

2023-2024 Annual Report of Giving



A Note from the Head of School

One of my favorite parts of the day is arriving at Walden in the morning. Being here is refreshing and I feel joy in knowing the impact of the pivotal and transitional steps we've taken as a school over the last year.

Pulling into the parking lot, I see the upgrades we've made to the playground area, both on Walden's front lawn and the improvements to Ray Roche Park in partnership with Upper Providence Township.

The new shade structure wouldn't have been possible without the Bid, Sip & Celebrate paddle raise, which covered the cost of the structure and installation. The restructure of the rock pit, used for outdoor learning and sensory play, wouldn't have been possible without the contributions from all of you to our Annual Fund. These contributions create unrestricted funds for capital improvements, curriculum development, faculty and staff retention efforts, and student scholarships. We are so grateful for your support.

Walking into the building, I'm happy to see the liveliness in our lobby as students make their way to their classrooms and are greeted by smiling teachers. The sunlight that casts over our bright and tidy classrooms is so fitting for the sense of joy and accomplishment that our students feel learning here each day.

While you can feel the joy in these walls, last year also marked a bittersweet milestone as we said goodbye to our middle school program. While this change was not without its challenges, it allowed us to focus on strengthening our early childhood and elementary programs, ensuring that they remain the cornerstone of our mission and the heart of what makes Walden unique.

Last year also brought a significant leadership transition at the Board of Trustees level. We thank Daniel Neubert, who concluded his tenure as President of the Board. We are excited to welcome William Daniels as our new president. You can read more about William on the next page. William brings fresh energy and insight to this role, and we look forward to the leadership he will provide as we move into this next chapter.

We want to express our profound appreciation to everyone who has supported Walden over the past year. From our donors and volunteers to our faculty, staff, and families, your generosity and commitment make everything we do possible.

In Friendship,



Bob "Coach" Thomas
Head of School



From the Board of Trustees

Walden has a vibrancy I find so uplifting. I have met with parents, teachers, and people in administration. I have sat in classrooms and watched the interactions between our teachers and their students. As the recently elected president of the board, I find it very exciting to see and hear the energy and enthusiasm that permeates our community.

I was drawn to Walden as my own children went to a Montessori school, from pre-K through elementary, and I served on its board as well. I have a profound regard for the Montessori approach as it fosters confidence, self-reliance, and self-learning.

When asked, "Why did you choose Walden?" a parent told me she chose this school because our environment was so compelling. Which is fantastic because we all collectively make up this environment. As a family dedicated to educating our children, we have created such a positive environment for our children that people want to join us and have their children flourish in our environment.

I am committed to our school, our community, and our future. Because of the strength of our community, we are in a great position to grow and embrace the challenges of the future. Thank you for being a part of this wonderful school and contributing so richly to its success.

William G. Daniels
President, Walden Board of Trustees



Mission & Philosophy

Mission

The Walden School ignites intellectual curiosity and fosters independence in a peaceful, respectful culture.

Philosophy

The Walden School's Montessori based philosophy ensures that all children are successful. Children are led to discover their innate ability to learn, thus building independence, self-confidence, and inner discipline. The Walden School believes in the principles of promoting acceptance and inclusivity, embracing diversity, and inspiring human progress toward peace and harmony.

The Montessori Preschool/Kindergarten is most comprehensively described as freedom in a prepared environment. Following the principles of order, beauty, and simplicity, this environment is prepared with materials designed by Maria Montessori to accommodate each developmental stage. Children learn according to their own periods of interest and readiness. While there is respect for the child's individualism, the environment in which they operate is well structured, providing opportunities for active learning, development of self-discipline, building of self-confidence, and responsible social behavior.

The Walden School's elementary school embraces a guiding philosophy that blends Montessori values with 21st century skills. Students in the elementary school program at Walden are active participants in their learning as teachers consistently create and re-create to individualize instruction in a responsive and respectful classroom community. Children move naturally between independence and inter-dependence as needed and are consistently challenged to achieve their best. Active participation in the community prepares students to participate as critically thinking and caring citizens of the ever-changing world.

The guiding principles of collaboration and peaceful conflict resolution ready Walden students to be leaders in the 21st century. Teaching and learning at Walden is joyful and engaging. Students who graduate are confident, responsible, and love learning.

Summary of Giving

All Gifts to The Walden School

Annual Fund/Designated Gifts for Operations.....	\$73,829
Bid, Sip, & Celebrate 2024.....	\$33,906
EITC/OSTC.....	\$20,500
TOTAL GIFTS.....	\$128,235

Annual Giving 2023-2024, Bid, Sip & Celebrate 2024, & Other Gifts

The Walden School extends its heartfelt thanks to all donors who contributed between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024, to support the many facets of Walden life. A special thank-you goes to those who supported Walden’s Annual Fund and Bid, Sip & Celebrate, which create unrestricted funds that play a vital role in covering critical operations such as faculty salaries and professional development, facility maintenance, and student scholarships. Your generous and spirited support keeps Walden strong—thank you!

GIFTS TO Walden 2023-2024

Mary LeFever’s Circle

\$5,000+

- Jim Epperson  
- The Greck O’Donnell Family Fund 
- Jon & Becca Lock  
- Daniel Neubert  
- The Pentz Family 
- Aaron & Morgan Pride  

The 1967 Club

\$2,500 - \$4,999

- Emily & Drew Bonfiglio 
- Delco Gives Day 
- Michael & Alicia Ferry 
- Sara & Chris Ward 

The Walden Pond

\$2,499 - \$1,000

- Robin & Russell Bonfiglio 
- William Daniels & Martha Sharples  
- Alicia & Michael Ferry 
- ICM America 
- Kirkland & Ellis LLP 
- Elyse & Steve Kirkpatrick  
- Toni McIntosh  
- Aisha & Justin Simmons  
- Eszter Tóth & Janos Tanyi 

Thank you to our EITC/OSTC Donors
 BLOCS (Business Leadership of Catholic Schools)
 GTPHl, LLC
 PA EITC/OSTC Scholarship #2, LLC
 Republic Bank



Annual Giving 2023-2024, Bid, Sip & Celebrate 2024, & Other Gifts con't



"Children's House"

\$500 - \$999

Garden Center Solutions

Kady & Evan Harris

Jessica Kipp

Penny Joines

Michele Quinn LeFever

Merck

Mandy & Charlie Miksit

Pinocchio's Pizza

Jordan & Patrick Prior

Christine Qui & Jian Wang

Sophie & Scott Rindos

Erika & Cory Siegfried

Siegfried Advisory

Allison & Kees van Turnhout

Eve & Scott Welden

Emily Zarek & Jeff Kowalczyk

The Walden Way

\$250 - \$499

Nicole & Juan Almonte

Mary & Joe Bognanno

Café Sphere

Shelley & Ed Cavacini

CDF Orthodontics

Joann Clark

Eldredge Inc.

Maria & Erik Faro

Becky & Paul Fenstermaker

John & Cecile Fenstermaker

Judy & Bob Ferrara

Stephanie Hammonds & Khang Ho

Bridget Hearon & William Irons

Kathy Heupler & Joe Solomon

Elyse Stanger & Winston Hibberd

Christine Johnson

= Annual Fund Supporter

Dr. Kojo Marfo & Dr. Tamara John

Allison & Partheev Shah

Shannon & Kory Swierczek

Denise Spetrino

Carly & Noah Tolson

Eszter Tóth Photography

Victor Strategic Partners

Carolyn & David Weisner

Sandy Bank

\$249 - \$100

The African American Initiative Center

Colleen & Nicholas Allen

Natasha & Leopold Benjamin

Jessica Clark

Luna Shen & Joe Deng

Kim & Scott Fremont

Elizabeth & David Goldstein

Pigeon & Doug Graham

Tori Hoffman

Jenny Huang & Erik Howard

Karen & William Howard

Anushree Doshi & Sechin Jain

Anusha & Abhi Kasinadhuni

Jevon King-Myatt & Andrew Myatt

Virginia & Andrew Lewis

Dorita Maher

Michelle & John Marcello

Gail McDonald

Catherine McGinty

Kim & Chris Murphy

Kristin & Jon Peri

Elizabeth Petrylak

Anne & Eric Stein

Bob Thomas & Caroline Lenel

Abby & Joe Yochim

= Bid, Sip, & Celebrate Supporter

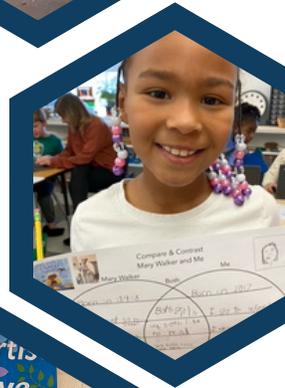
Annual Giving 2023-2024, Bid, Sip & Celebrate 2024, & Other Gifts con't

The Peace Table

<\$100

- Milan Arnold 
- Liana Barranca 
- Alena Bortkiewicz 
- Rebecca Brand 
- Beth Clevenstine & Paul Santoleri 
- Robert Cort 
- Jeanne & Mark D'Amico 
- Nakia Dawkins 
- Charles Dougherty 
- Jenny Dolan & Matt Humberger 
- Lisa Egolf 
- Lindsay Faulstich 
- Kelsi Forman 
- Deborah Gallagher 
- William Georges 
- Donna Goodwin 
- Kate Goodwin 
- Marisa Gorovitz 
- Patrick Hennessy 
- Jenny Jalack & José Vergara 
- Max Joseph 
- Aileen Lainez-Best 
- Haley Kerby 
- Max Kipp 
- Karen & Ken McFadden 

- Kevin O'Donnell 
- Rubin Rath 
- Barb & Jim Roddy 
- Colin Roddy 
- Shay Roddy 
- Stephanie & Anthony Saggio 
- Kayla & Steve Testa 
- Kathy & Jack Swierczek 
- Courtney & Jeff Zemsky 



The Advancement Office has done its best to ensure that the information in this report is accurate. We regret any omissions or errors. Please advise us if our records incorrect. Gifts received after June 30, 2024, will be acknowledged in the next Report of Giving.



The Walden School

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