



St. Michael's Country Day School

2024-25

# Annual Report





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David Bazarsky  
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 Ben Flatgard  
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 Allison Witton, *Chair*  
 Leslie Zaikis



# A Celebration of Community

Looking back on the 2024-25 school year, we could not be more grateful for the extraordinary generosity and support of our community. From the deep partnership each of you brings to your child's education, to the many volunteer hours so thoughtfully led by our Parents Association, to the remarkable generosity of our donors, the commitment to St. Michael's is evident in countless ways. Thank you to every member of our community for supporting our shared mission of developing courageous learners and caring citizens who are world ready.



Support from the Annual Fund, as well as other sources, plays a vital role in making this mission a reality. From our Innovation Lab to our impressive arts and specials programming, Annual Fund contributions ensure that these experiences remain strong and accessible to all students. Because of your generosity, we are able to regularly update programs, invest in research-based best practices across the school, and strengthen teaching and learning. Our recent implementation of a new and innovative reading program, along with professional development for all of our faculty, is one such example. Over the past year, this financial support has also allowed us to provide meaningful professional development for faculty in areas such as social-emotional learning and has helped us sustain our commitment to a community that reflects students and families from across Aquidneck Island and beyond.

One particular highlight of the year was the inspiring outpouring of support through our targeted fundraising campaign to honor our longtime Chief Financial Officer and Business Director, Ted Ferry. The renovation of the Hill House and the dedication of the Ted Ferry Court stand as lasting tributes to years of service on the part of Ted and will provide our students with a fresh and exciting space in which they can perform and compete.

Over the past five years, St. Michael's has experienced a remarkable period of growth and this continued during the 2024-25 school year. During this time, we have broadened our programming, enhanced our facilities, and positioned the school for its next phase of growth and evolution. In the year ahead, we will engage in our accreditation self-study and, in the fall of 2026, welcome a visiting committee whose report will serve as a springboard for our next strategic plan.

None of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our community. While our faculty and staff are the engine that powers our school through their talent, care, and dedication, it is the partnership and generosity of this community that ensures St. Michael's continues to grow, adapt, and thrive in alignment with our mission.

Thank you for all you do to support and sustain our school. We truly could not do it without you.

With sincere gratitude,

Walter Landberg  
Head of School

Susan Seyfarth Lovejoy  
Board Chair



*The value of a St. Michael's education is unlike anything or anywhere else. Students are challenged, yet heard and met where they are at. They respect each other, are kind, and taught how to be responsible and respectful citizens in their community.*

*- SMS Parent*

# A Letter from the President of the SMS Parents Association

As I reflect on my term as the President of the SMS Parents Association for the 2024-25 school year, I had an incredible and memorable experience. It was not possible without the support of the other PA board members Alexa Gold, Amanda Linder, Brian McFarland, EJ Ward, and Lahna Son-Cundy, as well as the class parents and all the incredible volunteers who made the big and little events possible. Collectively, the PA brings the St. Michael's community together, builds relationships among parents across grade levels, and supports faculty in a cohesive yet relaxed atmosphere.

There were many events, big and small, and the start of the year was kicked off with an amazing Welcome Fest filled with fun and laughter that strengthened bonds between families and faculty and brought friends new and old together on campus.

The fall social found us gathered together at the Newport Art Museum for an evening of adult community, connection, and conversation. Stories were shared and art was admired by all. Trunk or Treat was an incredible community event. The Student Council led the way by decorating the bus for a spooktacular haunted bus display.

Parents did an amazing job at decorating the trunks and the costumes were out of this world... literally from another galaxy.

We had a dedicated library volunteer PA group that keeps the library organized and available for all students to check out books or read at school.

The short days of winter are celebrated at Winter Fest ice skating bringing our families together again as a school community.

Among our many community events, one of my personal favorites was bestowing gratitude on our teachers and faculty who bring so much joy to our children every day. Behind the scenes and with the help of volunteers, the PA shared grateful notes and thank you treats throughout the year, culminating in a festive week of appreciation in May.

A heartfelt thank you to the wonderful volunteers who made the PA a success throughout the year. I am humbled to work alongside you. I cherish each and every connection and it is an experience I will always remember.

Laura Wheeler  
Parents Association President





# Class of 2025

## Class of 2025

Venice Allen-Szalno  
 John Baker  
 Niamh Caulfield  
 William Clarke  
 Juliana Daniels  
 Mark Egan  
 Roisin Fitzpatrick  
 Stefan Londoño  
 Amelia Marcaccio  
 Onyka Massey  
 Aubrey McGee  
 Gavin McNally  
 Henry Silva  
 Iana Viveiros  
 Caroline Whitlock  
 Richard "Charlie" Wirtz  
 Grace Witton  
 Nina Woishek  
 Juni Wolfskehl

## The Class of 2025 secondary school acceptances:

Avon Old Farms  
 Bishop Stang  
 Eaglebrook School  
 Fay School  
 Groton School  
 LaSalle Academy  
 Lincoln School  
 Moses Brown School  
 Pomfret School  
 Portsmouth Abbey School  
 Portsmouth High School's CTE Program  
 Prout School  
 Rocky Hill Country Day School  
 St. Andrew's School, Barrington, RI  
 St. Andrew's School, Middletown, DE  
 St. Edward's School, Vero Beach, FL  
 St. George's School  
 Tabor Academy  
 Westminster School  
 Westover School

# Graduation 2025



## 2025 Commencement Speaker Charley Buchanan, Class of 2021

Charley returned to St. Michael's not just as an alum, but also as an inspiring voice for the next generation. A proud graduate of St. Michael's Class of 2021 and graduate of Rogers High School, Charley Buchanan is a true scholar-athlete. During his time at St. Michael's, Charley pushed through his fear of public speaking and grew into a warm, engaging, and charismatic performer. Whether playing Nana and the Crocodile in *Peter Pan* or bringing heart and humor to the lead role of Charlie Brown, Charley cultivated his talent with patience and perseverance. Whenever Charley steps on stage, he doesn't just perform—he makes the audience feel good. But Charley's gifts extend beyond the stage. During his time at Rogers, he played four years of varsity hockey, helping bring home a state championship his sophomore year, and he played two years of lacrosse, winning Division IV state titles in both his sophomore and senior seasons. In the realm of academics, Charley was a member of Key Club, won multiple scholarships at the Rogers High School Honors Night, and, perhaps most impressively, founded the Rogers Writing Club. Charley was inducted into the French, Rhode Island, and National Honor Societies and graduated sixth in his class. It's no surprise that Charley is now pursuing his passion for storytelling as a journalism and communications major at George Washington University.

## Class of 2025 Awards



### The Whitney C. Slade Arts Cup

The Whitney C. Slade Arts Cup is awarded annually to a student for their outstanding contributions to the Arts. **This year's Whitney C. Slade Arts Cup is awarded to Nina May Woishek.**

Nina made her mark across campus through visual art, music, and theater. From hand-drawn cards to campus maps, her creative touch was everywhere—and often met with admiration from peers. A dedicated A Band member and flute section leader, Nina consistently modeled leadership and excellence. On stage, she brought warmth to roles like Mr. Tumnus in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, filled in as an understudy with just 24 hours' notice in *It's a Wonderful Life*, and designed the standout *Alice in Wonderland* t-shirt. Her visual art spans a wide range—from natural materials in her Forest Guardian sculpture to a Monet-inspired skateboard—proving there's no medium Nina can't master.

## Graduation 2025 (cont.)



### **James Green Memorial Cup**

The James Green Memorial Cup is presented annually to the student who best exemplifies the ideals and spirit of St. Michael's Country Day School. **This year's James Green Memorial Award is awarded to Juliana Francesca Daniels.**

Juliana joined the St. Michael's community in 1st grade and, in that time, was a quiet but connected presence. She stood up for friends, was there for classmates, and, with thoughtfulness and dedication, took risks in her academic journey. Juliana displayed the ideals and spirit of St. Michael's by using her voice in connection with her capstone project to raise awareness for a cause that deeply matters to her, inspiring others within our school community.



### **Stanley C. Hughes Memorial Cup**

The Stanley C. Hughes Memorial Cup is presented annually to the student who best exemplifies the mission of St. Michael's Country Day School by demonstrating the ideals of a courageous learner and a caring citizen who is world ready. **This year's Stanley C. Hughes Memorial Cup is awarded to Gavin John McNally.**

Gavin was always invested in his education. Thoughtful and dependable, he always looked out for his peers, offering support and friendship when it was needed most. Gavin was even so courageous as to stage a leg injury to surprise a faculty member with a retirement gift. His kindness and willingness to go the extra mile embody the qualities of someone ready to face the world with purpose and sincerity.



### **The William F. Whitehouse Cup**

The William F. Whitehouse Cup is awarded annually to the student who has maintained the highest grade point average for the year. **This year's William F. Whitehouse Cup is awarded to Caroline M. Whitlock.**

Caroline worked tirelessly to achieve this milestone. Throughout her years at St. Michael's, she approached every task and assignment with full effort and focus, always putting forth her very best effort without giving it a second thought. Caroline should be so proud of what she has accomplished. These qualities of skill and determination will serve her well in high school and beyond.



### **Alan F. Flynn Flag Award**

The Alan F. Flynn Flag Award is presented annually to the student who, in the opinion of the Head of School and faculty, has accepted a position of responsibility and trust within the school and carried out those responsibilities while maintaining a commitment to academic excellence. **This year's Alan F. Flynn Flag Award is presented to Juni C. Wolfskehl.**

Juni could always be counted on to lend a helping hand or do the right thing, no matter the situation. Even with the challenges of a busy academic schedule, she handled her responsibilities with focus and resilience, setting a powerful example for others to follow. Her dedication to all she does is commendable, and it has been noted that, if necessary, Juni could carry a theatre production and come through for the entire cast.



### **The Henry David Thoreau Prize**

The Henry David Thoreau Prize is awarded to a standout student who has contributed significantly to the character, composition, and spirit of the class. **This year's Henry David Thoreau Prize is awarded to both Onyka Massey and Grace Sarah Witton.**

Onyka first came into St. Michael's as a quiet and sometimes hesitant student but, over time, absolutely blossomed and came into her own. Onyka showed us her character as she rose to the challenge of starting fresh in a new place. Not only did she become an integral part of both the classroom community and the school community, but she also built friendships across the grade levels. Always eager to contribute, Onyka regularly volunteered to help lead All School meetings and actively sought out this responsibility.

Grace is a bubbly personality that lights up any room. She, too, joined St. Michael's in middle school and quickly connected with her peers, often showing them care and compassion and looking out for them. Grace worked hard and showed us her grit and determination, all while keeping a cheerful, positive spirit.



### **Clarissa Palmer Volunteer Service Award**

The Clarissa Palmer Volunteer Service Award recognizes those who have given selflessly of time and talent to St. Michael's Country Day School and over many years have helped to move the community in a positive direction. **This year's recipient is Laurie Daniels.**

# 2024-25 Annual Report of Donors

We would like to thank the generous individuals listed on the following pages who supported our school with gifts between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025. Donors contributed over \$515,000 in support of our school this fiscal year, including over \$413,000 to the Annual Fund and over \$102,000 in restricted gifts.

## Founder's Circle

Gifts of \$50,000 or More

Nick and Shelley Schorsch

## Headmaster's Circle of the 1938 Society

Gifts of \$10,000-\$49,999

Christopher and Catherine Abbate

Ida and Mark Aramli & the Aramli Foundation

Anne and George Baker IV/The George F. Baker Trust

David and Carol Bazarsky

Bazarsky Family Foundation

Dory and Dan Benson

Bill and Jackie Egan

The Egan Family Charitable Foundation

Stacy and Erik Gudim

Jennifer Smith Huntley

Oliver and Marni Parker

Robert and Kathleen Qutub Charitable Fund

LeRoy Robert Rauh Charitable Fund

The Harold and Kate Reed Family Foundation

Clay and Emily Rives

Andy and Kelly Salem

Lindsey Schieffelin and Peter Schieffelin '92

van Beuren Charitable Foundation

## The Beech Tree Society

Gifts of \$5,000-\$9,999

Katy and Elijah Duckworth-Schachter

Susan Seyfarth Lovejoy

Sean and Margaret Maloney

Jessica and Larry Phillips

Nick and Indira Schorsch

Sand Dollar Foundation

Trinity Church

## The Portico

Gifts of \$2,500-\$4,999

Brian and Caroline Block

Elizabeth Niemiec and Marc Braunstein

The Hamilton Family Charitable Trust

Mark and Marlena Horan

Amy and Todd Martin

Christina and Jerry McIntyre

Victoria Baker-Harber and Inigo Philbrick

Christine Tellefsen '91

Bridget Pakowski and Aaron Washington

Jedd and Megan Whitlock

Hilary and Mike Wirtz

## Mason House Circle

Gifts of \$1,000-\$2,499

Carolyn Hanigan and Julian Bagirov

Jon and Maureen Barrett

Dave Zader and Abby Benson

Meghedi Isajani and Sako Boghossian

Brennan and Laurie Daniels

Danielle and Will Deines

Heather Pelletier and Greg Gentile

Larry and Anne Glenn

Eric W. Goldman

Jeff and Jan Gordon

Anne and Matt Hamilton

Jane and Bert Lippincott

Lori and Jon Loughborough/The Sella Foundation

Stephanie and Bob Marchand

Christina MacFarland

Charlotte and Paul Marshall

Kerry Hudson and Joe Mation

Jeff and Ashley Melillo

Leslie Zaikis and Michael Mullaney

David and Melanie Niemiec

Daniel and Susan Ogden

Spencer and Danielle Ogden

Lucy Darragh and Mervan Osborne

Charles and Julia Richardson

Tiffany and Chris Ryan

Sloane Schorsch and Robert Spilman

Lahna Son-Cundy and Joseph Tamburo

Nicholas and Jillian Woodworth

## The Balance Club

Gifts of \$500-\$999

Aquidneck Land Trust

Elizabeth and José Cruz

Howard and Lucia Cushing

Ben and Alex Ducas

Ted and Jean Ferry

Alexa and Jason Gold

Mary and James Gribbel

Chris and Liz Hutton

Brigid Rafferty and Jon Jeffreys

Jeff and Karen Jones

Kirsten and Walter Landberg

Neil and Alexandra Marcaccio

Andrew and Anna McLaughlin

Ryan and Caspar Ouvaroff

Luned Palmer '98 and Roz Palmer '01/Robert N. Alfandre Foundation

Julianna Barbieri Piggini  
James and Sheila Powell  
Jessica and Dave Smith  
Pat and Shauna Watterson  
Jeremy and Amy Wintersteen

### **The Blue and White Club**

#### **Gifts of \$250-\$499**

Michael and Karen Abrams  
Caleb and Emily Bush-Brown  
Joe and Lisa Fitzpatrick  
Leslie Jones and Ben Flatgard  
Dr. and Mrs. John Flinton  
Peter and Marianne Gaige  
Stephanie Seider and Jeffrey Judson  
Dev Brumberger and Ryan Juliano  
Henry and Andrea Keene, Jr.  
Joseph W. and Jane Lang  
Dan and Amanda Linder  
Amanda Londoño '91 and Alvaro Londoño  
Shawen Williams and Andrew MacKeith  
Mary McLaughlin  
Jared Henderson and Susie Mitton  
F. Michael and Nancy Palmer  
Debra Prentiss  
Rhodes and Julia Rouse  
SMS students on Giving Tuesday  
Phil Tutino  
John and Laura Wheeler  
Holly and Shawen Williams/The Arthur H. Carr Fund  
Tara Tavares Winston '94 and Ted Winston

### **The Scholar's Club**

#### **Gifts of up to \$249**

Anonymous  
Peter and Blair Alexander  
The Allen Family  
Orion Anderson  
Lars and Alex Apitz  
Cameron and Nichole Appleton  
William and Brenda Ashton, Jr.  
Lockett Ford Ballard, Jr. '60  
Joshua and Rachel Bloom  
Dennis Boyer and Carrie Davis-Boyer  
Mary Boyle  
Patricia Boyle  
Kirtley H. Cameron '87  
Brooke Cardoso  
Jennifer and Josh Carney  
Madeline Carr '23  
Melissa Chafee  
Tommaso Grossi and Talia Chiarelli

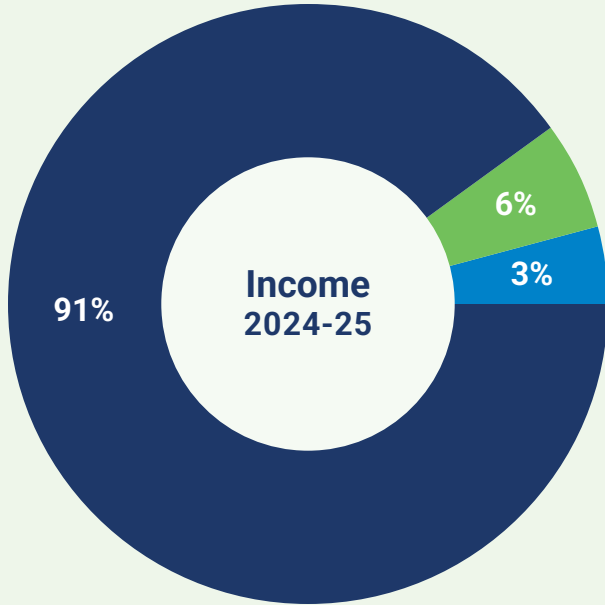
Lee Crane  
Amanda Dair  
Chris and Kaley Davis  
Kerry Dorton  
Julia Driscoll '03 and Sean Driscoll  
Hailey Dubbioso  
Lori and David Dubbioso  
Virginia Buckles and Devon Ducharme  
Jillian and Matthew Emmert  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerard A. Fulham, Jr.  
Ryan and Ali Gainor  
Jennifer and Martin Garabedian  
Allison Gibbons-Watt and Pdraig Gibbons  
Sam and Laura Gillson  
Richard and Terry Grosvenor  
Steven and Katianna Gruppioni  
Kate Standifer and Keith Healey  
Margaux Isom  
Terry Johnson  
Tatiana Kendysch  
Jason and Shana Kneib  
Mike and Rachel Kravchuk  
Joe and Julie Lang  
Kelsey Layfield  
Tony and Mary LoPresti/S&G LoPresti Charitable Fund  
Laura and Jeff MacFarlane  
Jamie Manning  
Ryan and Taylor McCaffrey  
Logan McManus  
Jaxon Melillo  
Irene and George Menas  
Sandy and Wess Merten  
Jane S. Miner '68  
Jennifer Jackson and Travis Montique  
Nate and Kat Oberg  
Chris and Meghan Ollerhead  
Dolev Peleg  
Sarah Perlman  
Meghan Piedmonte  
Major Phillips '20  
Jason and Lauren Ralph  
Kelly and Chris Richards  
Linda and Latimer Spinney  
Deb Tavares  
Cindy Walaski  
EJ and Kristin Ward  
Thomas E. Williamson '58/The Thomas E. and Sharon P. Williamson Fund  
Charlie Winston '24  
Ray and Anna Woishek  
Trip and Christine Wolfskehl  
Sonya Zubair  
Jennie and John Zuerner

*At St. Michael's you get an educational environment that fosters a child that is more well-rounded with social and emotional development beyond just "education."* - SMS Parent

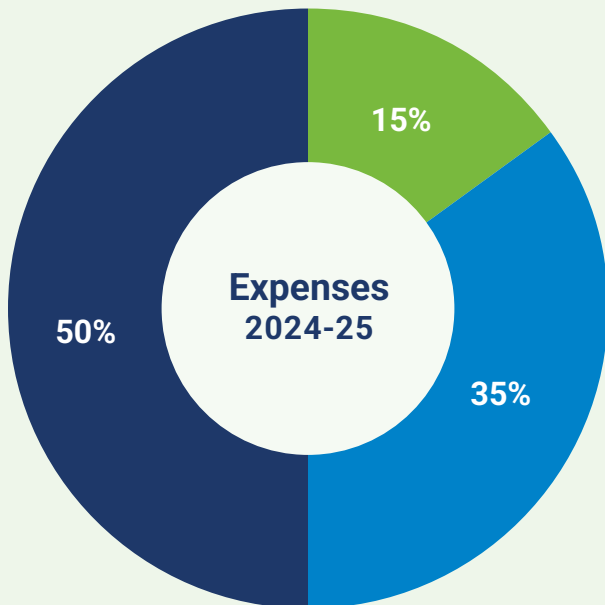


# 2024-25 Financial Statement

Operating Income & Expenses for the year ending June 30, 2025



- Tuition & Fees 91%
- Annual Giving 6%
- Camp & Other Programs 3%



- Salaries & Benefits 50%
- Facilities, Supplies & Other 15%
- Financial Aid 35%

2024-2025

Annual Fund	\$413,259
Restricted Giving	\$102,145
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$515,404</b>

# Restricted Giving

Directed donations are gifts designated to support specific programs or projects that advance the mission and priorities of St. Michael's. Many donors choose to support the Annual Fund while also making a directed gift to areas of particular interest or need.

During the past year, directed contributions played a significant role in strengthening our campus and programs. These gifts supported the theater program, the Canepari Library, scholarships and financial aid, and honored Ted Ferry through the Hill House renovation. We are deeply grateful to the donors listed below for their generosity and for the lasting impact of their investment in our school.

## 2024-25 Restricted Gifts

Anne and George Baker IV/The George F. Baker Trust  
David and Carol Bazarsky  
Bazarsky Family Foundation  
Dory and Dan Benson  
Brian and Caroline Block  
Brennan and Laurie Daniels  
Katy and Elijah Duckworth-Schachter  
The Egan Family Charitable Foundation  
The Hamilton Family Charitable Trust  
Kate Standifer and Keith Healey  
Morgan Huntley  
Susan Seyfarth Lovejoy  
Sean and Margaret Maloney

Kerry Hudson and Joe Matison  
Andrew and Anna McLaughlin  
Jessica and Larry Phillips  
Clay and Emily Rives  
Ben and Vicki Rosenthal  
Nick and Indira Schorsch  
Trinity Church  
Phil Tutino  
EJ and Kristin Ward  
Pat and Shauna Watterson  
John and Laura Wheeler  
Hilary and Mike Wirtz

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# Planned Giving

The **Legacy of Excellence Society** honors those supporters who have chosen to include St. Michael's in their estate plans. By naming St. Michael's in a will or trust, or as a beneficiary of a retirement plan, life insurance policy, or donor-advised fund, Society members demonstrate a deep and lasting commitment to our school's future.

Membership in the **Legacy of Excellence Society** is open to all, and gifts of every size are welcomed. Planned gifts provide essential, long-term support for our remarkable school and help ensure that a St. Michael's education remains accessible for generations to come. Through their generosity and vision, Society members shape the future of St. Michael's by sustaining the students and faculty who bring its mission to life.

Anonymous  
Jefferson G. Burnett '71  
Bethany DiNapoli  
Judith Oliveira\*  
Steven Sitrin  
Elizabeth G. Wylie '54  
\*deceased



*I think the value of a St. Michael's education is in the small class size, the inclusive and diverse student population, and the opportunity for children to try many new things in a safe and supportive environment while being academically challenged.*

- SMS Parent



# Endowment Funds

For the year ending June 30, 2025, the market value of St. Michael's Country Day School's endowment funds totaled \$3,287,423. The following endowment funds are established at St. Michael's Country Day School:

## **The Alumni Fund / The Scholarship Fund**

Funded by various graduating classes, this endowment provides tuition assistance to new and current St. Michael's Country Day School students.

## **The Elizabeth C. Delude Fund**

Established by Elizabeth Delude-Dix to honor her mother and the grandmother of her son Dermot Delude-Dix '01, the earnings from this fund are used to provide ongoing cultural opportunities for the teaching faculty to enhance our students' classroom experience.

## **The Bradford L. Dunn '84 Fund**

Established in memory of Bradford L. Dunn '84 by the Dunn family, this endowment provides funds for faculty to attend conferences and workshops concentrating on differentiated learning. This fund also provides financial assistance to current families whose children are in need of tutoring services.

## **The Faculty Fund**

Established and funded by the Class of 2004, this endowment provides funds in support of faculty, including salaries and professional development opportunities.

## **The McCune Fund**

Established through two anonymous gifts of \$100,000 during the 2006-07 school year, this endowment provides funds in support of financial aid.

## **The Jeffrey L. Gordon Faculty Enrichment Fund**

Established in honor of former Board of Trustees Chair, Jeffrey L. Gordon, this endowment provides funds to enrich the classroom experience through special activities.

## **The Hope H. van Beuren Classroom Maintenance Endowment Fund**

Established by Hope H. van Beuren, former teacher and current Trustee Emerita, this endowment provides funds to maintain and support the van Beuren Classroom Buildings.

# Teach Initiative

Part of the Rhode Island Tax Credit Program  
for Contributions to Scholarship Organizations



St. Michael's  
Country Day School



ROCKY HILL  
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

The Teach Initiative's sole purpose is to grant scholarships to qualified students attending our schools whose families demonstrate need.

In order to participate in the R.I. Tax Credit Scholarship Program, St. Michael's Country Day School and Rocky Hill Country Day School created a separate 501(c)(3) organization whose sole purpose is to grant scholarships to qualified students attending our schools whose families demonstrate need. Our scholarship-granting organization (SGO) is called Teach Initiative. **One hundred percent of any and all contributions made to Teach Initiative will support tuition assistance for our students.**

The Rhode Island Scholarship Tax Credit Program allows R.I. business entities to contribute scholarship support to low-income R.I. students attending approved private or parochial R.I. schools. They do this by designating their contribution to a scholarship-granting organization (SGO).

Rhode Island C-corporations, S-corporations, limited liability partnerships and limited liability corporations, and business entities operating as a pass-through entity, may use the tax credit against income tax filings.

Eligible businesses can choose to make a one- or two-year commitment to the scholarship tax credit program. A one-year commitment results in a 75% tax credit, while a two-year commitment results in a 90% tax credit, with a maximum credit of \$100,000 (therefore, a business can contribute up to \$111,111 per year).





## THANK YOU!

We are grateful to each and every one of our donors for making St. Michael's a priority in your charitable giving this year. The **Annual Fund** remains at the heart of St. Michael's philanthropy, providing the essential support that sustains the daily excellence of our students, faculty, and programs. Annual Fund gifts have a direct and immediate impact on all aspects of our school and support academics, arts, athletics, financial aid, facilities, and campus life. These funds are used to meet our current priorities and provide the flexibility to respond quickly to new opportunities and unexpected needs.

There's only **one** St. Michael's Country Day School and your participation reinforces our collective commitment to providing St. Michael's students with an inspiring and transformative learning environment. We couldn't do this work without you, and we are deeply grateful for your generosity and commitment to our vibrant community.

Scan the QR code below to learn more about giving opportunities at St. Michael's.





St. Michael's Country Day School  
180 Rhode Island Avenue  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

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