



Gwynedd-Mercy Academy Elementary Development Newsletter

Spring 2010

Development Council Members 2009 - 2010

Sister Anne Crampsie
Principal

Mary Evich
Chairperson

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Development*

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Alumni

Lisa Hill
Technology

Mary Hughes
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and Communications*

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Peer Leadership

Eileen Matchett
*Foundations/
Corporations*

Jamie Rosati
Communications

Shannon Sanfilippo
*Foundations/
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Lisa Shearman
Technology

Denise Target
Communications

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215-646-2428

2009-10 Peer Leadership

The 2009-2010 GMA Annual Giving Campaign came to an official close on April 15. This year's campaign was a huge success. Our theme, "All Good Things Begin with YES! ... Say YES to Annual Giving!" was taken to heart by so many of our families. So far, more than 80% of GMA families have made a contribution or pledge to the Campaign. Many thanks to all those families and their generosity!

Of course, this campaign would not have been such a success if not for the hard work and dedication of our Peer Leaders who worked tirelessly to educate and encourage participation. When most schools register just 50% to 60% participation in such campaigns, our higher-than-average rate of participation would likely be harder to realize if not for the efforts of our Peer Leaders. We are indebted to them for their commitment and enthusiasm for Gwynedd-Mercy Academy.



Alumni from all graduating classes of GMA were invited to our Alumni Open House on March 19th. Read more about this alumni event on page 2.

A message from Mary Evich

As you know, Gwynedd-Mercy Academy Elementary will soon be celebrating its 150th Anniversary. This year-long celebration will run from September 2010 - September 2011. As a member of the GMA family, I am proud to say I will be a part of this *once in a lifetime* event! I invite all of you to get involved, attend events, and support this very special time in the Legacy of Mercy at GMA. As you go through the pages of this

newsletter, please note some of the exciting events that have already been scheduled for the coming year. I hope you take the time to enjoy the pages that follow and see all the amazing things happening here at Gwynedd-Mercy Academy Elementary. If you would like to get involved in the 150th Anniversary Celebration event planning, contact me at maryevich@aol.com.

Technology Update

The Technology team is getting ready to celebrate the upcoming 150th Anniversary by organizing and updating GMA family information. We are also hoping to systematize our donor database in an effort to streamline the process next year. We continue to investigate new and different opportunities to raise funds for Gwynedd-Mercy Academy through online programs. We hope everyone has had an opportunity to sign up for the eScrip program so your online shopping and Genuardis' purchases can earn money for the school. If you haven't already signed up, visit www.escrip.com and designate Gwynedd-Mercy Academy as your designated group. The group ID is 6511288.

Foundations/Corporations

The Development Council has worked closely with the Development and Curriculum offices to identify specific tangible needs within the curriculum and in areas of service that may appeal to the giving priorities of foundation and corporate prospects. Letters of inquiry have been sent to several prospective supporters and follow-up conversations are underway. Foundations and corporations who have made contributions to GMA in the past are being cultivated and invited to our programs and events to let them see the positive effects of their contributions. It is anticipated that, as a result of this year-long Middle States Accreditation Process, new sources of prospective funding will be identified.

Alumni Open House

Gwynedd-Mercy Academy Elementary hosted an Alumni Open House for all classes on Friday, March 19, 2010 from 5-7 pm. Alumni were invited to return to GMA and reconnect with former classmates and teachers. The evening was filled with piano music played by Maria Gaynard, an 8th grade student at GMA. Tours of the school were conducted by the 6th grade Ambassadors for those who wished to walk back down “memory lane” in the halls and classrooms. Representatives from multiple graduating years attended and were able to visit with current teachers as well as our principal, Sister Anne Crampsie. The evening was a great success and we look forward to celebrating the 150th with all of our alumni!



It's not too late for Annual Giving!

It's not too late to consider a gift to the 2009-2010 Annual Giving Campaign! If you need an additional copy of our Annual Giving materials, or you have questions, contact the Development Office. All gifts received by June 30, 2010 will be listed in the 2009-2010 Annual Report.



Some companies match their employees' gifts 2:1 or even 3:1. Check with your employer's Human Resources Office.

Miles for Mercy Alumni Attendees

The 7th Annual *Miles for Mercy* took place at the Larry Wilson Field House at Gwynedd-Mercy College on April 26, 2010. Friends and family of GMA ran a 5K or Fun Run to raise significant funds for the school. Andi Land Healy '76 and Peggy Farrell, Director of Development, greeted alumni who stopped to visit and share memories of the run from previous years. The day was filled with the pre-race excitement and warm-ups and concluded with an awards presentation.



facebook

Become a fan of “Gwynedd Mercy Academy Elementary Alumni” on facebook and keep up with alumni-friendly GMA events.

Attention GMA Class of 2006!

(current high school seniors)

Look for a mailing requesting information on your college acceptances, as well as awards and honors you have received. Gwynedd-Mercy Academy Elementary is proud of our alums and we want to share all your good news. This information will be published in a special section of our Annual Report. Please return this information to us as soon as possible!

Alumni Class News

Conrad Miller, Class of 1975

Graduated in a class of 20 (all boys) we won the football championship against Norwood Academy. Great times! It would be fantastic to have a reunion (virtual or otherwise) with my classmates.

Keelin Cummings Greenberg, Class of 1987

I live in Flourtown with my husband Mark, and three children: Annie, 5; Charlie, 3; and Claire, 5 months!

Douglas Interrante, Class of 1999

Doug, the photographer for the Philadelphia Eagles, accompanied Philadelphia Eagles' offensive tackle, Winston Justice, and safety, Quintin Demps, during a mission trip to Haiti. Through *Mission of Hope*, the group volunteered with the relief efforts following the massive earthquake. Their primary mission was to build an extension on an orphanage. *Mission of Hope* is a home for more than 60 orphans. After the earthquake, there were days the MOH passed out more than 300,000 meals, even more than the U.N. and Red Cross combined.

Catherine Evich, Class of 2004, was named to the Dean's List at Fordham University.

Michael Tubolino, Class of 2005, was named *Mr. Penn State*. He is majoring in Kinesiology.

Caitlyn Moynahan, Malena Marandola, Jen Ritinski and Melissa Silvestrini (all *GMA Class of 2007*) were inducted into the National Honor Society at GMA High School.

Anna Evich, Class of 2006, was selected by the GMA High School as *Student of the Month*. Anna was honored by the Ambler Rotary Club at a December luncheon at the William Penn Inn.

In Memoriam

- † **Carol Ann Jaskowiak**, GMA Class of 1977, passed away on 3/24/10. She was the cousin of Jessica Cressman, a GMA teacher.
- † **Joseph W. Carroll**, Class of 1936, died on December 13, 2009.
- † **Samantha Grosse**, Class of 2001, died on November 30, 2009.

Celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Gwynedd-Mercy Academy

During the 2010-2011 school year, Gwynedd-Mercy Academy will join with the Sisters of Mercy in celebrating our 150th Anniversary. Many plans are in process for this Celebration.

Save these dates!!

- ◆ **October 1-2—Homecoming Games/Alumni Gatherings**
- ◆ **October 3—150th Anniversary Family Liturgy at 10:00 am**
- ◆ **October 18—Sisters of Mercy 150th Celebration at the Kimmel Center**
- ◆ **April 2—Gwynedd-Mercy Academy 150th Anniversary Gala at Whitemarsh Valley Country Club**
- ◆ **Spring, 2011—*The Legacy of Mercy*, GMA arts show detailing the history of the Sisters of Mercy**



GMA Alumni: We want to hear from you and so do your classmates!

- ◆ Please help the alumni team keep everyone informed. Go to www.gmaelem.org/alumni. Send us your news ... any recent accomplishments, new schools, weddings, babies, current addresses and e-mail. Your classmates would love to hear from you!
- ◆ Parents of current GMA students: If you are also a graduate of GMA, please notify the Development Office. We want to ensure that our records are up to date.



We're looking for GMA Memorabilia!

As we look forward to celebrating our 150th anniversary, we'd like to *borrow* old uniforms, report cards or other Gwynedd-Mercy Academy mementos to display at our gala next spring. If you have something to share, please contact Peggy Farrell in the Development Office at 215-646-2428 or email mfarrell@gmaelem.org.