

THE
QUAKER SCHOOL
at HORSHAM

2009-2010
Annual Fund Committee

Parents:

Jim and Christie Bogrette
Joel and Rachel Fishbein
Brian Hirschbuhl and
Ann McDonald
Mike and Cate Stefanski

Faculty:

Jenn Gallagher
Karen Glenn
Alyson Kelley
David Kent
Jonathan Kratz
Ivy Rufe
Lisa Woodmender

Board:

Patricia Thomas
Board President
Barbara Snyder
Development
Committee Chair
Jane Fox
Finance Committee
Chair
Ruth Joray
Head of School

Dear _____,

What are the characteristics of graduates of the Quaker School at Horsham? Conversation with TQS's teachers provides the answers. "They listen and hear. They read and understand. They can talk with anyone. They can write clearly, sometimes movingly. They can solve a wide variety of puzzles and problems. They seek the right answer. They grasp Quaker principles of respect for others, oneself and the environment. They understand how to get things done. They see connections. They trust. They find their own gifts."

One day, a teacher pulled me aside and asked me to follow her. She led me to the library, and we went inside. A thin, tiny child lay on the floor looking at a book. I smiled and said hello and had my greeting returned. Then the teacher turned to me. "This is Pat," she said, "and this is the first time he has ever read on his own. I thought you should meet him."

At TQS, these stories are repeated again and again. Targeted intervention is vital. It is urgent that we reach these children before their confidence and self-esteem are out of reach. To do this, we need the means which philanthropy provides. And **every gift counts**. Foundations often ask what percentage of our Board and parents give to the Annual Fund. Last year, 100% of our Board participated but only 52% of our parents. This year we need 100% parent participation. Every gift provides a valuable resource. A gift of \$100 provides a teacher textbooks s/he needs for one class.

Many of our families are feeling economic pains as our national economy progresses through a cycle of contraction. The same is true of foundations and government granting agencies. In fact, one foundation that last year gave our Annual Fund \$30,000 can afford to give us nothing this year. Despite that, financial access to a TQS education must remain as open and available as possible.

The top fundraising priority for TQS in 2009-2010 is to achieve aggressive growth of the Annual Fund. This will require extraordinary generosity on the part of our Board members, our parents, and our alumni. Gifts to the Annual Fund are used immediately by the School to fund TQS specialized programming. We need continued support, your gift for the finest assistive technology, the best teachers, and their ongoing professional development.

Annual Fund dollars are the most flexible dollars we raise, because they can be used where the School's needs are greatest and most immediate. And the greatest need right now is to make sure our students know their present is full of hope, their future full of promise. Please join me and make a contribution today to the 2009-2010 Annual Fund. Every gift is important, and together we can make a difference.



*"Autumn at TQS"
A watercolor wash using the drizzle effect
by a student in The Art Affinity Program*

