



# PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

---

## PORTSMOUTH ABBEY SCHOOL

*A Parents' Guide to Giving and Getting Involved*



Dear Abbey Parents,

With each new student we welcome to Portsmouth Abbey, we welcome a new family as well, and we are thrilled to have you as a part of our extended Raven community.

Our mission is to help young men and women grow in knowledge and grace, and we are looking forward to sharing this journey with you and your child. It is our goal to help them grow intellectually, physically, and spiritually, and help to prepare them for life after Cory's Lane.



In this brochure, you will find ways you can be involved with the life of the School and share in your child's Portsmouth Abbey experience. Whether you are volunteering during Parents' Weekend, hosting a dinner or reception, or participating in our phonathons, there are a variety of ways you can be a part of the School community which collectively enrich the overall student experience. We appreciate your dedication of time, talent, and treasure which all help grow and sustain the initiatives that make an Abbey education so valuable to your child.

I look forward to getting to know you and your families.

Please do not hesitate to email or call or visit.

In Christ and St. Benedict,

Dan McDonough

Headmaster

[mcd@portsmouthabbey.org](mailto:mcd@portsmouthabbey.org)

401-643-1240





## SHARE THE EXPERIENCE

The aim of Portsmouth Abbey School is to help young men and women grow in knowledge and grace. But long before students ever arrived on Cory's Lane, their journeys began with you, their supportive and committed families. As parents, you are automatically part of Portsmouth Abbey's Parents' Association, and we invite you to continue the journey alongside your child as part of our proud Raven family.



# ENGAGE IN THE EXPERIENCE

As we begin this year, some volunteer opportunities may be modified due to health and safety protocols, but we welcome your support and ideas. Below are areas in which you can become involved:

## **Admissions:**

Support the admission effort by assisting with events, make welcome calls for new families, or host an event in your area.

## **Annual Fund:**

The parent division of the Annual Fund encourages families to join in making a gift to the Annual Fund. This includes calling parents during Parent Participation Month and sending follow-up emails.

## **Christmas Open House** (*Canceled due to distance learning during December*):

Decorate the exterior of the School's bookstore or the interior of the Student Center prior to the event, package new bookstore items, bake Christmas treats, or assist in the bookstore during the Open House.

## **Spring Family Day:**

Volunteer at the Welcome Tent, scoop ice cream, or hand out t-shirts.

## **Host a Reception/Dinner:**

Host a gathering of parents/alumni/friends of the School at your home or club to help facilitate engagement. This is a wonderful way to get to know Abbey constituents!

## **International Student/Family Volunteer:**

Support our international students by being a resource for questions, inviting them home for a meal/overnight, and checking in periodically. Each experience varies depending on the needs of the student/family.

## **New Parent Liaison:**

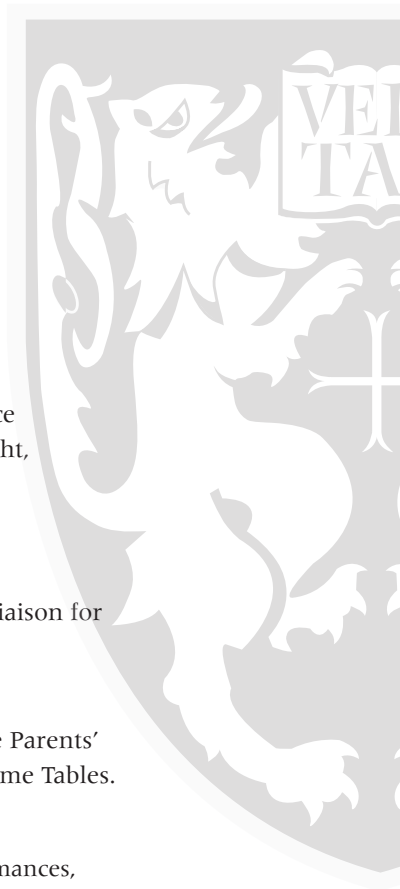
We were all new once! Think about being a parent liaison for our newly enrolled parents over the summer.

## **Parents' Weekend:**

Assist in decorating gymnasiums, auditorium for the Parents' Reception, or help at the Parents' Association Welcome Tables.

## **Support the Arts:**

Parents are welcome to assist with bake sales at performances, costume/makeup preparation and other performing arts needs.



# SUPPORT THE EXPERIENCE

Portsmouth Abbey has been able to grow and thrive due to the generosity of donors who have embraced the School's mission of helping young men and women grow in knowledge and grace. Below are ways in which you can use your philanthropic support to enrich the student experience.

## **Annual Fund**

Each year, parents – along with alumni, parents of alumni, and friends of the School – are asked to contribute to the Annual Fund. The Annual Fund provides a dependable and necessary source of financial support for the School which is fully expended each year. Gifts to the Annual Fund support and enhance the School's greatest needs and priorities while also providing necessary funding for scholarships and financial aid, academic programs, the student life experience, and faculty resources.

Our goal each year is to reach 100% participation from our current parents.

## **Capital Campaign Support**

Gifts to a capital campaign are typically fixed multi-year commitments to help fund a capital project, such as a new building. In 2020, the School completed the "Securing our Academic Future: Science in the 21st Century at Portsmouth Abbey" campaign, a \$20 million campaign to fund the construction of our new science building. Typically, any gift to a capital campaign should be over and above, or in some cases inclusive of, your gift to the Annual Fund as it is imperative that we make our yearly Annual Fund goal.

## **Endowment**

Endowment funding is a critical component of every financially sound independent school. Your generous support of the endowment not only provides a permanent and stable foundation for Portsmouth Abbey School's future, it also has a direct impact on today's students. Income from endowed funds provides perpetual resources that support the ongoing work of Portsmouth Abbey's faculty, staff, and monastic community as they help students to grow in knowledge and grace.

## Parent Contacts

Parents' Association Chairs and Form Chairs are current parents who head the overall association and the individual efforts of each Form.



## Parents' Association Chairs

Mary Beth and David Lohuis P'10 '10 '21  
Morristown, NJ

## Form VI Chairs

Marilyn and Anson Stookey P'18 '21  
Middletown, RI

## Form V Chairs

Laurie and Brendan Loftus P'16 '19 '22  
Raynham, MA

## Form IV Chairs

Hilary Fagan and Albert Dahlberg P'23  
Providence, RI

## Form III Chairs

Rhonda and Frank Landers P'20 '24  
Portsmouth, RI

International Parent Liaisons assist with the Parents' Association efforts by serving as the national or regional representative for parents abroad.

## Chinese Parent Liaisons

Li Qin (Katherine) Shen and  
Wenzhong Ji P'21  
Beijing, China

## Korean Parent Liaisons

JunHee Kim and YongOh Shin P'22  
Seoul, Korea

## Central and South American Liaisons

Maria Elena and Julian Altamirano P'22  
San Salvador, El Salvador

For contact information for Chairs, Form Chairs, and International Parent Liaisons, please visit [www.portsmouthabbey.org/community/parents](http://www.portsmouthabbey.org/community/parents).

## Staff Contacts

Matt Walter  
Assistant Headmaster for Advancement  
[mwalter@portsmouthabbey.org](mailto:mwalter@portsmouthabbey.org)  
401-643-1291

Meghan Fonts  
Director of Parent Relations  
[mfonts@portsmouthabbey.org](mailto:mfonts@portsmouthabbey.org)  
401-643-1246

Alexandra Karppinen  
Director of the Annual Fund  
[akarppinen@portsmouthabbey.org](mailto:akarppinen@portsmouthabbey.org)  
401-643-1204