



2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT
BETHESDA ACADEMY

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OF SAVANNAH, INC.
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BARN & LOT



"CHOW" LINE



DINNER ON GROUND



"MIRAGE"
BALL GAME IN OPEN AIR THEATER



BALL GAME



OPEN AIR
THEATER



275 years old.

Think about that: 275 years.

Bethesda has been serving the youth of the Savannah community for 275 years. That accomplishment is worthy of recognition and celebration – and beginning in January 2015, Bethesda kicked off a year of both. From launching a special logo for the anniversary year designed by Bethesda staff member Gary Byrd (Bethesda, class of 2008 and Savannah College of Art & Design class of 2012), to visits to the State Capitol, to an incredible video mapping presentation at the 2015 Gala; from a special pull-out edition in the Savannah Morning News, to receipt of resolutions, commendations, and letters from local municipalities, State House & Senate, US Congress, and the President of the United States, the first half of the celebration has been worthy of an institution founded before the United States of America was established.

Bethesda was, is, and always will be an amazing House of Mercy where “a love of God, a love of learning, and a strong work ethic” is at the core.

But if you are looking for “the orphans”, we don’t have any. If you are looking for a place where “work” is punishment, it isn’t here.

Bethesda is what Reverend George Whitefield always intended it to be: a seat of sound learning - whether in the classroom, in the Chapel, on the athletic courts and fields, in the boarding cottages, or within a campus enterprise internship.

Bethesda Academy is place for young men who want to be college-ready, or have military aspirations, or be prepared to enter the workforce. It is a place with a special heart toward providing young men - many with financial barriers - a chance at an incredible private school experience. It is a place of both encouragement and reality checks. It is a place for setting goals and working toward dreams. And as you will read, it is a place of champions.

275 years.

From where we began in 1740, to what we are now, we thank you for being part of our journey.

And as for what the future holds? Well, we hope you read on and become as excited as we are.

We hope you will support Bethesda and our ongoing efforts to continuously stretch ourselves into the very best version of Whitefield’s timeless vision.





LETTERS TO THE COMMUNITY - PAGE 3



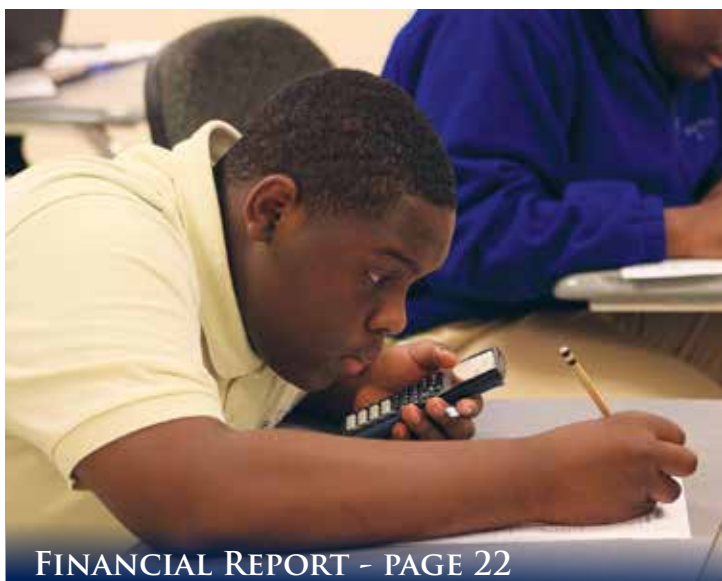
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FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Dear Friends of Bethesda Academy,

We are honored to share with you this Annual Report to highlight the many accomplishments of the students of Bethesda Academy during the 2014-2015 school year. We are proud of these young men. We are equally inspired by our dedicated staff that nurtures the growth and development of our students each day. This year was of additional significance as we celebrated the kickoff of an extraordinary historic milestone: **Bethesda's 275th year**. We want to use this remarkable achievement to launch Bethesda's next exciting chapter in a way that continues to fulfill Rev. George Whitefield's hallowed legacy – teaching students that “a love of God, a love of learning, and a strong work ethic” are the foundation for building men of character, resiliency and integrity. While 275 years of continuing service does not guarantee future success, we share our forbearers' confidence that we, too, are paving the successful path forward for many generations to come.

As you peruse the pages of this report, we trust that you will be inspired by what you see and read. Championships, academic achievement, graduation, college enrollment, and military service are all on full display. To quote one of our recent graduates, “Bethesda is more than a school, it's a family.”

Completely independent of state funding, Bethesda raises \$3.4 million annually, or approximately \$30,000 per student. Every family pays tuition; however, tuition makes up only 10% of the needed revenue at Bethesda. We work diligently to ensure that financial hardship does not limit access to our program, as we know how vital this institution is to our students and our community. While the endowment covers approximately 30% of our budget, the remaining 60%, or \$2 million, must be raised through Annual Giving, special events, and other enterprise opportunities. Please know that your annual gifts safeguard the enrollment of young men who both need and deserve all that Bethesda Academy offers. The growth and success of these boys is reflected in on-time graduation rates of 95%, college enrollment of 85%, military service, and gainful employment. These outcomes serve as a profound testament to all that Rev. George Whitefield first envisioned.

In keeping with our desire to continuously improve Bethesda's student outcomes, while keeping a thoughtful eye on our fiscal health, we have recently adopted a new strategic vision that we call, “Lead the Way.” This plan will continue to academically integrate the natural learning setting of Bethesda's campus and natural resources while growing both our day and boarding opportunities for students. As we look to grow our student body to 150 students and beyond, with the accompanying expansion of our boarding capacity, we will be doing everything possible to financially sustain this amazing legacy that has withstood the test of 275 years. We hope you will join us as we continue to honor and preserve the mission of Bethesda Academy.

We want to thank the beloved Dr. David Tribble for his selfless and inspired commitment over the past 25 years, and we wish him nothing but the best as he retires at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. David's passion for Bethesda and our students will be a lasting legacy. As we strive to find a new leader who will continue this passion of excellence, we recognize that Bethesda has a very special place in the lives of young boys, who will develop into young men. These young men will develop into the leaders of tomorrow. Thank you for all you are doing for Bethesda Academy. Happy 275th, Bethesda!

Sincerely,



John C. Helmken II, Chairman
Board of Governors



T. Mills Fleming, Past Chairman
Board of Governors



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Thank you so much for reviewing this annual report of Bethesda Academy. The 2014-2015 year was certainly a memorable one, and try as we might, we can at best only feature highlights from our school and program year, but what a year it was. We also offer our most heartfelt thanks for all of our donors and partners that help make Bethesda the very special place that it is.

This past year saw the founding of the Center for Young Entrepreneurs, supported by our friends at South State Bank. With this gift we truly took a huge step in formalizing what we mean when we say that one of our founding values is to promote a “strong work ethic” in every student. By the end of the school year, our students had worked over 12,000 hours on campus, a grading system was established to qualify and quantify the actual work skills that our students exhibited, and we infused our school culture with the idea that our students must be prepared to invest in their own education. At Bethesda Academy we sincerely believe that the sense of personal industry, in concert with a faith in God, and a willingness to always learn, offers our graduates an advantaged foundation as their lives continue to unfold.

Academically, under the leadership of new principal, Megan Kicklighter, Bethesda made a significant investment in the learning opportunities for every student. New programs in norm-referenced testing, a more focused and intentional after school initiative, and additional learning support for boys with dyslexia were major educational investments. As a result of such focus on the learning needs of every student, Bethesda experienced our lowest ever attrition rate from one academic year to the next, as only three percent of those students eligible to re-enroll for the 2015-2016 school year, failed to do so.

This past year also offered another state championship in basketball. The Blazers competed and won the AA State Championship for the second time in the last four years and recorded an outstanding record of 26-4. Coach Clevan Thompson was honored as the Coach of the Year, and the team was once again invited to visit with Governor Nathan Deal in the Executive Office, as he offered his congratulations on behalf of the state. Continuing on the competitive front, Bethesda football again made the state playoffs and Blazer athletes won state championships for their individual performances in track and field, while the entire team finished second in the state meet.

Also over this past year, our Board and staff came together to discuss the next five years of Bethesda's strategic future. With the help of Ian Symmonds and Associates, we looked at our programs, our financial health, and our mission, in light of feedback sessions with parents, students, staff members, community leaders, and donors. These initiatives all culminated in a formally presented and adopted strategic plan, entitled “Lead the Way.” This exciting plan strengthens our educational philosophy, while introducing new learning programs tied to sustainability and student leadership offerings. Most importantly, the skills associated with entrepreneurial thinking and planning will be highlighted through our Center for Young Entrepreneurs, as our students receive first hand experience in the business philosophies that undergird each campus enterprise.

And of course, we were all humbled and honored at the close of the school year, to kick off the milestone achievement of having reached Bethesda's 275th anniversary. A wonderful gala, highlighted by a speech from University of Georgia great, Vince Dooley, along with the introduction of seventeen impressive seniors, launched year 275.

These seventeen young men, who have now moved on will be forever Blazers, and part of a wonderful historic legacy that is unmatched in the state of Georgia. Twelve graduates followed the tradition of young men who decided to continue their education with college enrollment, two graduates joined the work force, and three Blazers decided to serve their nation in the US Army. What a wonderful culmination and testament to the years these young men spent on this amazing campus. We are honored to have been part of the lives of these young men, and we look forward to our continuing opportunity to watch them grow as adults and leaders.

In closing, the 2014-2015 school year was also a milestone for me personally, as I decided to announce my retirement at the close of the 2015-2016 school year. My twenty-five years at Bethesda will be forever dear to me. What I have learned and experienced here has so informed and challenged the sense of calling that I first professed for Christian service so many years ago. Like our students, Bethesda introduced me to a place of sanctuary, a place of purpose, and a place where aspirations will always be informed by “a love of God, a love of learning, and a strong work ethic.” It has been my privilege to serve this incredible institution, and I sincerely appreciate the dedication of our staff, board, donors, and the Savannah community for all that Bethesda has become. But most importantly, I am honored to know so many young men, who are the embodiment of the Bethesda mission as they have grown into men of character and purpose. May God continue to bless Bethesda, and may we follow His continuing guidance.

Always a Blazer!

T. David Tribble, D.Min.



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING



Often in the world of development, we have to provide a “case for support” - a purpose for why a donor should include our organization in their annual philanthropic plan. What do you do? Who do you help or, asked of a school: what is your student profile? What are your metrics? Would it truly matter if you were not doing what you do every day? It requires ongoing dialogue and information sharing with donors and supporters. This Annual Report serves to provide answers to those questions. We proudly report our successes as an educational institution and acknowledge the many donors and volunteers who make it all possible.

I would like to revisit one of those above questions: What is your student profile?

When asked about our student profile, I know that with 100+ students, the question could be answered almost 100+ different ways. Interestingly enough, this is not a question most schools have to answer - or are even asked, but Bethesda has such a long history with so many iterations that people are confused. Or, maybe they just like thinking of Bethesda in a certain way. I find it difficult to believe that anyone who reads our Annual Reports, visits our website, follows us on Facebook, or meets our students, can see us as anything other than a uniquely dynamic educational experience for young men in middle and high school. As far as our student profile goes, a Bethesda Academy student is a young man who needs more or maybe something different than what he was getting at his former school - whether public or private. A Bethesda student wants to graduate from high school with viable options, be it college, military service, or the workforce. It is that simple. But where is the case for support in *that*?

This is where we venture into the waters of “at-risk” and all the many conclusions people draw from that term. It is a broad brush - too broad in my opinion. Do we have families that are financially at-risk? Most definitely, which is why we work so hard to maintain our uncommonly generous financial aid program. Do we have students who are academically at-risk? Most assuredly, which is why we remain committed to exceptionally small class sizes - even though we have waiting lists for most grades. Do we have students who are socially at-risk? We most certainly do. We have students who have been bullied, or whose parents are growing concerned about the behaviors they observe from their son - or their son's friends, which is why we have a focus on values and spiritual enrichment. But are any of our students on the cusp of juvenile delinquency? No.

Now I am going to answer that question in a very personal way. For me, the profile of a Bethesda student looks exactly like my middle child, Phillip. I have three children, who are all very different learners. Part of parenthood has been finding the right place for each one to flourish. Phillip offered unique challenges in that he has a couple of learning difficulties that have always made school extremely hard. By the time third grade rolled around, Phillip began to realize that he didn't “get it” like everyone else did. The academic part was grueling enough, but the emotional part was devastating. We tried tutors and a different school, but his self-esteem took repeated hits and, by seventh grade, he was asking how much longer I could “make him go to school.” It wasn't because he was belligerent or angry or disrespectful or unruly or defiant. It was a question he asked in anguish and exhaustion.

When Phillip was in eighth grade and the uncertainties of high school were looming, I began working at Bethesda. It wasn't even on my parental radar, but after being here a few weeks, I arranged a day for Phillip to shadow at Bethesda. He loved it. He told me that he had never felt so welcomed and accepted - and this from a boy who had only experienced small, private schools with faculties who always supported him. For Phillip, the academic side of school would always be struggle, so as a parent, my mission was to find a place where he could be happy in that struggle. I found it at Bethesda Academy - a place that challenged and inspired Phillip to believe in himself as much as the rest of us did. Maybe that is the profile of a Bethesda student: a kid who needs a school that will lock arms with his parents to challenge and inspire him into becoming the young man he is destined to be.

His freshman year, Phillip's last class of the day was Wildlife Management. Afterwards, he would show up in my office with dirt from his ankles to his knees, his fingertips to his elbows, and a smile that could not be wiped off. And he kept that smile - even during the ongoing academic struggles - through his four years of high school at Bethesda Academy. Phillip, my son who was once looking for the day when he could dropout, not only earned his diploma, but is excited to move onto the next level at Savannah College of Art & Design. As is tradition, during Bethesda's Commencement Ceremony each graduate took the opportunity to make remarks at the podium. When Phillip took the microphone, he asked me to stand and then, very publicly, thanked me.

While I cannot ask you to individually stand in recognition, as the Director of Development & Marketing, I **can** list your names in this Annual Report. And, on behalf of all Bethesda Academy parents - especially the Class of 2015, I thank each of you for your support and encouragement of our students. Bethesda Academy simply could not impact so many young lives without your continued investment in not only *what* we do, but *how* we do it - anchored in a love of God, a love of learning, and a strong work ethic.

With deepest gratitude -

Andrea B. Dove



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS



As I enter my 20th year in education, I can say the 2014-15 year was the most exciting and rewarding of my career. There are so many incredible words that come to mind as I reflect on the past school year. Spirituality, learning, work ethic, accountability, championships, dedication, and most importantly, BROTHERHOOD! As I watched the class of 2015 - "my" first graduating class - my heart swelled with pride as they stepped into adulthood. Even though these young men have gone their separate ways, the brotherhood they created will always lead them back under the arch of Bethesda. As faculty, we know this was ultimately the greatest gift they received from us.

Bethesda Academy boasts the most incredible campus in Savannah, but also a learning environment that is structured for young men to take new risks - both inside and outside the classroom. We saw young men teach a mathematics lesson to peers, cheered as young men excelled at a sport that they had never played, watched young men learn how to plant seeds or harvest crops or collect eggs — all of these new skills were learned because we have created an environment of comfortable risk taking. Life is a series of experiences and, at Bethesda Academy, our students thrive on the unique experiences we offer.

Megan Kicklighter, Principal

Every school struggles with ensuring the academic need of every learner is met. The 2014-2015 school year was no exception to this theory. We researched curriculum, implemented, assessed, tweaked, created interventions, challenged, discussed and made the changes necessary. The rigor of the curriculum and offerings were expanded so that all learners were more engaged throughout the day.



Advanced Placement Classes: The implementation of advanced placement classes afforded an opportunity for students to earn college credit while in high school. At a minimum, the coursework offered rigor that prepared students for the expectations of college.

SAT/ ACT Preparatory classes: Coursework, curriculum and scheduling often does not allow enough preparation time for these major assessments. We have found success in offering an after school program that is designed to prepare our students and enhance testing taking skills.

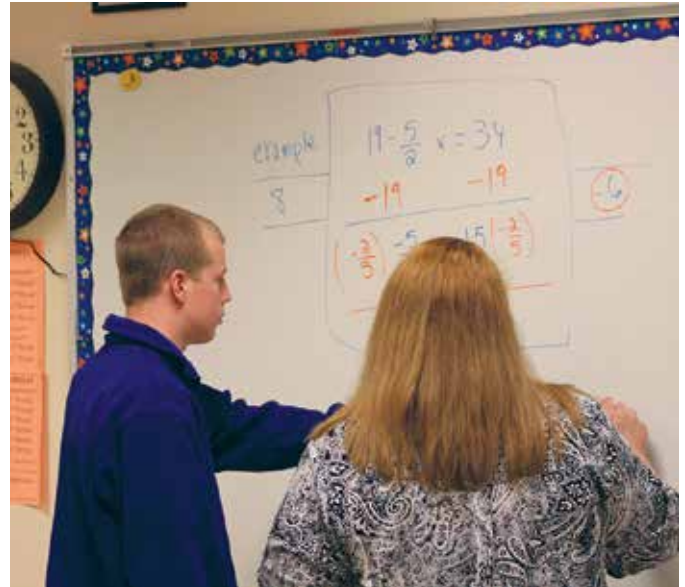
Additional Reading and Language Support: Through data, we found that additional support was needed in middle grades for Reading and Language Arts. We scheduled two blocks in each school day used to remediate and enrich the middle school curriculum.



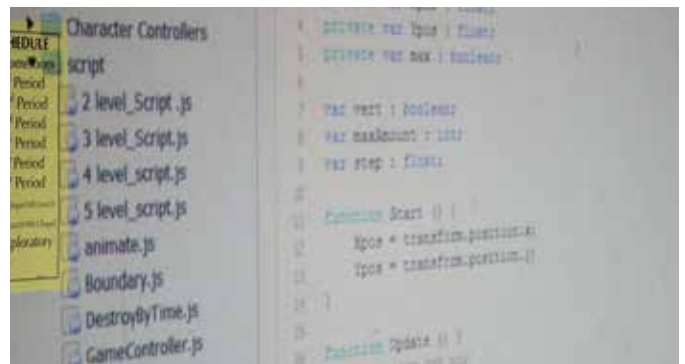
ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS



Professional Development: Students experience more success when their qualified teacher is given the most current information on student learning. Beyond Lean Six Sigma and a workshop with Stedman Graham, staff members were given extensive training in the Orton Gillingham method for language intervention. Orton Gillingham method combines multi-sensory techniques along with the structure of the English language. The teachers have continued learning the newest ways to use data and technology to make instructional decisions for the students.



Exploratories: Balance is important in every young man's life. Classroom academics is important but engaging in varied experiences outside the classroom added to the overall school success. Students chose exploratories which allowed them to learn how to code games, explore the outdoors, tailor clothes, be part of a drama/theater production, and many other options.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: A YEAR IN REVIEW

In preparation of the 2014-15 academic year, all faculty and staff members participating in Lean Six Sigma training and became Yellow Belt certified. A new first day of school tradition began with parents making signs and posters for their senior to greet them on their last “first” day at Bethesda Academy. That celebration was followed by our traditional Prayer around the Flagpole, when Dr. David Tribble and Chaplain Antwain Turner led faculty, staff, students, and parents in prayer for a successful school year.



South State Bank presented Bethesda Academy a \$100,000 grant to formalize our existing work-study curriculum and create the Center for Young Entrepreneurs. Bethesda launched a grass-fed beef program. Three students, Javetti Higgenbottom, Gerald Thomas III, and Phillip Dove, were inducted into the 2014-15 Chatham County Youth Commission.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: A YEAR IN REVIEW



The Blazers began competing in SCISA (South Carolina Independent Schools Association). An Apply to College Day was held, where parents helped their son complete college applications. Bethesda was visited by Stedman Graham, as well as Adrian Peterson of GSU and Chicago Bears fame. Christ Church invited Dr. David Tribble to preach and student Calvin Ford was asked to perform a solo.



A group of our boarding students began attending Savannah Power Yoga in Sandfly. Local author, Nan Marshall, visited the school and presented the senior class with copies of her book *What Would George Do? Advice from Our Founding Father*. The Stuart F. Sligh, Jr. Memorial Foundation presented a check toward new football uniforms with jerseys that reflect Bethesda's values. The Prom was held on the Savannah Riverboat.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: BETHESDA'S SPIRIT

When an organization is 275 years old, and "a love of God" is one of three founding core values, the ongoing spiritual formation of our students is not simply a goal. It is a charge. A mission. It is part of Bethesda's lifeblood. Established by Whitefield as "Christian, but non-sectarian", Bethesda continued to focus on helping young men develop a solid moral compass during the critical teenage years, so they will have the spirit of conviction and sound decision making skills as adults. Many parents have enrolled their son at Bethesda, because our values echo the values they strive to cultivate at home.



Upon learning that AJ Peterson, son of football great Adrian Peterson, had taken a turn for the worse in his battle with cancer, the Blazers were quick to include the Peterson Family among those prayed for during Chapel services. When AJ lost his courageous battle, the middle school Blazers recorded one of AJ's favorite songs, "How Great is Our God", which is a song of praise often sung during our Chapel services. It was simply an effort to reach out to Adrian Peterson, who made such a powerful impact during his visit to Bethesda - and it was a true celebration of young AJ's life. #AJSoars



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: BETHESDA'S SPIRIT

Prep Sports Report with Lisa Carter Carter and 3 others
February 18 at 10:04pm · Edited · 4h

The Junior Varsity basketball team at Bethesda Academy wore wristbands with the number 31 on them against St. Andrew's tonight in memory of Gray Solana who was a member of the St. Andrew's junior varsity team. This is why we love high school sports. #SCtop10



Unlike · Comment · Share · 178 22 21

Yes, Megan Catherine Kunkel, Jan Seavely West, Lisa Carter Carter and 174 others like this.

21 shares

- Rafly Williams** How very sweet!!
Like · Reply · 1 · February 18 at 10:18pm
- Buffy Rybak** What a great bunch of boys.
Like · Reply · 2 · February 18 at 10:29pm
- Leanne Garfield** Beta Pure class- love it!
Like · Reply · 2 · February 18 at 10:44pm
- Rhonda Anderson** This is awesome.
Like · Reply · 1 · February 18 at 10:48pm
- Cliff Williams** The young men of Bethesda are role models for all of us in the strength of their faith, work ethic and love of their fellow man!
Like · Reply · 7 · February 18 at 10:54pm
- Catherine Warren** Wow!! This is awesome!!
Like · Reply · 1 · February 18 at 10:54pm
- Megan Catherine Kunkel** So proud to be part of the Bethesda Academy family!
Like · Reply · 2 · February 18 at 11:33pm
- Steven Kinkadee** Beta And Gray cheered while the angels sang.
Like · Reply · 4 · February 18 at 11:45pm
- Lisa Carter Carter** So proud to be a Blazer! 🙌 Praying for St Andrews and Solana families
Like · Reply · 4 · February 18 at 11:50pm
- Joan Catherine Williams** Boys with class and respect! Proud of them.
Like · Reply · 4 · February 18 at 11:50pm
- Kristi Waters** Beautiful! Awesome!!
Like · Reply · 2 · Yesterday at 6:56am
- Suzanne Carson Williams** Beautiful Story & Pic. Thanks for sharing!
Like · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 7:11am
- Rafly Williams** Dean, why don't you put this on Twitter and hashtag NBA, Celtics, etc. I don't know how to do much on twitter or I would do it.
Like · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 8:37am
- Prep Sports Report** Everyone needs to share this picture and hashtag #SCtop10
Like · Reply · 2 · Yesterday at 8:46am
- Gregory Jackson** Sportsmanship is a lifestyle... Great job Bethesda student-athletes
Like · Reply · 2 · Yesterday at 9:21am
- Joe Bunk III** Wonderful!
Like · Reply · 1 · 23 hrs
- Lisa Carter Carter** So blessed to be part of the Bethesda family...the love of God and others comes first before anything they learn from books
Like · Reply · 1 · 22 hrs · Edited
- Jan Seavely West** So proud to be part of the Bethesda Academy family- they are a wonderful group of young men with great leaders!
Like · Reply · 22 hrs
- Bonnie Shumberg** Glad...what an inspiration you are to continue to work with these deserving young men
Like · Reply · 1 · 22 hrs
- Willy H. Boney** That is really something. All the parents should be so proud.
Like · Reply · 1 · 21 hrs

Spiritual formation is also about teaching our young men humility, empathy, compassion, sportsmanship, and sacrifice. During the 2014-15 year, Bethesda's students reached out in various ways to publicly demonstrate all of those characteristics. These were actions of support and solidarity and shared grief by our students and student-athletes, but the response from the local, regional, and national community revealed just how unique our young men are.

February 18 at 9:12pm · 8

Before things get competitive on the court tonight with our fellow SCISA athletes from St. Andrew's, our JV team wanted to find an appropriate way to remember Gray. Go, Blazers!

410 people reached

Like · Comment · Share · 48 1 4

Williams, Catherine Warren, The Love of God, Lisa Carter Carter and 43 others like this.

4 shares

Write a comment...

Lisa Carter Carter One of the many reasons I love these young men, their coaching staff, and our school! Praying it helped bring some comfort to his family and friends.
Like · Reply · 1 · February 18 at 7:54pm · Edited

Rafly Williams shared Prep Sports Report's photo.
February 18 at 10:18pm · 4h

Very sweet of Bethesda!
Show Attachment

Share

19 members, Rhonda Anderson, Rhonda Anderson, Tamar and 17 others like this.

Joan Catherine Williams How sweet is that?
February 18 at 10:50pm · 1

Rafly Williams That should be shared nationwide.
Yesterday at 8:21am · 1

Leanne Garfield That's awesome! RESPECT 🙌
21 hrs · 1

In the spirit of true sportsmanship, the St. Andrew's Booster Club responded with a surprise delivery to Bethesda: homemade goodie bags as they headed toward Sumter, SC for the SCISA State Tournament.



The Varsity basketball team also made a special trip to the American Cancer Society to present a check from the monies raised during the season. The donation was made in memory of the parent of one of our students, who lost her battle to cancer.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: COMPETITION

With the 2014-15 academic year, the Blazers joined the South Carolina Independent Schools Association (SCISA) and had a great year of competition! Our Middle School showing was strong in football and basketball. The football team went undefeated for the season and won the Middle School Championship. While still learning game fundamentals, our youngest Blazers proved eager to learn and demonstrated great sportsmanship.



The Varsity Blazers also had a successful first year with SCISA. Our Varsity football team advanced to the playoffs and sophomore standout running back Tre'von Pray was recognized as an Enmark Player of the Week. SCISA offered additional athletic opportunities and the Blazers created its first Bowling Team. The Blazers Bowling team advanced to the State Competition, finishing 6th overall and 11th grader Sean Carter qualified for Individual All-State. Our highly decorated Chess Team also competed through SCISA and had another successful year.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: COMPETITION



During the spring, the Blazers competed in Golf, Baseball, and Track & Field - which, in particular, had a fantastic season, with multiple events qualifying for the SCISA State Track Meet. As a team, the Blazers took 2nd place at the State Meet. The following were the State Meet results by event:

Avery Joyner: 1st place High Jump (tying a school record with 6'0")

Kearston Berksteiner: 1st place 400M

Juwon Johnson: 3rd place Triple jump; Long Jump; and the 200M Run

4X100M Relay Team: 1st Place

Kearston Berksteiner, Juwon Johnson, Malcolm Gallagher, and Tyler Marcus
4X400M Relay Team: 1st place

Kearston Berksteiner, Reddick Jefferson, Avery Joyner, and Simeon George
4X800M Relay Team: 2nd place

Nicholas Brown, Malachi Davis, Phillip Dove, and Troy Peters



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Under the guidance of Head Basketball Coach Clevan Thompson, the Blazers captured our second State Championship - our first in SCISA competition. It was a magical season to witness, but it was not magical thinking that propelled the team. It was discipline, hard work, dedication, and most of all, teamwork. Finishing the season with a record of 26-4 (12-0 in the region), the Blazers truly had a season for the record books. They earned great respect from officials, opposing teams and their fans, and created countless memories and friendships along the way.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: CENTER FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Thanks to a grant from South State Bank, Bethesda launched the Center for Young Entrepreneurs in August 2014. The funding allowed Bethesda to invest in a full-time program coordinator, who would be responsible for formalizing the existing work-study program. This included developing a financial literacy component, as well as establishing rubrics that campus enterprise mentors used to grade students throughout the year.



High school students chose a semester-long opportunity with a campus enterprise, which involved one class period a day with their chosen field. Options included Dining Services, Digital Media, Farm & Gardens, Event Rentals & Marketing, Athletic Training, Teacher's Aids, Office Interns, Maintenance, and Wildlife Sanctuary & Preserve.



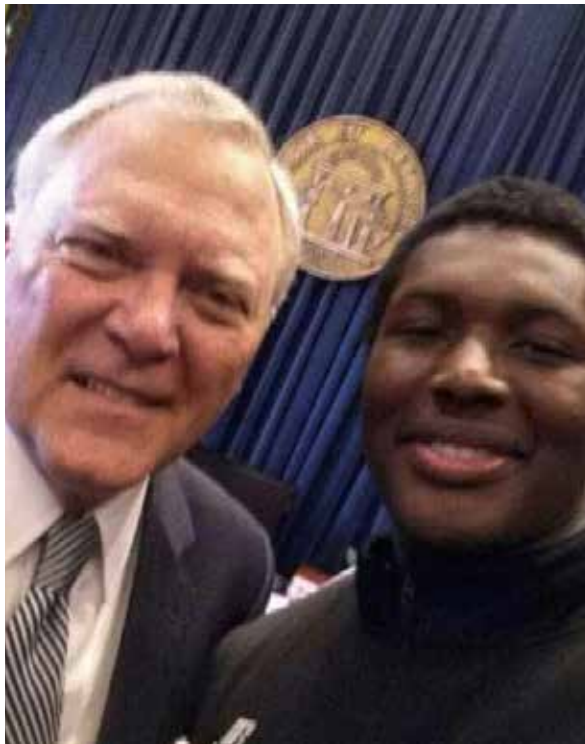
Standardized reporting helped generate quantifiable data. Bethesda looked for a way to share the data with corporate community. Our first outreach was to the Rotary Club of Savannah, which has had a long-standing relationship with Bethesda. The club agreed to hold one of its weekly meetings at Bethesda.

In April, the students and mentors planned an interactive way to present the different campus enterprises, using triptychs and other visuals to help demonstrate the impact of the Center for Young Entrepreneurs. The Rotarians spent 30 minutes talking with students and mentors, then during lunch, Dr. Tribble provided an overview and shared metrics which included the following: Bethesda's students logged more than 12,000 hours of work, generated more than \$306,000 for financial aid, and provided an internal workforce which saved Bethesda more than \$87,000 - all during one class period each day.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: 275TH ANNIVERSARY

The 275th Anniversary of Bethesda was recognized in the GA House of Representatives by Rep. Mickey Stephens, as well as on the floor of the GA Senate by Sen. Ben Watson and Sen. Lester Jackson. Bethesda students Phillip Dove, Javetti Higgenbottom, and Gerald Thomas were in Atlanta with the Chatham County Youth Commission, but they were able to join Dr. David Tribble and Andrea Dove for the readings of the resolutions, as well as a short visit with Governor Nathan Deal. In true Blazer form, the students were gracious and charming - and what resulted was the "selfie" seen around the social media world!



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: CELEBRATIONS

Anniversary Day was held in April. We reported on our 274th year as an organization, recognized outgoing Board members, and welcomed new members. We celebrated student academic achievements and the winners of the Women's Board essay contest. The day concluded with the annual Alumni vs Student Softball Game and lunch in the Dining Hall.



The Women's Board of Bethesda (WBOB) celebrated a milestone year of their own - their 100th Anniversary. As Bethesda changed throughout the years, so did the WBOB. It has become a dynamic group, engaged in the academic success of Bethesda's students: sponsoring honor roll lunches, essay contests, and career day speakers - and often cheering alongside parents at sporting events. In January 2015, the WBOB again partnered with title sponsor Yates-Astro Pest Control to host the 3rd annual Resolution Race 5k Trail Run & Walk. The WBOB used race proceeds to support Bethesda by funding science lab equipment, cottage improvements and landscaping, classroom technology upgrades, computer software, and scholarship funding.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: 2015 GRADUATION - REFLECTION WALK

Graduation began with the students, faculty, and staff gathered together in the Whitefield Chapel. The Class of 2015 then took one last campus walk as “students” of Bethesda Academy. With a procession led by Bethesda teacher Craig Sherman on the bagpipes, the young men, along with faculty and staff, visited the Garden, Academic Building, Gymnasium, and Alumni Cottage and reflected on lessons learned, experiences shared, and relationships established.



This year, a new tradition was introduced. At Bethesda, the senior class uniform is the coveted black polo. The class of 2015 presented the rising seniors with their new uniform shirts. It was a special moment among friends - many of whom were teammates, workmates, and cottagemates.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: 2015 GRADUATION - COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



The procession led to the Lady Huntingdon Amphitheater, where the Commencement Ceremony took place. Dr. David Tribble and Principal Megan Kicklighter welcomed attendees and Valedictorian Malik Davis and Salutatorian Thaddeus James gave their addresses.



After diplomas were conferred and the Bethesda Alumni Association presented Bibles to each graduate, the new graduates were invited to make remarks - an invitation always enthusiastically accepted by each class. The humor, sincerity, and gratitude of the Class of 2015 was evident and powerful. It was another great day to be a Blazer.



Graduation photography by Hannah Kicklighter | Drone video/photography by Parla Brigman



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: SPECIAL EVENTS - SPORTING CLAYS



The annual Sporting Clays Tournament was moved from January to November. The event continued to grow, with 34 teams participating this year. The tournament began with a Wild Game lunch, created by Chef Kirk Blaine. Bethesda's students had plenty of opportunity to meet the shooters, since they worked as trappers during the shoot. After the tournament, while scores were being calculated, the group enjoyed a reception with another buffet of Wild Game hors d'oeuvres by Chef Blaine. Thanks to our sponsors and teams for making our Sporting Clays a great success.



ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: SPECIAL EVENTS - SCHOLARSHIP GALA

The 2nd Annual Scholarship Gala had the tall order of being a celebration of the Class of 2015 on the eve of their graduation, as well as the "official" public kick off of our 275th anniversary activities. The evening began with a cocktail reception before an amazing dinner prepared by Hyatt Regency Savannah. Part of the draw of this event has become our seniors and parents serving as table hosts!



We were deeply honored to welcome the great Vince Dooley as our keynote speaker, as well as many elected officials who came to acknowledge one of the oldest organizations in our state - and country. After the dinner program, guests were asked to move from the dining tent for a special 275th Anniversary Presentation, sponsored by Dulany Industries. The attendees saw the progression of Bethesda's story in a spectacular way: projected on the face of Lawton Hall using video mapping technology.



Scan the code
above to meet the
Class of 2015



Scan the code
above to see the
275th Anniversary
Presentation



FINANCIAL REPORT: 2014-2015 FISCAL YEAR

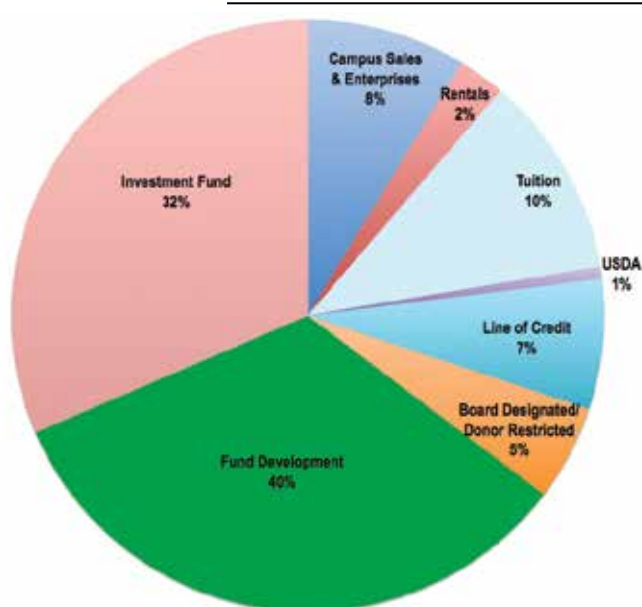
Each year the Board of Governors and staff come together to project the annual operating budget for Bethesda Academy. We do so with the understanding that each budget is the expression of the Bethesda Academy's mission in financial terms. The 2014-2015 budget required aggressive fundraising efforts, careful monitoring of expenses and the prudent use of our line of credit in response to cash flow needs. Bethesda's audit team once again offered an unqualified opinion, which speaks to the transparency of our fiscal and accounting processes.

Balancing our revenues to expenses is done so within the context that tuition only represents approximately 10% of the operating revenues of the school. Fund raising, special events, endowment proceeds, and earned income from campus enterprises, promotes a generous financial aid program. The 2014-2015 fiscal year saw drastic cuts to the Georgia GOAL Scholarship program, as the GA Department of Revenue pro-rated all taxpayer credit applications due to the statewide cap on these tax credits being met on the first day of the new year. This pro-rating negated over \$100,000 of tax credits, and hence needed student financial aid, earmarked for Bethesda. This reduction in revenue required the utilization of our line of credit to meet our financial obligations.

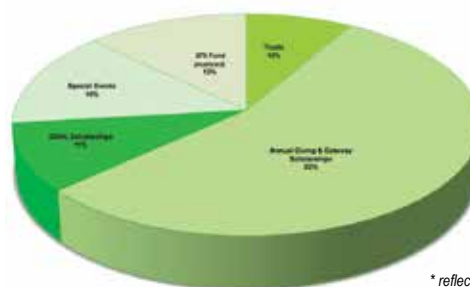
Given the celebration of the 275th anniversary of Bethesda, the challenge of market conditions, and the loss of earmarked tax credits dollars, the Board of Governors launched the "275 Fund" during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. This new fund is structured to receive additional financial aid scholarships collected through outright gifts, estate plans, and other creative strategies to support the continuing promotion of Bethesda Academy's mission to young men of limited financial resources. This fund will also create named chairs aligned with Bethesda's founding values. Chairs for Campus Ministry, School Leadership, and Work Study, will highlight this new endowed effort. And finally, the 275 Fund will support on-going capital projects to support the growth of new classroom, dormitory, and other physical plant needs.

Financial Summary June 30, 2015 (Unaudited)

Revenue



Campus Sales & Enterprises	\$306,028
Rentals	\$90,058
Tuition	\$389,920
USDA	\$23,130
Board Designated/Donor Restricted	\$182,882
Investment Fund	\$1,105,960
Fund Development	\$1,167,829
Line of Credit	\$250,000
Total Revenue:	\$3,515,807



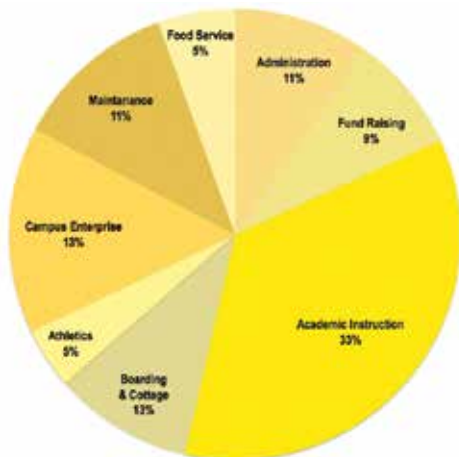
Fund Development Detail

Trusts	\$97,872
Annual Giving/Gateway	\$640,290
GOAL Scholarships *	\$116,143
Special Events	\$163,524
275 Fund (restricted) **	\$150,000

Fund Development total: \$1,167,829

* reflects amount raised after GA Department of Revenue pro-ration
** The 275 Fund holds restricted/donor directed funds

Expenses



Administration	\$336,353
Fund Raising	\$300,354
Academic Instruction	\$1,242,833
Boarding and Cottage	\$349,235
Athletics	\$153,457
Campus Enterprise	\$519,684
Maintenance	\$411,374
Food Service	\$194,447

Total Expense: \$3,507,737

Salaries and Benefits are included in the respective cost center.
Salaries and Benefits totaled \$2,168,610 (62%) of the expense budget.

Bethesda Academy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.





Bethesda Academy is extremely grateful for the financial support we receive each year. Whether donors contribute through the Annual Fund, Gateway Scholarship, memorial/honorarium gifts, or participate in our special events, the students of Bethesda are the beneficiaries. Our students, staff, and Board of Governors are thankful for the ongoing support of the following companies and individuals whose contributions were received during the 2014-15 fiscal year (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015).

HABERSHAM SOCIETY

Named for James Habersham, a life-long friend of Rev. George Whitefield. Habersham chose Bethesda's picturesque site along the Moon River where construction began in 1740. Habersham also served as the acting governor of Georgia in the early 1770s.

\$100,000 and above

Mr. and Mrs. R. Kevin Jackson South State Bank

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hepper
Baker Infrastructure Group, Inc. United Way of the Coastal Empire
Louise Bowels Cunningham Trust

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Gulfstream Aerospace
Mrs. Charles L. Sparkman
The Women's Board of Bethesda

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Anderson Family Foundation Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Jepson, Jr.
The Echlin Foundation Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kraft
Felton Farrar Trust Monroe Welfare Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Elliot R. Ingram III Skidaway Island United Methodist Church
Innomed, Inc.

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Thomas H. Adams Foundation	Dulany Industries, Inc.	Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce
Ameris Bank	Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Everitt	& Visit Savannah
AT&T	Dr. Melanie Helmken and Mr. John C. Helmken II	Savannah Benevolent Association
Blanchard & Calhoun Commercial	Mr. and Mrs. Neil D. Johnston	Savannah Scottish Games, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Sidney J. Bolch III	Mr. and Mrs. William T. Martin	Dr. and Mrs. David Tribble
The Cartledge Foundation, Inc.	Mr. and Mrs. G. Mike. Odom, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Tom Webster
Robert L. Cubbedge Charitable Fund		



PHILANTHROPY: 2014-2015



MILLEDGE SOCIETY

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Named for Richard Milledge, one of the three named founding members of the Bethesda-Union Society.

Mr. Drew Ambos
Mr. Jay W Andrews
SunTrust Banks
Mr. Henry R. Bell
Bethesda Alumni Association
Brasseler USA
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J Carbo
Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Caswell
Dr. Edward J Cohn
Community Bible Church of Savannah
Mr. and Mrs. Trey Cook
Mr. and Mrs. Ray DeMott
Diamond Concrete Products, LLC
Mr. Cliff W. Draughn
Mr. and Mrs. Rollin Ford
Ms. Joan P. Forrestel

Mr. Samuel G. McCachern
Mr. and Mrs. J. Cliff McCurry
Mr. J Sheppard Mondy
Mrs. Judy Ochsner
Dr. Francis C. Pettigrew
Pine Tree Equity Management, LP
Seacrest Partners Inc.
Stuart F. Sligh, Jr Memorial Foundation
Society of Colonial Wars
in the State of GA, Inc.
Mr. Martin R Sullivan
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Thacher
ValMark Securities Global Gift Fund
Wal-Mart Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Wiley A. Wasden
Mr. and Mrs. Travis Wiggins
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Wight

SHEFTALL SOCIETY

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Named for Benjamin Sheftall, co-founder of the Bethesda-Union Society. Sheftall was involved with the establishment of Congregation Mickve Israel, and actively supported Revolutionary War efforts.

Associated Terminal, LLC
Abshire Public Relations
Armstrong University
Associated Terminal, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Bennison
Mrs. Tamei L. Blake
Blue Force Gear, Inc.
Richard & Ardith Boggs Family Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Critz, Sr.
Mr. William Donahue
Ms. Andrea Dove
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis W. Dunne
Dr. Bradford Durham
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Eagle
Dr. Marianne Fleming and
Mr. T. Mills Fleming
Mrs. William H. Ford, Sr.
The Gardner Family Foundation, Inc.
Gavilon Fertilizer
Georgia Power Company
Guerry Lumber Co.
Mrs. Margaret Haza
Mr. and Mrs. George Hensley
Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Hepper, Jr.

The Savannah Community Foundation
Savannah Waterfront Association
Screven Bancshares, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Sheets
Dr. and Mrs. Alan E. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Solomons, Jr.
State Street Global Advisors
SunTrust Foundation
Thomas & Hutton Engineering Co.
Mr. and Mrs. James Trolinger
Dr. Pat Turner
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Ulmer
United Community Bank
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Viers
Mr. George Lee Woods III



Hunter Maclean
The Huntingdon Club
IBM Corporation
Isle of Hope United Methodist Church
J.C. Lewis Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Donald L. James, Jr.
JCB, Inc.
Mrs. Mae R. Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kaigler
Kiwanis Club of Skidaway
Mr. and Mrs. John G. Lientz
Mr. R. Henry Lightfoot
Mr. Todd H. Martin
The Rev. and Mrs. George Maxwell
Dr. Alston J McCaslin
Dr. and Mrs. Ashby C. Moncure
Mr. Jim Myrick
Mr. John J Neely
Mr. and Mrs. Brian P Orr
Mr. and Mrs. James Pannell
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan B Pannell
The Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity
Dr. and Mrs. Paul M. Pressly
Mrs. Elizabeth P. Raffetto
Mr. and Mrs. L. Allan Reynolds, Jr.
Savannah Technical College
Savannah Adult Baseball League

TONDEE SOCIETY

\$500 - \$999

Named for Richard Tondee, co-founder of the Bethesda-Union Society. Tondee is also known for his place in Revolutionary War history. Tondee's Tavern was a famous meeting place for the Sons of Liberty.

Balfour Beatty Infrastructure
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Barnard
Ms. Kelly Benhase
Bouchillon's Collision Center, Inc.
Mr. Don M. Brown
Mrs. David A. Byck III



Mr. Nick Hale
Mr. Brent Harlander
Mr. Brian Harlander
Dr. Rusty Hightower
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Inman Hodges, Jr.
Dr. Tom Horn
Dr. Brandon Hunter

Mr. Ira Berman and Ms. Helen Borrello
Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Bradley, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Browning
Mr. Timothy S. Cameron
Mr. Jeffrey Casey
Christ Church Savannah
Mr. Mark F. Coffey
Colonial Foundation, Inc.



Maj. and Mrs. Luis Carreras
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Cay
Mr. and Mrs. Don Dasher
The John And Emma Derst Foundation, Inc.
Major and Mrs. Lance Freeman
Mr. James C. Hamrick
Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Hare
Holland, Henry & Bromley
Mr. and Mrs. Terry hubbard
Hungerpillar Capital Management, LLC
Hyatt Regency Savannah



Industrial Technical Coatings, Inc.
Investment Performance Services, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. George B. James
Mr. Walter N. Lewis
C. A. Crowder Associates, LLC
MacAljon
Mary Maclean Foundation
Mr. Henry J. Mok
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Monroe
Morris Communications
Mrs. Walter B. Murphy, Jr.
Ohio National
Dorchester Quail
Mr. and Mrs. Michael F. Reuschling

Savannah Auto
Savannah Christian Church
Ms. Swann Seiler
Mr. and Mrs. John Skeadas II
St. Joseph's/Candler Health System
ECW of St. John's Church
Ms. Kelli Sullivan
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Weinbauer
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Wilkowski
Mrs. Mary Ellen Yarbrough

FRANKLIN SOCIETY

up to \$499

Named for Benjamin Franklin, who famously emptied his pockets to support Bethesda upon witnessing a Whitefield sermon.

24E Design Co.
Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Abarr
Mr. Anthony H. Abbott
Mrs. Leopold Adler II
Akims and Bobb Motors
Mr. Fred Alderman
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Mr. Fred Ard
Mr. and Mrs. Nicolas F. Arredondo
Mr. Cort Atkinson
Ms. Jocelyn Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Balloun
Ms. Elizabeth H. Bangs
Mr. and Mrs. James Barrick
Bart, Meyer & Company
Mr. and Mrs. George R. Batchelor
Ms. Dahlia E. Bearden
Mr. and Mrs. Tony Beasley
Bernard Williams & Company
Boeing Friends of Jean Delgado
Drs. Pam and Ryan Boland



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Mr. Tom Brackett
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Dabbs Hickman Hill & Cannon
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Ms. Dorothy C. Chaney
Mrs. James Chapman
Mr. and Mrs. David Charnigo
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Johnson's Florist & Balloon Co.
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Coakley

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Mr. and Mrs. Key D. Compton
Evangelicals Concerned Inc.
Coomer, Coomer & Routhier, P.C.
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cowart
Mr. Robert L. Crider
Ms. Lucy S Crosswell
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Mr. Sam Currie
Mr. James A Daly III
Ms. Carol Daly-Wilder
Mr. Troy Darling
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence A. Davis
Mr. and Mrs. Mario J. De La Guardia
Mr. Thomas J. Deal
Mrs. Ashley K. Dearing, Jr.
Mr. John A. Diamond
Mr. Manon Dutil
Mrs. Christy Edwards
Ms. Joanna Ellis
Mr. Richard H. Ellis
Mr. Philip Erro
Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Evans
Every Step Counts, Inc.
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Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Feiler, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Fenstermacher
Mr. Michael Foster
Mr. and Mrs. Myron A. Frank
Mr. and Mrs. Murray A. Galin
Georgia Education Advancement Council
Rev. and Mrs. Jim Giddens
Mr. Joseph Giles
Mrs. Jennifer Gilmour
Go Fish Clothing & Jewelry
Mr. and Mrs. Larry M. Gradick
Mr. Thomas S. Gray, Jr.



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Mrs. Rebecca Herdman
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Mr. and Mrs. Rudy M. Hitchcock
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Mr. and Mrs. John C. Hooff
Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Humes



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JAG International
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Mrs. Charles Benjamin Keaton
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Mrs. Megan Kicklighter
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Mr. Johnny Kimker
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Mr. Quentin Marlin
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Mr. Trey Massey
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Mr. M. L. Morrison
Mr. Mills Lane Morrison
Mr. Tim Morrison
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Mrs. Bernadette G. Nolan
Mrs. Sidney Nutting, Jr.
Mr. Ronald E. Onorato
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Dr. and Mrs. C. Lamont Osteen
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Mr. and Mrs. Frank K. Peeples, Jr.
A M Peterson
Mrs. Mary Pickford



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Mr. David M. Plank
Mrs. Catherine B. Potts
Mr. Keith Pynn
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Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Reitman
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Salt Table, LLC
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Mr. George E. Saunders
Savannah Distributing Company, Inc.
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Mr. and Mrs. Eric T. Schwarze
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Mr. Thomas Swan
Mr. Ken Swicord
Target Corporation
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Mr. Henry C. Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. Michael C. Tharpe



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Ms. Elizabeth Thomas
Ms. Monette Thomas
Elizabeth F. Thompson, Attorney at Law
Mr. C. Christopher Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Threlkeld
Mr. Charles H. Todd



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Rev. and Mrs. Antwain Turner
Ms. Muriel Turner
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Verell
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Drs. Will and Heather Wallace
Mrs. Camille R. Ward
Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Watters
Mrs. Philip L. Wettengel
Mr. Julian E. White III
Ms. Lorian White

Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Wigren
Dr. and Mrs. Leslie L. Wilkes
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie L. Wilkes III
Mrs. Monique Williams
Mrs. Suzanne H. Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph K. Wilson, Sr.
Ms. Minnie Wingster

Ms. Donna A. Winters
Mr. William C. Woodcock
Ms. Meta H. Wright
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Wyllly, Jr.
Donnelly Yachts
Mr. and Mrs. Atsushi Yamada
Ms. Mary Zittrouer

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Doug Bean Signs *
Bethesda Alumni Association
Blanchard & Calhoun Commercial
Blue Force Gear, Inc.
Bouchillon's Collision Center, Inc.
Brasseler USA
Byrd Cookie Company
Dabbs Hickman Hill & Cannon
Cardiology Associates of Vidalia, P.C.
The Cartledge Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Christopher Cay
Dan Vaden Chevrolet/Cadillac *
The Club at Savannah Harbor *
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Dr. Bradford Durham
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W. Eric Gladden, DMD, PC
Great Dane Trailers
Guerry Lumber Co.
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Harrelson Game Bird Farm *
Holland, Henry & Bromley
Hungerpillar Capital Management, LLC
Hunter Maclean
Hyatt Regency Savannah *
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JAG International
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Johnson's Florist & Balloon Co.
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Mr. Henry H. Minis
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Monroe
The Mosquito Authority *
Mr. Jim Myrick
Ohio National
Orthopedic Center, P.C.
PepsiCo. *
Pine Tree Equity Management, LP
Mrs. Elizabeth P. Raffetto
Release Marine, Inc.
Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce
& Visit Savannah
Savannah Auto
Savannah Boot Co. *
Savannah Christian Church

Savannah Coca-Cola Bottling Co. *
Savannah Distributing Company, Inc.
Savannah Morning News *
Savannah Pilots Association
Savannah Technical College
Savannah Tire
Seacrest Partners Inc.
Ms. Swann Seiler
Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Sheets
Mr. Jackson Sherrill
Simon's Formal Wear *
South State Bank
St. Joseph's/Candler Health System
Stage Front Presentation Systems *
State Street Global Advisors
Thomas & Hutton Engineering Co.
Mr. James Trolinger
United Community Bank
Mr. Peter S. Voss
The Women's Board of Bethesda

* denotes in-kind donation





Bethesda is grateful for those who applied for their 2015 GA education tax credit in the summer and fall of 2014. The popularity of this tax credit has grown such that **all** \$58 million of tax credits for the state of Georgia were claimed on January 1, 2015. On the first day of submission, the GA Department of Revenue received more than \$91 million in applications. therefore, each application was approved, but pro-rated 63.4%. Many of Bethesda's faithful GOAL Scholarship contributors were unable to redirect their GA tax liability into scholarships for Bethesda simply because time and tax credits ran out. Unless the legislature votes to raise the cap in a significant way, taxpayers will likely face pro-rated tax credits each year. We hope that will not deter you from applying each year, because we need this support more than ever! During the 2014-15 academic year, more than 55% of Bethesda's students qualified for and received a GOAL Scholarship as part of their overall financial aid package.

As we look toward the 2016 tax year, we hope that all GOAL contributors who missed their opportunity in 2015 will apply as soon as possible for their 2016 tax credits. GOAL Scholarships are a critical component of Bethesda Academy's overall financial aid program. Please know that even pro-rated approvals help fill the tuition funding gap that many Bethesda families face. Please visit www.BethesdaAcademy.org or www.goalscholarship.org today to apply.

Mr. James Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. David Angell
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Arb
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barnard II
Mr. and Mrs. Loren Beals
Mr. Henry Bell
Mr. Troy Bennett
Mr. and Mrs. William Bennison
Mr. Ira Berman and Ms. Helen Borrello
Mr. and Mrs. Denis Blackburne
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bocard
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Brian, Jr.
Ms. Elizabeth Brown
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Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Cartledge
Mrs. Verna Chapman
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Contino
Mr. and Mrs. Hurley Cook III
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