

SMS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

JULIA MAENIUS '14

My name is Julia Maenius. I was an SMS graduate in 2014, an FHS graduate in 2018, and I am currently a sophomore at The University of Texas at San Antonio, where I will graduate in 2022. I currently live in San Antonio going to school and working as the Assistant Sports Editor for the UTSA campus paper, The Paisano, and as an intern with the UTSA Athletics Communications Department in the Sports Information office. I am majoring in English with a focus in creative writing, and I am minoring in communications. After graduation, I plan on working for a university as a Sports Information Director in the Athletic Department. This summer I will be the intern for the Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post.

My parents are Shannon Maenius, longtime cheerleading sponsor at SMS, and Brian Maenius. My grandparents are Faye and David Gode and Guenther and Vernell Maenius.

FAVORITE MEMORIES

I have many favorite memories from SMS, but they all revolve around cheerleading. I grew up helping my mom with the cheerleading squads. I looked up to many girls on her squads over the years, and I could not wait to be a cheerleader and participate in the sport my mom and I both love. In seventh and eighth grade I was on the cheerleading squad, and my favorite memories from SMS were traveling to and from games with my mom and being able to share our passion for the sport together. Being on her squad taught me accountability, organization, punctuality, and most of all, effort and teamwork. All of these qualities are staples in my life to this day, and I love being able to help my mom with her current squads and see her continue to influence younger girls the same way she did for me.



Some of my favorite teachers at SMS were Mrs. Akin, who still gives me the biggest hug every time I see her, Coach Loth, whose two rules in the classroom were 1. Coach Loth is always right, and 2. If Coach Loth is wrong, refer to Rule 1, Coach King, one of the most patient women I have ever met having to deal with all of us girls, and Mr. Weinheimer, the reason I love history and am now taking a Texas History class “for fun,” even though no one will ever match his vivid storytelling and passion for teaching.

My time at SMS has taught me many valuable life lessons and has given me friendships that remain as strong as they were when we got our first jumpers or walked the upstairs hall of the high school building for the first time.

GRATEFUL TO SMS FOR:

I am forever grateful for each day I spent as an Apache.