



THE CARROLL SCHOOL

To: The Carroll Community

From: Steve Wilkins, Head of School
Bill Copacino, Board Chair

Re: Acquisition of the Bartlett Campus

Date: October 27, 2009

On October 23, 2009, the Carroll School Board of Trustees voted to proceed with the purchase of the Bartlett School campus. This has been made possible by the incredible generosity and vision that enabled the School to raise nearly \$4 million since the beginning of August. The reasons for pursuing Bartlett remain powerful and compelling: alleviating overcrowding on the Lincoln campus and addressing the unmet admission demands, especially for middle school aged students. We are delighted that we will be able to accomplish both of these goals.

Additionally, it is thrilling to know that Carroll will have the opportunity to improve our offerings to your children and others in the dyslexic community. We will be investigating the wisdom of expanding outreach programs and adding professional training capacities, an additional summer program on the new campus, and a partnership with a preschool. We will also consider offering office and clinic space to professionals in allied fields such as speech and language, occupational therapy, cognitive development, and counseling, providing an option to our families to have these services available on the campus.

The Capital Campaign associated with the Bartlett campus acquisition will continue. Most capital campaigns are undertaken before a new building is constructed and are designed as three to five year plans. The nature of how the Bartlett property came on the market unexpectedly, combined with a short bidding period, required a different approach as we had to put forward a bid to capture this incredible opportunity.

We completed a very successful first phase of the Campaign and were able to raise sufficient pledge commitments to allow us to purchase the Bartlett property and make a significant down payment on the cost. However, we have taken on a large mortgage and we will have significant costs over the next few years, as we operate with an empty building this year and a partially occupied building next year. The vision has been to continue the Capital Campaign until we pay down the mortgage to a sustainable level, fund some near term improvements over the next year, and finance the interim losses until enrollment reaches our target levels. You will be hearing more about the Campaign in the coming months.

The administration and faculty are now ready to begin the work of designing a two-campus school that enables us to improve, expand, and envision the ideal programs for Carroll. We will remain absolutely true to our mission to educate students with language-based learning disabilities, such as dyslexia. We will continue with our current student-teacher ratios, class sizes, and high expectations for student growth. We are determined to train teachers and tutors so that they have the knowledge and latitude to do what they need to do in their classrooms to transform the educational lives of our students. And we plan to enhance the quality of our offerings to your children.

In closing, thank you to all who contributed to make this possible.