

Pathways

A PUBLICATION OF THE TESSERACT SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

SPECIAL EDITION WINTER 2010-11



Middle school math and science educator, Krista Gavilinski, and seventh-grade students

Tesseract School is a uniquely effective and supportive place of learning. We must ensure that it continues to evolve and grow—always rising to be the standard-bearer for our core values: Academic Excellence, Respect for the Individual, Importance of Community, Educational Leadership and Global Responsibility.

As you are aware, Tesseract has embarked on an ambitious plan for expansion. Our vision is to become the premiere independent private school in the Southwest—growing to two full campuses with a total capacity of 750 students from preschool through 12th grade.

Our success has been most visible in the establishment of the Shea campus, and we are pleased to announce that our progress continues. The 2011-12 school year will bring the first-ever 12th-grade class to the Shea campus, increasing the total number of middle and upper school students to 210.

Now, as our 10th anniversary as a non-profit independent school approaches, the work to meet the needs of our growing student body begins.

Our vision and standard for excellence requires

a long reach. While we know there will be challenges, we are also confident there is no limit to what we can accomplish when working toward a common goal—our children’s future. For that reason, we give special thanks to the many parents, grandparents, volunteers and other friends of Tesseract School who have stepped forward to give their time, talents and financial support. We have already accomplished so much because of this generosity and dedication.

Please take a moment to review the following information from our Buildings and Grounds Committee detailing the next steps we will take to advance our vision of creating a one-of-a-kind community for Tesseract students.

More information will be available in January of the new year. In the meantime, if you would like more details about how these plans will impact your child’s experience at Tesseract School or if you would like to learn how you can help support our efforts, please do not hesitate to call Nigel directly.

Best Wishes,
Nathan Learner
Chair, Board of Trustees

Nigel Taplin
Head of School ●

inside

Page 2-3

TESSERACT SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE UPDATES

Page 4

A NOTE FROM YOUR TIGER ANNUAL FUND CO-CHAIR

Page 5

ARIZONA STATE TAX CREDIT WELCOME, JACK MARKS LOVE YOUR SCHOOL? TELL A FRIEND!

Page 6-7

2010-11 TIGER ANNUAL FUND DONORS

Page 8

GREEN TIE EVENT, 2011 BOURBON STREET BLUES TESSERACT PHILOSOPHY OF GIVING

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4800 East Doubletree
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Tesseract School Buildings and Grounds Committee Updates

The Buildings and Grounds Committee continues its work toward implementing the middle and upper school campus master plan.

The current focus is the build-out of the middle school beginning with the Fifth- and Sixth-Grade Village and another for the seventh- and eighth-grade students. Both villages will become a living example of Tesseract's commitment to global responsibility, as the intent for these state-of-the-art facilities is to meet the "Gold Standard" for LEED Certification by the U.S. Building Council. The buildings will be smart, adaptive, efficient, cost effective and designed to achieve a 40 percent savings on energy.

As opposed to traditional construction and design, the villages will create a special sense of community, encouraging students to interact with their physical environment, educators and each other. Classrooms will be spacious and supported by breakout rooms to encourage interactive, collaborative learning and enable students to work in groups or independently. The acoustic design will provide an optimal classroom environment for instructor and student communication with very little, if any, external noise or sound reverberation. The construction will provide the best indoor air quality possible. All together, the natural lighting, enhanced acoustics and high-quality air will create a healthier advanced student-learning environment as evidenced by recent studies.

In addition to shorter build times, the proposed structurally insulated panel (SIP) design combined with an insulated roofing system will be two-thirds more thermally efficient than traditional construction. This means that construction costs will be significantly reduced, and heating and cooling costs can be cut in half. Because SIP construction creates a perfect seal at all corners and joints, the classrooms will contain the best indoor air quality possible for students and educators. Solar panels will be installed on the roof to generate power, and classrooms will be equipped with occupancy light sensors, Solatubes® and large windows to

connect the indoors and outdoors, making the most of natural sunlight and further reducing energy costs—not to mention strained eyes and headaches.

As part of the building and certification process, Tesseract students will better understand the benefits of a sustainable and healthy environment. Among the many features will be "Truth Walls," which will employ the building itself as a teaching tool. By exposing an area of the structure, students will clearly see the recyclable materials that go into a green building. Students will also have the opportunity to collect data and monitor energy efficiency when in operation. Plans even include a "Power Gym" where students can create renewable energy by exercising on elliptical machines to convert kinetic energy into AC electric, which can be translated in the classroom by allowing for real-time scientific and mathematical analysis of energy consumption and cost savings.

The end result will be a middle school that is both symbolic of Tesseract's core values and permanently defines the middle school with its own identity, furnishings and equipment ideally suited for students during this special time in their growth and development. When completed, the combined villages will total more than 12,000 square feet of indoor instructional space and feature:

- 10 total classrooms
- 12 breakout rooms
- Two central courtyards
- Amphitheatre seating, which can be used as outdoor classrooms
- Turf islands with natural shade for cooling
- Student lockers
- Outdoor courts and play areas
- Storerooms
- Bathroom facilities
- ADA compliant facilities
- State-of-the-art green design

The plan is to construct four of the six new classrooms on the northeast corner of the Shea

Tesseract School Buildings and Grounds Committee Updates *(continued)*

campus, which will eventually become the completed Fifth- and Sixth-Grade Village. Work would begin in early 2011 to ensure completion by the start of the 2011-12 school year. The Buildings and Grounds Committee is currently exploring the feasibility of constructing these classrooms using the same SIP design that will be used to build the proposed middle school facilities. This will allow for the creation of permanent classrooms around which the Fifth- and Sixth-Grade Village can be fully developed. The alternative plan is to erect temporary modular classrooms to meet the immediate need for additional space. Both options are under consideration at this time.

Until the Fifth- and Sixth-Grade Village is completed, the media center and performing and visual arts programs will

be relocated to these new classrooms. This will alleviate much of the congestion in the main academic halls and ensure that no one group of students is predominantly impacted as the campus expansion continues. These classrooms—whether temporary or permanent—will ensure there is sufficient space and a quality learning environment for every Tesseract student.

In the longer term, Tesseract School and the Buildings and Grounds Committee remain committed to implementing the full campus master plan responsibly and in stages. Future plans include a 500-seat performing and visual arts center, a student center to house a state-of-the-art media center and indoor dining hall with outdoor eating area, a fitness center, swimming pool and more. ●



A Note From Your Tiger Annual Fund Co-Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 168 parents, faculty, staff and friends who have contributed \$152,000 to date toward our overall goal of \$200,000, placing the Tiger Annual Fund at 75 percent of its goal in less than half the school year. If you have not yet participated, there is still time. You can make your donation online at www.tesseractannualfund.org; once there, you can choose to make a one-time gift or weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual gifts and have them charged to your credit card.

The early childhood Sun Room and the 11th-grade class celebrated their success for achieving the highest percentage of participation of any class on their campuses in the recent "October is Tiger Annual Fund Month" drive. The 11th-graders had a 65 percent participation rate and the Sun Room had an 85 percent participation rate. The 11th-graders celebrated with a lunch brought in from In-N-Out Burger, while the Sun Room celebrated with a pizza party and a special appearance by the Tesseract Tiger.

In case you were not aware, gifts to the Tiger Annual Fund are tax-deductible. With the end of the year approaching, now is a great time to make your gift. As an added incentive for those who have not yet made a contribution, there is also a December contest. Any class that has 100 percent participation by December 31 will get to go on a special field trip. Please help your child's classroom win this trip while at the same time supporting Tesseract School by donating today. It takes you only two minutes to make a donation, but the wonderful things the Tiger Annual Fund does for the children at Tesseract School last all year.

Phillip Baker
Co-Chair, Tiger Annual Fund

Click [here](#) to view a brief video message from your Tiger Annual Fund co-chairs and Tesseract's student ambassadors.



Left:
Phillip Baker and
Shawn Richter, Tiger
Annual Fund co-chairs

Top Right:
Tesseract Tiger and the
Sun Room

Bottom Right:
The 2010-11 junior
class



Arizona State Tax Credit

The Arizona Tuition Tax Credit Program enables you to contribute \$1,000, if you file your taxes jointly, or \$500, if you file individually, to **New Valley Education Partners–Tesseract School (NVEP–Tesseract School)** and receive a dollar-for-dollar reduction in your Arizona state tax liability. There is absolutely no cost to you, and you may also be able to take a federal charitable tax deduction for the same contribution.

Approximately 25 percent of Tesseract’s student body is currently receiving financial aid, in large measure thanks to your past support through the Arizona Tax Credit Program. Your contribution to the program will continue to allow many deserving children the opportunity to experience an education that is unparalleled in the Valley.

To make a tuition tax credit donation to NVEP–Tesseract School, go directly to the online giving site at www.tesseracttaxcredit.org. Once you complete the process, a receipt that can be used for tax purposes will be e-mailed to you immediately. Tesseract will also mail you a letter to acknowledge your contribution.

Remember—your financial outlay comes back to you in the form of a full tax credit while at the same time supporting Tesseract School’s scholarship fund.

Kim Hochschuler
NVEP Chair

Click [here](#) to view a brief video message from Robert Engelman, former Tesseract School board member ●

Welcome, Jack Marks



Please welcome Jack Marks, Tesseract School’s new director of development. Jack comes to Tesseract with more than 25 years of fundraising and development experience.

Jack started his career in higher education working at liberal arts colleges in the Midwest and the East Coast, progressing to a major fundraising program at Ohio State University. He moved to Arizona in 1983 to direct Arizona State University’s first capital campaign with a goal of \$100 million. More recently, Jack has served as director of development for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Phoenix and as chief development officer for St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance, where he directed fundraising and food-donation programs.

Jack has numerous civic involvements including serving as past president of the Kiwanis Club of Phoenix and past president of the Beatitudes Campus Board; in June he was named Trustee of the Year by the Aging Services of Arizona Association. ●

Love Your School? Tell A Friend!

When we meet with prospective families, we always ask how they found out about Tesseract School. While we receive a variety of answers, the one we are the most pleased to hear is “From a friend.”

We truly appreciate your support, and hope that you will continue to share your love of Tesseract School by encouraging friends, relatives and others you know to contact us if they are looking for a school for their children.

Thank you! ●

2010-11 Tiger Annual Fund Donors

Thank you to all the parents, faculty, staff and friends of Tesseract School who have participated to date in the 2010-11 Tiger Annual Fund. If you have not yet made your gift to the Tiger Annual fund, please consider making one today at www.tigerannualfund.org so we may add you to the list of families who support our annual giving fund.

11th Grade

Anonymous (3)
Mr. and Mrs. Jett Anderson
The Berry Family
Mr. J. Charles Coughlin
Mr. Bob Engelman and Mrs. Lynn Van Buren
Mr. Bret Lawson
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Rosen-Ducat
Dr. Michael Steingart and Dr. Livia Spitz Steingart

10th Grade

Mrs. Carolyn Cook
Ms. Christine Guido O'Connor
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry G. Landau
Mr. Andrew Reichlin and Ms. Lisa Moreschi
The Saizow/Ettenson Family
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sarrafzadeh
Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Satterfield
Dr. Shannon Tromp

9th Grade

Mr. and Mrs. Horst-Dieter Garz
Mr. Marvin Glotfelty and Ms. Marie Jones
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Hochschulter
Dr. David Kaufman and Dr. Deborah Seyther
Mr. Steve Lee and Ms. Anne Aberbach
Mr. and Mrs. Rafael Munoz and Ms. Lily Munoz
Ms. Sheryl Sitter

8th Grade

Anonymous (1)
The Berry Family
The Kathuria Family
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kroot
The LaBelle Family
Dr. Patrick Liu and Dr. Peggy Stemmler
Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCune
The McGary Family
Mr. Randy McGrane
Dr. and Mrs. Joel Parker
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Redmond
Mr. and Mrs. Adam Singer
Dr. Shannon Tromp
Dr. Mark Wix and Dr. Barbara Prah-Wix

7th Grade

Mr. and Mrs. Benton Davis
Mr. and Mrs. David P. Gardner
Mr. Michael Grossman and
Mrs. Michele Sharar Grossman
Ms. Leslie Hopkins
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Johnson
Dr. David Kaufman and Dr. Deborah Seyther
Dr. and Mrs. Dennis L. Kilpatrick
Ms. Laurie Merrill – In Honor of Emily Kunkle
The Musil Family
Mr. and Mrs. Rex Williamson

6th Grade

Anonymous (1)
The Czopp Family
Mr. and Mrs. David P. Gardner
The Goldberg Family
Mr. and Mrs. David Greenberg
The Harrison-Hayes Family
Dr. Peter Hunger and Mrs. Sharon Buell-Hunger
The Kathuria Family
The Katz Family
The Kolbe Family
Dr. Ted Kreitzman and Mrs. Lisa D'Onofrio
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kroot
Mr. Rich Lesniak
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Walters
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Weekes
The Zuieback Family

5th Grade

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Asta III
Mr. Kevin Chen and Dr. Helen Zhao
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cooper
Dr. and Mrs. Nabil Dib
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Elsie – In Honor of Grace Elsie
Ms. Kautia D. Hampton
The Harrison-Hayes Family
Mr. Craig H. Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Learner
The Musil Family
Ms. Mara Pernick
Mr. and Mrs. Cable C. Rosenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sidi
Ms. Catherine B. Spire
Mr. and Mrs. Rex Williamson
Drs. Farley and Luci Chen Yang

4th Grade

Anonymous (1)
The Biggs Family
The Goldberg Family
Mr. Michael Grossman and
Mrs. Michele Sharar Grossman
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Kasten
Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCune
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Meyer
The Morris Family
Mr. Jack Padovano and Mr. Phillip Baker
Ms. Sheryl Sitter
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Stottlemyre

3rd Grade

Mr. and Mrs. Darren Bertram
The Cleinman Family
Mr. and Mrs. Horst-Dieter Garz
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hannum
The Ivester Family
Dr. Henry and Mrs. Lisa Lee
Mr. and Mrs. John Martellini

2010-11 Tiger Annual Fund Donors (continued)

3rd Grade (continued)

The Musil Family
The Pellillo Family
Mr. and Mrs. Cable C. Rosenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Richard York

2nd Grade

The Biggs Family
Mr. Kevin Chen and Dr. Helen Zhao
Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Kim
Dr. Ted Kreitzman and Mrs. Lisa D'Onofrio
The Morris Family
The Musil Family
Mr. and Mrs. Adam Singer
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Stottlemyre
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Weekes
Drs. Farley and Luci Chen Yang

1st Grade

Anonymous (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Tony Bebbington
Mr. and Mrs. Darren Bertram
The Bowley Family
Dr. Alan Discont
Ms. Deborah Discont
Dr. Danton Dungy and Mrs. Adrienne McLendon
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Folz
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hannum
The Jayaram Family
The McDermott Family
The Pellillo Family
The Prelog Family
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Stevenson
The Wadley Family

Kindergarten

Dr. Michael Alberti and Dr. Anne-Michelle Ruha
The Ambrad Family
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barry
The Cleinman Family
Mr. and Mrs. Colin Decker
Mr. Mario E. Diaz and Mrs. Veronica De La O
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Jolley
Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Kim
Mr. and Mrs. Carter Lloyds
Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Lowrie
The McDermott Family
Mr. and Mrs. Max Nerheim
Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Plunkett, Jr.
The Raia Family
The Rowland Family
Mr. and Mrs. Kent Voss

Early Childhood

Anonymous (1 – Cactus Room)
Ms. Michelle Allen (Sun Room)
Dr. and Mrs. Jonathan Ashman (Sun Room)
The Bowley Family (Cactus Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Burke (Sun Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Casale (Sun Room)
Mr. Mario E. Diaz and
Mrs. Veronica De La O (Sun Room)
Dr. Alan Discont (Coyotes Room)
Ms. Deborah Discont (Coyotes Room)
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Gregory (Sun Room)
The Harrison-Hayes Family (Cactus Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Jolley (Sun Room)

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Kasten (Coyotes Room)
Dr. Ted Kreitzman and
Mrs. Lisa D'Onofrio (Sun Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Carter Lloyds (Sun Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Paul McCarthy (Coyotes Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Max Nerheim (Sun Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Parkis (Sun Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Matt Ross (Coyotes Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Rubin (Cactus Room)
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Seip (Sun Room)
Payton Smith and Family (Coyotes Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Sodja (Sun Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Stottlemyre (Coyotes Room)
The Suchala Family (Cactus Room)
Mr. Scott Talbot (Cactus Room)
Mr. and Mrs. Kent Voss (Sun Room)
The Wadley Family (Cactus Room)
Dr. and Mrs. Clinton Wellnitz (Sun Room)

Faculty, Staff and Other Generous Donors

Ms. Lynn Caccia – *In Honor of Cole Bearsto*

(9th Grade)

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Coatney
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cordier
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dettmer
Ms. Darleen Ferry
Ms. Krista Gavilinski
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Gionson
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Goethe (6th Grade)
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Grady
Mrs. Marge Haakstad
Mr. and Mrs. George Hale
Mr. Jim Hawxhurst, Tracie Glover Hawxhurst
and Ian Hawxhurst (Early Childhood/Sun)
The Hunt Family (Early Childhood/Cactus)
Ms. Victoria R. Jarrel
Ms. Tina Kanelos
Dr. Stephanie Knight
Ms. Melissa Kolnik (Early Childhood/Coyotes)
Mr. and Mrs. Adam Kootman
Ms. Michelle Kramer
Mr. Chris LaBonte and Ms. Heather Noone
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Lange
Ms. Michelle Lappin
John F. Long Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Craig Maxwell
Mr. and Mrs. George McBride
Mr. and Mrs. Neal McDaniel (4th Grade)
Mr. and Mrs. Vince McKee
Ms. Kathleen Dunne Millar
Mr. Phil Montgomery
Mr. and Mrs. Kris Newkirk
The Oberfield Family (Kindergarten)
The Passell Family (Early Childhood/Sun
& Kindergarten)
The Ramirez-Montanez Family
Ms. Zorra Ram Kaur
Ms. Beverly Siebler
Mr. Chris Sisco and Ms. Jennifer Tyma
The Springfield Family (Kindergarten &
3rd Grade)
Mr. Ted Strickland
Mr. and Mrs. Nigel Taplin
Mr. David Whitson
Ms. Angela Young
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Yurcak ●

GREEN TIE EVENT, 2011 BOURBON STREET BLUES

Tesseract School's Green Tie Event 2011, Bourbon Street Blues, is March 12, from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at The Venue Scottsdale.

Right now the Bourbon Street Blues volunteers are hard at work creating a fabulous school event.

Speaking of volunteers, if you want to feel good, donate. Studies show that people who volunteer their time or donate to a cause experience:

- A greater sense of well-being
- Lower stress levels
- Increased self-esteem
- Improved immune system

You can experience all of the "feel good" health benefits by donating to the Green Tie Event in one of several different ways:

- Donate an item to the live or silent auction.
- Refer a business contact to our donations team for a committee member to follow up on a potential donation.
- Purchase an ad in the event catalog for your business or to dedicate to your child.
- Purchase a table, attend the event and have fun.
- Sponsor an area of the event such as the VIP Lounge or poker tournament.

Proceeds from Bourbon Street Blues will go to Tesseract's scholarship fund, and visual and performing arts programs. For those of you with a passion for sports, technology, or other areas of learning, you will also be able to donate directly to several school programs at the silent auction.

Seating at The Venue is limited and many tables have already

been purchased. If you plan to attend this year's "can't miss" event, please book your seats now. Once the tables are full, your chance to attend will be gone until our next Green Tie Event in 2012.

We hope you will consider turning your donation into a celebration with us on the evening of March 12 at Bourbon Street Blues.

For event details, please visit our Web site at www.TesseractGreenTieEvent.com. If you would like to contact a committee member, please e-mail our team directly at BourbonStreetBlues2011@gmail.com.

Your Auction Committee Executive Team

Denise Voss, Chair

Mitzi Kim, Donations Co-Chair

Caroline Prelog, Marketing Co-Chair

Danielle Merrill, Event Planning Co-Chair

Heide McDermott, Operations Co-Chair

Jennifer Hannum, Research Co-Chair

Sharon Buell-Hunger, Honorary Co-Chair ●



Back row L to R: Jennifer Hannum, Sharon Buell-Hunger and Caroline Prelog
Front row L to R: Mitzi Kim, Heide McDermott, Danielle Merrill and Denise Voss

Tesseract Philosophy of Giving

As a member of the Tesseract School community, trustees, parents and employees are expected to contribute by giving their time, talents and/or assets. It is through all of our community giving 100 percent to Tesseract's campaigns, funds and special events that we enhance our ability to provide the highest quality education for our students and further our mission of academic excellence. ●