



Friends of the Waltham Family School

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



CELEBRATING OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY



Tracy McMahon
FWFS President
2021- Present

Dear Friend,

In 2023, we reached a significant milestone at the Waltham Family School (WFS), celebrating its 20th anniversary of fostering educational growth among Waltham families mastering English. Established in 2003, WFS has positively influenced the lives of over 500 families through education.

The Friends of the Waltham Family School (FWFS) were thrilled to commemorate this special anniversary with the first in-person Fiesta! event since 2019, a landmark and highly successful occasion. The event was a sell-out, attracting over 180 attendees and raising more than \$55,000 for WFS.

A standout moment of the Fiesta was the fashion show featuring traditional costumes, showcased by WFS alumni. Fifteen representatives from eight different nations electrified the audience, earning rounds of cheers and applause.

The 2023 Friend of the Year Award was proudly presented to the Simply Business Iceland Trek Team, who generated over \$19,000 for WFS by undertaking a sponsored trek in Iceland to witness the Northern Lights.

This year also marked the formation of the inaugural Waltham Family School Alumni Group. Initiated by graduates to maintain connections, their enthusiasm was palpable and pivotal in both establishing the group and organizing their inaugural event, the fashion show at the Fiesta.





We were also pleased to welcome Jessica Herwick, Director of Education and Community Programs from Waltham Fields Community Farm to our FWFS Advisory Council.

The year concluded with a memorable graduation ceremony and the awarding of scholarships in the summer. Two Suffolk University students, Ashley Marquez Gonzales, a sophomore, and Mayeli Ramirez, a freshman, each received scholarships worth \$1,250.

In conclusion, heartfelt thanks go to the City of Waltham and Waltham Public Schools for their steadfast support and partnership, contributing over 75% of our operational funding. Our gratitude also extends to all our donors, sponsors, supporters, and volunteers. Your faith in our mission and your assistance have been instrumental in enabling us to provide opportunities for parents to enhance their skills, advocate for their children's education, and emerge as community leaders.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Tracy McMahon in blue ink.

Tracy McMahon
Board President
Friends of the Waltham Family School

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Music in Motion

In 2022, the Waltham Family School introduced an exciting new initiative: a music program. Taking place every other Friday, this program, dubbed "Music in Motion," is designed to enhance social-emotional learning through a blend of music and physical activity. For the first time in its nearly two-decade existence, the Waltham Family School is able to offer such a unique program.

This program not only offers a delightful opportunity for fun but also aids in the development of fine motor skills, movement coordination, and social interaction. Beyond these benefits, it serves as a special bonding experience for parents and their children.



Waltham Fields and Healthy Waltham

During the Summer, families enjoyed a week long camp at Waltham Fields Community Farm, learning together and enjoying nature. They painted, completed art projects, played in nature, cut flowers and herbs, and petted bunnies. Waltham Fields Community Farm and Healthy Waltham also visited the Waltham Family School during the year. They introduced a range of unique vegetables, offering insights into how to prepare and cook with them. To complement this educational experience, the families were given grocery bags filled with fresh produce to take home.



Coffee and Conversation

Throughout the school year, we organized a series of "Coffee and Conversation" gatherings. These meetings offered parents and community members a wonderful opportunity to engage in discussions, allowing them to connect and get to know each other more intimately. The interactions were so enjoyable and engaging that they often extended beyond the scheduled time. Additionally, attendees had the opportunity to learn more about the Waltham Family School and were given a tour of the facility.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Statement of Financial Position

2022-23

ASSETS:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Unreserved Bank Accounts | \$100,380 |
| Investments unrestricted | \$246,026 |
| Cash | \$567 |
| Reserved per Instructions | \$44,326 |
| Reserved for LCSW | \$45,600 |
| Ruth Preston Furniture Grant | \$25,000 |
| Dorr Technology Grant | \$8,397 |
| Parent Technology Fund | \$7,953 |
| FWFS Scholarship Fund | \$131,776 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$610,025 |

LIABILITIES:

\$0

NET ASSETS:

\$610,025

Statement of Activities

INCOME

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| General Donations | \$59,560 |
| Fiesta Event Income | \$55,627 |
| Grants | \$68,255 |
| Scholarship | \$5,454 |
| Interest & Dividends | \$2,838 |
| TOTAL Income | \$191,734 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Development Expenses | \$67,649 |
| Event Expenses | \$8,288 |
| Educational Programs | \$23,695 |
| Administrative expenses & general | \$9,966 |
| Parent Technology Fund | \$13,182 |
| Scholarship Awards | \$3,600 |
| WPS Supplement | \$34,774 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$161,155 |

NET Income

\$30,580

THANK YOU PARTNERS AND DONORS!

Kimberli and Adrian



"I have one son, Adrian in the preschool at Waltham Family School.

We are from Guatemala. The Waltham Family School is very good. I love this program, because it helped me learn English. When I started, I didn't know any English. But this year, I learned many words. My son is very happy with this program. He also learned a lot here. Thank you to WFS for this opportunity."

Leydi and Ariel



"We are from Guatemala and my son Ariel is four years old. My experience with Waltham Family School has been one of the best. It has helped me to communicate more. I have made many friends. My teacher Jane has taught me how to express myself more. I am grateful to be part of the WFS program."

FWFS BOARD

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FWFS Contractors

Patricia Deveaux, Koundakjian & Company, P.C.

Anne Dugan, AMD EventWorks, LLC.

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WFS STAFF

Jackie Herrera, Program Coordinator

Susana Saldaña Sanchez, Assistant
Program Coordinator

Jane Ansin, ESOL Teacher

Glenda Fernandez, WFS Preschool
Assistant

Sara Ixam, WFS Preschool Assistant

Julie Leger-Fullerton, ESOL Teacher

Meg Maehl, WFS Preschool Lead Teacher

Dayana Ramirez, Program Support
Assistant

Yeni Velasquez - Bachelor Social Work
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City of Waltham: Community Block Development Grant

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The Linda King Memorial Fund / Waltham Partnership for Youth.
Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation
Waltham Rotary Club
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