



## May 22, 2020: A Message from the CDS Board of Trustees

Dear CDS Community,

We hope this finds you in good health and decent spirits as this unusual and challenging school year comes to a close. While the COVID-19 pandemic has altered or eliminated many of our year-end rituals, we find hope in the resilience of our faculty and staff, as well as in the learning and connections our students and families continue to enjoy despite suboptimal conditions. Though this has been a disruptive period of time, the [CDS Board of Trustees](#) has worked to address emergent issues while still attending to our usual responsibilities of governance.

### Finances

Shelly and the Board of Trustees are working with two primary goals in mind as we address the COVID crisis:

1. To deliver the best possible education to our students given the constraints and changes we may face over the next several months without compromising anyone's health or safety; and
2. To keep the CDS community intact through this crisis, including students, families, staff, and faculty.

One of our school's core beliefs is that **community matters**. In keeping with our values, CDS continues to pay hourly and contract employees through the shelter-in-place order and provide assistance to families who have been hit hardest by this crisis.

These efforts were bolstered significantly by the tremendous generosity of our community last month in raising **more than \$220,000** for the CDS Community Support Fund, which will provide additional sliding scale tuition and emergency assistance for families, as well as support for our incredible staff and faculty.

Additionally, the Board has increased the allocation for tuition assistance in the 2020-2021 budget from 19.8% to 25% in order to help families who currently face financial constraints or may find themselves in need of assistance in the coming months.

If your family needs help during this time, please email Paul Galvin directly so that CDS can work with you to find a creative plan. This may also be a time for families to consider moving to a [tuition payment plan](#) or adding [tuition insurance](#) for peace of mind.

### **Announcing New Trustees**

The Board of Trustees aspires to reflect the diverse community of CDS and is composed of both parent and non-parent volunteers. In partnership with the Head of School, the Board is entrusted with providing strategic oversight, financial stability, and fiduciary duty in service of the school's [mission](#). Trustees bring a wide range of professional experience to their roles including communication, education, facilities, finance, law, and management. Trustees sign on for three-year terms, and it is the hope that most Trustees will serve two terms, in keeping with governance guidelines from the National Association of Independent Schools. This year, we enthusiastically welcome the following Trustees to the CDS Board:

- **Angela Alvarado**

Angela is a partner at Deloitte, where she started as an audit intern in Cleveland, Ohio. In 2005, she moved to San Francisco where she has focused on advising private equity and corporate clients on acquisitions and investments, primarily in the technology, fintech and consumer sectors. Angela is a licensed CPA. At CDS, she and her husband Frank have volunteered as admission tour guides, parent panelists, and at various events including Country Fair, Faculty & Staff Appreciation, and co-chaired the 2019-2020 CDS Annual Fund campaign. Angela has recently served on the CDS Advancement and Finance Committees. She enjoys camping and traveling with Frank and their daughter Shelby ('26). Angela has also served as Treasurer on the North of Panhandle Neighborhood Association (NOPNA) board for 7 years.

- **Carolyn Laub**

Carolyn is a social entrepreneur, strategy consultant, and executive coach working with nonprofits and foundations focused on equity, justice, and social change. Carolyn currently serves as a senior communications strategist with Wonder: Strategies for Good and a senior strategist with Public Equity Group. In 2015, she co-founded Springboard Partners, which incubates early-stage start-up companies and social justice campaigns. She currently serves on the board of Majority Action, which empowers shareholders to hold corporations accountable to high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, and long-term value creation. In 1998, she founded and led GSA Network, which organizes LGBTQ youth to

advocate for safety, equity, and restorative justice through a national network of over 4000+ Gay-Straight Alliance clubs in high schools and middle schools. Carolyn is an Echoing Green Fellow, Ashoka Fellow, and Pahara Fellow. She holds a B.A. in Cultural Anthropology from Stanford University. At CDS, Carolyn has been a classroom liaison, family farmer, and admissions volunteer. She and her wife, Heather, are parents to Zuri ('26) and Kira ('30). Carolyn has served on the following boards: Majority Action (2018-current); Transgender Law Center (2001-2011); California Safe Schools Coalition (2001-2011); and Bay Area Young Positives (1997-2002).

- **Meghna Subramanian**

Meghna is an attorney and mediator who has handled a wide range of corporate, litigation, and employment issues for technology and consulting companies. Meghna immigrated to the U.S. from India in middle school, and earned her B.A. in Political Economy from U.C. Berkeley and her J.D. from the University of Chicago. At CDS, Meghna enjoys volunteering as an admissions tour guide, a classroom liaison, and as the PTTA Faculty Appreciation Brunch Coordinator. She and her husband, Kareem Ghanem, are parents of Zaina ('27) and Sufyan ('31). She also serves on the board of directors of Jivox, a personalized advertising technology company.

- **Brad Terrell**

Brad is a designer in San Francisco, providing architectural services and related consulting to the construction and real estate development community. Brad holds a Master's in Architecture from Virginia Tech and earned his undergraduate degree in Interior Design from Radford University. Brad volunteers his time coaching youth sports and serves on the CDS Facilities Committee. Brad and his wife, Melody Hsu, are parents to Owen ('27) and Reese ('23).

### **Board Co-Chairs and Officers**

For the past two years, the Board of Trustees has used a co-chair governance structure to allow for more balanced responsibilities, better succession planning, and multiple perspectives to guide the chairship. This year, Jeanette Perez and Carl Schneebeck will continue in their roles as co-chairs of the Children's Day School Board of Trustees.

The CDS Board of Trustee officers for 2020-2021 are as follows:

Jeanette Perez, Co-Chair

Carl Schneebeck, Co-Chair

Jen Hamilton, Vice-Chair

Stephanie Holland, Secretary

Ryan Klufft, Treasurer

Trustees Vivien Zraick and Rishi Varma will join these officers and Shelly to make up the Board's Executive Committee.

### **PTTA Leadership**

The Board would like to thank and honor PTTA President **Chris Bunga** for his leadership, enthusiasm, and thoughtfulness this past school year. We also welcome **Petra Janopaul** as the PTTA President for 2020-2021 and look forward to our continued partnership.

All of these volunteers deserve enormous appreciation from our community. Please join us in thanking them for their time, energy, and leadership in service of CDS.

### **Looking to the Future**

Recently, a key phrase from the CDS mission has stood out as especially relevant and meaningful: **we are a school that is “always asking how we can do this better.”** This spirit has been on full display as we have navigated the unfolding COVID crisis. Through thoughtful feedback provided by parents, families, and students and creative solutions explored by faculty and staff, we have witnessed **open-mindedness, persistence, and curiosity** – all qualities of lifelong learners.

We are heartened to witness and be a part of this continued striving toward improvement. May this dedication carry us through the current challenges and serve our collective mission to make CDS a place where **what you learn and who you become are equally important.**

With wishes for health and comfort,

Jeanette Perez (Luna '25 & Pax '29)  
Co-Chair

Carl Schneebeck (Leo '22 & Silas '25)  
Co-Chair