



THE
SOUTHPORT
SCHOOL

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024



Executive Director Update

Dear Families and Friends,

Reflecting on the past year, I am deeply moved by your unwavering support for our school. Your commitment has empowered us to provide transformative learning – which extends beyond academics and embraces personal growth and self discovery – and helps our students see themselves and their potential in new ways. We achieve this in safe and comfortable spaces, a nurturing environment with the guidance of compassionate, expertly trained teachers, and the power of an engaged community.

Your support of our “Raise the Roof” spring gala – which returned last year after a five year hiatus – helped us move forward with crucial repairs to the roof of our historic main building. Last year, we also designed and launched a new website and a family portal that has enhanced student privacy and data security and improved our internal efficiency and user experience. Greater access to digital content reduces printed materials and associated costs and supports our environmental goals.

Your gifts to the Annual Fund honored our educators and exceeded our goal! They empowered us to recruit new talent and provide intensive training in The Responsive Classroom and The Writing Revolution. These science backed programs are now integrated into our curriculum, fostering our students’ academic, critical thinking, and social growth – all essential components of our transformative learning experience.

The 2024 Annual Report, which I am proud to present, outlines the impact of your generosity, featuring contributions from 290 donors and highlighting the collective achievements that have strengthened our community and advanced our commitment to educational excellence.

Thank you for your continued involvement, trust, and support. We are grateful for your partnership in fostering a community where excellence thrives. That motivates us to lead boldly in the field of learning differences and inspires us to advance our shared mission.

Warm regards,

Dr. Benjamin N. Powers
Executive Director

Current Leadership

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Benjamin N. Powers

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Hallie A. Buckingham, Associate Head of School for Student Engagement, Student Advisor

Dr. Kathleen Gallagher, Associate Head of School for Administration, Student Advisor

Audra Hoag, Director, Lower School; Department Head, Writing; Assistant Director, Summer Academic Program; Student Advisor

Maggie Macari, Chief Financial & Operating Officer

Julie Papp, Director, Upper School; Department Head, Social Studies/ Science; Student Advisor

Sharon Plante, Chief Technology Integrator, Student Advisor

Jeffrey Ruggiero, Associate Head of School for Academics

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Samantha Berg, Director, Student Enrollment Management

Julie Ceja, Accounting Manager

Theresa Collins, Fellow, Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators; Director, Orton-Gillingham Academy Training & Instruction; Tutorial Director

Alexis Czeterko, Project Manager, The Southport CoLAB

Tori Danton, School Programs Coordinator

Isabelle Engelson, Executive Assistant

Kate Haft, Director, Development

Jodi Hanna, Front Office Administrator, Alum Parent

Meghan LaMonica, School Counselor, Student Advisor

Kirk Melhuish, IT Technical Support Coordinator

Patty O’Brien, Database Specialist

Kristi Parisi, Business Manager

Christine Restrepo, Director, Marketing & Communications

Cadia Wiley, School Counselor, Student Advisor

OPERATIONS

Kolbe Duffy, Kitchen Support

Rick Fedeli, Facilities Support

Mario Fiallo, Director, Facilities

Peggy Lewis, Chef

Jimmy O’Hara, Facilities Manager

FACULTY

Aline Anderson

Kari Anderson

Stacey Angelico

Megan Aversano

Justin Behn

Karin Bowman

Melissa Brown

James Bruce

Sarah Crupi, Art Director

Carrie Curtin

Brandon DeMunnik, Student Advisor

Pamela Drought

Christine Filep

Janine Forry, Department Head, Literature; Student Advisor

Jeannine Gallagher, Alum Parent

Ashley Halkowicz

Melanie Higgins

Erin Johnson

Melissa Kinyon, C.C.C./SLP, Speech-Language Pathologist

Catherine Morris, Physical Education Director

Taylor Myers

Talya Oral

Joanna Quinn, Alum Parent

John Robbins, Director, Summer Academic Program; Student Advisor

Shelbey Roy

Kim Ruggiero, Department Head, Math

Kylie Ryan

Julia Santala

Marisa Scott

Monica Woods

Elizabeth Zobel

The Southport School

We Are Sea Dogs!

Last year, our school community embraced the Sea Dog as our new mascot, and we introduced you to Schooner. Schooner is a legendary Sea Dog celebrated for his exceptional navigational skills. A seasoned mariner, he has sailed the vast oceans and weathered storms with unwavering courage and determination. Schooner embodies the name and spirit of the swift, versatile sailing vessels that once dominated Southport's waters. Like our students and alums, he represents the cherished qualities of these classic ships: strength, agility, and versatility.

Standing on all fours, Schooner symbolizes tradition, exploration, and leadership. His adventurous spirit reflects our students' adaptability and resilience, equipping them to face future challenges with the same bravery he demonstrated at sea.

Schooner inspires our students, encouraging them to sail confidently into the vast seas of their potential. He motivates them to navigate and thrive through the ever changing conditions of their learning journeys, just as he once did on the waters of the Atlantic and beyond.

Go Sea Dogs!



2023 – 2025 Board of Directors

CHAIR

Virginia Cargill, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS

- Ellen Ringel Boyle
- Jim Bradley
- Colleen Brandon, Alum Parent
- George Clark, Jr.
- Mark Connelly, Alum Parent
- Bob DiSabato, Alum Parent
- Dick Ferguson, Alum Parent
- T. Hoffman, Jr.
- David Holtze, Alum Parent
- Karen Jeffers
- Stephanie Turnier Mitchell, Alum Parent
- Nathaniel Mundy, Alum T '91
- Andree Palmgren, Alum Parent
- Jill Pengue, Alum Parent
- Dr. Benjamin N. Powers
- Paul Quinsee, Alum Parent
- Sue Roberts
- Susan Smith Ellis
- Jim Vose
- Amy Watson

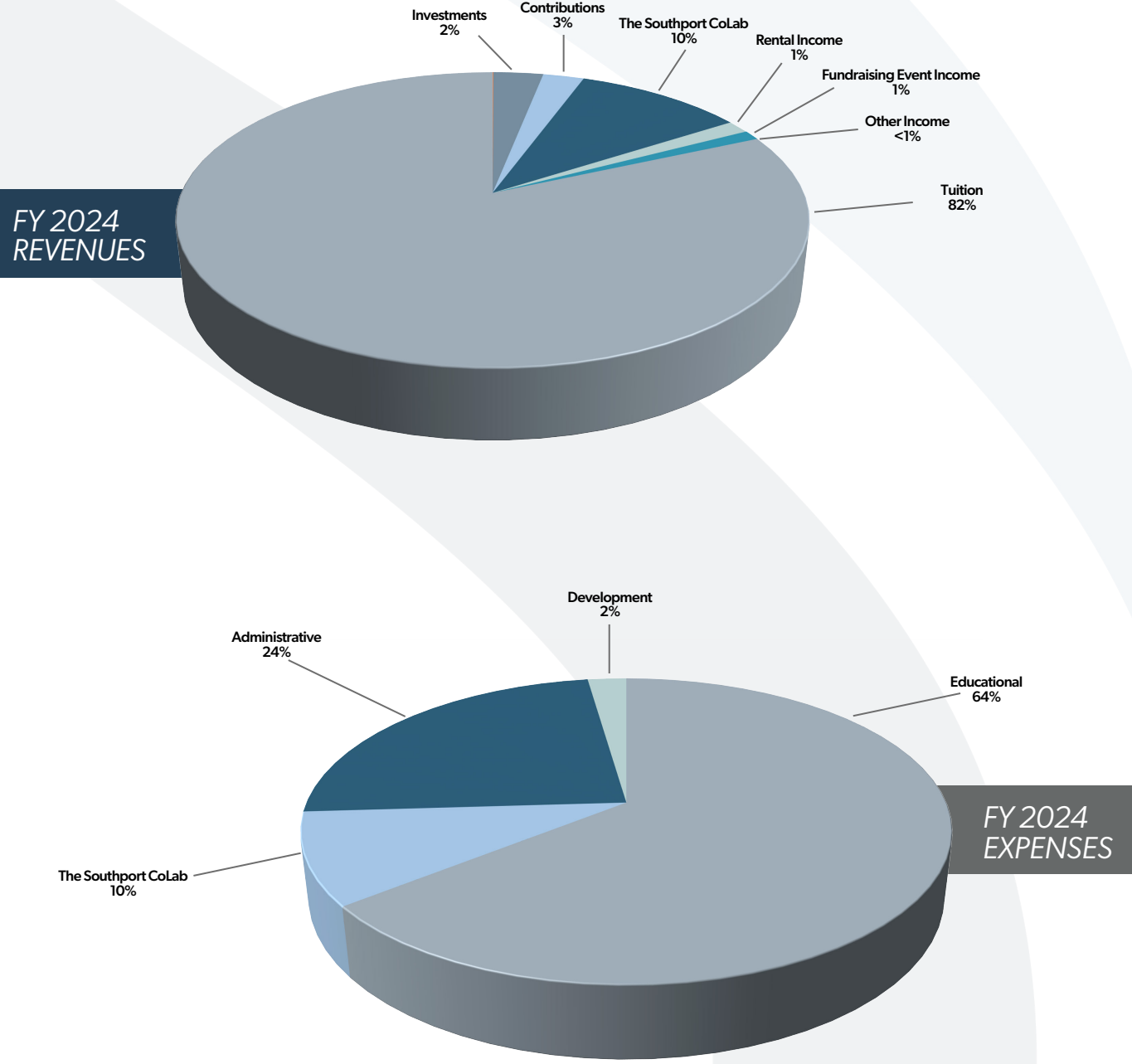
DIRECTORS EMERITI

- Janet Brogan, Alum Parent
- Barbara Evans
- Lawrence Hughes
- Michael F. LaPorta
- Hugh R. Smith, Alum Grandparent
- Janet L. Steinmayer, Alum Parent
- Robert W. Wright
- Mrs. F. Henry Berlin, 1920-1995
- Stephen D. Colhoun, 1921-1991
- Walter S. Robbins, 1928-2016
- John D. Upton, 1909-2005
- Frank P. Wendt, 1925-2018
- Patricia Willett , 1940-2023



Financials Fiscal Year 2024

September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024



The Southport School, Inc. Statement of Activities For the Years Ended August 31, 2024 and 2023

	FY 2024 Total	FY 2023 Total
Revenues, Gains and Other Support		
Tuition and Fees	\$8,789,423.65	\$8,055,874.34
Financial Aid	\$(597,855.00)	\$(558,035.00)
Net Tuition Revenue	\$8,191,568.65	\$7,497,839.34
Contributions, Net	\$304,992.23	\$289,067.21
Investment Return Utilized for Operations	\$249,946.00	\$251,112.00
Fundraising Event Income, Net	\$106,569.66	-
CoLAB Revenue	\$517,788.55	\$779,296.50
CoLAB Contributions	\$515,217.00	\$37,500.00
Rental Income	\$140,344.00	\$31,724.00
Other Income	\$4,387.77	\$5,815.25
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	\$10,030,813.86	\$8,892,354.30
Expenses		
Program Services:		
Primary Instructional Programs	\$6,200,271.00	\$5,726,051.00
CoLAB Instructional Program	\$938,341.00	\$836,119.00
Supporting Services:		
General and Administrative	\$2,280,340.00	\$1,529,746.00
Development	\$221,167.00	\$293,750.00
Total Expenses	\$9,640,119.00	\$8,385,666.00
Change in Net Assets from Operating Activities	\$390,694.86	\$506,688.30
Depreciation	\$(378,697.00)	\$(275,310.00)
Change in Net Assets from Operating Activities	\$11,997.86	\$231,378.30
Restricted Contributions, Net	\$40,421.00	\$82,719.00
Investment Return, Net	\$967,064.00	\$667,726.00
Investment Return Utilized for Operations	\$(249,946.00)	\$(251,112.00)
Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	-	\$(12,383.00)
Total Other Changes	\$757,539.00	\$486,950.00
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$769,536.00	\$718,328.00
Net Assets at Beginning of the Year	\$11,882,074.00	\$11,163,746.00
Net Assets at the End of Year	\$12,651,610.00	\$11,882,074.00

FY 2024 All Annual Giving

Thank you to all our donors for your generous support of The Southport School and The Southport CoLAB. Together, we provide transformative education experiences and thought leadership that have a lifelong impact on students. Thank you!

\$500,000 or more

The Rhimes Foundation

\$25,000 - \$50,000

Anonymous (2)
Colleen and Joseph Brandon
Quinsee Family Foundation
Marissa and Richard Ferguson

\$20,000 - \$24,999

Virginia K. Cargill
The Connelly Family, in memory of
Jennifer Connelly
Mary and David Holtze

\$15K - \$19,999

Stephanie and Todd Mitchell
Leonard Tavormina

\$10K - \$14,999

Mr. and Mrs. Michael F. LaPorta
Amy Watson and Casey Mulqueen

\$5K - \$9,999

Sandra and Douglas Bisset
Mr. and Mrs. George Clark, Jr.
Christina and Bob DiSabato
Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Doocy
Deborah and Geoffrey Erickson
Karen Jeffers and Dick Worth
Dana and Brian Lawlor
Jill and Michael Pengue
Michelle-Lee and Justin Rabinowitz
Lauren and Brian Schiller
Southport Congregational Church
Tikkun Olam Steinberg Foundation
Wilmot Wheeler Foundation

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Mr. Frank S. Beckerer, Jr.,
The Beckerer Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Bondy
Barbara and James Bradley
Jessica and Colin Christ
Fernandes Family Foundation
Sarah Gomez and Ryan MacDonald
Anna and Michael Janis
JJK Foundation
Adam and Phyllis Kurzer Family Fund
Mitchells of Westport
Heidi Palmer and Robert Kruger
Andree and Karl Palmgren
Eleanor and David Sylvestro
Whitney and James Vose
Annick Winokur and Peter Gilbert

\$1K - \$2,499

Anne E. Fowler, Inc.
Candace and Thomas Banks
Samuel Baughn
Dina and Paul Berger, in honor
of our granddaughter, Lily Moyn
Ellen and Edward Boyle
Janet and Christopher Brogan
Dr. Hallie A. Buckingham and
Mr. William Buckingham
C.E. Floyd Company, Inc.
Liz and Steve Chbosky
Mr. and Mrs. James Donaher
Susan and John Ellis
Edith and David Faile
Belen and Christian Ferreira
Stephanie B. Frost and Morgan Frost T’13
The Gerry Family Foundation
Carol and Edward Glassmeyer
Lauren and Andrew Goldberg
Joshua Harkey

HK Motorcars, LLC
Marc Hoffman
Erin and Thomas Kanter
Land Rover Fairfield
Susan and David Leibowits
M&T Bank
Sharon and Brian Miles
Corey and Robert Miller
The MN Fund
Nathaniel Mundy T’91
Pequot Running Club, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin N. Powers
David Reckin
Ring’s End
Sue Roberts
The Rosella Family
Kira and Patrick Saunders
Dafina and Ryan Smith
Janet L. Steinmayer, Alum Parent
The Russell Agency, LLC
Superpower Mentors
Joanna and Matthew Walsh
Katherine and Justin Wingate
Lori and Stephen Wyckoff

\$500 - \$999

Jennifer Anderson
Andrea and Michael McGee
Ilyssa and Jacob Axel
Deborah and Lawrence Berliner
Tyler and Cris Constanda
Deborah and Robert Criscuolo
Kieran and Stéphane DiTullio
Dr. Kathleen Gallagher and
Mr. Kenneth Gallagher
Amy and JT Giudice
Jane and Shedd Glassmeyer
Meredith and David Kamo
Adrienne and Thomas Keller

Maria and Andrew Livesay
Maggie and Tony Macari
Sabrina and Whitney Matthews
Leo Moscato
Brooke and Robert Mountain
Mr. David I. Newton
Rachel Green and Cyrus Nozad
Lynne and Richard A. Openshaw, Jr.
Jeanine and Robert Pellicci
Sharon and Philip Plante
Joanna Quinn
Russell Rigsbee and Chris Pilder
Jane Ross
Georgina and Robert Sackstein
Sasquanaug Association
Mandi Schmauch
Megan and Mike Seff
Amanda and Anant Singh
Hugh and Sally Smith
Karin and Michael Wichman

Under \$500

Aline Anderson
Kari Anderson
Stacey Angelico
Kathryn Atilho
Megan and Jeff Aversano
Jennifer and Brian Baldwin
Cynthia and Richard Bebon
Tiffany and Justin Behn
Victoria Benoit and William Ackley
Samantha Berg
Patricia and Stanley Bernard
Jennifer and Eric Bernheim
Emily Bernstein and Noam Paransky
Marian and William Blair
Karin Bowman
Cathy and William Breck
Melissa and Michael Brown
Dean T. Brown
James Bruce
Angel and Seila Bruno

Meghan Calhoun and
Chris Pousette-Dart
Sandra and Darin Callahan
Cheré Campbell
Cathryn Carrington
Patricia Carrington
Diana Carroll
Cynthia and Richard Cartier
Julie Ceja
Tricia Ciminera
CLA Connect
Candace Clinger and Robert T. Perry
Katie and George Coleman
Theresa Collins and Jamie Martin
Jennifer Labbadia-Colon
and Adam Colon
Ann and Alfred Cook
Sarah and Joe Crupi
Katie and Christopher Cunningham
Karen and Thomas Curtin
Carrie Curtin
Alexis Czeterko
Loretta and Steven Dalglish
Nell Daly and Kurt von Holzhausen
Fran and Lawrence Danter
Lynette and Robert Darken

David G. Dean
Emily and Christopher DeCruze
Brandon DeMunnik
Amanda and Jonathan Dillon
Kristin and Thomas Dolan
Joanne and John Dowling
Pamela Dixon Drought
Kristin DuCharme
Kate and Tom Elles
Alicia Estella and Sarabjit Bhatia
Rick Fedeli
Mario and Jenny Fiallo
Christine Filep
Katherine Filush
Stephen Forneris
Janine and Christopher Forry
Jeannine and Kevin Gallagher
Barbara Grant
Katherine and Scott Greenberg
Jamie and Carter Grempe
Kate and Jesse Haft
Caroline and Peter Hahn
Jodi and Mark Hanna
Tory and Joby Harold
Robert and Julie Haroun,
SIR Development



FY 2024 All Annual Giving

continued

Under \$500 continued

Thomas Healy
Alissa Heizler-Mendoza and Michael Mendoza
Art Hensel
Melanie Higgins
Nancy Hislop
Audra Hoag
Barbara and Dan Holzer
Terri Humphrey
Donna and Jonathan Jackson
Laura Jayson and Edward Waters
Erin Johnson
Lauren Jones
Patrizia Jonker
Elizabeth and Drew Kaliski
Christine and Dennis Karjanis
Lori and Imad Khoury
Betsy and Christopher Kilmartin
Julia and Timothy LaBant
Joann Lallier
Meghan LaMonica
Meredith and William Landis
Gena Lennon-Gomez and Jason Gomez
Diana and Kevin Leung
Madeline and Ken Macanka
Charlie and Pattie MacDonald
Jessica and Patricio Maldonado
Julie and Robert Marty
Lisa McComb-Williams and Ira Williams
Dr. Heather Elisabeth McKee and Mr. Chris Joseph Van Oosterhout
Kristin McNamara and John Comer
MetLife
Marcy and Emanuel Minnick
Gina A. Pasquini and Barry S. Moller
Danielle and Scott Morgan
Kristine Moschetta
Dr. Mary Murphy
Taylor Myers
Alex Novak
Patty and Keith O’Brien
Lorelei O’Hagan and Michael Strange

Talya Oral
Kimberley Zolvik and Cyril Ortigosa-Liaz
Cindy and Maury Pages
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Palmisano
Julie Papp
Daniel and Kristi Parisi
Michele and Scot Parnell
Sheila Pitchenik and Charles Simon
Patti Provoost and Michael Goodrich
Dr. Kenneth Pugh
Kristin Rainville and Joseph DeSabia
Christine and Luis Restrepo
Right Media Solutions
Barbara and John Robbins
Shannon and Michael Roe
Kelsey and Christopher Rollinson
Stephanie and Michael Rooney
Joanne and Terence Rooney
Barbara and Zachary Rosen
Shelbey Roy
Jill and James Ruane
Kimberly and Jeffrey Ruggiero
Karly Rust
Megan and Greg Rutstein
Kylie Ryan
Julia Santala
Sasco River Center
McKinne Dunn and Todd Schlachter
Suzanne and Craig Schwegel
Abigail Scott
Marisa Scott
Servicemaster of Westport
Dr. David Sices
Susan Lambrecht Smith
Laurie Strazza
Deborah Sylvestro
Joel C. Thompson
Celeste and Jay Tini
Brittany Tolman
Joyce and Ronald Tracey
Kristin Veneziano

Meredith Voges-Miller and Matthew Miller
Mr. and Mrs. D.G. Warner
Melissa and Daniel Welby
Leahkay and James White
Cadia Wiley and Sean Whalen
Clorasteen Wilson and Garrett Gobillot
Monica Woods
Elizabeth Zobel

In Kind Gifts

Belen’s Beauty Boutique
Bow Wow Barber: Mobile Pet Grooming
Claudia Couture Homes, LLC
Community Shellfish
Earth Animal
The Home Cook
The Home Depot, Fairfield #6206
The Inn at Longshore
JL Rocks Fine Jewelry
Kasson Jewelers
Peggy Lewis
NicholsMD of Fairfield
The Pigué Family
Rowayton Market
SALON dada
Sarah Sadie Newett
Total Wine & More
Denise Regan
Shakespeare on the Sound



The Southport School Stone Snake

Each donation to the 2023/2024 Annual Fund was commemorated with a stone, painted by our students, and inscribed with our donors’ chosen names or words. These stones were laid end to end to form The Southport School Stone Snake, symbolizing our community’s enduring strength and unity. Each stone represented a foundational block in our shared educational journey. Colorfully winding in front of our campus during the school year, this display vividly illustrated how individual contributions collectively forge a robust and continuous support system at the heart of our school community. Today, these stones are displayed across our campus, serving as lasting reminders of the enduring support that propels our educational mission forward.



The Southport CoLAB

The Southport CoLAB provides evidence based training to educators and families through a collaborative, research driven approach. Through its unique partnership with The Southport School, it bridges the gap between groundbreaking research and practical application in the school’s classrooms. The result is actionable, evidence based professional development for educators.

In 2024, with the support of visionary donors and the addition of key staff, The Southport CoLAB expanded its reach, impacting nearly 7,800 more students and engaging 83% more teachers than the previous year. Key accomplishments included launching a Professional Learning Portal, enhancing program content, scaling operations with new technology, and increasing community outreach and advocacy by providing access to free training for underserved communities, the Community Lecture Series, and reading screenings.

Raise The Roof

Since 1984, The Southport Conservancy has entrusted The Southport School to maintain our historic primary academic building, where generations of children have spent their days learning under its cupola and green tile roof.

In March 2024, we began fundraising for the much needed renovation of the building’s roof with the *Raise the Roof* gala. Our community’s response was outstanding. Funds and scaffolding were raised, and we initiated a two phase restoration of our historic main building’s roof in June. Phase one repaired the flat sections of the roof; phase two will replace the green ceramic tiles with historically accurate replacements from Ludowici, the original tile provider – 106 years ago!

Generous donor support of our *Raise the Roof* campaign ensured that repairs will preserve the historic integrity and craftsmanship of our beloved building, ensuring it protects future learners – and our village school – for years to come.



Corporate Donations, Endowments, Matching Gifts and Grants, Planned and Estate Giving

The Stephen Sylvestro Scholarship Fund

In memory of Stephen Sylvestro, TSS Faculty 1985 - 2015

General Endowment Fund

Unrestricted gifts.

Financial Aid Endowment

To provide support for student financial aid.

Locker Maintenance Fund

Est. 2015 for family and friends who wish to name a school locker in honor of a student, teacher, or any community member deserving recognition of their experience or dedication to the school.

The Beckerer Family Scholarship Fund

Est. 2005 by Bob Beckerer to provide support for financial aid.

Mr. Frank S. Beckerer, Jr., The Beckerer Foundation

Casey Coleman Scholarship Fund

Est. 1999 by George and Katie Coleman to support financial aid.

Stephen D. Calhoun Scholarship Fund

Est. 1991 by friends and family in memory of Stephen Calhoun to provide support for financial aid.

Fernandes Family Scholarship Fund

Est. 2010 by the Fernandes family to provide support for financial aid.

Andrew Kostin Technology Fund

Est. 2008 by Susan Kostin in honor of her son, Andrew, to support classroom technology.

Madison Hui Kwong Scholarship Fund

Est. 2007 by Timothy and Chelsea Kwong in memory of their daughter to support professional development.

Carolyn Lavender Scholarship Fund

Established in 2013 by friends and family in memory of Carolyn Lavender to provide support for financial aid.

Megan and Jeff Aversano

Samantha Berg

Janine and Christopher Forry

Dr. Kathleen Gallagher and Mr. Kenneth Gallagher

Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin N. Powers

Kimberly and Jeffrey Ruggiero

The Carolyn Lavender and Kelly Wieman Fund

Est. in 2011 by the Wieman family in honor of Carolyn Lavender, who first suggested TSS to their daughter, Kelly. The funds are unrestricted.

The Daniel E. Offutt III Scholarship Fund

Est. in 2018 on behalf of The Daniel E. Offutt III Revocable Trust to benefit students worthy of a scholarship.

Quinsee Family Fund

Est. in 2010 by the Quinsee family to be used at the discretion of the Executive Director and Board of Directors.

Walter S. Robbins Fund for Service Learning

Est. in 2009 by the Robbins children in honor of their father to support service learning at the school.



Grant V.A. Roberts Fund for Art and Music Education

Est. in 2005 in memory of Grant V.A. Roberts by his family to support art and music programs.

Southport Congregational Church Scholarship Fund

Est. in 1992 by the Southport Congregational Church to provide support for financial aid.

Tavormina Endowment Fund

Est. in 2002 by the Tavormina family to be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

John D. Upton Scholarship Fund

Est. in 1990 by John Upton to provide support for financial aid.

MetLife

Barbara and Frank Wendt Scholarship Fund

Est. in 2004 by Barbara and Frank Wendt to support financial aid.



WAYS OF GIVING

EMAIL US at Development@SouthportSchool.org

BY CHECK to The Southport School
214 Main Street
Southport, CT 06890
Please include your name, address, and phone or email so we can confirm receipt.

ONLINE at SouthportSchool.org/Giving

CALL US at 203.254.2044



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

CORPORATE MATCH

Many employers will match your contribution to TSS. Check with your employer’s Human Resources Department or call our Development Office for assistance.

APPRECIATED STOCK

For instructions on how to transfer stock, please contact the Development Office.

PLANNED GIVING

Setting up a trust, including TSS in your estate plans, or naming TSS in a life insurance policy are ways you may consider supporting the school. For more information, please contact the Development Office.

NAMED FUNDS

Donors who choose to contribute to the endowment are investors in the future of TSS. The named funds and restricted accounts are essential resources that ensure the school will have a support system for years to come. These funds strengthen our academic and athletics programs and financial aid offerings, and provide for continued professional development.

ANGEL FUND

Donors may invest anonymously to support students needing scholarship funds as an ongoing quarterly or yearly tuition need. Please contact the Development Office for more details about this program.





PEQUOT SCHOOL

We are grateful for our shared vision and your support of a world where every child has access to an exceptional education. Thank you to our donors, volunteers, neighbors, and the Southport community for your unwavering support of The Southport School. Your contributions are instrumental in empowering cerebrodiverse students to achieve their full potential.

 THE
SOUTHPORT
SCHOOL

214 Main Street
Southport, CT 06890
203.254.2044
Southportschool.org