



# Annual Report

2016-2017







OUR VISION is a world where people with language-based learning differences and ADHD are embraced for their strengths and potential, and where all teachers have access to training in best educational practices and current research.

OUR MISSION is to provide transformative educational experiences that have lifelong impact on our students as well as thought leadership that engages the learning differences community.





## LETTER FROM THE Headmaster

### DEAR TSS FRIENDS,

Ours is a community that shares a mission and vision together and invests in our next generation of learners as well as the future of the school. It is for this continued support and enthusiasm in what we're striving to accomplish that I express my deepest gratitude. Each one of you has demonstrated your commitment to TSS over and over again. Acting together, your impact makes it possible for us to reach for the future and at the same time to make every day count for our students.

We have been evolving! A year ago we acquired a building to expand the school's campus and celebrated a ground breaking to mark this momentous occasion.

A truly historic moment came in the fall of 2017 when we officially changed the school's name to The Southport School from Eagle Hill Southport School. Taking this step helps to clearly define our community as *"an independent private school that provides transformative educational experiences for students in kindergarten through 8th grade with language-based learning differences, like dyslexia, and ADHD."*

You helped make this possible with your steadfast devotion to our vision and programming, which remain focused on specific learning approaches and methods in which all of our teachers are trained. We have built a strong leadership team of experts in literacy and language, executive functions development, mathematics, assistive technology, and co-curricular activities. The success of each student is strengthened by our relationships among teachers, parents, alumni, and friends of the school within our host community of Southport. You make up this circle of caring.

This has been an exciting year, and we thank all of you for its many accomplishments. You are the heroes of The Southport School.

With great appreciation,

**DR. BENJAMIN N. POWERS**  
Headmaster



# THE SOUTHPORT SCHOOL

## Leadership

### CURRENT

## Faculty and Staff

### Headmaster

Dr. Benjamin Powers

### Administrative Staff

Samantha Berg

*Director of Admissions*

Dr. Hallie A. Buckingham

*Head of Upper School, Director of Community Outreach, and Student Advisor*

Theresa Collins

*Orton-Gillingham Fellow & Trainer, Tutorial Department Head, Faculty Member*

Dr. Kathleen Gallagher

*Head of Lower School, Co-Director of Summer Programs, Student Advisor*

Melissa Kinyon

*Speech & Language Pathologist*

Maggie Macari

*Chief Financial Officer*

Kelly Murphy

*Associate Director of Development*

Dr. Kimberly Pasley

*School Psychologist*

Zibby Perkins

*Director of Advancement, Parent of Alumna*

Sharon Plante

*Director of Technology, Faculty Member*

John Robbins

*Director of Student Programs, Co-Director of Summer Programs, Student Advisor*

Shelbey Roy

*Advancement Assistant*

Jeff Ruggiero

*Director of Education, Student Advisor*

Dave Sylvestro

*School Psychologist*

Joyce Tracey

*Accountant*

Dede Warner

*Front Office Administrator*

### Operations

Stephen Amos, *Chef*

Yvette Battles, *Assistant Chef*

Mario Fiallo, *Facilities Manager*

Maria Carnevale Fuligni, *School Nurse*

Beth Randolph, *School Nurse*

Tom Stevens, *Facilities Assistant*

### Faculty

Stacey Angelico

*Lower School Math Department Head*

Megan Aversano

Justin Behn

Tiffany Behn

Brianne Birch

Karin Bowman

Melissa Brown

*Tutorial Department Head*

James Bruce

Bianca Cenatiempo

Taylor Cotaling

Brandon DeMunnik

Christine Filep

Janine Forry

Jeannine Gallagher

Jill Hansen

*Student Advisor*

Melanie Higgins

Heather Humphries

*Literature Department Head*

Sarah Kelly

*Art Teacher*

Katie Loiacono

Melissa Newsome

Julia Papp

*Social Studies & Science Department Head,*

*Student Advisor*

Bob Perry

Patti Provoost

Kim Ruggiero

Stephanie Swinkin

Kristyn Ventresca

### 2016–2017

## Board of Directors

Karl Babikian

Sandra Bisset

Janet Brogan

Caroline Calder

Virginia Cargill, *Chair*

George Clark, Jr.

Joe Coci

Gary Cosgrave

James Donaher

Paul Doocy

Lori Fernandes

Morag Grassie

Karen Jeffers

Lisa Lillie

Nat Mundy T'91

Nikos Nicopoulos

Jill Pengue

Dr. Benjamin Powers, *Headmaster*

Paul Quinsee

Sue Roberts

Liz Sheppard

### Directors Emeriti

Barbara Evans

Richard Ferguson

Lawrence Hughes

Michael LaPorta

Hugh Smith

Janet Steinmayer

Frank Wendt

Patricia Willett

Robert Wright

Mrs. F. Henry Berlin, 1920–1995

Stephen D. Colhoun, 1921–1991

Walter S. Robbins, 1928–2016

John D. Upton, 1909–2005

# Financials

## Statement of Activities

for the years ended August 31, 2017, and 2016

### REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT

	2017	2016
Tuition and fees	\$5,247,615	\$5,043,227
Financial aid	(366,675)	(370,316)
<b>Net tuition revenue</b>	<b>\$4,880,940</b>	<b>\$4,672,911</b>
Contributions, net	370,680	251,801
Investment return used for operations	213,458	211,199
Fundraising event income, net	81,995	98,919
Other income	20,315	34,694
Net assets released from restrictions	—	—
<b>TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$5,567,388</b>	<b>\$5,269,524</b>

### EXPENSES

#### Education programs services

Instructional	\$3,483,396	\$3,413,249
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#### Supporting services

Administrative	1,282,357	1,269,613
Facilities and meals	408,420	410,982
Development	360,915	148,217

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$5,535,088</b>	<b>\$5,242,061</b>
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### CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

from operating activities before depreciation	\$32,300	\$27,463
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### DEPRECIATION

(81,307)	(89,030)
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### CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

from operating activities	(\$49,007)	(\$61,567)
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### OTHER CHANGES

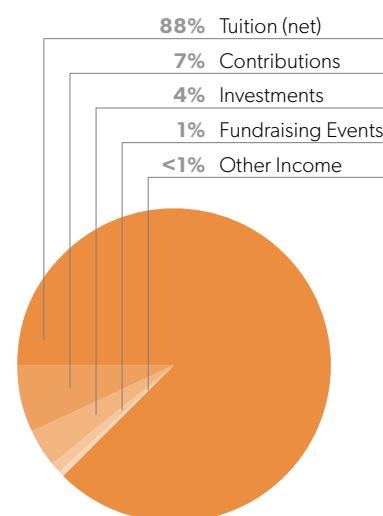
Restricted contributions	\$1,122,984	\$147,787
Investment return (loss) net	611,722	503,168
Investment return utilized for operations	(213,458)	(211,199)
Change in value of minimum pension liability	184,628	(496,119)
Loss on sale of assets	(46,494)	(19,975)

<b>TOTAL OTHER CHANGES</b>	<b>\$1,659,382</b>	<b>(\$76,338)</b>
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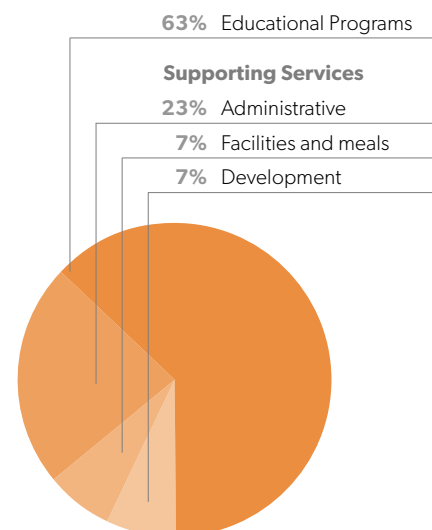
Increase (Decrease) in net assets	\$1,610,375	(\$137,905)
Net assets—beginning of the year	5,770,332	5,908,227

<b>NET ASSETS, END OF THE YEAR</b>	<b>\$7,380,707</b>	<b>\$5,770,322</b>
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## Revenues



## Expenses



# THE SOUTHPORT SCHOOL

## Annual Giving

### 2016-2017



### Major Gifts Initiative

ARTS, MUSIC, AND MOVEMENT  
BUILDING RENOVATIONS AND  
PROGRAMS

*To celebrate and launch the expansion of The Southport School's campus and its programs with the new Arts, Music, and Movement Building, we received significant gifts to support the project initiatives. We are especially grateful to these donors who showed philanthropic leadership and whose major gifts will impact student learning in years to come. We thank you.*

Mr. Santiago Alfageme  
& Ms. Leah Gambal  
Mr. Karl Babikian & Ms. Darlene Garofalo  
Sandra W. Bisset  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Boyle  
Mr. & Mrs. James Bradley  
Joseph P. Brandon & Colleen M.  
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Brasser Family Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Brogan  
The Caione Family  
Ms. Caroline M. Calder  
Mrs. Virginia K. Cargill  
Mr. & Mrs. George Clark, Jr.  
George & Katie Coleman  
Estate of Ray Marie Diliato  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert DiSabato  
Mr. & Mrs. James P. Donaher  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Doocy  
Mr. & Mrs. Bradford Evans  
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& Ms. Kristen Rosecrans  
Ms. Sue Roberts  
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Mr. & Mrs. John Riccardi  
Ms. Elizabeth Sheppard  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Sterling  
Mr. Leonard Tavormina

Mr. & Mrs. James E. Thomas  
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Vose  
Ms. Amy Watson  
Mr. Allan Wieman & Ms. Jo Shute

### 2016-2017 Annual Giving

ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN,  
ANNUAL SPRING BENEFIT, AND  
ENDOWMENT

*This financial year we celebrated the incredible support of our Annual Fund Campaign with 100% giving from our Board of Directors in addition to 100% participation by our staff and faculty. This represents the synergy and positive climate of our internal workings of the school and driving our mission and vision.*

*Gifts to the Annual Fund, income from our Endowment, and special fundraising events are critical to our yearly operating expenses such as teacher training and professional development, program enhancements, and equipment for classrooms, athletics, and enrichment activities.*

*No matter the gift amount, every donation has an impact on our school and our students. Thank you to those who supported us in the last year.*

### Donors of \$20,000 or more

Joseph P. Brandon & Colleen M.  
Brandon Family Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary D. Cosgrave  
Dick, Marissa & Ben Ferguson T'07  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Fernandes  
Mr. Allan Wieman & Ms. Jo Shute

### Donors of \$10,000 or more

Anonymous  
Ms. Karen A. Jeffers  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Quinsee  
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Thomas  
Barbara & Frank Wendt

### Donors of \$5,000 or more

Mr. Santiago Alfageme  
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Mr. Joseph Coci  
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Ms. Bette Green  
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Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Pengue  
Mr. & Mrs. Rich Riley  
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& Ms. Mary Younglove  
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### Donors of \$2,500 or more

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### Donors of \$1,000 or more

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### Donors of up to \$499

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Ms. Roselynn Brischler  
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& Dr. Hallie A. Buckingham  
Ms. Heidi Buckley  
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Ms. Christine Filep  
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Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Smith  
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The Southport School Student Council  
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Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Spengler  
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Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wald  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Walker  
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Mr. & Mrs. E. Wilbur  
Mr. Simon Worraker  
& Ms. Anne McGarvey  
Mr. John Zabarsky  
& Ms. Patricia Whitehouse  
Mr. & Mrs. Justin Zamparelli  
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Zamparelli

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## Endowment Donors

### Beckerer Family Scholarship Fund

*Est. 2005 by Bob Beckerer to provide support for financial aid.*

Mr. Frank Beckerer

### Carolyn Lavender & Kelly Wieman Fund

*Est. 2011 by the Wieman Family in honor of Carolyn Lavender, who first suggested TSS to their daughter, Kelly. The funds are unrestricted.*

Mr. Allan Wieman & Ms. Jo Shute

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### Carolyn Lavender Scholarship Fund

*Est. 2013 by friends and family in memory of Carolyn Lavender to provide support for financial aid.*

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Aversano  
Mr. William Buckingham  
& Dr. Hallie A. Buckingham  
Mr. & Mrs. Evan Berg  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Forry  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Gallagher  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Maleterra  
Mr. & Mrs. Jamie Martin  
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent O'Hara  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Plante  
Mr. Benjamin Powers  
& Ms. Kristen Rosecrans  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Ruggiero  
Mr. & Mrs. DeVer Warner

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### Grant V.A. Roberts Fund for Art & Music Education

*Est. 2005 in memory of Grant V.A. Roberts by his family to support art and music programs.*

Mr. & Mrs. Gean Tremaine

---

### John D. Upton Scholarship Fund

*Est. 1990 by John Upton to provide support for financial aid.*

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew B. Walker  
Estate of John D. Upton

---

### Quinsee Family Fund

*Est. 2010 by the Quinsee family to be used at the discretion of the Headmaster and the Board of Directors.*

Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Quinsee

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### Southport Congregational Scholarship Fund

*Est. 1992 by the Southport Congregational Church to provide support for financial aid.*

Southport Congregational Church

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### Tavormina Endowment Fund

*Est. 2002 by the Tavormina family to be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors.*

Dick, Marissa & Ben Ferguson T'07  
Mr. Leonard Tavormina  
& Ms. Mary Younglove

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### Barbara & Frank Wendt Scholarship Fund

*Est. 2004 by Barbara and Frank Wendt to provide support for financial aid.*

Barbara & Frank Wendt







# ANNUAL SPRING BENEFIT “Derby Days”

APRIL 28, 2017



## THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL SPRING

**BENEFIT** “Derby Days” was tied in with the upcoming run of the Kentucky Derby and the school’s community theme—Better Together!

The planning of the benefit builds a community amongst all of us. Students contributed their artwork—this year Southport Village-inspired boater hats, faculty gave student experiences, the Parent Association donated their time and resources, Trustees offered leadership gifts, local businesses invested with program ads and auction items, and our staff coordinated the many logistics. This year marked no exception with the generosity and enthusiasm for the school with a total of 55 ads in the keepsake evening program, over 100 auction items donated, and more than 180 guests in attendance.

The sunny, spring setting at The Inn at Longshore enhanced the Derby Days theme of pink and green; bright colored hats and fascinators filled the room, and garlands of roses were aplenty. It was a celebratory evening for those in attendance and the success of the event inspired us all in giving and community.

Thank you to all who  
contributed in making  
Derby Days—  
**Better Together!**

# OUR ANNUAL Potluck Supper

OCTOBER 19, 2017

**OUR ANNUAL OCTOBER POTLUCK SUPPER** is a special evening that is all inclusive of our new and returning parents, faculty, staff, and Board members. This year's theme reinforced our belief in the meaning of community within our school buildings and beyond our school campus. With the hands-on support of our Parent Association and our two event chairs, Sarah Hering (mother of Sam, grade 1) and Lauren Schiller (mother of Davis, grade 2), together they created an evening filled with family and friends, delicious food, Treasures of Southport student artwork that papered the walls, community-inspired quotes, and table names of Southport landmarks. The décor transformed Tavormina Hall into a farm-to-table atmosphere that celebrated the occasion.

This year's Potluck Supper speakers were exceptional—and that's what we say every year! The heartfelt, personal stories relating to their experiences at The Southport School resonates with many of us. With 150 guests in attendance, the room is always at full attention and emotions range high. Our speakers this year included:

- Brandon DeMunnik, Upper School Math Department Head and Morning Meeting Leader, joined TSS in 1999 and is in his 18th year of teaching.
- Jim Vose, current member of the Board of Directors, oversaw the new Arts, Music, and Movement Building renovation.
- Robert Smith, father of Graham, a TSS alum who transitioned to Brewster Academy in 2017.
- Diana Bondy, TSS student 1995–1999, graduated high school from The Harvey School (in Katonah, NY), graduated from Wheaton College (Norton, MA), holds two master's degrees, from Columbia University and Fordham University (NYC). She currently is a school psychologist for Success Academy, a charter school in Harlem.

“Alone we can do so little,  
together we can do so much.”

—HELEN KELLER







# WAYS OF Giving

## GIVE ONLINE

[www.SouthportSchool.org/giving](http://www.SouthportSchool.org/giving).

**CALL US** at 203.254.2044 or email Kelly Murphy, Associate Director of Development at [KMurphy@SouthportSchool.org](mailto:KMurphy@SouthportSchool.org). The Development Office can be reached Monday through Friday, 9:00 am–5:00 pm.

**MAIL US A CHECK** to 214 Main Street, Southport, CT 06890. Please include a note indicating if you would like to honor someone with your contribution this year, and indicate how you would like your name listed in the Annual Report.

**GIFT APPRECIATED STOCK** to TSS. For instructions on how to transfer stock, please contact the Development Office.

**DOES YOUR EMPLOYER MATCH YOUR GIFT?** Many employers will match your contribution to TSS. Check with your employer's office of human resources to see if they participate, or call the Development Office.

**GIVE A LEGACY GIFT.** Setting up a trust, including TSS in your estate plans, or naming TSS in a life insurance policy are ways you may consider supporting the school. For more information and to find out how your gift can best support the students, please contact us.

**INVEST IN TSS.** Donors who choose to contribute to the endowment are investors in the future of TSS. The named funds and restricted accounts are important resources that ensure the school will have a support system for years to come. These funds strengthen our academic programs, athletics, and financial aid offerings, and provide for continued professional development. Donors are encouraged to support these funds in addition to their annual gift each year.

**THANK YOU!**







214 Main Street, Southport, CT 06890

203.254.2044

[Info@SouthportSchool.org](mailto:Info@SouthportSchool.org)

[www.SouthportSchool.org](http://www.SouthportSchool.org)

