



The Graham School

encounter the world, engage the mind

2012-2013 Annual Report

Our Vision

The vision that formed and fuels TGS is as a school that:

- Treats all students humanely and individually.
- Enlivens the human spirit via the concerned and positive ways mature, wise adults interact with teenagers and serve as role models for them.
- Causes students to become more thoughtful, inquisitive people particularly in core literacy areas including: science; math; the arts; communication through literature, writing, and oral presentation; technology; social studies; languages and cultural studies; and community engagement.
- Respects the need for students to establish their own independence while at the same time developing in them a sense of commitment to their community.
- Is a place where adults working at the school always exhibit respect toward students and other adults.
- Serves every child.

Special Accomplishments/Achievements

The Graham School, founded in the year 2000, is dedicated to preparing students to be life-long learners through rigorous academics and experiential learning. Academics at TGS integrate standards based course work that provides coverage and mastery of required content with perspectives and skills that are designed to make them effective participants in the world outside the classroom. In the 2012-2013 school year The Graham School continued its mission to educate students through focused academics, self-directed learning, and meaningful internships throughout Columbus.

Successful completions of standardized tests, improving graduation rates and good reviews of the educational program offered at TGS encouraged the school to expand its community into: The Graham Family of Schools; The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University, opened in the fall of 2007; Graham Expeditionary Middle School, opened in the fall of 2010, Graham Primary School opened in the fall of 2012.

Our Mission

The Graham School has a particular mission to urban students in Central Ohio preparing them for lifelong learning and informed citizenship through real-world experiences and rigorous academics. Fostering ownership and responsibility for their education prepares our students to be successful in college, the workplace, and other endeavors they undertake upon leaving The Graham School.

Governing Authority

The Graham School is chartered by the state of Ohio and as such, overseen by the Ohio Department of Education. Our sponsor is the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, an important partner in our work. The Graham School Board of Directors provides governance. They meet a minimum of six times per year. A schedule of meeting dates and times, as well as a record of actions taken, are kept at the school's office and are available for review by the public. Board members in 2012-13 included: **Steve Gussler**, President; **William Fein**, Vice President; **Patricia DeMaria**, Secretary; **George Norris**, Treasurer; and **Nancy Lahmers**.



The Graham School completed its 3rd year as a Race To The Top School receiving funds and guidance from Ohio Department of Education. The Graham School is on track to reach all of its RTTT goals by the end of the 4 year grant period.



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2013 Graduates

Mariam Abdiwahab	Chloe Crommes	Henry McNabb	Aiden Quickert
Savannah Acevedo	Dajai Davis	Brandi McQueary	Sean Rankin
Elizabeth Amerine	Alison Easter	Oliver Moehring	Keihin Rhoden
Jeremy Baldwin	Courtney Farsht	Kerric Morgan	Miranda Shapter
Dorian Bell	Sean Flynn	James O Neil	Levi (Jessie) Shy
Samuel Bice	Precious Franklin	Janelle Ossorio Montetta	Steven Stanley
Alexandra Blackburn	John Harrold	James Pack	Autumn Taylor
Gabriel Caldwell	Taylor Hart	Jasmine Parrish	Sydni Terrell
Heather Carey	Samuel Harvey	Kejana Peck	Daryon Thigpen
Kathleen Chandler	Emily Hayes	Aidan Pencek	Karla Torres
JeAnna Coleman	Jamaca Jones	Sara Petman	Maude Verber
Jeron Coleman	Kevah LaHue	Zach Phillips-Gary	Emily Williams
Christopher Cree	Damian Marburger	Kelsey Pierson	Zachery Zerkle

Parent Group

Working in conjunction with staff at TGS, parents facilitate communication, build community; support teachers, staff and families, organized events; raised money to enhance educational opportunities for students AND have a great time doing it! Created, staffed, funded the breakfast program. They meet monthly and are open to input from Graham families and staff. "Like" our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/GrahamPGC>; Follow us on Twitter @GrahamPGC; Email us at grahampgc@gmail.com

Any parent, guardian or family member of a Graham student may join in the PGC. There are many ways to be an active member of the

PGC. Attend meetings for information and community, help with new and ongoing programs and projects or participate in fundraising.

Parent Volunteers helped support The Annual Friends of Graham campaign which raised nearly \$38,000 for the school. Parent volunteers donated time, food, & energy to a variety of events supporting both staff and students. Members of the parent group also attended the elegant Have a Heart event at the Bishop James A. Griffin Student Center at Ohio Dominican University, which raised \$12,000 for the schools. The Graham School is indebted to the ongoing support of all its families, and is particularly grateful for the work of the Parent Group.

Donors

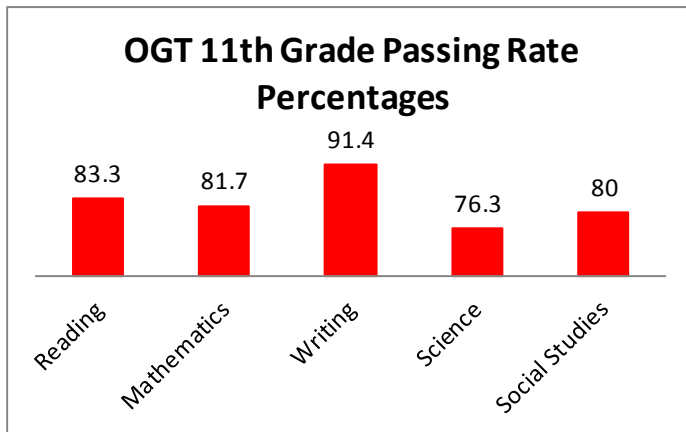
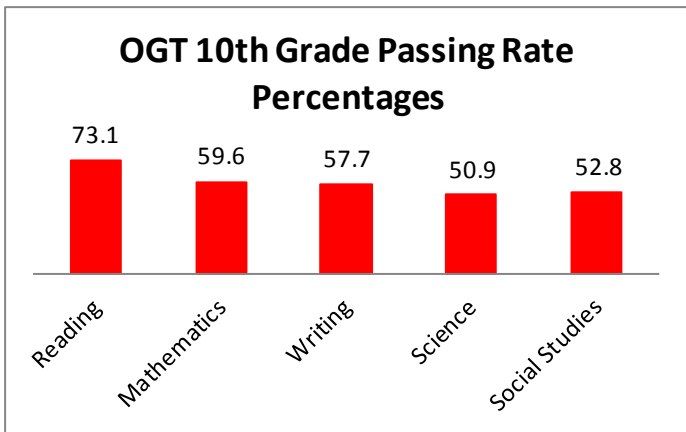
We gratefully acknowledge this year's generous donors who help make our work possible.

Alliance Data	Mr. and Mrs. Judge James Graham	Mr. and Mrs. Sam Musgrove
The Columbus Foundation	Ms. Debbie Greene and Ms. Pamela Springer	Mr. and Mrs. George Norris
Ann Hobson Foundation, Inc,	Mr. Stephen Gussler and Ms. Melody Steely	Ms. Linda Oshins
Mr. Jesus Acosta-Hughes	Dr. Mark Harris	Mr. Tom Paplaczyk
Ms. Louise Antony and Mr. Joe Levine	Mr. & Mrs. Colin & Katie Hedges	Ms. Bev Pettit
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Babcock	Mr. Larry Herson	Mr. and Mrs. Marc Pinsonneault
Mr. Seth Becker & Ms. Janet Meltzer	Ms. Patricia Brown James	Ms. Michelle K. Reed
Mr. Greg Brown and Ms. Nancy Perkins	Mr. and Mrs. Kent Johnson	Ms. Kathleen Schmidt
Mrs. Shirley Brown	Ms. Evelyn Keller	Mr. Jeffrey C. Seiter
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Busch	Mr. and Mrs. Gary Kiefer	Dr. Gordon Snider
Ms. Judy Butsko	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kindred	Ms. Angela Stoller-Zervas
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Calem	Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Knost	Ms. Janet Watson
Mr. Jack Clayton	Ms. Kris Kuzora	Mr. and Mrs. Alan Weiler
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Copeland	Ms. Nancy Lahmers	Mr. and Mrs. Bob Weiler
Mr. Scott Lewis Donaldson	Ms. Cheryl Long	Ms. Virginia Welch
Ms. Joanne Dummermuth	Mr. Joshua Mangel	Mr. Harry White
Ms. Shannon P Easter	Mr. and Mrs. Bill Marland	Ms. Dorothy Wilson
Mr. Scott Estill	Mr. and Mrs. Steve Martin	Mrs. Sandy Yorke
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fein	Ms. Sally McCarley	Mr. and Mrs. Neil Ziegler
Mr. and Mrs. George Garden	Mr. Mark K. Merkle, Jr.	All of the generous individuals who supported Have a Heart.
Mr. and Mrs. Miles Gibson	Mr. Steve Miller	
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Graham	Mr. John T. Mount	



Report Card

A state graduation requirement in Ohio is passage of all five parts (Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) of the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT), which is given for the first time in 10th grade. The OGT is a statewide testing requirement. The results, are published in the Ohio Department of Education’s “2012-13 School Year Report Card.”



Experiential Education Curriculum



The Experiential Program's purpose is to provide students with research, teaching, and service learning experiences in community organizations and businesses. These experiences enable students to develop confidence in their abilities and give them opportunities to engage in significant work while fostering a tangible commitment to the community in which they live. Students meet in advisory groups before and after their time at their sites to reflect on what they are learning and to follow a curriculum-guided education program that focuses on developing skills such as experiential/academic connections, interpersonal communication, professionalism and goal-setting.

ow Park Children’s Center, and Community Kitchen. Over 150 10th - 12th grade students interned at over 100 different sites through the 2012-13 school year. That equals over 12 hours per week and over 52,600 hours each year of service our students provide to our community.

In Spring of 2013, 49 seniors participated in The Graham School's culminating experiential internship; The Walkabout. Walkabout provides students with the opportunity to participate in two eight-week, 30 hour per week internships. The objective of Walkabout is to provide seniors with an intense and significant internship that helps students mature in the responsibilities of self-direction. Senior experiences included: aiding pre-school teachers at School for Young Children, participating in graduate level research with OSU's biology department, working with an organic farmer at Greenseed Farms, graphic design at Morgan Studios, acting as assistant director in a play for MadLab Theatre, working with veterinarians at West Jefferson Animal Hospital, and apprenticing with a stone carver at Old World Stone Carving.

Beginning in their freshman year, groups of 12-14 students work at sites such as The Habitat for Humanity Build it Again Center, Mead-

Staff for the 2012-13 school year

Debbie Addison	Zachary Franklin	Bridget Henebry	Scott McMullen	Andy Shields
Brett Bachman	Elaine Fujimura	Joanna King	Eileen Meers	Mary Slaback
Pam Boseker	Holly Garden	Marjorie Kirk	Tom Molnar	Rebecca Stadler
Greg Brown	Drew Gardner	Jamie Lenzo	Holley Morris	Amy Vickroy
Jessica Butsko	Johnny Ginter	Katie Logan	Roger Naus	Jennifer Waddell
Randi Channel	Chuck Graham	Cheryl Long	Maureen O’Brien	Jessica Weithman
Amy Fetter	Jeff Grunewald	Jake Mayer	Evan Rulong	Fred Whiteman
Susan Frank	Joseph Guth	Kathryn McDaniel	Melissa Rulong	



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Academic Requirements

The Graham School staff creates classroom work in traditional and non-traditional courses in order to help students acquire conceptual and factual knowledge and to develop our students' study habits, self-discipline, research skills, and teamwork. The Graham School curriculum includes courses in all required academic areas as designated by the State of Ohio for graduation. Students must progress experientially and academically in order to meet the requirements for graduation. Academic requirements include: 4 credits in English, 4 credits in mathematics, 3 credits in science, 3 credits in social studies, 2 credits in foreign language/cultural studies, 1 credit in fine arts, 1 credit in technology, 0.5 credits in health, 0.5 credits in physical education, and between 1.5 and 4.5 credits in experiential education depending on how many years the student has been attending The Graham School. All students graduating in the class of 2014 and beyond are required to fulfill the CORE graduation requirements established by the Ohio Department of Education. Approximately 75 different courses were offered over the school year in all academic areas.

Financial Status

In fiscal year 2012-13 the school received \$1,799,643 in state funds. The school also received \$570,362 in federal funds and \$44,675 in development funds, among other separated categories. Sources of income totaled \$5,949,643. In fiscal year 2012-13 the school paid \$4,840,270 in employee salaries and benefits, including payroll taxes and retirement; and \$56,834 in mortgage and loan payments on the purchase of the building. Uses, including the aforementioned items along with classroom support expenses, utilities, insurance and assorted services to and purchases for the school, totaled \$5,865,584. When the current cash in bank was added to the sources, the year-end adjusted cash balance was \$84,059 to be carried over to 2013-14. The school conducts its own on-going internal financial audit under the direction of its Board Audit Committee and treasurer Brian Adams, MBA, CMA, CFM, CGFM. Finances also were audited by the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, the school's sponsor. And, the school is audited annually by the State of Ohio Auditor's Office. All audits found accurately and appropriately accounted for finances.

The Graham School presents several awards each year in June to students who exhibit achievement and leadership in a variety of categories important to the work of the school. In 2012-2013 the following students were honored as recipients of these awards.

English	Shelby Waddle & Jamie Flynn
Foreign Language	Liddy Fabro
Cultural Studies	Kelsey Pierson
Science	Zach Philips-Gary
Health/Phys Ed	Will Hunter-Spears
Perseverance	Kade Strathie & Jamaica Jones
Reaching for the Stars	Katie Doyle
Experiential Research	Emily Hayes
Experiential Service Learning	Anyha Wharton, August Young, Cheyenne Gilbert, & Natasha Petman
Experiential Teaching	Courtney Farsht
Dean's Award for Courage	Alex Bell
Dean's Award for Leadership	Gabe Caldwell
True Dragon	Chris Cree
Social Studies	James O'Neil
Math	Flannery Stephens
Drama	Keihin Rhoden, Daryon Thigpen, & Maddie Holloway
Photography	Grace Davis & Zion Rowen
Fine Arts	Kwa Maccarthy
Music	Keihin Rhoden
Outstanding Senior	Alison Easter
True North	Aiden Quickert
Open Heart	Kelsey Peierson
Open Hand	Aidan Pencek
Open Mind	Zach Phillips-Gary

