always will be Ms. Scanlan (now Zurcher). She was my 4th grade teacher and she was so full of energy and put so much of herself into her students it was impossible not to love her. In the summer she taught me guitar lessons and I taught her how to fish.

### What is a memory you have of school?

I suppose everyone expects me to say it was when I threw the touchdown pass in overtime to Clester Johnson to win state our senior year, but that is kind of cliché and also made up.

### Did you have a favorite class?

I spent a lot of time in the choir room, but as far as an academic subject I enjoyed English the older I got. It always seemed like we spent most of Mrs. Wolford's class just talking about current events and debating rather than the subtext of Anna Karenina (which is good since we didn't read that book). I wouldn't realize until later how much I learned in that class about critical thinking.

### Favorite place to hang out in high school?

If you mean literally in the high school it was the choir room. Between choir and show choir (before it was cool) I sometimes spent 4 hours a day singing. I miss that but now I can be an overbearing show choir parent for my own kids so it's okay.

## Links

A Sample of Kris's Stand Up Comedy Routine:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Swr4VxRIF4w>

The Official Website of Nebraska's 2nd Tallest Comedian

<http://www.kriscovi.com/>

Interview on WOWT Channel 6

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-Na56U\\_aJ8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-Na56U_aJ8)

Mustaches for Kids, Omaha

<http://m4komaha.com/>

## About Us

We hope you enjoyed our Alumni Spotlight! This is a recurring column on the Alumni Association Facebook Page. If you know of a Bellevue graduate that we should shine the spotlight on, please reach out to us and they will be considered for a future column. Continue to invite your friends and family to Like and Follow our Alumni Association page: <https://www.facebook.com/BPSAlumni>