We’ve built a better tomorrow for our students

Future Forged

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Our Mission
Maplebrook School is an international boarding/day school providing quality academic programs for youngsters with learning differences, and/or who may exhibit a learning disorder. Through small group and individualized instruction, students are assisted in reaching their academic, social, vocational and physical potential.

Dominica and Ransom
From the beginning we believed we could achieve our $4 million Forging the Future Capital Campaign goal. Thanks to you and our unflappable campaign committee, not only did we hit this goal, we are closing in on $5 million and completing capital improvements that will enable us to provide the best possible education for our students into the future.

I am filled with such pride each and every time I drive through campus. Our students deserve every opportunity to be successful, and our alumni are a testament that “We Do Make a Difference.” I have been blessed to be part of a wonderful team of board members, parents, staff, and community friends that have worked together to secure this legacy for many years to come.

Roger A. Fazzone, President
Whalen Hall is now the social hub on campus. Students sit with their friends and staff to discuss the day’s routines and current events. Parents and family are invited both to special events and to meals at any time.

The Burnett Internet Cafe provides an entertaining, safe place for students to socialize with friends, as well as a space for birthday parties, dances and alumni events.

In celebration of our students, flags are hung from each representative country, and student achievement, such as athlete of the month, gets special recognition in this space.
I am very proud to be affiliated with this school and what it has achieved in the campaign for these very deserving young people and their families.

George T. Whalen, Jr., Co-Chair Capital Campaign Steering Committee

Features

840 meal preparations
15 Special Dinners not including Parents’ Weekend
12 Special Events in which parents, staff, alumni, and community members are invited to attend
Solar panels to supplement energy use
Snack bar
Campus store
Gaming area
Movie section
Dance floor
Exterior seating with bonfire pit
Etkin Environmental Center

Features

Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation
Weather station
Pond with fish, native muskrat and several wild ducks
Four bridges and walking trails with benches throughout
Greenhouse
Four raised beds
More than 200 flowers, bushes, and vegetables
Composting and recycling program
Tree and plant identification signage
Students in the Institute and high school now take Environmental Science
When my daughter first came to Maplebrook, it was difficult for everyone because she was a long way from home. But we knew MBS would help her flourish. She has excelled in art, developed meaningful friendships, earned a trophy for the most academic growth in one year, and delivered a speech at the Etkin Environmental Center dedication in front of 200 hundred people. We are excited to see what the future holds for Cameron thanks to MBS.

Bruce Etkin, Parent

I have learned so many things in this class – a love for the outdoors, how to plant my own garden, and a better bond with nature and animals.

Alex Bonnefil, Student
The Performing Arts Center

I love the creativity and talent that the space in Hilfiger Hall and our art curriculum have unveiled in our students. Their work is truly inspirational to me as their instructor.

Mr. T. Jones, Art Instructor

Features

Institute and high school students take art with Mr. Jones
Creative art classes on Saturday morning
Music appreciation
Vocal instruction
Instrumental instruction
Drama Performance
Talent Show

Jamieson and Cameron in the 2015 drama production
Hilfiger Hall

Maplebrook has been a great experience for my daughter. She has met many close friends, the staff has been nurturing and helpful and we’re very satisfied with the progress she has made and how her self-esteem continues to improve.

Tommy Hilfiger, Parent
Established Scholarships

The Priscilla L. Buckley Writing Excellence Scholarship
$50,000

The Robbie Fisher Three-Point Scholarship Award for Excellence in Academics, Athletics, and Leadership
$25,000

The Brian Lemley Memorial Photography Scholarship
$28,000

The Jerome I. Rossman, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
$149,000

The Howes Family Scholarship Fund
$100,000
We are so excited to have raised all of the funds for this project and eagerly anticipate the building of our new indoor natatorium (salt-water swimming pool) in this calendar year. This building will connect to the existing gymnasium and fitness area to provide an all-encompassing Wellness Center for students and the community at large. This project and the existing gymnasium will also be equipped with solar panels while the current swimming pool will be re-purposed as an art gallery and possible dance studio.
Maplebrook initiated the Forging the Future capital campaign in February 2011, co-chaired by Dr. Roger A. Fazzone and Mr. George T. Whalen, Jr. We met our first goal of $1.5 million, and after a building dedication in October 2012, Whalen Hall and the Burnett Internet Cafe became the social hubs of all student/parent/staff interaction. The former dining hall, renamed Fazzone Hall, was converted to dorm space for 10 students.

We unveiled the next group of projects in fall 2013 with a goal to raise $2.5 million, despite a feasibility study by a consulting firm saying the amount could not be achieved. Thanks to the persistence of our committee and the generosity of our Maplebrook family, not only did we meet that goal, but we are closing in on $5 million overall and the completion of all capital improvements. We now have the new Hilfiger Hall, the Performing Arts Center, the Etkin Environmental Center, several named scholarships, and by 2017 the Natatorium along with the conversion of the existing pool for an art gallery and studio space ensuring that Maplebrook provides the finest possible education to our students far into the future.

Our warmest thanks to you all,

Lori S. Hale, Executive Director
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As Maplebrook moves forward, we will focus on major gifts and planned giving. The George and Serena Merck Legacy Fund, named for the Merck family, early and long time benefactors of the school, was founded to honor those who provide support through estate planning. We hope you will become a member of the George and Serena Merck Legacy Society. Your philanthropic legacy tells a story of those experiences you hold most dear, honoring you and future generations of diverse learners.

Your gift can result in financial benefits to you including: generating lifelong income, converting low-yielding assets into a higher income stream, obtaining significant income tax deductions, and reducing or eliminating capital gains and estate taxes. It is our hope that Maplebrook has been a fundamental chapter for your family and that you will play a role in ensuring the school’s long-term financial well-being so that future generations can benefit as well.

For more information, please contact Dr. Roger Fazzone at (845) 373-9511 extension 248.
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