

*Thank You  
for your Support!*



**Unquowa**  
SCHOOL



**Annual Report for 2023-2024 School Year**

*"The mission of The Unquowa School is to develop, educate and prepare our family of children with an unafraid spirit to achieve their personal best in a changing world."*

*The Future is in Our Care*



## *from the Board President ~*

Hello Unquowa community, as I reflect upon the past year, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. Your support, dedication, and partnership make our school the unique and inspiring place that it is—a place where curiosity thrives, creativity blooms, and community is cherished. I'm excited to share some highlights and initiatives that underscore what makes Unquowa such a unique and inspiring place to learn and grow.

At Unquowa, we remain dedicated to the mission that has guided us for over a century: to ignite each student's curiosity and foster a lifelong love of learning through a progressive, experiential curriculum. This year, that dedication has been reflected in countless ways across our school, enriching our students' minds, cultivating resilience, and empowering them to lead with confidence and compassion.

Our commitment to experiential learning is one of the cornerstones of Unquowa's educational philosophy. We believe students learn best when they're actively engaged—questioning, experimenting, and discovering firsthand. This year, our classrooms have truly come alive. In science, students didn't just study ecology from textbooks; they spent time in our local wetlands, observing ecosystems in action and collecting data to understand environmental impacts. This hands-on approach was mirrored across all subjects, from history to math to the arts, making every concept come to life.

Experiential learning goes beyond academics; it's about understanding and connecting with the world around us. For example, our students participated in a project centered around food sustainability. From growing vegetables in our school garden to visiting local farms, they gained practical insights into the journey from seed to table. This experience fostered a deep appreciation for sustainable practices and healthy eating habits, all while empowering them to make a positive impact in their own lives and communities.

In a world that is constantly evolving, a progressive curriculum ensures our students are prepared for the complexities of modern life. Our curriculum blends traditional disciplines with critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaborative learning. Our interdisciplinary projects allow students to explore complex, real-world topics, integrating concepts from multiple subjects into a single, cohesive learning experience. Upper School students work on projects that taught them about physics, engineering, environmental science, and mathematics, while simultaneously honing their teamwork and communication skills. It's this integration of knowledge and skills that enables our students to become thoughtful, innovative thinkers and leaders.

One of the highlights of Unquowa's unique educational experience is our all-school performing arts program. The arts play an essential role in our curriculum, and every student, regardless of grade or experience level, is encouraged to participate. Our annual Winterfest production brought all our students together, providing each child with a chance to shine on stage, contribute backstage, work with theatrical lighting or help with set design.

The performing arts program builds confidence, creativity, and resilience. It's incredible to watch students step out of their comfort zones, learn to work as a team, and express themselves in new ways. This program isn't just about putting on a show; it's about teaching our students the power of their own voices and the value of collaboration.

One of the greatest strengths of Unquowa is our focus on early childhood through middle school education. In a time when children are growing and changing rapidly, a Pre-K through 8th-grade environment provides an invaluable sense of stability and continuity. Our older students become role models for younger ones, while our younger students are supported in a nurturing, close-knit community. This dynamic allows for personalized attention and fosters long-lasting friendships that often continue well beyond Unquowa's walls.

The Board of Governors works every day to share the accomplishments of Unquowa and "Grow Who We Are." We focus on this to help make sure that Unquowa is known in the larger community and that we continue to attract new families and grow our community.

In closing, I want to thank everyone in our community for their love and pride in our school. We appreciate your continued support as we move forward to enhance our school and the impact it has on our children as it prepares them for a rapidly changing world.

*Joan Panagos, Board of Governors President  
Mother of Lucy'16, Lola'17 and Lily'19*

*The Future is in Our Care*



## from the Head of School ~

When I arrived on the campus of Unquowa over twenty years ago, naturally I made it my business to learn the school's mission statement, but looking back I realize that the essence of the mission took me years to truly grasp. When our school's mission was crafted well over a hundred years ago in 1917, the school's founding parents saw their children in a world of global pandemic and war and so they crafted an antidote of sorts, a goal of "preparing our family of children with an *unafraid spirit* to achieve their personal best in a changing world" to accompany the progressive academic plan for the school. It was a lofty goal but certainly one that made perfect sense. Today that mission rings ever more true, as we find ourselves in a larger world whose challenges have never been greater and whose pace of change has never been faster.

Folks often say they're not sure precisely what "unafraid spirit" actually means, but it instinctively appeals to them. We raise our children:

- To be spirits who are unafraid to take personal chances at school, be they academic, athletic or creative.
- To be spirits who are unafraid to learn from others, be they teachers, classmates or larger world models, living or historic.
- To be spirits who are unafraid to sometimes take chances in uncomfortable settings of service learning that help them grow as human beings who then are able to discover and believe that they can make a difference in the world.

Yes, we are raising unafraid spirits to achieve their personal best. We want our children to be personally successful here at Unquowa so that they grow up to recognize the work that is meaningful to them, to be ethical in all situations - easy and tough - and to consequently feel personally happy. We want their personal success.

But more than ever, we also recognize that "unafraid spirit" is the first ingredient in not just achieving a personal best. It is the essential ingredient in becoming human beings who can confidently answer the call to being part of a larger challenge to "repair the world."

We hear that today's young people are filled with anxiety, both about their personal lives and about the world at large, and I can tell you with certainty that the confidence which unafraid spirit builds, is the most certain antidote to that ailment.

Our school is at an exciting inflection point of growth in its history, and I continue to be both delighted and energized to be part of the next step in its journey. I continue to be committed to Unquowa because I have had a longstanding core of dedicated and talented board members behind me, and they continue to be joined by new board members with equal commitment and talent that make it possible for me as Head of School to attract and retain the very talented and committed faculty and staff who spend each and every day with our children.

Our most recent Strategic Plan, originally crafted in 2017-18 by our senior leadership team and Board after a year-long series of retreats, identified four initiatives for us as a school, the first three of which have been addressed:

**First, to know who we are:** We focused on building a mission appropriate community of students, families and faculty/staff, ensuring that each community member feels valued and enriched.

**Secondly, to say who we are:** We developed a culture of fierce pride throughout our community and promoted that culture through clear and consistent messaging both internally and externally.

**Third, we maintained a consistent identity:** by practicing the principles that spark intellectual curiosity and innovative programming that promote a culture of communication, collaboration and professional growth for our school leaders, faculty and staff and by broadening and intensifying our efforts to build community engagement.

Having worked diligently to accomplish these first three strategic priorities over the past six years, we are now in the process as a school of addressing our final strategic priority, which is **to grow who we are - both financially and physically**. My very dedicated board and I have been identifying and, supported by my senior leadership team, have strategized how to protect and grow the resources of time and money to heighten, first of all, our institution's financial stability and then to align our culture of philanthropy with our vision for the school's future to nurture and grow new program ideas and campus facilities that resonate with Unquowa's "blue ocean" identity: that is, to be an independent school like no other in the region.

Our job here at Unquowa as we imagine and realize "Unquowa Next" is to continue to craft a path that leads to our children's better

*The Future is in Our Care*



future by continuing to build a learning institution that will support our abilities to prepare our children as “unafraid spirits” to live in and lead the world that will be theirs - theirs in which to find personal success and theirs which they are confidently prepared to participate in healing. I look forward to **our continued work together to make that vision a reality.**

*Sharon Lauer, Head Of School*



*from the Board Treasurer ~*

I am pleased to report on another successful year for the Unquowa School. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, we continued multi-year improvements to the school campus and programs, as revenues from all sources nearly covered all operational expenses.

As part of the overall long-term goals and vision highlighted in our strategic plan, the leadership team invested nearly \$225 thousand dollars to complete a public relations and marketing initiative to enhance the school’s brand awareness and target marketing to our prospective families. We also invested \$75 thousand dollars to fund an architectural master plan that provides solutions to repurpose and reinvigorate targeted areas of the school campus. Both initiatives flow through the statement of operating activities, noted as one-time strategic expenses, and were funded by reserves.

The Finance Committee continues to focus on key variables and risks so we can identify potential challenges to Unquowa’s financial foundation, while developing the best model and solutions for our community. The Investment Committee, under the guidance of Paul Greenberg, has pushed the school’s endowment net assets, along with reserves, from \$1.96 to nearly \$2.34 million. In addition, parent giving, via The Fund for Unquowa, along with the remarkable support from the Unquowa Parents’ Association continue to play a vital role in bridging the gap between tuition and what it costs to provide an Unquowa education for all our students.

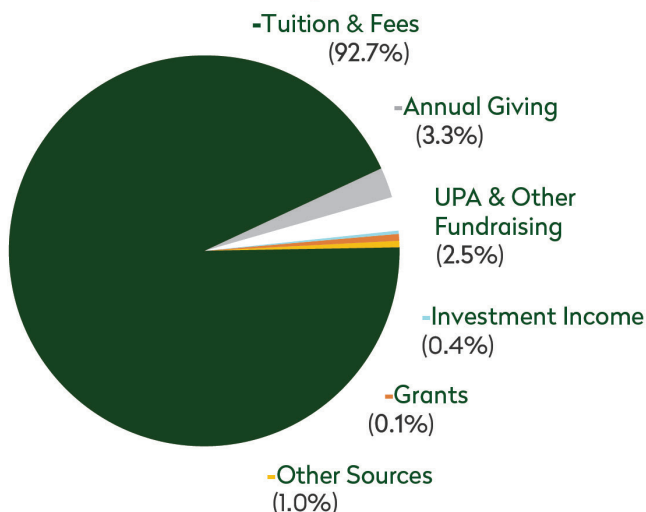
Building on the experience and know-how gained over its 107-year history, Unquowa remains well positioned for continued success and financial growth in a changing and challenging world. I would like to thank everyone in our community and hope you will continue to help us achieve our goals.

*Karl Martone, Board of Governors Treasurer  
Father of Max'09*

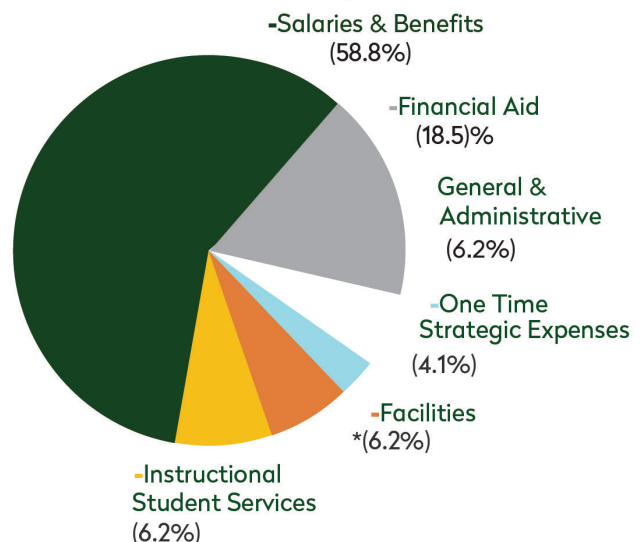
**UNQUOWA SCHOOL STATEMENT OF OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

**YEAR END - JUNE 30, 2024**

**Total Operating Revenues:**



**Total Operating Expenses:**



*The Future is in Our Care*

# Annual Giving~

The Fund for Unquowa not only provides vital support for programming, financial aid, student activities, professional development and salaries, it also supports socio-economic diversity, artistic exploration and updates to our campus and technological resources, not to mention helping to bring inspiring musicians, artists and other leaders to our children.

Last year, our community generously embraced the shared responsibility that hangs over the school door: "Cura Futuri Nobis. The Future is In Our Care," donating almost \$222,000, surpassing our goal by nearly 14 percent. Please accept our gratitude and keep us as your philanthropic priority.

*Robin Pompa & Melody Waterhouse,  
2023-2024 The Fund For Unquowa Co Chairs*

## Total \$221,812.30 - From July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

### CENTENNIAL CIRCLE

(25,000 AND UP)

Anonymous(1)

### LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

(15,000 - 24,999)

N/A

### 1917 FOUNDERS' SOCIETY

(\$10,000 TO \$14,999)

Athena and Daniel Adamson  
EmmaKate and Leonard DiNardo  
Steven and Joan Panagos  
Alison and Mark Smith  
David and Heather Winkelmann

### THE WINTERFEST SOCIETY

(\$5,000 TO \$9,999)

Bridgewater Associates  
Estate of Richard McKinley III  
Ariana and Luke Ferrandino  
Paul and Ellen Greenberg  
John and Sarah Freeman Foundation  
Matthew and Rachel Kelley

### THE BROOK SOCIETY

(\$2,500 TO \$4,999)

Andrew and Susanna (Foote) Carrillo  
Whitney and Tobias Crawford  
Fidelity Charitable  
Mark and Sara Greenawalt  
Philipp and Melody (Waterhouse) Kusche  
Maggie and Kerry (Reilly) Lehnerd-Reilly  
Constance and James McClellan  
David and Elizabeth McKinnis  
Sharon Lauer and Jerome Joseph  
Polen Capital  
Robin and William Pompa  
Peter and Jo Toolan

### THE GARDEN CIRCLE

(\$1,250 TO \$2,499)

American Online Giving Foundation  
Peter and Bridgett diBonaventura  
Samantha and Andrew Eliot  
Philip and Victorio Gallo  
David MacAllaster '73  
Sara Parks and Frank Lin  
Danielle and David Pitts  
Mike and Vicki (Hornbostel) Scotto  
Cecily Stoddard Stranahan '47  
Jenah and Jack Yeung

### THE MAYPOLE SOCIETY

(\$750 TO \$1,249)

Trisha and Mark Doyle  
Dean Gestal  
William and Joan Grabe  
Gilbert and Penny Herlet  
Christopher and Melissa Howe  
Maria and Peter Karayiannis  
Lotty Family Foundation  
Brian and Sharon Miles  
Dorrit and Wilfred Nelson  
Nor' Easter Foundation (Henry duPont '81)  
Michael and Jill Pengue  
George Wheeler Seeley '53  
Jean-Paul and Sheila (Gates) St. Germain  
Gregory and Hilary Tanner  
Gabriele and Bradley Topar '99  
Karen and Dan Williamson

### THE GATOR SOCIETY

(\$350 TO \$749)

Janice and Dick Cerone  
Carlene and Paul Gordon  
Jenna and Eric Guja  
Frank and Jennie Gulden  
Diana Haskell  
Sandy and Kate Haviland

Patricia Caira and Shane Herlet  
Camille Jackson '86  
Robert and Sharon Kelly  
Adriana and Kevin Liberatore  
Susan Maklari '90  
Michael and Alison (Bevan) McCormick  
James and Maria Mulvehill  
Jacqueline and Andre Nelson  
Lucy Panagos '16  
Lola Panagos '17  
Lily Panagos '19  
Jeremy and Sandra Peck  
Vivian Perez  
Anonymous(1)

### FRIENDS OF UNQUOWA

(UP TO \$349)

Thomas and Kimberly (Stevens) Abate  
John and Anna Acunto  
Lindsay and Nick Alexander  
Christopher Anderheggen '70  
Natasha Auguste-Williams  
Ashesh and Yamini (Menon) Bakshi  
Melissa and Reed Balmer  
Ernesto and Faith Barbuto  
Amy and Vivek Bedi  
Robert and Cheryl (Bennett)-Davidowitz  
Phillip Bettencourt  
Jonathan Brew '72  
Elizabeth W. Brew Boyd '70  
Norma Castro  
Elaine Christopher  
Morgan and Jake Cleveland  
Robert and Deborah Colantuoni  
Alexis and Mark Czeterko  
Eric Dawson '76  
Irisel DeJesus  
Maureen and Djibril Diallo  
Jennifer and Akira Do  
Dion and Rachelle Ehrlich

*The Future is in Our Care*

Michael and Lauren Ehrlich  
Helene Rousseau Epifano '67  
Carlos and Corti (Cooper) Esteves  
Jennifer and Michael Evanko  
Sarah Frassinelli Keenan '68  
Diane Galasso  
James and Carolyn (Gaines) Ruckle '53  
Richard Harriss '52  
Adrian and James Hendershot  
Kelly and Ofer Holtz  
Connor Jacques  
Scott and Colleen Jacques '20  
Anne Jones-Iacovella  
Gerard and Shannon Kavanaugh  
Lucy Kavanaugh '21  
Kari and Joseph Kazer  
Lucinda White and Thomas Kelley  
Charles and Megan Kirk  
Lisa and Michael Kirsic  
Barry and Leslie (Miller) Kresch  
Susan and Tom Lenci  
Lou and Anna Leszczynski  
Violet and Emirson Lumani  
David and Sharon Mack  
Karl and Lynn Martone  
Max Martone '09  
Allen and Mary (Poyntz-Massiah) Massiah  
J. Bing and Ryan (Mathis)-Tien  
Bruce and Sally McDermott  
John and Jennifer (McLevy)- Bazzanella  
Jackie and Ronell McRae  
Saral and Heidi Mehra  
Michael and Marissa Mesiya  
John and Lisa (Brown)-Michniewicz  
Lloyd and Kathy Mitchell  
Madison Mitchell '22  
Dominick and Michelle Modugno  
Paula Moloney  
John and Lynne Morgan  
Paul and Megan Mountcastle  
Jacqui and John Mudre  
Ashley Nechaev  
David and Amber O'Connell  
Patricia O'Hara  
Marcos and Celiane (Borges) Oliveria  
Ann Palm  
Diane Galasso Anna Panagos-Chandler  
Tim and Krissy Ponden '95  
Byrne Pozzi and Dan Spinner  
Sarah and Ross Raggio  
John and Patricia Randolph  
Madeline Reed '18  
Scott and Laurie Renzulli  
Lauren and Mark (Lotty) Rocheleau  
Alexander Rojas and Natalia Rojas-Restrepo  
Joe and Elizabeth (Hayes) Saint

Elizabeth and Zack Seckler  
Nancy Seeley Gilliland '47  
Scott and Julianne Seymour  
Andrew and Andrea Shantz  
Madeline Shantz '19  
William and Linda Shelton '55  
Jasmine and Shawnta Smith-Cruz  
Eric and Tristan Snow  
Harald and Stephanie Stavnes  
Andrea and Brian Theodore  
Alexander and Katie (Shields) Thomson  
Yei and Ying Tien  
Harry Tompkins  
Stanley and June Topar  
John Richard Turner '48  
Anthony and Jenna Venditto  
Shabiroon and Woodrow Vereen  
Chester Williamson  
Joanna and William Wesson  
Jessica Wolf  
Shelley Xia and Norman Niemer  
Anonymous(10)

#### ALUMNI

Christopher Anderheggen '70  
Jonathan Brew '72  
Elizabeth W. Brew Boyd '70  
Eric Dawson '76  
Helene Rousseau Epifano '67  
Sarah Frassinelli Keenan '68  
Carolyn Gaines Ruckle '53  
Richard Harriss '52  
Camille Jackson '86  
Connor Jacques '20  
Lucy Kavanaugh '21  
David MacAllaster '73  
Susan Maklari '90  
Max Martone '09  
Madison Mitchell '22  
Lucy Panagos '16  
Lola Panagos '17  
Lily Panagos '19  
Krissy Ponden '95  
Madeline Reed '18  
George Wheeler Seeley '53  
Nancy Seeley Gilliland '47  
Madeline Shantz '19  
Linda Shelton '55  
Cecily Stoddard Stranahan '47  
Bradley Topar '99  
John Richard Turner '48

#### COMPANIES & FOUNDATIONS

American Online Giving Foundation  
Bridgewater Associates  
Estate of Richard McKinley III

Fidelity Charitable  
John and Sarah Freeman Foundation  
Lotty Family Foundation  
Nor' Easter Foundation (Henry duPont '81)  
Polen Capital

#### IN KIND

1754 House  
Adriana Liberatore  
Alina's Cakes and Cookies  
Almost Done  
The diBonaventura Family  
ANGELS' Inc.  
Apotheke  
Arogya  
ASF Sports & Outdoors  
Attitudes Dance & Activewear  
Auction Packages  
Barkbox, Inc.  
Be Chocolat  
Bedgear  
Benebone  
Bilous Orthodontics  
Bloomingdales SoNo Collection  
Blow Dry  
Blue and Berries  
Bonda Restaurant  
Blue and Berries  
Bonda Restaurant  
Brendan Muldowney  
Bri Love  
Broadway Bootcamp  
Capri  
Cardio Kick  
Centro Restaurant  
Children's Art Classes-Fairfield  
Claire Dresselhuis  
Code Ninjas Fairfield  
Colony Grill  
Crumbl Cookies  
Cycleology Bike & Ski  
Dairy Queen  
Deborah Sylvestro  
Diageo  
Diana Haskell Photography  
Dog Gone Smart  
Donut Crazy  
Doorbell Barbers  
Dr. Bojana Jankovic Weatherly  
DUCALM Skincare  
D'Valda & Sirico Dance and Music Centre  
Elizabeth Allen, PhD  
Eric W. Steindel, PGA  
EyeCare Associates  
Fairfield Performing Arts Studio  
Fairfield Theatre Company

**IN KIND** *continued...*

Firehouse Deli  
 Fit Club Jiu-Jitsu  
 Gabriele's of Westport  
 GCA Fairfield  
 Greg & Tony Ouidad Salon  
 Grit Ninja Norwalk  
 Hair  
 Hands on Pottery  
 Happy Hands Art & Pottery  
 Harborview Cakes  
 Haute Energy  
 Hobbytown  
 Holistic Skin Wellness by Donna  
 Indigo Massage  
 Infinite Roots  
 Jessica Stafford  
 Justin Zylick  
 KL & Sam  
 Lattice House Southport  
 Legoland New York Resort  
 Linda Stone Staging & Organization  
 Little Pub  
 Liz Williams & Northeast Architectural  
 Mama Chow  
 Marsona Horan Salon  
 Matty Shirle  
 May Wong & Areion Global  
 Mecha Noodle Bar  
 Milford Chess Club  
 Modern Dermatology  
 NASA  
 Neuron-Do

Ocean Club Hotel  
 Ole' Soccer  
 Oriental Arts Kempo  
 Oriental Trading  
 Pam Einarsen Photography  
 Park City Music Hall  
 Party Harty  
 Phil's Guitar Shop  
 Pixels and Digits Solutions, Inc  
 Playhouse Fairfield  
 Posh Nails  
 Primo Pizza  
 Priscila Avellar  
 Ripple Float and Wellness Center  
 Robin Pompa  
 Rock Climb Fairfield  
 Rosie  
 Roundtree, Amagansett  
 Salon Marlene at Studio One  
 Sara Robbin  
 Saugatuck Rowing Club  
 Saugatuck Sweets  
 School Of Rock Fairfield  
 Scott Goldman  
 Skin by Kataryna  
 Sky Mount  
 Soccer & Rugby Imports  
 Soul Cycle  
 Splash of Pink - Lilly Pulitzer and Diageo  
 Stepping Stones Museum for Children  
 Sugi Acupressure  
 Sunkissed Glow  
 Sunswell

Technique Tigers Baseball Academy  
 The Connecticut Audubon Society  
 The di Bonaventura Family  
 The Doyle Family  
 The Evanko Family  
 The Foley Family  
 The Give Collective  
 The Howe Family  
 The Menon-Bakshi Family  
 The Pitts Family  
 The SoNo Baking Company  
 The Studio at Penny Lane, LLC  
 The Surfside Hotel  
 The Toolan Family  
 The Two Oh Three  
 The Upton Family  
 Tieks  
 Tom and Susan Lenci  
 Trader Joe's  
 Trumpet Southport  
 Two Roads Brewing Company  
 Vine  
 Vineyard Vines  
 Westin Beach Resort & Spa at Frenchman's Reef  
 Westport Country Playhouse  
 Winvian Farm  
 Wondrous Roots  
 Woodstock Inn & Resort  
 Xperiment Virtual Reality  
 Yoga 4 Everybody

**GRANDPARENTS** ..... **IN HONOR OF**

Elaine Christopher..... Eden Lewis, Ivy Lewis and Elodie Lewis  
 Dion and Rachelle Ehrlich..... Beckett Ehrlich, Cassidy Ehrlich '29 (Grade 4)  
 Norma Castro..... Ethan Perez '25 (Grade 8)  
 Lucinda White and Thomas Kelley..... Graham Kelley '28 (Grade 5)  
 Chester Williamson..... Jojo Williamson '32(Grade 1)  
 Susan and Tom Lenci..... Noah Clark '27 (Grade 6) and Ezra Clark '31 (Grade2)  
 Yei and Ying Tien..... Blythe Tien '30 (Grade 3)  
 Patricia O'Hara..... Olivia Weatherly '26 (Grade 7)  
 Anna Panagos-Chandler..... Lily Panagos '19, Lola Panagos '17, Lucy Panagos '16  
 Diane Galasso..... Ava Sylvestro '24 and Taylor '34 (PreK)  
 Dorrit and Wilfred Nelson..... Kayden Nelson '33 (Kindergarten)  
 Dean Gestal..... James Cleveland '25 (Grade 8) and Oliver Cleveland '27(Grade 6)  
 William and Joan Grabe..... Nicole Grabe '11 and Derek Grabe '14  
 Gilbert and Penny Herlet..... Cole Herlet '25 (Grade 8)  
 Constance and James McClellan..... Jojo Williamson '32 (Grade 1)  
 Sharon Lauer and Jerome Joseph..... Vivian Kelley '25 (Grade 8)  
 Lotty Family Foundation..... Harlow Lotty '30 (Grade 3)  
 John and Sarah Freeman Foundation..... Addie Mulvehill '24 , Eleanor '26 (Grade 7),  
 Charlotte '28 (Grade 5), Maeve '31 (Grade 2)

*The Future is in Our Care*





## 2024-2025 UNQUOWA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

JOAN PANAGOS - President • PAUL GREENBERG - Vice President • KARL MARTONE - Treasurer • HEATHER WINKELMANN - Secretary  
 ALAN STECKLER • JACQUELINE NELSON • JENAH YEUNG • HILARY TANNER • LAUREN COAKLEY VINCENT  
 ROBIN POMPA • ALEXANDER THOMSON • MELODY WATERHOUSE • ALISON ROBERTS • BRANDON CLARK

\*JOHN ACUNTO • \*ALISON SMITH

\*not in photo

## *Unquowa Parents' Association ~*

During the 2023-2024 school year, parent volunteers in the Unquowa Parents' Association came together to raise funds to support their children's school while promoting events and activities to strengthen the connections among our students, families and faculty.

Their extraordinarily successful fundraising efforts supported both traditions and innovation, and impacted every child and every classroom.

Funds raised by the UPA helped to underwrite a wide range of activities and events throughout the year - Winterfest, spring musicals, teacher appreciation, commencement, yearbooks for every student, custom sweatshirts for 8th grade & much more.

A Giving Tree Challenge from the Board of Governors at the Spring Gala & Auction raised an additional \$30,500 for financial aid.

**Total UPA Net Profits July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 - \$87,555**

**Unquowa Social Club Wine Event.....\$3,216**

**Celebrate Unquowa Gala & Auction.....\$104,718**

**Gator Goods Gift Shop.....\$792**

*The Future is in Our Care*





Unquowa's founding  
Headmistress,  
Virginia Birdsall  
(second from left)  
with the school's  
first faculty in 1917.

## *The Unquowa School Endowment ~*

**Total as of June 30, 2024 - \$2,339,411**

When Unquowa celebrated its first 100 years during the 2017-18 school year, the Board launched the *Second Century Campaign for Endowment* in an effort to dramatically strengthen the school's financial foundation.

A strong endowment is vital to every independent school. Endowment funds, some of which are restricted, are carefully invested so that a portion of earnings each year will provide critical resources to the school and its students.

A healthy endowment protects against the potential impact of future market or enrollment fluctuations and ensures unwavering support for curriculum, innovative programming, financial aid commitments and faculty.

### **NAMED ENDOWMENT FUNDS AT UNQUOWA**

***Created with endowment gifts of \$25,000 or more***

Proceeds from family funds may be directed by the donor towards an area of interest at the school or may be unrestricted for the school's leadership to determine where they are needed most.

We are so grateful to these donors who have already established Named Funds in Unquowa's endowment.

- ~ The Brewer and Beach Family Fund
- ~ Friends of Maria Taylor Fund
- ~ The Alan '53 and Arthur '54 Kornblut Endowed Fund for Tuition Support
- ~ The Russo Family Fund
- ~ The Jean Carpenter Winton '34 Endowment Fund

*The Future is in Our Care*

# Legacy Giving Society ~

Our celebration of The Unquowa School's first 100 years was a chance to look back... and to look ahead.

As alumni, parents, grandparents and faculty came together to mark this historic milestone, we had both the opportunity and responsibility to launch Unquowa's second century from a position of financial strength.

Established in 2012, Unquowa's *Carl Churchill Legacy Giving Society* is named for headmaster Carl Churchill, whose twenty year' tenure shaped the early years of Unquowa's history and laid the firm foundation for its progressive philosophy.

Legacy giving offers a unique level of long-term security that strengthens Unquowa's financial foundation for the future. As with all giving to the school, donors have the option of directing a legacy gift towards an area at the school that they are passionate about or leaving it unrestricted for the school's leadership to determine where it is needed most.

We are so grateful to these dedicated families who have made a bequest to Unquowa in their wills or whose family has established a legacy gift in their name to support the school for years to come. Please let us know if you have made a bequest to Unquowa so that we can thank you and recognize you as a member of the *Carl Churchill Legacy Giving Society*.

- ~ **Steve Aikenhead, '54**
- ~ **Georgiana Brewer Beach, \* '26**
- ~ **Kate and Sandy Haviland, Charlie '10, Grace '13**
- ~ **Craig Knebel, \* former faculty**
- ~ **Bruce G. Lockhart, \* '48**
- ~ **Norman Morse, \* '33**
- ~ **Joan and Steve Panagos, Lucy '16, Lola '17, Lily '19**
- ~ **Ruth Powell, \* former faculty**
- ~ **Carolyn Gaines Ruckle, '53**
- ~ **Jean Carpenter Winton, \* '34** \*deceased



A variety of legacy giving methods are available at Unquowa and each offers a different path that can be taken to support the school while providing possible tax and inheritance benefits to the donor and their family. Since the school is not in a position to provide financial advice, if you are considering making a planned legacy gift, we strongly urge you to discuss these options with your financial advisor.

Together we are making Unquowa stronger for the students who are here now and for those who will join the Unquowa family in the future. On behalf of all of them, thank you.

To learn more, visit the Giving section of the school's website or contact Janice Cerone in the Business Office at 203-362-2561 or [janice.cerone@unquowa.org](mailto:janice.cerone@unquowa.org).

*We have carefully reviewed the names listed in this report but recognize that errors may still occur.*

*Please accept our sincere apology if your name has been omitted, misspelled or incorrectly listed.*

*So we may correct our records, please notify:*

*Hans Richter, Director of Development at [hans.richter@unquowa.org](mailto:hans.richter@unquowa.org)*

*The Future is in Our Care*