

## A Note from the Director of Development A Community Engaged in Giving



# Annual Report 2016-2017

It is my privilege to continue to serve the community of St. Mark's Episcopal School. In each of my 6 years here, I have been reminded of the incredible generosity of our families and parents for different reasons. The 2016-2017 school year was marked with continued success in the Annual Fund and our other programs.

As we forge ahead into the new year and the current priorities for St. Mark's, it is sometimes difficult to pause and reflect upon the previous year. However, part of how we steward your gifts to St. Mark's is through an Annual Report, which you may have seen on our website in the past. Our new robust magazine affords us an opportunity to tell our story in real time, and it seems prudent to recognize our generous community in this printed form, alongside this publication. We remain enormously grateful for your support and confidence in us.



### 2016-2017 Annual Fund

We owe a debt of gratitude to Danielle and Josh Batchelor, and to our dedicated Class Representatives for their excellent leadership of the 2016-2017 Annual Fund. The Annual Fund continues to be the most important way that we fundraise at St. Mark's and the best way to support our children's experience here. Donations to this fund impact our ability to provide enhanced curriculum, strong professional development, continually updated technology, and improvements to our facilities and campus. We reached new heights last year, raising \$426,993 for our Annual Fund. In addition to reaching 100% participation for our Board of Trustees and faculty and staff, we reached a remarkable 90% parent participation.

### More. The St. Mark's Campaign for Growth

The 2016-2017 school year marked the second year in our new expanded space, and we continued to fundraise for our

capital campaign goal during this period. The official end to our fiscal year was June 30, 2017 and at that time we had reached a phenomenal \$1.9 million. Be on the lookout for our final campaign report, coming soon!

### Parent Guild & Volunteers

Our parent organization enthusiastically serves the needs of our student and parent community with numerous events, and programs. St. Mark's parents are uniquely passionate, and their commitment to our community shines through their efforts. We are tremendously grateful for the work of Suzanne Hays, who served as the Parent Guild president for the 2016-2017 school year. Part of what makes our community warm and inviting are traditions like Scarborough Fair, Breakfast with Santa, Parent Education events, Dads and Donuts, Visiting Authors, Grandparents Day, and the New Family Ice Cream Social. There are also parent volunteers on our campus literally every day working in classrooms or the library, facilitating classroom events or serving the Friends of the Library program. When we have tried to enumerate the number of volunteer hours that it takes to make a year at St. Mark's run, the process is overwhelming. But our parents don't volunteer here to be counted or be recognized, they do it to make us better and our community stronger. They also help us have a whole lot of fun along the way.

A year's worth of gift recognition appears in the pages that follow. We are proud to present this to you in a new format, and we hope you see the cumulative impact that we make as a community. We are a community engaged in giving with our time, talent, and treasure, and we thank you for your investment.

Sincerely,

Lou Ellen Stansell  
Director of Development