

## **The Board Report**

Jamie Driver, Board Chair

Now that school is in full swing I want to take this opportunity to introduce you to your Board of Directors for 2008-09 and answer some Frequently Asked Questions about the Board.

### **2008-09 Board Members:**

Jamie Driver, President (Abbie, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, Haley, 1<sup>st</sup> grade)

Dave Donnini, Vice President (Zachary, K)

Greg Muchnik, Treasurer (Ethan, 1<sup>st</sup> grade)

Rachel Gandhi, Secretary (Raya, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Sohan, 1<sup>st</sup> grade)

Jennifer Bartlett (Countryside Alum)

Bill Bernhard (Raine, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)

Jeff Brown (Madeleine, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Sophie, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)

Wendy Cho (Matthew, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Ethan, K)

Dahtzen Chu (Aileen, MS)

Dustin Edwards (Former parent)

Howie Guenther (Elizabeth, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade)

Andy Leipold (Michael, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Stephen, 1<sup>st</sup> grade)

Vikram Luthar (Mallika, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade)

Tiffany White (Julian, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)

### **How are Board Members selected?**

The Board of Directors has a Committee on Directors whose responsibility it is to identify individuals who would be interested in serving on the board and/or who have expertise in certain areas that would benefit the board. We strive for a board that is comprised of current and past parents, alumni, grandparents as well as community members.

### **I am interested in serving on the board. What can I do?**

The first step would be to complete the parent volunteer sheets that are sent home in the back-to-school packets. Faculty, staff, and the Committee on Directors rely on these information sheets to identify parents' volunteer interests. Another great way to become more involved with the board is to serve on a committee.

### **What are the Board Committees?**

Each board member is assigned to one or more committees that meet on a regular basis. The majority of the work of the board is accomplished through committees and the staff is integrally involved with the committee members. The committees are: Executive Committee comprised of the board officers; Finance Committee, Development Committee; Building and Grounds, Human Resources, Strategic Marketing and the Committee on Directors. If there is a committee that interests you, please let us know!!

### **How does the Board of Directors differ from CSA?**

The Board of Directors is responsible for setting fiscal policies for the school, managing the school's finances, determining the strategic direction for the school, fundraising and providing support and guidance to the School Head who is the Board's sole employee. The Board is not involved in any way in the day-to-day operations of the school. All faculty and staff report to the Head and not the Board. CSA (Countryside School Association) is the organization to which all current parents belong and is charged with organizing school-wide events, such as the Fall picnic, the Book Fairs and other special events. CSA also provides support to the faculty and staff via the Teacher Appreciation luncheons and other events.

In future articles I will share current Board news and I very much look forward to sharing with you our new strategic plan which is in the final stages right now. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Board. We strive to insure that every day Countryside is fulfilling its mission of Joy in Learning, Excellence in Education and we look forward to partnering with you to make that happen.