



**Buchanan Community Schools  
Hall of Fame  
2021**

*Contributions to Society*

**James Jesse**



Mr. James “Jim” Jesse graduated from Buchanan High School in 1962. He went on to receive his Bachelor of Arts degree from Michigan State University in 1965 and his Masters of Business Administration in 1967. He received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Notre Dame in 1970.

Mr. Jesse has been a longtime supporter of public education, especially the students and teachers of Buchanan Community Schools. He was the Program Director and Assistant Program Director for Junior Achievement in the Four Flags Area as well as a chairperson for the Task Force on Education. As an attorney, Mr. Jesse served as the Public Defender for countless indigent defendants in Berrien County for decades. He personally brought Michigan District Court to Buchanan High School for Buchanan students to observe actual trial proceedings for several years. Mr. Jesse also is a sponsor and supporter of Buchanan Floor Hockey, Buchanan Little League, and Optimist Soccer.