

# Celebration of Giving

2021-2022



# Carroll School Mission Statement

Carroll School empowers children with language-based learning differences, such as dyslexia, to become academically skilled students who are strong self-advocates and confident lifelong learners. Carroll is an inclusive community committed to embracing diverse strengths, identities, and lived experiences in order to give each child what they most need to thrive.





# Reflections and gratitude from Dr. Renée Greenfield, Head of School

As I look back on an exciting year at Carroll, I'm grateful for two things that make our community so special: Carroll is a place where people belong, and Carroll is a place where people give.

Belonging is very much at the heart of all we do at Carroll. We welcome students who have felt sidelined as learners, and we offer acceptance, encouragement, and the incredible education they need to thrive. We welcome families who may have struggled to meet their child's unique needs to a warm, inclusive space where they feel understood and seen.

Giving at Carroll is something we do both to build that sense of belonging in our community, and as a response to that sense of belonging—and we give in many different ways.

**We give our time and our service.** From the unparalleled hours our educators spend in professional development to provide our students with everything they need, to the extra hours our Parents' Association puts in to encourage our families and educators, we give time every day at Carroll.

**We give our advocacy.** Everyone at Carroll is passionate—and vocal—about the dyslexic advantage in the lives of our students, and in their potential as leaders, innovators, and changemakers in the world around them.

**We give philanthropically.** Our community is a generous one, with donors who give to



support our programs, our educators, or our capacity to provide financial assistance to families of every background.

As you read the stories we're shining a spotlight on in this Celebration of Giving, please take a moment to think of what it has meant to you to belong to the Carroll community, and the ways in which you have received and given as a part of that community.

My hunch is that you feel just as grateful as I do.

*Renée*

# Message from Devin O'Reilly P '20, Chair of the Board of Trustees



2022 has been an exciting year at Carroll! It's wonderful to see our students, families, faculty, and staff once again experience—face-to-face—the feeling of belonging that permeates each campus.

Like all of you, we came to Carroll because it was the only place our son could get what he needed as a young student. We know firsthand what it feels like to want to help your child but not know how. We were extremely fortunate to find Carroll, where he was able to thrive and find the joy of learning.

This community has profoundly touched our family—and I believe that when you've seen just how much of an impact Carroll has, you can't help but want to be a part of making that transformation possible. Our family gives to Carroll because we know that every dollar makes a difference here in truly changing

lives. I was honored to join the Board and then become Board Chair because I want to help ensure Carroll is here for every child who needs us and to support our amazing faculty and staff achieve this mission.

To that end, I'm thankful that our Head of School, Renée Greenfield, is fostering a culture of giving at Carroll that will help the school "GEC on"—giving in every way we can to strengthen our community, and to support one another and our students. It's a foundation we can build on for years to come.

It's my privilege as we look back to thank you for all of your support in 2022—and all the ways you'll continue to support us in 2023 and beyond.

*Devin*





# Fostering a Welcoming Parent Community



Carroll is a school with a broad geographic reach. This creates challenges for families who want to get to know and spend time with other families—new friends who might live a few towns away, versus down their street.

The Parents' Association helps facilitate these relationships for Carroll families... and helps parents give back to the educators who have changed their lives.

A cow costume.

That's what Caroline Boeckman remembers wearing when she hopped out of her vehicle to greet other parents in the carpool lane at Carroll on an otherwise normal day.

The laughter—and conversation—that ensued is emblematic of the way Caroline sought to engage with other parents after her children came to Carroll, and later as President of the Parents' Association (PA).

The Parents' Association at Carroll School automatically includes every parent who has a child at Carroll, and each member

is encouraged to bring their own unique and valuable personality, passions, and contributions to the community. With families as spread out as they are across different towns—and even states—finding ways to spend time together is critical.

"My children were just six and eight when I moved from our farm in New Hampshire to Concord for my daughter to attend Carroll. She'd been diagnosed with Dyslexia and ADHD at seven, and I soon learned that Carroll was the ideal place for her to be—but I didn't know anyone there, and no one knew us.

I hid at first after we got there, but when I let myself open up, it was exactly what I needed. That's how I knew some of the other parents might just need, well... an unexpected cow to make them smile."

Though all parents are members of the PA, many parents over the years have stepped up to take on important leadership roles. PA presidents gather input from many, but also have the opportunity to share their unique passions and skill set. As well, our PA leaders have done an amazing job of tailoring programs to respond to the changing needs of the community. Jolie

Helmbrecht, Anne Plante, Carol Neville and Erica Benedick were all challenged with building community events remotely during the pandemic. Ultimately, Every PA president brings something unique and special through their leadership, and Caroline is no exception.

Many students and their families cherish Carroll's "Clap Out" tradition on the last day of school, when staff and faculty line the driveway to cheer for them... but they might not know that it was actually Caroline's idea!

In that same way, Caroline Kuhlman brought her passion for diversity and inclusion to the PA, and partnered with Osa Osagie, Carroll's Director of Equity and Inclusion to create the Inclusion Diversity Equity Alliance (IDEA). Stephanie O'Keefe, the current Communications Coordinator and former President, built on that effort to create the Reading About Diversity program (RAD).

For Stephanie, her involvement with the PA felt like a natural progression from her participation in the PTO at her kids' schools in Milton—but with an extra emphasis on community.

"In the town where we live, maybe 60% of the parents are walking their children to school, and everyone lives a few minutes from one another. We have no 'walkers' at Carroll—so helping parents to develop that foundation with one another is so important. From potlucks to Fall Festival, PA events create community, and remind us we're in it together."

Another important facet of the Parents' Association is the way it enables families to thank the faculty and staff at Carroll for all they do to transform students' lives.

Stephanie says, "We can't possibly thank them enough for all they do—but we can give these amazing people something delicious to eat or drink, organize a special surprise that brightens their day, or just tell them every chance we get."

Each year, the PA is strengthened by its new leadership, but it's also a product of the hard work and passion of every parent that has given their time and effort over the years to make Carroll an even more supportive and welcoming community.

**Welcome Ambassadors** **Energy** **Grade-level Family Activities**  
**COFFEE SOCIALS** **Speaker Series**  
**Friendship** **First Week of School Welcome** **CARING COMMUNITY**  
**GRADE-LEVEL PARENT GATHERINGS** **Fall Festival**  
**Supportive Book Fair** **Summer Gatherings for New Families**  
**Community-wide Events** **INCLUSION DIVERSITY EQUITY ALLIANCE (IDEA)** **Volunteers**  
**ADMISSIONS TOUR GUIDES** **Faculty and Staff Appreciation** **Lifelong Bond** **Community Service**





# Exploring Professional Development in Creative—and Unexpected—Ways



The Maureen McGuire Myers Endowment Fund for Faculty Professional Development opens the doors for our faculty to discover all the different things “professional development” can mean.

Maureen McGuire Myers lived a life that seemed to lack a single dull moment.

From her post-collegiate days touring Central and South America presenting American musical comedy, to her prolific career as a lyric soprano, to her adventures on hiking and wilderness canoe trips in Maine and beyond, her energy, good nature, and wit made her the life of any gathering—and she loved to throw a gathering.

At Carroll, Maureen was first known as a devoted parent to Alex Myers '91 and volunteer, and later the President of the

Parents' Association, where she made it her special charge to look after teachers and staff. She joined the Board in 1992 and was a Trustee until 2007. She was always willing to lend a hand for any task that needed doing and was passionate about Carroll's impact.

The Maureen McGuire Myers Endowment Fund for Faculty Professional Development was created by Stewart Myers after Maureen's passing to recognize the transformative impact of Carroll School educators—and in tribute to a trailblazer with an unmatched zest for life and tireless supporter of Carroll.

## Meet Our 2022 Myers Fellows

This year's Myers Fellows are a testament to the broad possibilities of the program. Teresa Lacks, Upper School Counselor, received training at Suffolk University's Center for Restorative Justice, gaining invaluable skills to support Carroll students' social-emotional growth and help build a cohesive community on the Upper School campus.

Dave Johnson, Bounders Instructor, was mentored by Dan Gardoqui of Lead with Nature: an expert in wildlife tracking, bird language, and nature connection.

With a deepened knowledge of nature connection and furthering of skills, Dave is eager to bring the power of nature experiences to his students.

Meghan Shea, Lower School Counselor, attended a comprehensive trauma-informed program in yoga and mindfulness practices for children and youth at Little Flower. Meghan learned new strategies and built her own skills to help Carroll students be available for learning, become more confident, and gain tools to advocate for themselves.



Teresa Lacks



Dave Johnson



Meghan Shea



*Maureen was dedicated to Carroll because it helped our son immensely, because she valued Carroll's mission, and because she made friends at all levels of the organization. She would want to be remembered not by a plaque on the wall or a line in a fundraising report, but by a positive activity that makes Carroll better. That is why I stepped up to contribute to the Fellows Program."*

Stewart Myers • P '91





# Ensuring Our Students See Themselves in Their Teachers

Teachers of Color Fellowship is helping to diversify the education workforce—and to ensure the students in our classrooms see themselves in those who are leading the way.



*I am a proud first-generation student. When I received word about the TOC Fellowship, it was like the world saying, 'If you pass up this opportunity, you will be doing a disservice to so many of your relatives who helped push you through your education'. I am grateful to all who made this happen, and I can't wait to continue my journey into being an educator."*

**Amanda Lewis • Fellowship Recipient**



Carroll School has long been a leader in teacher training, and in providing intensive professional development focused on meeting the needs of students with learning differences. Carroll's mission to equip and support educators doesn't end there, however. We want to make these opportunities not just available, but more inclusive to educators from every race, culture, and background.

Teachers of Color Fellowship plays an important role in achieving this goal by providing two teachers of color with a full scholarship to the Angela Wilkins Program of Graduate Studies in Education at Carroll School.

Haley Blacklow Cormier, the Director of the Angela Wilkins Program, and Carroll's Director of Equity and Inclusion, Osa Osagie, work together to recruit diverse candidates to the Fellowship program, which has welcomed four students since its launch in 2020-21. Each Fellowship covers tuition and Orton-Gillingham training to support their work with students in the classroom.

Valerie Rowe GP '21, a former educator and education advocate, and Dr. Meredith Rowe P '21, the Saul Zaentz Professor of Early Learning and Development at Harvard Graduate School of Education, see the Fellowship as a powerful way to improve classrooms for students of color, and the Rowe Family Foundation is happy to support it.

"There are not enough teachers of color and even fewer who have specialized training in teaching reading. Carroll's TOC Fellowship makes both a priority, and we are happy to be able to support this important program," Valerie says. "I was fortunate to get training in the Orton-Gillingham program when I taught, and it made a significant difference in my approach."

Meredith says, "In my current role as a teacher-educator, I see firsthand the lack of diversity in the field. By supporting this Fellowship, we have an opportunity to help ensure TOCs have access to the high-quality training and certification that will set them

up to be exceptional reading teachers and leaders in their schools."

Renée Greenfield, Head of School, says, "For all kids, particularly for students of color, exposure to teachers of color positively impacts their academic and social/emotional outcomes. We are enormously grateful to the Rowe Family Foundation for helping us meet this critical need."



*The Fellowship has made my desire to go back to school and grow my understanding of literacy and special education a reality. I'm excited to learn more effective ways to teach reading to all students, as well as to internalize the best practices of the Orton-Gillingham approach."*

**Chantei Alves • Fellowship Recipient**





# Opening Doors Through Financial Assistance

The families who join the Carroll community are here because we offer exactly what their child needs. We recognize this need does not take personal finances into account, which can put many families in a tough situation. Financial assistance helps these families bridge the gap and makes Carroll

more broadly accessible, regardless of their ability to pay tuition.

Thank you for helping us provide more financial assistance to deserving families, and ensure we are truly able to give every child what they most need!



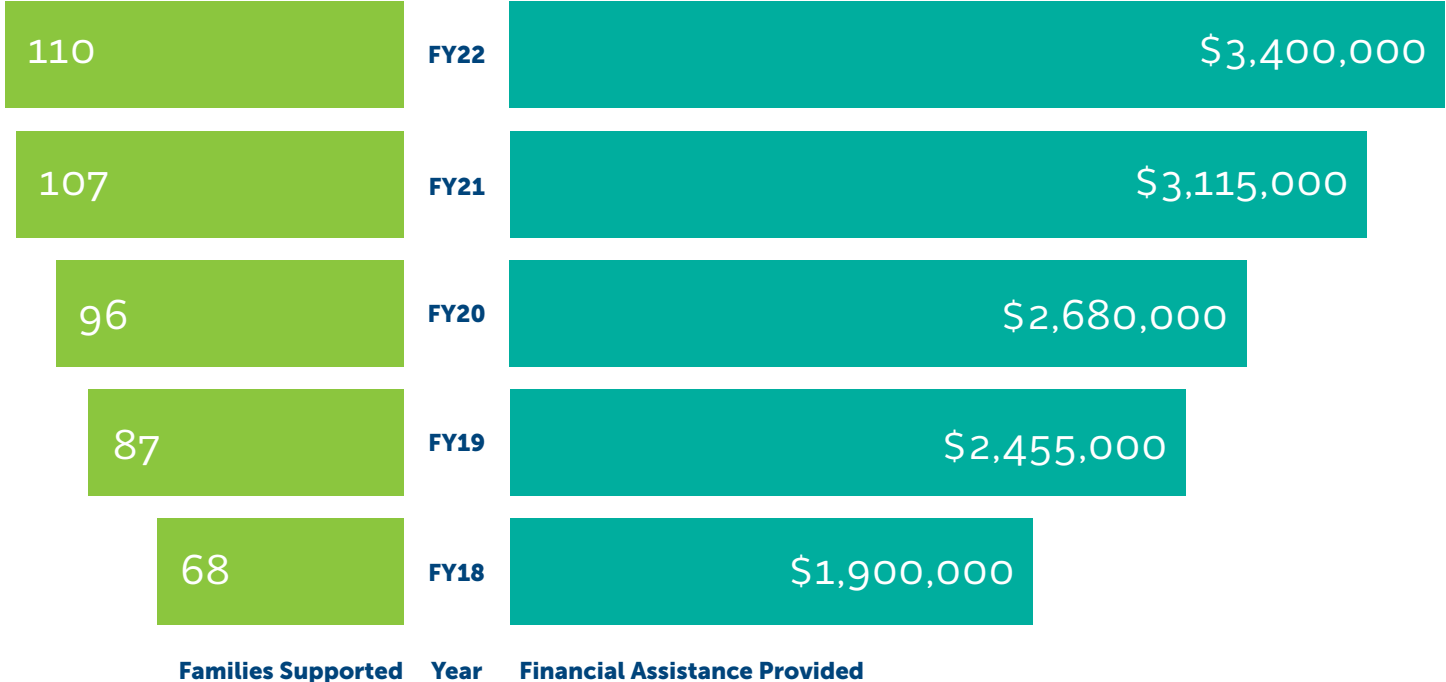
*We are overjoyed that our son is finally in a rich learning environment that meets his needs while also celebrating his gifts! He needs what Carroll so creatively provides in order to reach his potential.*

*Carroll's generous response to our financial aid request has made possible this wonderful step in our son's life and in our journey as a family. We are so grateful for financial assistance. **We deeply appreciate all those whose generosity has opened the road ahead for our son in exciting and hopeful ways.***

**Parents of a new Middle School Student**



## Increasing access, creating opportunities



Families Supported    Year    Financial Assistance Provided





This June, we celebrated the 2021 retirement of former Head of School Steve Wilkins. Parents, alumni, faculty, trustees, family, and friends gathered on the Lincoln campus to share a night of memories, stories, and accolades for Steve and Carroll School.

# An Extraordinary Legacy—and Excitement for the Future

After a program full of great memories, laughter, and maybe even a few tears, Steve addressed the crowd to express gratitude for all the time, effort, and creativity that had gone into planning the celebration, and to share some thoughts of his own.

Of the Wilkins Family Endowed Faculty Fund, he said:

"Raising money for the faculty is the single most important thing this school can do. If we boiled down the essence of what Carroll is... what is immovable at Carroll? Is it the buildings and the campuses? The hawk? What is quintessentially and essentially Carroll? It's the faculty.

We have a moral obligation to make sure that this school has faculty who can look at each child and deliver what they need, and I am so delighted that this community understands that and raises money in honor of my family to support faculty."

Steve also praised his successor, Renée Greenfield, in his remarks: "Carroll draws together

talented people who want to do important things with their lives. I have talked to Renée every week for a year now and Carroll School has hired a really bright, caring, conscientious, Head of School."

Finally, he shared his wish that Carroll would be a school that is accessible to all who need it, regardless of their means or circumstances.



*We also have an obligation to make sure that this type of education, this transformational education, is not limited to a privileged few."*

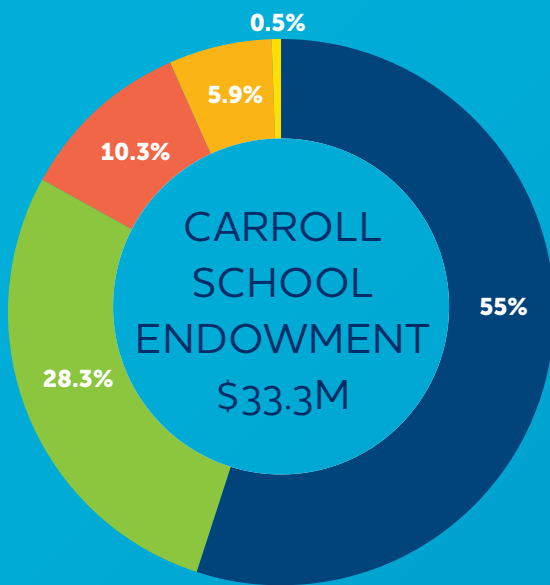
We're thankful we had the opportunity to celebrate one of the most defining members of our community in person, and we thank Steve and Sarah Wilkins for all they have done and continue to do for Carroll.



# Celebrating Your Impact At-A-Glance

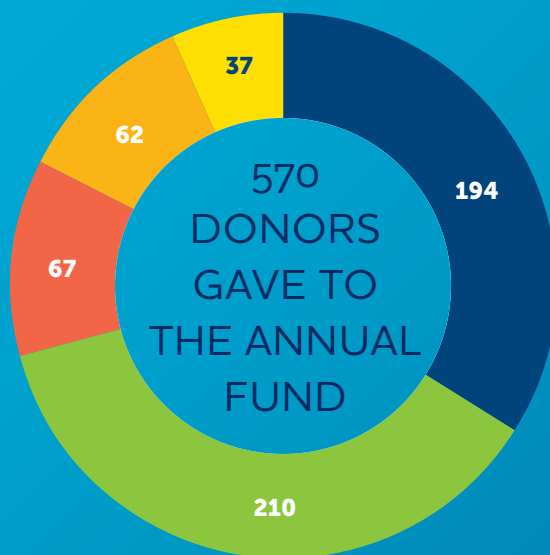
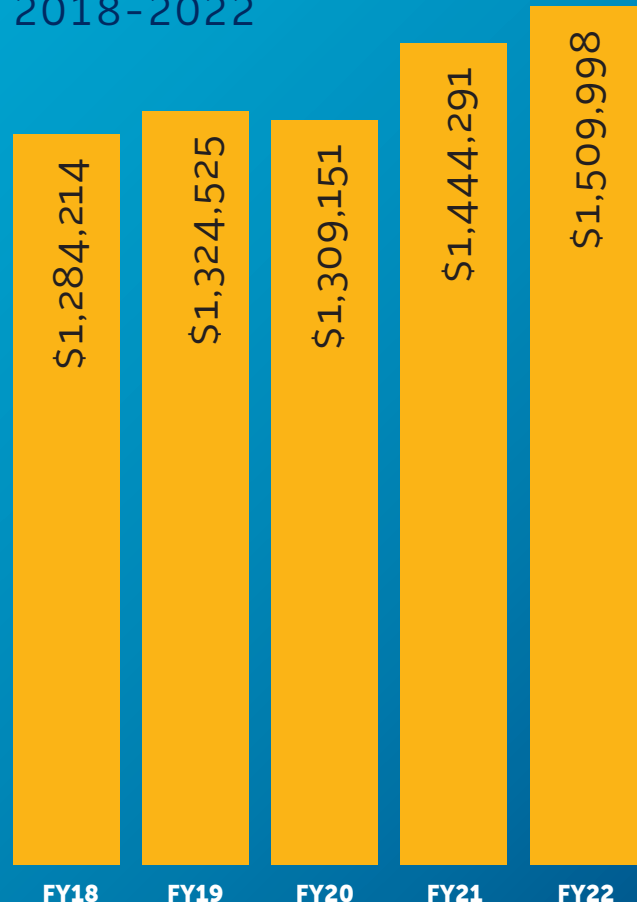
# \$2,165,982

TOTAL NEW GIFTS AND PLEDGES IN 2021-2022



- General
- Educators
- Financial Assistance
- Targeted Cognitive Intervention (TCI)
- Other

ANNUAL FUND GROWTH 2018-2022



- Current Parents
- Alumni Parents
- Friends
- Grandparents
- Alumni



Unlike other schools in greater Boston, Carroll is not simply one option among many. For most of our families and students, we are the only viable choice. We provide a unique, data-driven education that gives each child what they most need.

Every gift to Carroll School—of time and service, of advocacy, of philanthropic support through the Annual Fund or a specific initiative—ensures that this singular school continues to thrive.

Thank you for all you do to help us achieve our mission.





# CARROLL

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Wayland, Massachusetts 01778



## **Lower School**

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Waltham, MA 02451

## **Middle School**

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## **Upper School**

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