



THE RED OAKS
SCHOOL

KEEP RED OAKS
STRONG

ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN 2020-2021



“THE GREATNESS OF A COMMUNITY IS MOST ACCURATELY MEASURED BY THE COMPASSIONATE ACTIONS OF ITS MEMBERS.”

– Coretta Scott King

These words spoken by Mrs. King ring true here within the walls of Red Oaks, where for more than 55 years we’ve been gifted with caring faculty, students and families.

This past spring, though, our community’s resolve was put to the test. We were presented an unforeseen and potentially devastating challenge. But not surprising, we collectively rose to the occasion. We offered each other a helping hand. We provided a strong shoulder to lean on when needed. We did what we each could to regain a sense of normalcy for our families, and for our Red Oaks family as well.

RED OAKS STRONG

The COVID-19 pandemic may have upheaved many of our personal lives and routines. But Red Oaks was able to successfully pivot on a moment’s notice and continue on. Teachers began full-day virtual lessons 24 hours after the buildings closed. Faculty and administration ensured activities like Field Day, the yearbook and graduation went on as planned. Parents, alumni and friends donated generously, ensuring our fundraising goal was met.

COMMITTED TO REOPENING

As the school year ended, we were already diligently preparing for a fall reopening of the school. Plans were being made to update our ventilation systems, additional space was rented for our Middle Schoolers, and enhanced cleaning and disinfecting services were contracted.

Over the summer, we made significant investments in new technology, including new laptops for all teachers, updated Chromebooks for all students, and improved wi-fi and hubs for remote learning. Sharp interactive boards were also incorporated into classrooms, allowing teachers to interact simultaneously with both the students at school and those learning virtually.

Red Oaks was committed to providing full-day schooling in the fall – to the benefit of both our parents and our students. In fact we were (and remain) one of only a few schools to offer full-day remote and in-class instruction Monday through Friday.

Finally, we created a stringent set of health guidelines to ensure the everyday safety of everyone attending the school – even reducing our school size to 150 students to maintain safe social distancing.

“WHILE OUR CHOICE TO LIMIT ENROLLMENT ENABLED THE SCHOOL TO PROVIDE A SAFER ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL DISTANCING, IT HAD THE NEGATIVE EFFECT OF REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF TUITION THE SCHOOL EXPECTED TO RECEIVE FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR.”

– Daniel Elie, President, Member of the Board of Trustees, and current parent

AND NOW, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP RED OAKS STRONG

All of these efforts to safely reopen the school came with a high price tag. **We spent an additional \$500,000.**

Technology

- Laptops for faculty; Chromebooks for grades K-8
- Sharp interactive displays, 360° web cameras and software subscriptions
- 3 weeks of tech training for all faculty

Building Updates

- New indoor furniture and outdoor tents to support social distancing
- Upgraded ventilation system
- Supplemental disinfecting costs

Tuition

- Increased tuition assistance budget for COVID-19 affected families
- Tuition deficit due to reduced student enrollment cap

To resolve this deficit and meet our normal operating expenses,

WE MUST RAISE OUR ANNUAL FUND GOAL THIS YEAR TO \$250,000.

“ I AM SO APPRECIATIVE OF THE INVESTMENT MADE IN CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY. TEACHING STUDENTS IN-PERSON AND REMOTELY AT THE SAME TIME IS A CHALLENGING FEAT, BUT WITH THE SUPPORT OF INTERACTIVE DISPLAY SYSTEMS AND OTHER CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGIES, OUR FACULTY HAS BEEN ABLE TO DELIVER MEANINGFUL AND EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION. ”

– Sera Capriotti, faculty member

PLEASE PARTNER WITH US TO KEEP RED OAKS STRONG

The Red Oaks family has always been a generous one. And we are so grateful. Our Annual Fund has been supported by a vast majority of our community – and by 100% of our faculty and administration.

Our gala has been a tremendously successful fundraiser as well. This past spring though, we could not hold our traditional gala due to the pandemic – we held a **RED OAKS STRONG DAYS OF GIVING** instead. But we still reached our goal ... in just four days!

We are asking our community to again show its strength and greatness. We hope this incredible spirit of giving continues. We cannot emphasize enough how valuable your contribution to us will be this year.

NOW MORE THAN EVER, OUR
FUTURE TRULY DEPENDS
ON YOU — OUR RED OAKS
COMMUNITY.





“WE ARE VERY PLEASED BY HOW THE RED OAKS SCHOOL HAS RISEN TO THE OCCASION TO TRANSITION US TO THIS NEW WORLD OF ONLINE LEARNING. YOU HAVE ENSURED THAT THIS IS NOT A SOLO ENDEAVOR FOR EACH CHILD, WHICH IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT IN THIS TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING. I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH.”

– Megan Clark, Parent Association Co-Chair and current parent

“MY CHILDREN'S TRANSITION TO REMOTE LEARNING WAS SEAMLESS AND THEY HAVEN'T EXPERIENCED ANY LEARNING GAPS. THE LEARNING MATERIALS ARE TAILOR-MADE FOR THEIR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS. THE TEACHERS ARE EXCELLENT IN THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOMS AND GO ABOVE AND BEYOND TO HELP THEIR STUDENTS. THE ENTIRE SCHOOL COMMUNITY HAS HELD THEMSELVES TO THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGHOUT THIS PANDEMIC.”

– Ilana Radcliffe, Parent Association Co-Chair and current parent

WAYS YOU CAN GIVE

- Send a check made payable to **The Red Oaks School** directly to the school.
- Donate online at www.redoaksschool.org/donate.
- Call the business office at **973-539-7853 ext. 121**.
- Give a gift of appreciated securities. Appreciated securities provide an opportunity to support Red Oaks with advantageous tax benefits for you, the donor. If you would like to consider a gift of stock, please contact the Business Office at 973-539-7853 ext. 121. Red Oaks' broker information is: Cetera Investment Services, LLC/DTC#0701/Account # 3CU15561/FBO The Red Oaks School.
- Designate Red Oaks for your corporate United Way Campaign – we are a registered non-profit organization and our United Way Campaign ID # 031251.
- Take advantage of your employer's corporate matching gift program, if it has one, which **doubles your personal gift**. Get the form from Human Resources, fill out the employee section and send it to Red Oaks with your gift. We will do the rest. Matching gifts are one of the best ways for you to have a significant impact on the financial health of the school.

“HELPING OUR STUDENTS CONTINUE TO LEARN THROUGHOUT THESE CHALLENGING TIMES HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR EFFORTS. KEEPING OUR STUDENTS AND FACULTY ENGAGED EACH DAY, HEALTHY BOTH PHYSICALLY AND EMOTIONALLY, AND PROVIDING NEW TECHNOLOGY, HAS BEEN ESSENTIAL — AND COSTLY. THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT BY OUR PARENTS AND OTHER CONSTITUENCIES UP TO THIS POINT HAS BEEN PHENOMENAL.”

Marilyn E. Stewart, Head of School

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Marilyn E. Stewart

ASSOCIATE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Nelyda Miguel

2020-2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dan Elie, *President*

Anthony Galdi, *Vice President*

Susan Luciano, *Secretary*

David Yermack, *Treasurer*

Kim Bush

Anne Carolan

Fred Douglas

Jesper Goransson

Shai Kopeld

Avinash Kothavale

Christine St. Peter Levinsohn

Susanna Short

Marilyn E. Stewart, *Ex Officio*

Tina Terraciano

Liz Warner



**THE RED OAKS
SCHOOL**

21 CUTLER ST., MORRISTOWN, NJ 07960

WWW.REDOAKSSCHOOL.ORG