

# DANNA MARKOFF

Ms. Markoff joined the staff of the College Counseling office in August 2009. Since that time, she has assisted every single St. David's senior in finding a college fit, maintaining a 100% college acceptance rate. She has also co-chaired the Annual Fund and served as Friends president. Before joining St. David's as an employee, Ms. Markoff was a member of the Board of Trustees and parent to three (now) St. David's alumni: Andrew '02, Paul '05 and Sam '17.



## Q&A

### **WHY HAVE YOU GIVEN LOYALLY TO ST. DAVID'S?**

I have a desire and a responsibility to share the resources God has given me, to support people and causes that are good and true. Through many years and changes, St. David's has continued to represent values that are worthy of support. It is my joy to give to a school that educates the whole child, cultivating faith and sound character along with a love for learning. Having seen the benefits of this education in my own children as they have grown to adulthood, I am now privileged to work alongside a caring faculty and staff who are genuinely dedicated to preparing every student for college and life. It is a purpose I believe in.

### **WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO GIVE TO ST. DAVID'S?**

Gratitude inspires me to give. St. David's isn't just a school; it's a community that reaches well beyond the classroom and even the years of education. I'm inspired by the lifelong relationships that form here, even in kindergarten . . . the teachers and staff members who pour themselves into work they consider a calling, not just a vocation . . . the supportive network of families and friends and their immeasurable hours of volunteering. I am inspired by St. David's rare and unique commitment to equip students for any post-graduate option by offering excellent academics in a faith-based environment. My greatest inspiration comes from our graduates, as they walk across the stage into the future and then come back to chat about what they are doing with their lives. They are delightful, and they never fail to remind me that the work we begin here has an impact on what lies ahead.

### **WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT AT ST. DAVID'S?**

While I have experienced countless memorable moments at St. David's, the event I cherish most every year is the Veterans Day celebration. It is an annual moment to thank, honor, and remember, and I consider it one of the best things we do. While we have always recognized Veterans Day in our chapel service, the current program began several years after 9/11, when we invited veterans and families to join us. It is humbling to be in the presence of so many men and women who have selflessly placed themselves in harm's way to defend us, our country and many others across the world. As the parent of a veteran, I am grateful to be part of a school community that values and honors those who serve in our armed forces, and I commend St. David's for teaching young men and women the importance of service and sacrifice.

### **HOW HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR GIVING AT WORK OVER THE YEARS?**

Everyone's donation has an impact, no matter the amount. Annual giving has transformed our academic buildings, performing arts spaces, and athletic fields and created a beautiful campus for learning and extracurricular activities. The addition of our chapel and organ has provided our school and the larger community with a sanctuary for music and worship. Generous donations have also funded tuition assistance and costs for faculty professional development as well as instruments, music and many other specific classroom needs. I can't think of an aspect of St. David's that has not been impacted by annual giving. It is essential in order to bridge the gap between tuition income and the total cost of funding an excellent school.