



AN EDUCATION AND
ENRICHMENT INITIATIVE

September 28, 2011

Dear Roland Park Parents:

It is great to be back at the RPEMS community for the 2011-2012 school year. We are the Roland Park Public Annual Fund, a parent-created and led organization that supports the academic and enrichment priorities of our school. Formerly the Roland Park Public Education and Enrichment Fund (RPPEEF), we are changing our name to reflect a clearer description of our organization and mission – and by popular demand. Whereas the school holds fundraisers to supplement its discretionary budget and the PTA raises money to support shorter-term student, faculty and school needs, **the [Roland Park Public Annual Fund](#) is designed primarily to sponsor major enrichment, long-term and capital projects – a fund for sustained giving to continually enrich the school.**

Last year, we began funding, and will continue to support, ***The Write Place*** – a diversified writing initiative. The highly successful campaigns to build the school's playgrounds (***Let the Children Play***) and to enhance its athletic facilities (***Minds in Motion***) were led by founding members of the Roland Park Public Annual Fund. We are excited to continue in this tradition. ***This letter begins our fundraising efforts for 2011 school year. In 2010-2011, we raised \$80,000 (\$45,000 from parents/others and \$35,000 from foundations). Many thanks to those of you who contributed!***

With that strong start, we launched ***The Write Place*** and were able to achieve the following:

- The creation and implementation of an enhanced writing curriculum designed by RPEMS teachers for grades 4-8.
- The transformation of Room 305 from a storage room to ***The Write Place*** writing center, a beautiful new classroom space for student seminars, which are taught by students from the Johns Hopkins Creative Writing Department.
- The hiring of Frankie Sherwood as the Write Place coordinator and of Katherine Osborn as the writer-in-residence.
- The enhancement of the My Word! Writing Festival, which reached nearly every student through workshops or assemblies and brought in professional writers as seminar teachers for the week.

Plans for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year include:

- Continuation of funding of ***The Write Place*** and its programs: an improved version of last year's writing curriculum; a website featuring student writing; after-school creative writing clubs; and the launch of the Write Start, a writing skills review program for students, among other things.
- Expansion to assist RPEMS with funding for programs that were eliminated due to the \$400,000 budget cut. Potential projects include funding an after school middle school chorus, the 6th grade homework club, and the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Program (PBIS), among others.

RPEMS remains an excellent institution because of its talented teachers, dedicated administration, excellent PTA and the involvement of parents like you. **We are a community – a community that embraces innovation and constant growth and improvement. We need to raise, at least, \$50,000 this year and we need your contribution. Please match or increase last year’s tax-deductible contribution. If you have never given, please do so this year. You can give monthly or a lump sum.**

We have multiple options on how to give.

1. Mail your check made out to “Roland Park Public Annual Fund at the Baltimore Community Foundation” to the Baltimore Community Foundation; 2 East Read Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202
2. Checks can also be dropped in the RPP Annual Fund mailbox in the school’s main office.
3. Credit card donations can be made online at www.bcf.org/RPPAF.
4. In addition, BCF can accept on-line banking funds transfers for those who want to make monthly or quarterly gifts (Contact Laurie Crosley at BCF: 410-332-4172 x170 or lcrosley@bcf.org).

Please inquire if your employer has a matching program, and encourage grandparents and friends to give, too! The RPPAF is a component fund of the Baltimore Community Foundation a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Please contact us via e-mail at rolandparkpublicannualfund@gmail.com or at one of the email addresses below with any questions. As always, we thank Mrs. Cole and her administration, the RPEMS PTA and its president, JoAnne Huey, for their support and teamwork.

Sincerely,



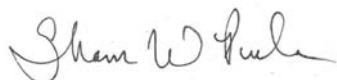
Jana Carey (jana@yuhagroup.com) – parent of Elek (2nd) and Max (8th)



Chris Hayes – (chrisandbethhayes@gmail.com) – parent of Kendall (6th) and Grace (5th)



Sonya Kannam (sonyahkannam@gmail.com) – parent of Peter (7th), Zachary(4th) and Cole(1st)



Sharon Pula (sharon.pula@gmail.com) – parent of Isabelle (6th) and Grace (4th)