

# The River School

## 2011-2012 Volunteer Opportunities

### ***Annual Fund Committee***

***Chair: Gema DeCain***

In independent schools like The River School, tuition does not cover the cost of educating each student. A fundraising drive, the Annual Fund Campaign, is conducted each year to raise funds to close the gap between tuition and expenses. It is our most important fundraiser of the year. Working with the Director of Development, the chair and committee volunteers help the school reach the campaign goal which is a line item in the budget. Committee volunteers call parents, write notes, and help generate enthusiasm and contributions throughout the year. Most of the work is conducted in the fall with the majority of the calls made during a phonathon held at school. There are some follow-up emails and time promoting the campaign in the lobby. It is a great group of parents who help us with this effort and the phonathon is actually a lot of fun!

### ***Auction Committee***

***Chair: Rachel Moore Weller***

The school will hold its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction on February 25, 2012. The Auction is our largest annual fundraising event for scholarship; last year, we raised over \$235,000. Volunteer opportunities abound on this large, energetic committee. Planning begins in the fall and the time commitment peaks in early 2012, depending on the role. Volunteers are needed for advertising, corporate support, item solicitation, catalog production, database input, decorating and display, publicity, graphic design, tuition raffle, set-up, general administrative work, and more. Some jobs can be done from home, some at school and others take you into the community – all have flexible hours. If you have business contacts, have a specific skill, or just want to help, the Auction Committee needs you. This is a great way to meet a lot of parents!

### ***Book Fair Committee***

***Chair: Kathy Stallings***

This committee helps run a week-long Scholastic Book Fair each fall to raise funds for the school library. Volunteers coordinate with the school librarian on set-up, promote the Book Fair, and assist shoppers/students at the Book Fair. Time commitment is flexible.

### ***Buddy Parents Program Committee***

***Chair: Jennifer Moore Sprague***

Members of this committee work with the Director of Admission during the spring Admission season in outreach to new River School families. Buddy parents contact new families, serve as guides to the school community, answer questions they have, meet/greet the families at new parent events in May 2012, and check in with them in the fall. This committee is a great resource for new families in their first year at The River

School.

### ***Community Service/Food Drive Committee***

***Chairs: Kim Goldsteen, Sara Tobin***

This committee works with room parents to organize an in-school community service event on November 22 as well as a canned food drive for Martha's Table. This committee also works with school administration to develop and coordinate a school-wide community service project for the spring. The time commitment is flexible.

### ***Dad's Hot Lunch Bunch***

***Chair: Scott Cobb***

River School dads serve lunch to students in the gym! This popular event is a great opportunity for dads to work together while enjoying lunch with your children. Committee members coordinate logistics, set-up, clean-up and serve lunch. This event will take place on October 14 for school-age classes, and April 13 for preschool classes.

### ***Faculty and Staff Appreciation Committee***

***Chair: Jean Marie Mottaghi***

This committee helps honor the amazing teachers and staff at The River School. The Committee plans appreciation lunches during parent/teacher conferences, coordinates the River School Parents Association's gifts to "specials" teachers, and coordinates an end-of-the-year group gift for the teachers.

### ***Garden Committee***

This committee helps beautify the school's entrance and other planted areas surrounding the school. Volunteers plant, weed, and maintain the planters and beds. Very limited time commitment.

### ***Room Parents***

Room parents serve as liaisons between the teachers, parents, administration, and the River School Parents Association (RSPA.) There are typically two room parents per class. This role enables parents to be closely involved with their children's teachers and classmates, as well as with other parents. Room parents should expect to help teachers with celebrations and field trips, coordinate group gifts and a project for the auction, attend RSPA meetings, and communicate with the parents of other students in the class. A room parent orientation will be held in mid-September.

### ***Innisbrook Gift Wrap Program***

***Chair: Melissa Grigorian***

This River School Parents Association (RSPA) fundraiser is held at the start of the school year. A few volunteers are needed to help with promotion, and coordination/distribution of purchased items.

### ***RIVER TALKS Speaker Series Committee***

***Chair: Mindy Ginsburg***

The River School introduced RIVER TALKS during the 2009-2010 school year. It is an important fundraising event for parents and the larger community. Members of the committee generate speaker ideas, help bring speakers to the school, and promote speaker series events within the school and in the local community.

### ***River Walk and Spring Picnic Committee***

***Chair: Melissa Grigorian***

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual River Walk will be held on Sunday, May 20. This school-wide, fundraising event is for all members of our community! Working alongside the Development Office, volunteers help plan, promote, and execute the event. The goal is to raise \$20,000 and involve as many members of our community as possible.

Following River Walk is the Annual River School Picnic, a favorite, school-wide event and a wonderful way to end the school year. Volunteers help plan, organize, and assist with children's activities, set-up, and clean-up.

### ***Yearbook / School Photos Committee***

***Chair: Kathy Stalling, Bill Moss***

Parent volunteers are needed to assist with the coordination of school photo days on September 26 and 27 by helping prepare students for their class and individual photos and assisting teachers and the photographer as needed.

Yearbook opportunities include photographers to cover school events and class happenings, helping with the design of the yearbook, and promoting sales of the yearbook.

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***Each committee offers many different volunteer opportunities, with a variety of time commitments. After you complete the Online Volunteer Survey, Committee Chairs will contact you regarding your involvement. The River School Parent's Association (RSPA) looks forward to your participation in many of our wonderful committees during the 2011 – 2012 school year!***