

# EXTRA EXTRA

The Latest News on The Carroll School Expansion

December 15, 2009 — Issue 1

The Carroll School

781-259-8342

LINCOLN 25 Baker Bridge Rd

WALTHAM 1841 Trapelo Rd

[www.carrollschool.org](http://www.carrollschool.org)

## Planning Activities

### Expansion Highlights

Immediately upon the purchase of the former Bartlett School campus, the Carroll community began planning for next fall when our School will begin the new academic year on two beautiful campuses.



The planning to date has taken many forms:

**1 Physical Space-** Beginning in January 2010, we will renovate the Lower School campus in Waltham in three important ways. First, we will replace all of the flooring and paint all of the walls. This gives us an opportunity to make the building warmer and more child-friendly. Secondly, we will be creating “Carroll-sized” classrooms by dividing the larger rooms. Thirdly, we will be redesigning the center of the building at the entry way and in the large open room that previously was the dining room.

### 2 Community Involvement-

The Lower School faculty, in particular, has been engaged in the process of defining: “What makes for a great learning space?” In December, the Lower School faculty presented many suggestions to the School’s Administration, who then incorporated these ideas into the initial plans for the new campus. In January, the Lower School faculty will review these plans and offer feedback. In addition, a group of parent designers and architects has advised us on how to make the facility “come alive” with student centered creativity and vitality. Carroll will hire an architect to convert these plans into construction drawings. *Continued on page 2*

## Timeline

### December

- Planning activities begin for the campus, program, admissions, and marketing

### January

- Decisions about the physical space complete (at least those decisions necessary for opening in Fall 2010)
- Reconstruction work begins
- Faculty Committees underway
- Admissions season in full swing

### February-April

- Program Design Work continues
- Hiring of Faculty

### May-June

- Begin the move onto the Lower School Campus
- Engage Students and Faculty in the Process
- Work with Parents’ Association on Logistics
- Enrollment Picture Coming into Focus

### July

- Renovation Work Complete

### August

- Physical Preparation of Lincoln Middle School Campus
- Physical Preparation of Waltham Lower School Campus
- Open School on Two Campuses

*Children with dyslexia tend to look at the world differently. Isn't the world lucky they do?*

Continued from page 1

**3 Asking Questions-** The faculty and staff are engaged in asking questions during the month of December. Our process is to ask every question we can imagine, divide those into six committees, and make recommendations in each area: logistics/schedules, all-school ethos, shared services (tutoring, multis), the physical move, physical space assignments, and the 9th grade program.

*“How do we maintain Carroll’s rituals and traditions in a two-campus school?”*

**4 Multi-Campus Schools-** One of our trustees is the Head of a Middle School in a school that occupies multiple campuses. She has offered significant advice: maintain the one-school ethos, plan events for the whole school, engage in professional training all together, and make sure that beliefs and philosophy are school-wide. However, on a daily basis, do not try to make the two campuses function as one. This will cause scheduling and logistical problems that are unnecessary. As long as the core is solid, Carroll will remain one strong school, even in two separate locations.

**5 Communication-** We will continue to publish this monthly newsletter until we have completed the move and are operating as a two-campus school. We are constantly receiving input from all constituencies; we greatly appreciate this participation.



## New Program Development

**New Opportunities-** The addition of 58,000sf of school space allows Carroll to make several moves essential to the wellbeing of our current program and to develop new opportunities to serve the larger population of dyslexic students.

**Improved Academic Spaces-** To be sure, the Middle School will take over all of the classrooms in Lincoln. This allows us to place classes, tutorials, children, and faculty in the best spaces in Lincoln. We project that we will have 225 students in Lincoln next fall, as opposed to the 297 we have currently. This will make the Lincoln campus function far more effectively. In time, we expect the Middle School population to reach 250 students, which is still far below our current numbers in Lincoln.

**New Ninth Grade Program-** Carroll will open a Ninth Grade next fall whose purpose is to provide a challenging college preparatory curriculum in coordination with targeted support in the area a student needs most. Our website describes this program in more detail. In essence, though, we intend to fill a gap in the Greater Boston independent school market by offering the most challenging and most supportive college preparatory 9th grade in a day school model.

*“...we intend to fill a gap in the Greater Boston independent school market by offering the most challenging and most supportive college preparatory 9th grade in a day school model.”*

**Waltham Campus Opportunities-** A Lower School of approximately 150 students in the long run will fit beautifully onto the new campus. In addition, we have planned to offer quality classroom and/or office space to a Pre-School. We are currently seeking a pre-school partner. The goal is to find an existing pre-school that cares about early intervention for children who are at risk for reading and language-based difficulties. If we cannot find such a partner, we will seek to lease space to allied professionals in the fields of Speech-Language, Occupational Therapy, and Counseling.

**Summer Technology Program-** Carroll will also add a second summer camp experience for children with dyslexia. On the Waltham campus, we will inaugurate a Summer Technology-Engineering-Design program that will challenge the strengths within the dyslexic profile. The activities will include “Scratch” which enables children to design their own games and activities for the computer, Lego design challenges, robotics, and multimedia projects.

*For further information, please go to our website, [www.carrollschool.org](http://www.carrollschool.org).*