2020-2021











A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

There's a famous captain's quote that states "You may not be able to control the wind, but you can direct the sails." And that's just what the Riverview community continues to do each day as we manage the pandemic while pushing forward with innovative and enriching programming.

While we've experienced positive cases of COVID in our community, our protocols have empowered us to keep our school open and our community together. We've prioritized health and safety and the importance of in-person learning and I'm proud to report that we're offering a level of programming that is even more robust than pre-pandemic times. In an environment where many schools are unable to open or stay open due to staff absences or unwillingness to work, Riverview staff's commitment to our mission and our students is extraordinary. The Cohen Center for Fitness and Recreation has certainly been a tremendous addition

that makes so much possible for our students. Our new Wellness Team, in partnership with the residential team, have been instrumental in increasing student activities across campus. Riverview's new Nutrition Center that is scheduled to open in January will empower us to more effectively teach students how to prepare nutritious meals. Our communitybased vocational partners have been fantastic allies, and our students have re-integrated into the community at over 20 community vocational sites. Never pausing on academic instruction, our students did not evidence the academic regression that so many other schools report.

All that said, we certainly acknowledge this was, and still is, a challenging time for everyone. We've never asked more of our families, and have never been more grateful for their support, engagement, and partnership.

The Riverview team has likely never worked harder or demonstrated more creativity. As one parent shared: "Riverview didn't make

excuses; they only brought solutions. This was above and beyond my expectation." I have certainly seen our faculty and staff reaching outside of their comfort zones and digging deep for our students and families. The Riverview Team's dedication is inspiring, and it is humbling. Every day I am impressed with and inspired by their compassion, dedication, talent, and passion. We are united by our belief in students' potential and our commitment to provide the best environment possible for them to maximize that potential. Perhaps one parent summed up the result of our staff's efforts when she wrote. "I have never felt more warmth and caring for my daughter than I have at Riverview. Having her there has truly been a blessing for our family. I wish her whole life could be filled with the kind of love and support she has felt at Riverview."

We modified almost every aspect of our program, designed, and implemented new protocols, and with the assistance of our Medical Advisory Team and Board of Trustees, found the best balance we could between ensuring community safety and continually pushing forward with enriching programming. And our families have seen the results. In an end of year survey, 95% of families agreed that The School effectively managed the pandemic; 90% agreed that overall, the school provided high quality programming in the context of COVID realities.

Despite the pandemic, each of our students ended the school year with greater academic, social, and independent living skills than they had in September, and we continue to build on these achievements. Each of our students are making progress in which they take great pride, and each student is coming closer to realizing his or her potential.

And our community of donors sent a powerful message of support that reverberated throughout the community. We achieved a record-setting Annual Fund that allowed us to double holiday bonuses for staff. The net revenue from our gala was the third best in the school's history and will provide resources for a robust professional development program.

In all of this, we've never had so much appreciation for the power of having our community together. That was probably most evident during last year's graduation weekend when we retroactively celebrated the class of 2020 and honored the class of 2021 with in-person proms and graduations.

But above all, our students were and are amazing! They adapted to all



required protocols, never stopped trying, and never gave up. When they faced adversity, they didn't back down-instead they rose up, remained strong, helped each other, and made sure that they stayed connected to each other and to their Riverview community. I believe this pandemic will be a reference point in their lives: when things get tough in life, and sometimes they will, they can reflect on the strength, flexibility, and grace they showed, and all they did not just to survive or get by... but to thrive. I'm inspired by how our students dealt with disappointment, and how they remained optimistic and respectful throughout the process. Our students demonstrated character strengths that will help them be successful in life. We can all learn a lot from them. As one parent observed: "Despite adjustments required by the pandemic, my daughter still had another wonderful year at Riverview. In addition, the pandemic provided a real-life lesson for my daughter, namely that things don't always go the way we plan them. We need to learn to be flexible, to make changes, and to work with others

with kindness, especially during these challenging situations."

All of us-- students, parents, faculty, Trustees, and donors—are working together to ensure that the Riverview community remains vibrant throughout one of the most challenging times in our school's history.

Thank you for your belief in Riverview, and for joining me and my family by making our school a philanthropic priority. While we remain in uncertain times, thanks to your support, we have confidence that we will be able to "adjust our sails" as necessary to steer our community to safe harbors and a bright future. We are fortunate. We are inspired. We are grateful. And we're poised to meet challenges and maximize opportunities as we strengthen Riverview for future generations of deserving students.

Stewart Miller

Stewart Miller, Head of School



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

It is amazing to know that 2021 is already ending – it was a year of persistence and perseverance - one where we saw the results of our sacrifices and hard work come to fruition.

We began on a high and hopeful note and were able to realize several key initiatives such as our master's degree Partnership with Stonehill College, our Pathways to Independence webinar support series and the much-anticipated grand opening of the Cohen Center for Recreation and Fitness. As we gained our footing in how to safeguard our students in the face of the pandemic, we did not lose sight of our whole child approach. We remained focused on providing a diverse range of educational, social, and wellness-oriented opportunities to our learners.

While we were met with obstacles, we were able to continue to provide an exceptional educational experience for our students and families. I am



especially grateful to our Board of Trustees and School leadership for their unwavering dedication to the Riverview community. Throughout the year we witnessed an amazing level of commitment and collaboration. Collectively we worked together to keep our students safe, our programs operational, and made progress towards our longer-term goals. As a Board, we continue to be inspired by our faculty and staff and their flexibility, creativity, and innovation. We are especially thankful to our families for their continued trust in Riverview to educate their children. We admire and appreciate all they have done to support the School's growth. As for our students,



their adaptability and eagerness to be back on campus motivated us to push forward with our key initiatives. Our student leaders kept us focused and on mission to provide a caring environment that works to instill a lifelong love of learning in each of our students.

Through our collective dedication of time, expertise, resources, and sacrifices we managed to accomplish so much together. This past summer we graduated 34 High School and 22 GROW students. I was thrilled to attend these ceremonies inperson and it was moving to see everyone together again on campus – especially family members who were able to travel across the country and internationally in order to be there for the momentous day.

In June we hosted a tremendously successful virtual Village of Dreams Gala raising a record-high just over \$800,000. It was a remarkable event, and it left a lasting impact on me. I have frequently reflected on the stories shared that night from students and parents underscoring the pivotal role Riverview plays in the lives of the families we serve. As we look forward into 2022, I am confident that we will continue to build on our resiliency as an institution and remain deeply committed to our community and the lives of our families. As always, we are grateful for your support and commitment to Riverview.

Justin Dray

Justin Gray, Chairman of the Board



Why we Dive

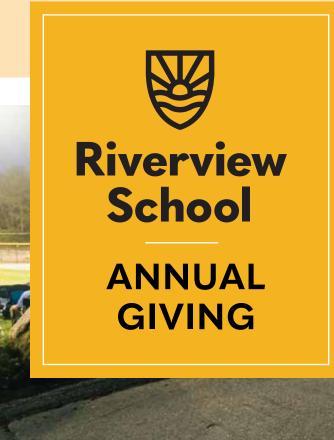
"We give to Riverview to show our sincere appreciation for all that the school and its staff have done for our son, and for our family over these now seven years. The support and growth that Riverview has provided every step of the way, has truly been life changing, and a financial contribution is the very least we can do to demonstrate that gratitude. We



also know that the Annual Fund is a critical and key element in supporting so much that would otherwise not be possible."

Greg & Kit Angland (parents to Miles, GROW I)

With gratitude to those who supported Riverview's Annual Fund and Gala July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021











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Turning Dreams into Reality

An exciting new partnership with Stonehill College

The first cohort of the Master's of Education in Inclusive Education offered by Stonehill College at Riverview began this fall, with six current Riverview employees and five members of the community making up the first group. The six Riverview employees represent four different departments within our school. The impetus behind this new partnership began in May 2020 when all staff were offered a one-time webinar in the very early days of "remote learning." Then Stonehill offered a 7-week "special topics" one-credit class as a pilot program to gauge interest in establishing a partnership. Nearly thirty staff signed up!



A partnership with a college/university has long been a goal of Riverview School. The design is to offer a master's degree program as a major component of efforts to attract, recruit and retain the highest quality staff. Up until this point identifying the correct university and developing a connection has been a challenge. Assistant

Head of School, Dee White, reached out to Elizabeth Stringer Keefe who is the Director of Graduate Teacher Education at Stonehill College. The two had crossed paths earlier in their respective careers at the New England Center for Children. And given that Stonehill's mission and philosophy and Keefe's expertise blended well with Riverview's it seemed that all the pieces were in place.

The intention of the program is to fully fund six Riverview staff to further their professional development and retain them as employees. Interested staff were required to formally apply to Stonehill's graduate program as well as apply for a seat in the Riverview cohort, providing references, a personal statement, and meet employment criteria. The class meets monthly on Saturday and Sunday over the next two years and by all accounts is off to a great start. Riverview teacher Austin Rindfuss, a member of the cohort, remarked "I loved the idea of joining the Stonehill graduate program because of its emphasis on inclusivity. Stonehill has done a great job incorporating the history of education and the direction that it is headed in the future. This has been incredibly beneficial to me as a teacher! Being able to actively apply what I am learning in my classes to my lessons with the students has opened many doors. I also feel as if the focus on inclusivity has helped me incorporate DEIA related topics more efficiently into my work. It has been a rigorous and joyful experience all around and I can't thank Riverview enough for the opportunity!"

With this first cohort of student launched, our goal is repeat this every two years with a new group of students. Of course, none of this would be possible without the generous support of the Riverview community. At the 2021 Village of Dreams Gala (Virtual 2.0), the focus of our Fund-A-Dream was staff professional development and you, like you do every time we ask, made our dreams into a reality. **Thank you!**

Annual Giving Continued

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Alumni Testimonial

Riverview School helped prepare me for many things and remains a major part of my life. Since graduating from Riverview I have had work experience as a frontend Manager and Cashier at Roche Bros. in Mashpee. I have worked at Riverview School for 22 years and have done many jobs. In 1999 right after graduation I was offered a job in the Advancement department. Since then, I now work at reception and help with students travel timing. Mary Beth Thacher and Charlie McNamara were a couple of staff members that I really connected with. Mary Beth understood what we struggled with every day and how we learn. Charlie McNamara was a dorm

parent and advisor in GROW at the time. I really liked his personality and sense of humor. He also came from a big family just like me. My favorite thing about Riverview is the friendships, the teachers and residential life. I am now in the LIFE program in Mashpee and even met my current housemate at Riverview.

- Austin Keane, High School Class of 1997, GROW Class of 1999

Annual Giving Continued

Davis and Jody Brakeley Jim Depasqua Ronald Green

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Welcome to OUR HOUSE!

The Cohen Center reinvigorates health and wellness across campus



The Cohen Center, our new state-of-the-art fitness and recreation building, officially opened on Tuesday March 17, 2021, and though students and staff had to wear masks the joy and the excitement for this new space could not be hidden. Groups entered the building by pods and were given a tour by a member of the Wellness Team. Starting in the expansive lobby the groups moved from one space to the next audibly gasping at the fitness equipment and the gorgeous exercise rooms made just for them! One veteran staff member was immediately overwhelmed upon entering the building. Through tears she remarked, "I can't believe that this is for our Riverview students! I mean this is exactly what they deserve, but...UNBELIEVABLE!"

The excitement walking into the building was only outdone by the sheer joy and energy that emanated from the students and staff after taking the tour. Everyone was waving their commemorative Cohen Center fitness towels and talking about their favorite part of the building as they made their way to the door. It seems the biggest winner was the new gymnasium with our signature rallying cry "Whose House Is This? Our House!" covering the wall. Regardless, it was evident that after waiting over a year for the construction to be completed that everyone was anxious and motivated to get moving!

Certainly the new center was the star of Opening Day, but it has been the addition of staff dedicated to health and wellness that has allowed us to dramatically increase our fitness and recreation programming. Students can now participate in cycling, yoga, basketball, meditation, rock climbing, walking the indoor track, TRX training, strength, and conditioning training, to name a few. Staff have also benefited from fitness classes, meditation sessions and open gym time to reap the health and stress-reducing benefits, which has been crucial over the past year. Wellness Coordinator Tom Black remarked, "Bringing on new staff to go with our new facilities has brought a renewed energy to wellness initiatives and to the overall commitment to health and fitness on campus!"

All of this is made possible thanks in large part to the support of our donors to the Campaign for Wellness.

Thank You! At Riverview we are known to say that we provide world-class programming and facilities for our world-class students. The addition of the Cohen Center certainly allows us to stay true to our word!



Re-imagining Riverview's Virtual Village of Dreams Gala

Creativity and innovation brings the Village of Dreams Gala back to campus



On Friday, May 21st Riverview School hosted its 23rd Annual Village of Dreams Gala and its 2nd Virtual Gala. Taking cues from the evolving landscape Riverview was able to pivot once again skillfully. Instead of filming in a studio, and with the help of our contracted Audio-Visual company; Events United, located in Derry NH the School was able to host and produce the Gala LIVE on campus.

This year's attendees tuned in live via YouTube from the comfort of their homes and were delighted to see the vibrancy of our campus, and the enthusiasm of our students, highlighted front and center for this year's virtual event. Collectively our virtual guests showed their love and support of the school's mission by coming together in a big way to raise over \$800,000!

The goal of this year's Virtual Gala was to make sure the format stayed fresh, innovative, and reflected a celebratory feeling. Riverview kept the faced-paced, fun, and interactive format that kept the Virtual audience so engaged last year, and this year added a staff and student led, in-person and on campus soiree.

The Gala included many silent auction items donated by generous individuals, sponsorships and two exciting raffles. An exceptionally generous donor purchased the school stunning diamond earrings while another extraordinary donor gifted a 2021 Toyota Prius. Raffle tickets sold out and the lucky winners were announced LIVE on stage by Riverview students.







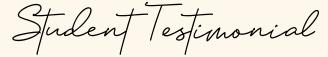


Head of School Stewart Miller got in on the fun with an introduction to the night that highlighted the value lighthearted moments often bring to a community. "Field Reporter" Kate Ayson, beloved Music Director Greg Simpson and Riverview Alumni Max Poses kept viewers updated and involved with the festivities Riverview students were enjoying on Davis Field. Celebrity cameos from Brian Williams and 24K GOLDN popped in with prerecorded video plugs to help celebrate the night all while long-standing Gala Auctioneer, John Terrio resumed his hosting duties.

If you are interested in volunteering or donating items or experiences for the 2022 Gala and auction, please contact Erin Soderstrom at 508-888-0489 x 242 or esoderstrom@riverviewschool.org







I'm extremely honored that you chose me to be a representative. I understand this is a huge honor and I very much appreciate it. I first started at Riverview 5 years ago. Since then I feel that I have really changed for the better. In the beginning I was very shy and closed off to people. Now I'm extremely outgoing and social. What I love most about Riverview is how dedicated their staff are. The staff at Riverview take their time to really get to know and understand everyone, and I mean everyone, and all their needs. They are able to take almost any problem no matter how big or small, and turn them into a solution. I have so many reasons to be grateful for Riverview School. Nothing will ever change that. - Nick Currier, current Senior

Annual Giving Continued

Eric and Kristin Kneedler

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Lisa Koffler and Toby Fidler

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Indu and Gita Muni

Thomas and Barbara Noble

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Paula Popeo and Bob Schilling

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Scott and Kimbra Ramsey

Raytheon Corporate Giving

Riverview School: Making a Mark as A Center for Excellence

A successful lecture series lights the way for a second summer series in 2022!

As our school began to wind down in June, Riverview School was proud to host an 8-week Autism Lecture Series here on our beautiful Cape Cod Campus. This series, in partnership with Pediatric Neurologist Margaret Bauman and David Amaral, Director of the University of California MIND Institute's Autism Center of Excellence, brought together leaders in the field of autism research, education, and innovation.

Each Thursday, throughout the summer, our campus hosted topic specific lectures by global experts in the field of Autism which were free to the public, and recorded for online viewing. Topics included:

- Overview of Autism Dr. Charles Nelson (Harvard, Boston Children's Hospital)
- The Brain-Gut Connection Dr. Tim Buie (Harvard, Boston Children's Hospital)
- Maintaining Healthy Relationships –
 Emily Rothman, ScD (Boston University)

- Technology and Autism Dr. Matthew Goodwin (Northeastern University)
- Transitioning to Adulthood Dr. Julie O'Brien (Lurie Center, Mass General Hospital)
- Epilepsy and Autism Dr. Sarah Spence (Boston Children's Hospital)
- Biomarker Development Dr. Jamie McPartland (Yale Child Studies Center)
- The Future of Autism Research and Treatment Extended Q&A (Dr. David G Amaral & Dr. Margaret Bauman)

This lecture series was open to the general public and free of charge. Attendees included practitioners, parents of children with autism, and educators from across the state. We are eager to grow this lecture series, and plans are already in motion for a 2nd Summer Lecture Series for 2022. To learn more or to view previous lectures, please visit: www.riverviewschool.org/autism. See you this summer!



















Top: Nelson, Buie, Rothman, Goodwin, & O'Brien

Bottom: Spence, McPartland, Amaral & Bauman

Pathways to Independence

A new approach at helping families plan for whats next

Like most things post-COVID, we had to take a new approach to our annual Transition Weekend model and come up with a way to deliver the same great information for parents about what is next for their children after they transition out of Riverview School. This is where our Pathways to Independence Webinar Series was born. Led by Ann Phelan, Transition Specialist at Riverview, we were able to host 15 webinars covering a vast range of topics over the year. The webinars allowed viewers to participate from the comfort of their home where they can easily absorb the information without distractions of a crowded room which came with positive feedback from attendees.

The shift in a one weekend, in-person model to a weekly online webinar allowed Riverview to host a more robust and comprehensive group of speakers. The following topics were covered over the last year:

- Financial Planning James Traylor
- Safety for People with Autism and Developmental Disabilities - Bill Canata
- Navigating Vocational Services through Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission - Aishea Henry MRC
- Navigating the Public Benefits Minefield - Ken Shulman

- Self Advocacy is Important for your Future Dreams and Goals - Gail Delgado
- Navigating the College Search for Students Who Learn Differently -College Panel
- What's Next: Living and Learning Options for Transitioning Adults with Autism and Other Neurodiversities - Denise Resnik
- Health Care Coverage for Adults with Disabilities - Amy Weinstock
- "Thinking About Housing"
 Disability Workshop Cathy Boyle
- Think You Know About Best Buddies? - Molly Whelan
- The Parent Role in Psychiatry -Lance Clawson
- "Sexuality and Developmental Disabilities: A Workshop for Parents and Guardians" - Kathryn Elevatus
- Guardianship/Special Needs Trust and Turning 18 NTK In a Nutshell -Fred Misilo
- Navigating Adult Services with Department of Disability - Victor Hernandez
- The Ins and Outs of Public Benefits
 Maedi Carney

We are looking forward to continuing our online webinar series. For more information visit: riverviewschoolalumni.org or email Ann Phelan at: aphelan@riverviewschool.org

Leslie Reichert Kelly Rigby

Vincent and Tara Ring

Charles Ringel

Dave Ritzow

Jennifer Roberts

Ruth Robin

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Elizabeth Wood

Haig Yaghoobian

Why we Dive

"Riverview profoundly impacts the lives of its students and therefore society as whole through the development of happy, productive, contributing members of society. It is our distinct privilege to be fortunate enough to both experience their curriculum and be able to help support it. The world needs more Riverviews in it."

- Linda & Bruce Ledoux (parents to Colin, 12th Grade)







Endowment

As of June 30, 2021 Riverview School's endowment totaled \$21,153,203 million. The funds are raised primarily in support of four initiatives:

- Establish a dedicated fund to attract and retain highly qualified staff through enhanced compensation and constant professional development
- Provide greater accessibility and diversity through expanded financial assistance to increase Riverview's affordability
- Inaugurate a dedicated fund to expand our job creation and career development programs to help our alumni secure gainful employment and greater personal well-being
- Continue the connection by establishing programs that provide essential resources to alumni and their parents.

CHRIS STURZ MEMORIAL FUND

\$35,841

The fund is named in memory of Chris Sturz who graduated from Riverview in 1992 and then was a member of the staff for many years in the athletics department and food service.

JEANNE PACHECO FUND

\$31,345

The fund is named in honor of Jeanne Pacheco who served Riverview for nearly 30 years, and the last 12 years as Director of Admissions and embodied the true spirit of our School.

WILLIAM GRAY MEMORIAL FUND

\$22,725

The fund is named in memory of William Gray. Williams' son Andrew attended Riverview and graduated in 1997. William's wife Andrea dutifully served on Riverview School's Board of Trustees for many years and their son Justin is in his second year as Chair of the Board of Riverview School.

FOUNDERS LEGACY SOCIETY

The Founders' Legacy Society recognizes and honors supporters who have advised that Riverview School is included in their will or in a trust. We welcome and encourage everyone to consider a planned gift to Riverview as a part of their estate planning and as a statement of perpetual support for the education of young persons with complex learning disabilities. Remembering Riverview in your estate planning will assure a promising tomorrow for those students.

Maureen B. Brenner

Deborah Cowan and Michael Berman

Mary Kay T. Farley

William L. Fortune, Sr.

Barry and Suzan Friedman

Sarah Gamble

Thomas and Nancy Heefner
Richard and Janet Hunter
William M. Janse
Steven and Alissa Korn
Richard Lawrence and Laura Leach
David and Tammy McLean

Kevin Rodman
William and Gail Smythe
Donald and Judith Stubbs

C. Ronald and Barbara Sturz



MIDDLE SCHOOL

John and Karen Moreshead

FRESHMAN

Joseph and Maureen Donovan Adam Elsesser and Martha Siegel Timothy and Jennifer Hunt Thomas and Barbara Noble

SOPHOMORE

Scott Reynolds and Shelley Chen Rachel Kaprielian Michael and Nancy Morrissey Jarrod and Susan Polidori Michael and Rebecca Robichaud Brent and Georgina Segal

JUNIOR

Eric and Christine Austvold
Dean and Christine Blais
Allison Evans-Wood

Andrew and Christine Ferrara
Joseph and Angela Fleming
Susan Glazier
David Greene
Eric and Kristin Kneedler
Bruce and Linda Ledoux
John and Dale McCarthy
David and Melissa Smith
David and Michelle Swaim
Fraser and Shanna Townley Maloit

SENIOR

Greg and Kit Angland
David and Ann Baird
Scott and Dawn Coleman
Stone Coleman
Norma Courville
Ted and Wendy Davis
Rubin and Denise Dhillon
Wayne and Linda Huyard
Robert and Stacey Jackson
David and Lisa Lambert

Josh Malitsky and Anne Brynn
Thomas and Susan Meakem
James and Carlin Moroney
David and Melissa Pucci
Kelly Rigby
Robert and Margot Siegrist
David and Sharon Wilson

GROW I

Leon and Diane Abudaram
Steve and Sue Almy
Amy Brenneman and Brad Silberling
Andrew and Karen Burns
Gabriela Del Buono
Colin and Blaire Farrar
Brian and Toni Franz
Douglas and Lisa Garland
Michael and Leslie Goldberg
David and Jennifer Hoffman
Chris and Pam Horgan
Michael Hughes and
Janice Kelleher-Hughes

Thane and Julie Isaacs
Fritz Klaetke and Susan Battista
Nathan Leibholz and Shannon Floyd
Eric Levine and Mille Dayton
Louis and Hildy Parks
James Whalen and Diane Conley
Stephen and Inga Wronski

GROW II

Chip and Laurie Bevier Robert and Cherise Bransfield Jane Brookins Nicholas Chu and Vivian Fuh Faith Clarke Jennifer Collova Ed Daingerfield and Linda Wolf Edward and Cathy Glas Mark Hunt and Alicia McMurrer-Hunt John and Janet Lucey Sean Mahoney and Sharon Healy-Mahoney Robert and Linda Marakovits Cary and Elyse Pollock Vincent and Tara Ring James and Linda Saffle Cliff and Robin St. George Douglas Grossman and Irene Stukshis

GROW III

James and Shaaron DeBlois
George and Ann Koshivas
James and Patricia Lombardo
Steve and Cathy Lorberbaum
Chris Roche
Deborah Spanierman
and Robert Marshak
David and Hildi Todrin
James and Patricia White







FY20-21 Board of Trustees

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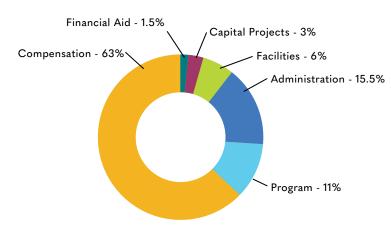
Barbara Sturz

Michael Torpey

Kathleen Yazbak

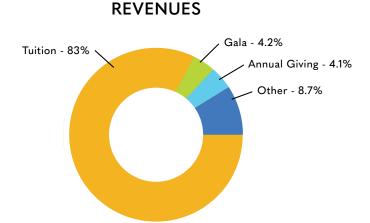


EXPENSES



2020-2021 Operating Budget Summary

FUNDRAISING TOTALS



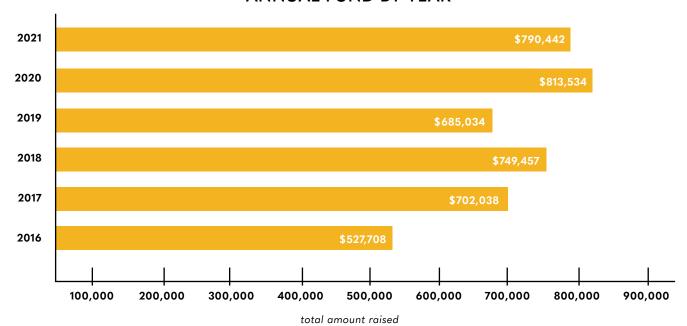
Annual Fund - \$790,442 Special Gifts - \$100,000 Gala - \$802,645

Gala - \$802,645

Endowment - \$643,804 Capital Fundraising - \$1,958,789

Fundraising Total - \$4,295,680

ANNUAL FUND BY YEAR





THIS REPORT IS A PUBLICATION OF:

Riverview School
551 Route 6A • East Sandwich, MA 02537
508-888-0489 • riverviewschool.org

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