



Dear Academy Hill Families:

I am thrilled to be a part of the Academy Hill family this year. I have been a part of the community as a parent for many years, and now look forward to my fourth year as Head of School with great anticipation and a sustained commitment to our mission and values. As an alumni parent, I have come to understand what makes the Academy Hill Family uniquely special. I believe we offer unparalleled opportunities to our students through rich, rigorous instruction, engaging extra- and co-curricular opportunities, and a nurturing and encouraging social environment. My hope is that all of our families cherish the Academy Hill School experience the way my own has over the years.

This Family Handbook has been developed to present the school expectations in a clear, concise way. The faculty and staff at Academy Hill recognize that the school-to-home partnership is critical to promoting a safe, respectful, nurturing learning environment for our students. Please review the Family Handbook with your child(ren) prior to the start of school. We ask that you sign the attached form to acknowledge you have read and discussed the Handbook at home.

If you have concerns or comments at any time, please call or visit. My door is always open to thoughts and suggestions.

Thank you, and welcome to what I am certain will be another successful academic year at AHS!

All my best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Earls', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Melissa Earls

Head of School

## Table of Contents

Mission Statement .....	2
General Guidelines .....	2
Arrival .....	2
Tardiness .....	2
Absence .....	2
School Closings/Delays .....	2
Outdoor Recess and PE .....	3
Healthy Snacks .....	3
Early Dismissal .....	3
Regular Dismissal .....	3
Pick-up by someone other than a parent .....	4
Curriculum .....	4
Special Programs .....	4
Good Morning Show .....	4
Forum .....	4
Field Trips and Enrichment Programs .....	5
A-SPARK .....	5
Private Lessons and Tutoring .....	5
Homework .....	5
Before and After School Care .....	6
Before School Care .....	6
After School Care .....	6
Home-School Communication .....	7
Friday Folders .....	7
Conferences .....	7
Handling concerns .....	7
Classroom Observations .....	7
Email .....	7
Progress Reports .....	8
Academic Honesty .....	8
School Culture .....	8
Discipline and Self-Management .....	9
Prohibition of Bullying .....	9
Dress Code .....	9
Birthday Observances .....	10
Acceptable Use of Technology .....	10
What are the rules? .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
What about technology at home? .....	11
Social Networking .....	11
Cell Phones .....	12
Middle School Technology Use Agreement .....	13
Health & Safety .....	14
Administration of Medication at School .....	14
Physical Exams .....	14
Safety .....	14
Board of Trustees .....	15
The Academy Hill Parents' Association .....	15
Giving at Academy Hill .....	15

## **Mission Statement**

Academy Hill School provides an intellectual, principled, creative, and enriching foundation for high-potential students to become the next visionaries, innovators, and leaders by:

- Identifying and cultivating the talents in each student through creative, challenging, and differentiated programs;
- Building character, citizenship, and confidence in students;
- Encouraging and enabling creative and critical thought and actions;
- Providing students with the skills to succeed in future academic and professional environments.

## **General Guidelines**

### **Arrival**

Regular arrival time is between 8:00 a.m. and 8:15 a.m., at which time a staff member will be present at the far front door to greet students and guide them from car to building. Before School Care is available from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. for a fee, as described below.

### **Tardiness**

Instruction begins promptly at 8:20 a.m. in homeroom. During homeroom, teachers set the stage for a successful day.

When students enter the classroom later than 8:20 a.m., it compromises the effectiveness of homeroom so please try to drop your child off no later than 8:15 a.m.

Children arriving to homeroom after 8:20 a.m. are listed as tardy and must have stopped at the office to sign in.

### **Absence**

In general, absences put students at an academic disadvantage and, except in case of sickness, are to be avoided.

In case of absence, please call or email the school by 8:30 a.m. and arrange pick-up of student's work if appropriate. You may email the teachers for work to be picked up.

### **School Closings/Delays**

You will receive an automated phone call at home announcing closings or delays, but can also find announcements on:

- Television: Channels 22 & 40
- Our Facebook Page
- Email

## **Outdoor Recess and Physical Education**

We go outside for recess unless the weather is dangerous or unhealthy. Please help us ensure the good health of your child by requiring that they come to school with appropriate outerwear for outdoor recess. The same applies for Physical Education, which we try to hold outdoors whenever possible.

## **Healthy Snacks**

We encourage parents/guardians to consider alternatives to sugar based or fatty snacks for school snack time. Some ideas for healthy snacks are: baked chips, dried fruit mix, fresh fruit, 100% fruit juice, fruit wedges, low fat milk, granola bars, low fat string cheese, popcorn, yogurt, veggie sticks, raisins, pretzels, and animal crackers.

## **Early Dismissal**

Classes are dismissed at 3:15 p.m. Early dismissals, though on occasion necessary, constitute a significant disruption for your child and his or her teacher. If an early dismissal is necessary, parents should notify the school that morning. When picking up a child early, parents must stop at the office to sign out their child and wait in the lobby for them. Please do not go directly to your child's classroom.

## **Regular Dismissal**

Regular dismissal runs from 3:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and operates out of the far front door. Because the safety of our students is our foremost concern, please observe the following conventions:

- If you are traveling up Liberty Street going towards Chicopee and there is a line of cars waiting to turn right from Liberty Street into our driveway, do not attempt to left turn into the driveway. Instead, make a U-turn at the traffic light by Stop and Shop and get in the line headed in one direction.
- Do not leave your car while in the dismissal line. If you need to stop and talk to a staff member, or if you need to come into the building for any reason, please park in the parking lot.
- Stay to the right so that exiting traffic may pass to your left. Do not try to skip around the line by driving in the oncoming lane.
- Children should enter and exit cars only from the passenger (right) side.
- We generally load three or four cars at a time. There are marked loading spaces.
- If we find that a student is not ready to enter a car, we will ask the driver to park. If your child is not in the dismissal line when called, you will be asked to park and go into the school to get your child.

**Pick-up by someone other than a parent**

The front desk must have prior notice of any persons other than parents who are authorized to pick up a student.

**Curriculum**

Challenging, personalized education and an integrated curriculum are hallmarks of Academy Hill School. Our curriculum content is based on objectives and outcomes defined in national and state standards. It is designed to meet the unique needs of gifted and curious students. Because our instruction is differentiated, our students attain maximum achievement in basic skills and explore content that goes beyond the curriculum. They are exposed to a variety of fields of study and frequently select topics based on their specific interests and needs. Our curriculum reflects high content complexity. Students work with concepts and ideas that require reflective, evaluative, critical and creative thinking. They apply what they have learned and demonstrate their knowledge in both creative and conventional ways. The very nature of the gifted learner requires us to look at curriculum in very non-traditional ways.

To view our full curriculum guide, please refer to [www.academyhill.org](http://www.academyhill.org).

**Special Programs****Good Morning Show**

Students in grades K through 5 participate in this program by making three to six oral presentations a year and observing and discussing their peers' presentations. We encourage interested parents and friends to attend the Good Morning Show. You will often see admissions candidates and their families at the program. Please help us by introducing yourself and sharing your experiences with them.

The three minute presentations on self-selected topics are diverse, entertaining, and informative. The program begins at 8:30 a.m. each morning. Presenters receive constructive feedback about five aspects of their presentation: evidence of preparation, audience learning, creativity, audio-visual aids, and personal affect.

The program builds children's self-confidence, creates a forum to share interests, builds respect for other people's individuality, and develops public speaking skills.

Detailed guidelines are given to families by the Lower School teachers.

**Forum**

Forum is the Middle School extension of the Good Morning Show. It takes place at 2:40 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and some Thursdays. We invite you to attend.

At Forum, students deliver research or performance based presentations and lead their peers in discussions afterwards. The presentations are longer than Good Morning Show

presentations and take the students' public speaking skills to a higher level. Detailed guidelines are given to families by Middle School teachers.

The presentations are built around group themes. This allows individual presenters to build on each other's work and nurture an extended dialogue on a group of ideas.

### **Field Trips and Enrichment Programs**

Field trips and various enrichment programs are an integral part of our curriculum. You can anticipate that your child will be involved in a variety of these throughout the year. We prefer 100% participation in these trips and activities.

Many field trips and activities are provided at no additional cost to families. However, some special instances may necessitate additional payment.

In many cases, we look for parent volunteers to drive for field trips. Our insurance provides secondary coverage to volunteer drivers. All parents who volunteer with our students must have a CORI check on file. We require a copy of the driver's license from all parents who volunteer as drivers.

### **A-SPARK**

We offer a variety of after school courses throughout the year. Past examples include SSAT Prep, Robotics, Study Group, and Coding. You will receive information throughout the year detailing offerings and fees.

### **Private Lessons and Tutoring**

We work to make our facility available for individual private lessons and tutoring with our own staff or with staff hired from outside the school. Parents must coordinate private tutoring that will occur during the academic day with the Head of School.

## **Homework**

Regular homework begins in first grade at Academy Hill and consists of both short and long-term assignments. Teachers will supply students with specific class and homework expectations.

From time to time a child may experience difficulty with an assignment. Please bring this to the teacher's attention immediately. Because homework is not intended to stress students, but rather to strengthen them, parents are encouraged to stop homework activity if it becomes too lengthy or too stressful. Simply notify the teacher on the following day.

The following are rules of thumb for how much homework your child should expect:

- Grades 1-2-3: average of 30 minutes per night
- Grades 4-5: average of 45 minutes per night
- Grades 6-7-8: average of 1.5 to 2 hours per night

Parents should provide students with an appropriate place to do their homework each night and help them to budget time for both short and long-term assignments. Please remember that homework is to be completed by the student.

## **Before and After School Care**

### **Before School Care**

Before School Care begins in the community room at 7:30 a.m. Weather permitting, students move to the playground at 8:00 a.m. Parents do not need to sign students in, nor do they need to pre-arrange attendance.

The fee for Before School Care is \$7.00 per morning. Parents will be billed monthly. There is no need to pre-pay.

### **After School Care**

After School Care begins at 3:15 p.m. and runs until 5:30 p.m. Programming includes play as well as homework time. On a typical afternoon, there will be two care providers in the building.

Children may be sent to After School Care on an as-needed basis. If you plan on sending your child to After School, simply call the office or send a note to your child's teacher on the day care is required. That way, they will not be sent to sit in the dismissal line. Students remaining in the dismissal line at 3:30 p.m. will move to After School Care to await pick up.

For safety reasons, children must be signed out of After School Care by the adults picking them up.

The fee for After School Care is \$10.00 from 3:15-4:00 p.m.; \$20.00 until 5:30 p.m. Students who have lessons or After School Adventures will not be charged for care prior to their activity. There is no need to pre-pay; parents will be billed monthly.

**A late fee of \$10.00 per child will be charged for each additional 15-minute block of time or any part thereof after 5:30 p.m. *Be sure to write down the time that your child is signed out or you will be charged until 5:30 pm.***

Parents who are working on school-related activities/committees will not be charged for care. Please note this on the sign-out sheet.

Children whose parents are attending a conference will receive 1 hour of care at no charge, but parents must indicate on the sign-in/out sheet that they had a conference.

Parents will be charged for siblings in After School Care who are not attending A-SPARK or lessons. Fees apply for the time a child is in care after the completion of an A-SPARK or a lesson.

## **Home-School Communication**

Our primary forms of communication with parents are e-mail/newsletter and our website [www.academyhill.org](http://www.academyhill.org). Calendar items, events, important news and notices can all be found on the website. It is important for parents to check the website and read the newsletter on a regular basis. Specific information about your child's class can be found on your child's teacher page if one has been created.

### **Friday Folders**

Friday Folders are also an important part of the communication process. Please check your child's folder weekly for student work and the occasional general notice. Keep the papers and return the folder on Monday.

### **Conferences**

Our teachers will always make themselves available to talk with you, but they prefer advance notice to be able to prepare. If you would like to speak with a teacher, we ask that you schedule an appointment with the teacher with whom you want to confer.

Formal parent/teacher conferences are held in October or November & March. These are scheduled through the office. Parents are given advance notice of when the scheduling begins.

### **Handling Concerns**

By virtue of sending your child to Academy Hill, you are deeply invested in the success and quality of this organization. Accordingly, finding the right approach to handling concerns is important. If you have concerns about the academic program, for example, always start by discussing them with the relevant teachers. In the unlikely instance that you and the teachers can't come to an understanding, you may then contact the Head of School. Working out concerns with faculty and administrators is a healthier way to come to resolution than discussing them out of context in social settings. Just remember, we are one community with a common mission.

### **Classroom Observations**

Although classroom observations may be necessary or requested, they can be inherently disruptive to classroom instruction. Parents/Guardians who wish to observe their child's class must schedule an observation through the classroom teacher or Head of School in advance. Last minute observation requests may not be approved upon the discretion of the Head of School. Please contact the Head of School for the full observation policy.



## **E-mail**

E-mail is also an effective way of communicating with the administration and your child's teachers. All teachers have e-mail addresses that consist of the first initial followed by the last name @ academyhill.org. (For example, mearls@academyhill.org)

## **Progress Reports**

Formal reports of progress are emailed home at the end of each Trimester.

## **Academic Honesty**

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. Using someone else's ideas, words, phrases, and/or designs without giving credit is prohibited. All work that is turned in (be it written, oral, artistic, or programmed for a computer) should be the student's own, except where otherwise credited. Students are sometimes encouraged to make references to other works, but these references (including individual ideas, words, phrases, and/or designs) must be credited properly. Material used from Internet sites must be credited in the same way as any other reference source. Similarly, any questions that a student might have about plagiarism should be asked BEFORE a particular work is due. The use of translation websites is prohibited by the World Language Department.<sup>1</sup>

### **CONSEQUENCES FOR ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Students who give or receive information or otherwise cheat on quizzes, tests, or exams will be disciplined and are subject to suspension, separation, or dismissal from the school.

**First offense:** The student meets with the Head of School, the teacher. Parents will be notified. A "0" is given as a grade for the assignment, at the discretion of the teacher. The student may be placed on probation from the National Junior Honor Society, as applicable.

**Second offense:** The student meets with the Head of School, the teacher, and parents. An automatic zero is given for the assignment. The student may be placed on academic probation. The student may be considered for permanent dismissal from the National Junior Honor Society.

**Third offense:** The student will be subject to suspension or dismissal from the school. Student may fail the course for the trimester.

It is well understood by the administration that students might engage in objectionable academic behavior without intending to mislead the teacher or to subvert the integrity of the academic program. The Head of School is responsible for making these judgments and evaluations, and for administering consequences for academic dishonesty.

---

<sup>1</sup> Sections of this policy were used with permission from the Williston Northampton School

## **School Culture**

### **Discipline and Self-Management**

Academy Hill is a nurturing community that aims to foster a sense of safety and security for all its members. On occasion, we expect students to make some mistakes that may require adult intervention. We use these opportunities to promote growth and a sense of self-discipline.

Philosophy of Academy Hill Discipline:

- 1) All members of the school community respect themselves, respect each other, and respect the environment.
- 2) Problems are best solved through talking, listening, and understanding all facets of the situation
- 3) Parental involvement is crucial
- 4) Solutions and/or consequences should be logical with the goal of the student making better choices

Each child facing disciplinary action will be treated according to his/her individual incident.

### **PROHIBITION OF BULLYING**

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, § 37O, acts of bullying, which include cyber bullying, are prohibited:

A. On school grounds and property immediately adjacent to school grounds, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, function, or program whether on or off school grounds, on a school bus or other vehicle owned, leased, or used by the school; or through the use of technology or an electronic device owned, leased, or used by a school district or school, and

B. At a location, activity, function, or program that is not school-related through the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school, if the acts create a hostile environment at school for the target or witnesses, infringe on their rights at school, or materially and substantially disrupt the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

Retaliation against a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or witnesses or has reliable information about bullying is also prohibited.

As stated in M.G.L. c. 71, § 37O, nothing in the policy requires the school to staff any non-school related activities, functions, or programs.

Please refer to [www.academyhill.org](http://www.academyhill.org) for the Academy Hill Prevention Plan and a copy of the incident reporting form to report suspected bullying behavior.

## **Dress Code**

There is a large body of school research that concludes that the way children dress for school impacts the way that they learn at school. At Academy Hill we want our children to be comfortable and yet distinguish what they wear to school from what they might wear in their leisure time.

Our dress code is School Casual, and permits comfortable, loose fitting clothing such as slacks, jeans, skirts, polo shirts, and T-shirts that are in good repair and are without inappropriate messages or images.

Short shorts, halter-tops, tube tops, spaghetti straps and bare midriffs are not considered appropriate. Hats may not be worn in school. **Sneakers must be worn for Physical Education.** For safety reasons, flip-flops should not be worn to school.

Mark articles such as sweaters, jackets, lunch boxes and boots with your child's name. Students in grades K-2 must have a complete set of extra clothing in their cubbies, "just in case". We encourage the same for grades 3 and 4.

No weapons or fake weapons are allowed on campus without express permission of a teacher for presentation purposes.

## **Birthday Observances**

Individual portions of celebratory snacks to share at recess are welcome. Please do not send in anything that needs to be cut into individual portions. If you host birthday or other parties outside of school, please respect the spirit of inclusiveness that characterizes Academy Hill.

## **Acceptable Use of Technology**

### **Technology Use Agreement 2019 – 2020 School Year**

During middle school at Academy Hill School, students will increase their use of electronic technology both inside and outside of the classroom. In order to support a healthy and productive learning environment for both the students and teacher, the following agreements are required.

#### **A. The Network**

Academy Hill is pleased to offer students supervised access to a computer network for electronic mail and the Internet for expressly educational ends.

Supervision – Internet and e-mail access will only be allowed under adult supervision.

Privacy -- Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. The Network Administrator (Mrs. Earls) may review files to ensure that the system is running properly and that students are using the system responsibly.

Storage capacity -- Users are expected to delete material that takes up excessive storage space.

Illegal copying -- Students should never download or install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks, unless they have permission from the network administrator. Nor should students copy other people's work or intrude into other people's files.

Inappropriate materials or language -- Profane, abusive or impolite language should not be used to communicate nor should materials be accessed which are not in line with the rules of school behavior. **A good rule to follow is never view, send, or access materials that you would not want your teachers and parents to see.** Should students encounter such material by accident, they should quietly report it their teacher immediately.

## **B. Chromebooks**

Middle school students will be provided with a specific Chromebook for their use. Students may perform online research, project development, word processing, typing practice, or other applications permitted by the teacher. The following guidelines found in the handbook and pertaining to all technology are required when using the Chromebooks:

- Do not access the Internet, e-mail or IM without adult supervision.
- Do not use a computer to harm other people or their work.
- Do not damage the computer or the network in any way.
- Do not interfere with the operation of the network by installing any software, shareware, or freeware.
- Do not violate copyright laws.
- Do not view, send, or display offensive messages or pictures.
- If you are given a password, do not share it with another person.
- Do not waste limited resources such as disk space or printing capacity.
- Do not trespass in another's folders, work, or files.
- Do quietly notify an adult immediately, if by accident, you encounter materials that violate the Rules of Appropriate Use.
- Be prepared to be held accountable for your actions and for the loss of privileges if the Rules of Appropriate Use are violated.
- Chromebooks must be stored in the charging units in each homeroom when not in use. If a chromebook is left in any other occasion overnight, the student will lose chromebook privileges for up to one week.

If the student does not follow these guidelines, the teacher may suspend use of the personal Chromebook.

### **C. Social Networking**

The school recognizes that many students use social networks such as Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. We encourage you to check each site's user policy, as many students do not meet the required age or school enrollment specifications. In addition, and perhaps more importantly it is our hope that children will use their childhood and adolescent years to gain confidence in creating and maintaining friendships in real, rather than virtual settings.

Parents and Academy Hill employees are asked not to communicate with students via social networks. We encourage friendly communication with students, parents, and alumni but feel email is a more suitable venue.

#### **All Students - Use of Personal Electronics**

Academy Hill School prohibits the use of personal electronics during the school day, unless expressly required by teachers for an academic reason. This includes cell phones, e- readers, tablet computers, or any other personal electronic device. We ask that parents also follow this policy while on campus.

Cell phones may be brought to school but must be kept in backpacks and used for afterschool emergencies only. There is NO CELLPHONE USE permitted while students are at school.

- 1) Upon arrival, personal electronic devices must be put away in lockers.
- 2) Students may retrieve devices after dismissal, but they are to be used for communication with caregivers only. Students are not permitted to use devices for games, social networking, etc. while on school premises.
- 3) Taking pictures of other students without consent is prohibited without the approval of the Head of School.
- 4) Posting anything to social media during school hours (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) is prohibited.
- 5) Students may use their phones after dismissal, but only to contact a parent/guardian.
- 6) Students who need to contact their parents at times other than after school may do so after notifying an adult.
- 7) Pictures may be taken on field trips, special occasions, etc., with adult permission.
- 8) No pictures may be posted to any of the social media sites without the consent of those students in the photographs.

To assist us with these guidelines, parents/guardians should:

- 1) During the school day, please contact your child through the main office.
- 2) Notify the main office if you are running late for pick-up. It helps us keep track of students during dismissal.

These guidelines are intended to keep students focused on their school day.



# ACADEMY HILL

Est. 1986

**PreK-8**

I have **read** and **understand** the Middle School Technology Use Agreement.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature

Chromebook Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Health & Safety

### Administration of Medication at School

Academy Hill cannot administer prescription medications. The exception is for immediate treatment of life threatening illnesses such as asthma or allergic reactions/anaphylaxis. As needed medications such as Tylenol or allergy medications can be administered with written parent consent.

Medications for asthma or allergic emergencies will be stored at the front desk area.

Students are not allowed to carry on their person or in their belongings any medications other than rescue inhalers and those may be carried only when we have an Asthma Action Plan signed by a physician on file.

All allergy medications (Benadryl, Epi-Pen) for severe allergic reactions/anaphylaxis must be accompanied by an Allergy Action Plan and medication administration form signed by a parent and medical provider. **Failure to provide an updated Allergy Action Plan may result in the exclusion of the student from school until received.**

### Physical Exams

Physical Exam forms are required for:

- New students
- Kindergarten students
- Grade 4 students
- Grade 7 students

Physician completed school Health Forms must be on file in the school office when school commences.

Immunizations must be up-to-date. **Failure to provide updated immunizations will result in the exclusion of the student from school until received.**

Emergency Information Forms sent home at the beginning of each year must be filled out and returned immediately. In case of emergency, the school must be able to contact a parent or a designated, responsible adult immediately.

**Please refer to [academyhill.org](http://academyhill.org) for more health information.**

### Safety

The staff follows response procedures for a variety of emergency situations. In all cases, parents would be contacted after danger had passed and the students were safe. In the event of an evacuation of the property, we will evacuate to the Glenwood School, 50 Morison Terrace in Springfield.

## **Board of Trustees**

The Academy Hill Board of Trustees is an organization of volunteers from our school community and beyond who assume responsibility for the long-range stability of Academy Hill, delegate responsibility for enacting Academy Hill's mission to a Head of School, and play a leadership role in the raising of gifts to the school.

### **Academy Hill School Board of Trustees, 2019 - 2020**

Amanda Andress, Chair  
Eric Lunden, Vice-Chair  
David Wells, Treasurer  
Tina Wegrzyn, Secretary  
Sean Atkins  
Nick Hopkins  
Jana Bertera

David Balise (alumnus)  
Rachel Parent  
Tom Cerasulo  
Priya Malik  
Tracey Wietsma (alumni parent)  
Sage Dow  
Melissa Earls, ex officio

## **The Academy Hill Parents' Association**

The mission of the Academy Hill Parent Association is to:

- Create a forum that will encourage busy parents to participate in the Parent Association and school activities.
- Review and consider new trends and ideas for both fundraising and enrichment.
- Define and implement quality, enriched activities and fundraisers for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Work co-operatively with school administration to support and enhance the school program.

Contact the front desk if you are interested in volunteering.

## **Giving at Academy Hill**

### **Annual Fund**

Parents who send their children to Academy Hill have made education a priority and are committed to the school. Not only do they pay their tuition but they also share their time and talents as tireless volunteers. We hope that all of our constituents will be able to recognize the difference that AHS makes for its students through a contribution to the Annual Giving Campaign. Not only do contributions directly support the operating budget they also signal a vote of confidence in our program.

As at many independent schools, Academy Hill's tuition and fees cover only a portion of the total cost of educating a student for one year. We rely on donations and gifts from parents, grandparents, relatives, and community benefactors to make up the difference in our operating budget. The Annual Giving Campaign is an opportunity to support AHS immediately through a tax-deductible donation. These gifts go towards mission critical



expenses including teacher salaries, utilities, maintenance, school supplies, and academic opportunities.

### **Endowment**

Give a gift to our endowment which strengthens the school for our long term strategic planning goals.

### **Capital Giving**

Give a gift to support a specific capital project to improve our campus and facilities. These projects are clearly identified each year.

Gifts of all sizes are critical to our school. Your support has a profound impact on the students and faculty at Academy Hill.