

The Walden School



2022 Annual Report

901 N. Providence Rd., Media, PA 19063
610.892.8000

“Real generosity
toward the future
lies in giving all
to the present.”

— ALBERT CAMUS



Mary LeFever
Founder

Message from our Head of School



Dear Walden School Friends,

My first few months at Walden have been nothing short of amazing! What I have seen of the giving of time, energy, and resources by this community to provide our students with an outstanding educational experience is incredible. The experience opens their eyes to the wonders of the current world while preparing them for the challenges of the future. The joy of learning is alive and well at Walden.

Your generosity allows Walden to advance its mission and vision and keep pace with the ever-changing landscape of education. The dedication and passion of our teachers together with the Montessori-based philosophy continue to produce graduates grounded in the values of peace, empathy, inclusivity, and stewardship. Walden enables young learners to safely explore and understand the world around them and how they can engage and make it better.

When philanthropic giving reaches a certain threshold, it ensures that your child's current experience at Walden is secure. When philanthropic giving exceeds a certain threshold, it ensures that our school's foundation and future grow stronger. This important investment in your school community can help make your child's experience even more robust. That future includes becoming the next generation of leaders for our world. We all want what's best for our children and our world, so maintaining and sustaining that experience places us on a solid foundation.

Your generosity during the 2021-2022 school year has ensured that for another year we have strengthened the foundation of the school. Our future remains bright in no small part because of your generous support, helping advance the school in the most meaningful and innovative ways. Congratulations, again, for being "heroic" and engaging in the Walden community.

We cannot thank you enough!

Warm Regards,

Bob Thomas
Head of School

Our history

The Walden School, a non-profit, independent school, was founded in 1967 by Mary C. LeFever, who became interested in the philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori first as a parent and then as a teacher. From the beginning, The Walden School has maintained a dedicated staff of teachers, many of whom were parents who joined the faculty after observing their child's happiness and development in a Montessori environment. While The Walden School originated as a preschool, in response to parental request, the elementary program was developed and has expanded into a middle school program.

In 1999, The Walden School moved to its permanent site in Media, PA. In 2002, Walden received accreditation from what is now Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS). Every year The Walden School strives to improve, ensuring that your child gets the best possible academic and social experience.

Mission & Philosophy

Walden promotes a high standard of academics in a peaceful and caring learning environment. Walden nurtures the whole child, ignites intellectual curiosity, and fosters independence in a culture of deep and abiding respect.

Our preschool/kindergarten students learn using the Montessori Method. In our first through eighth grade classrooms, we use a Montessori-based philosophy to teach traditional academic subjects.



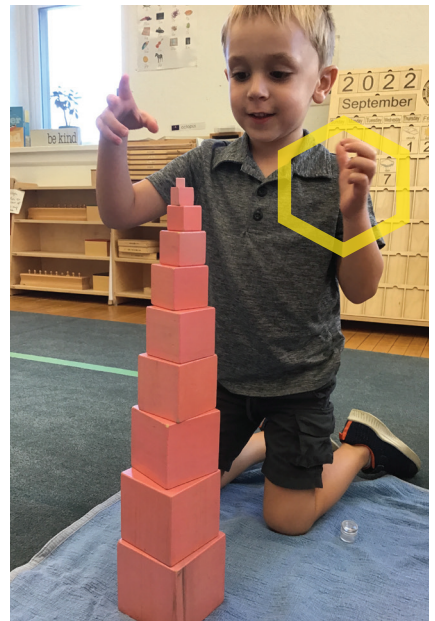
“The structure of the classroom promotes individualized learning & fosters independence.”

—PARENT, PRESCHOOL



“We are so happy we found the Walden community. The place feels like a big hug. Every day our kids are excited to go, and they are simultaneously challenged and nurtured. The structure of the school allows for it to deal with all different types of personalities and learning styles, while challenging and respecting all students.”

— BECCA L., PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT



We would like to thank our donors

The Walden Fund Supporters

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*Indicates a Walden Board Member



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*Indicates a Walden Board Member

Ways to Give

The Walden School School's ongoing fundraising initiatives consist of the following programs:

Annual Fund: The annual fund makes a difference every year for every student by providing significant and immediate annual revenue to fund the school's highest priorities. As with all independent schools, the Annual Fund is a vital component of Walden's financial stability, since tuition alone does not cover the cost of operating the school. Each day, Walden students are challenged in the classroom, in the music room, in the art studio, and beyond—and the Annual Fund makes this possible.

Endowment: All great schools, including The Walden School, rely on endowment funds to provide funds, over and above tuition, for extraordinary educational programs, financial aid, and faculty professional development. Endowment funds provide ongoing income for the school with the option to create a lasting legacy for alumni, faculty members, loved ones, or family members.

Planned Giving: Planned gifts are placed in the endowment fund to create a lasting legacy, providing income in perpetuity for the school.

Bid, Sip and Celebrate: This event generates funds and fun each year for ongoing excellent educational programs. The Bid, Sip and Celebrate depends on the support of families, friends and faculty as volunteers, sponsors and attendees.

Pennsylvania Tax Credit Programs:

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program provides tax credits to eligible businesses contributing to a scholarship organization, an educational improvement organization and/or a prekindergarten scholarship organization.

The Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) is a similar program administered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which provides tax credits to eligible businesses for distribution to scholarship organizations.

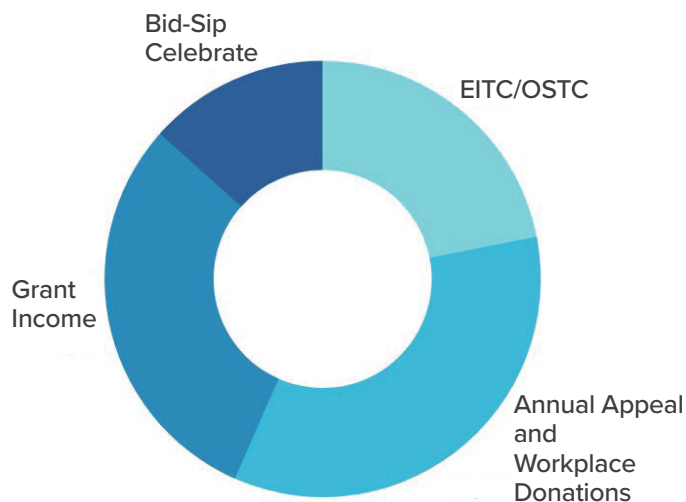
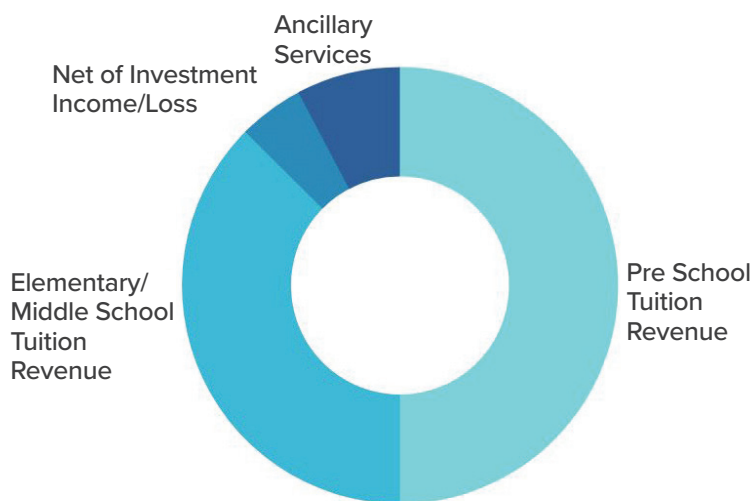
The OSTC program focuses on qualified students residing in low performing school districts.

BLOCS: An individual or company who wishes to take advantage of these tax credit programs may become a member of a BLOCS Scholarship LLC. Donors can receive up to a 90% tax credit against their personal PA state tax liability, by making their EITC and OSTC gift through BLOCS. These special purpose entities, are the only financial vehicle available for individuals (or companies who do not have direct tax credit approval) to be able to realize tax credits in return for scholarship donations.

Please visit thewaldenschool.org/support to learn more about ways you can give back to The Walden School.

Financial Report 2022

Fiscal Year Ended June 2022



ANNUAL REPORT DATA

- Ancillary Services \$167,768
- Pre School Tuition Revenue \$1,086,227
- Elementary/Middle School Tuition Revenue \$813,121
- Net of Investment Income/Loss \$105,330

TOTAL: \$2,172,446

CONTRIBUTIONS AND FUNDRAISING

- Bid-Sip Celebrate \$20,690
- EITC/OSTC \$33,800
- Annual Appeal and Workplace Donations \$53,628
- Grant Income \$46,322

TOTAL: \$154,440



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