



Strong Roots and Big Dreams



Coralwood Foundation

FISCAL YEAR 2011 • ANNUAL REPORT

Our mission is to promote excellence in early childhood inclusion education, and to provide a vehicle for long term financial support for Coralwood School.





Strong Roots and Big Dreams

Coralwood School

Coralwood School is the only public school in DeKalb County dedicated to serving children with special needs between three and six years of age. Our research-based educational model includes 12 collaborative and co-teaching classrooms in which six to eight children with special needs and ten typically developing children are educated together. Research shows that this model results in significant gains for special education students, including higher levels of social play, more appropriate social interactions and greater gains in language, cognitive and motor development. Additionally, Coralwood has four self-contained classrooms that serve children with more severe disabilities. Children in the self-contained classes engage in multiple learning experiences with typically developing children throughout the school day.

The classrooms at Coralwood are led by highly specialized teachers and paraprofessionals who teach to a broad set of students with varied needs. The teachers work closely with the following therapists: speech/language, occupational, physical, vision and recreational. Primarily, these therapists provide services to children in the classroom and include both special needs and typical children in various therapies.

2010-2011 Coralwood School Year

| | |
|--|------------|
| # of Students: | 240 |
| # of Home Schools Represented | 44 |
| Percentage of students in the following categories: | |
| Disabilities | 48% |
| Free and Reduced Lunch | 22% |
| Minorities | 29% |

"To see how far 'the little inclusion school that could' has come through the years shows what a community can accomplish. What the Foundation does and continues to achieve is amazing. The blessings my family receives go well beyond the classroom. Thank you, Coralwood. You will undoubtedly make us better people and better stewards to our world."

**-Rochelle Yasine, Coralwood Parent,
Coralwood PTA Co-President**



What is the Coralwood Foundation?

Coralwood Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in May 2005 to create a permanent endowment fund, the income of which is used to promote excellence in early childhood special education at Coralwood, and to provide a vehicle for long-term financial and volunteer support for Coralwood. The Foundation funds the educational innovations of teachers and other professionals at Coralwood and funds a Director of Development who writes grants and raises funds for specific educational initiatives.

Currently, the efforts of the Foundation's Board of Directors are focused on the following initiatives:

- Providing learning opportunities, grants for classroom initiatives and professional development for our school staff;
- Supporting the financial goals of the Foundation through fundraisers such as our Annual Auction and Wine Tasting, as well as grant writing activities;
- Working with the DeKalb County School System (DCSS) and the Board of Education to fund the Master Plan for Coralwood's campus in order to provide enhanced educational opportunities for our children;
- Implementing a marketing and communications plan that will position Coralwood School as the premier primary inclusion school in Georgia;
- Launching the website as a central location for comprehensive information about Coralwood, the Foundation, the PTA, related events and parent resources;
- Actively engaging Coralwood alumni, parents and friends in the continued work of the Foundation through community involvement and outreach as part of the "Coralwood Circle of Friends" group.

The Foundation views these projects as fundamental elements to improve the education of our children now and in the future.



2010 – 2011 Coralwood Foundation Board of Directors

Janet Haury, President

John Stembel, Treasurer
Total Home Care

Valerie Harrison, Secretary
The Coralwood Foundation

Rebecca Blanton, Principal
Coralwood School

Jenn Sedlack, Director of Development
The Coralwood Foundation

Holly Adams
Coralwood School

Carrie Anderson
Carters

Suzanne Baker
L'Arche USA

Jessica Bandy
Coralwood Parent

Ursula Daniels
Coralwood School

Bill Garrett
Saint Joseph's Health System

Joanie Gross
IHM School

Stacy Keadey
Coralwood Parent

Amy Leiter
Vendormate Inc.

Kristen Logan
Coralwood PTA

Jay Merchant
Arthritis Foundation

Michael Martin
MWMartin Communications

Peggy Price
Coralwood School

Annette St. Onge
Coralwood Parent

Andrea Smith
Coralwood Parent

Laura Spier
United Health Care

Jennifer Vaughan
Coralwood School

Alejandro Walters
Austral Wine Merchants

Rochelle Yasine
Coralwood PTA

Message from the President

We're almost there!

The renovation and expansion of Coralwood School is on its way!



"Coralwood would not be the school it is today without the Coralwood Foundation. The Foundation brings together parents, faculty, and community members to cultivate a nurturing environment for young children with and without disabilities. It is the vision and dedication of the foundation that has shaped Coralwood into a forerunner for evidence-based instruction in the fields of differentiated instruction, multi-sensory reading and math instruction, technology classroom applications, early childhood inclusion, and more.

As a teacher, I directly benefited from the Foundation in multiple ways. When I became interested in Orton Gillingham (a research supported, multi-sensory approach to reading instruction), the Foundation funded the training and in return, I re-delivered 18 hours of Orton Gillingham training to my co-workers. When I wrote a grant for a summer yoga series for our students with and without disabilities, the Foundation made it happen. Because of the Foundation, I sought sources for other educational grants as well.

Coralwood is not only a treasure in Dekalb County, but nationally to the field of early childhood and special education."

**-Peggy Price,
Former Coralwood Teacher**

The Coralwood Master Plan was conceived in late September 2006 by the Coralwood Foundation to address the limitations and negative impact of the facility on the education of our 240 students, 50% of whom have special needs. Instead of just bringing the problem to DCSS, the Coralwood Foundation pulled together community members, teachers, parents, administrators, therapists and professionals to come up with the Coralwood Master Plan. Between September 2006 and January 2007, over 3,000 volunteer hours went into data collection and research of best practices. Then, a crew of professional architects, engineers and space planners donated their time to assure the final plan represented all stakeholders and was implementable.

Where are we now? What does this mean for you and the children of Coralwood? First, SPLOST IV must be approved by voters on Tuesday, November 8, 2011. If SPLOST IV is approved, DCSS and the architects, R.L. Brown & Associates, will then finish the architectural drawings for the Master Plan. This plan provides:

- 6 additional classrooms so more students can receive a quality education
- Universal access throughout the building so special needs children can actually move around
- A sensory room for children with autism
- A motor room for therapy
- Speech therapy rooms
- Handicapped-accessible bathrooms where none currently exist
- An expanded library and computer lab
- An expanded playground and outdoor amphitheater
- A therapeutic pool



The Master Plan project, like other Coralwood Foundation projects, including providing professional development for faculty and continued investment in technology, would not happen without the long-term vision and dedication of the Coralwood Foundation and its volunteers.

The Foundation's Board of Directors, teachers, therapists and administrators of the Coralwood School are united in our efforts to continue making a difference for students of this school. I offer my sincere gratitude for the countless hours of service by our directors, staff, parents and our many volunteers. These same people are also among the generous donors who have helped us come so far since 2005. Together, we are effecting positive change to benefit the children of the Coralwood School now and in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Haury". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Janet Haury
President of Coralwood Foundation**

Message from the Principal



Coralwood has a long history of building bright futures for young students. It is a passion the staff pursues every day in the classroom.

Governor Nathan Deal has acknowledged the importance of early childhood education on students' ability to learn in later years. Research has shown that if children are not fluent readers by the third grade, they struggle for the remainder of their school careers, ultimately resulting in lower high school graduation rates. Governor Deal wants to focus on improving early education for students beginning in pre-kindergarten.

So does our Foundation. Not only has the Coralwood Foundation helped our school create a vision of excellence in early childhood education, but it has also fueled a passion for brightening the futures of young students at all ability levels. The Foundation members, parents and staff began working in 2005-06 on a Master Plan for Coralwood that may soon come to fruition. The DeKalb Board of Education has supported our vision and added the Master Plan's renovations and additions to its current SPLOST IV projects list. Hopefully the planning and work of so many dedicated individuals will be realized by the construction of a new Coralwood facility capable of serving more young students and turn the school into a model to be replicated throughout the system.

With the assistance of the Coralwood Foundation, our campus has enjoyed many improvements: Promethean Boards and iPads in all classrooms as well as a handicapped accessible Nature Trail and Tree House in the woods next to the school. Join the Coralwood Foundation, community, staff and DeKalb Board of Education as we move toward building brighter futures for all Coralwood students.











Rebecca Blanton

Rebecca Blanton
Principal

"John's first 2 years at Coralwood were in a self-contained classroom with Holly Adams. At the end of the second year, John was still non-verbal and Susan Garrett, his speech therapist, recommended assistive technology for communication. Over the summer, as that paperwork was being processed, we talked to Holly and told her how John was hanging out in the baby pool and was mimicking the toddlers' babbling. She said it's time to get him in an inclusion class. So when fall came he was placed in Karen Roseberry's 3-year-old inclusion class and within months was talking - single words at first, but more than enough to make a communication device unnecessary. All of the adults in his life for 4 years couldn't teach John to talk - his peers, the children at Coralwood did. That's what inclusion is all about to us."

-Joanie and Mike Gross, former Coralwood Parents

2010-2011 Major Accomplishments

-  Worked with interested parents and staff to support funding Coralwood School's Master Plan addition and renovation, including increased number of classrooms and bathrooms, additional therapy space, expanded media and computer center, larger playground area and therapy pool. This funding is now part of Dekalb County's SPLOST IV initiative being voted on in November 2011.
-  Raised \$49,000 for the Endowment through the Classroom Challenge with 100% parent participation in 15 of 16 classrooms. Awarded \$6,300 to classrooms for reaching 100% participation and 100% paid pledges.
-  Endowment hit \$350,000 goal in June 2011.
-  Raised \$28,200 at the Annual Auction and \$5,000 at the 2011 Wine Tasting to fund mini-grants and professional development for teachers, and the salary of the Director of Development.
-  Received \$8,200 in grants and donor-directed gifts for specific educational initiatives.
-  The Higher Opportunities for Teachers (HOT) committee funded \$2,300 in mini-grants and \$4,900 in professional development opportunities for staff, with funds allocated for PROMPT speech-language training in Summer 2011.
-  Coralwood raised its Condition Score (96.93) and Technology Readiness Score (100%) to record highs due in large part to community support including Foundation grants and private donations.
-  Inaugurated first alumni event through the Circle of Friends group kicking off the school year with alumni and their families.

Architect's render of master plan addition side view



"Through the HOT program, we were able to attend a 3-day PROMPT workshop that taught us a specific technique to help our students who have motor-speech planning difficulties. The PROMPT workshop was invaluable! We use the information on a daily basis and are seeing positive results."

-Shannon Stafford and Rebecca Grijalva, Coralwood Speech-Language Pathologists

fiscal year 2011 grants and In-kind gifts



GRANTS

Captain Planet
Donor-Directed Gift
Turner Broadcasting Inc.

IN-KIND GIFTS

Jenny Bell/Well Done Design
Britton Cloud
Andy Fleming, Core Growth Partners
Jimmy Gilmore/Fluid Films
Mike & Joanie Gross
Steve Harrison
Morris Manning and Martin LLP
Pete's Polar Parlor

Architect's renderings of master plan addition

FUNDS RAISED SINCE 2005 INCEPTION

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Classroom Challenge | \$322,000 |
| Capital Campaign FY07 CC | \$68,000 |
| Wine Tastings | \$39,000 |
| Silent Auctions | \$115,000 |
| Grants | \$174,000 |
| In-Kind | <u>\$118,000</u> |
| Total | \$836,090 |



"Children with special needs should not have to be "ready" to go to school or be in classrooms with typical kids their age; schools and classrooms and teachers should instead be ready for them—no matter what their issues." **-Dr. Peggy Gallagher, Georgia State University**

income statement

Coralwood Foundation, Inc. Income Statement
For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011

| INCOME | Amount |
|--|------------------|
| Contributions | \$48,653 |
| Grants | 8,181 |
| Special Events Income | |
| Silent auction income, net of expenses of \$8,902 | \$28,203 |
| Wine tasting event, net of expenses of \$2,385 | <u>4,985</u> |
| Total Special Events Income | <u>\$33,188</u> |
| Investment Income | |
| Dividends and Interest | \$ 7,465 |
| Gain on long-term investments | <u>31,212</u> |
| Total Investment Income | <u>\$38,677</u> |
| Total Income | \$128,699 |
| EXPENSES | |
| Contract services | \$14,324 |
| Classroom Challenge Class Awards | 6,258 |
| Teacher Mini-Grants | 2,302 |
| Operations expenses | |
| Grant expenditures | 8,220 |
| Postage, printing, copying and other administrative expenses | 2,556 |
| Teacher Professional Development (HOT) | 4,899 |
| Administrative expenses | 1,807 |
| Depreciation expense | <u>6,274</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$46,620 |
| NET INCOME | \$82,079 |

"Through the Coralwood Foundation's HOT program, I attended Lindamood-Bell's Seeing Stars training. Through this program I learned how to use visual images to improve letter and word recognition. I have already seen an improvement in sight word recognition by using this method."

-Gretchen Studdard, Kindergarten Teacher



balance sheet

ASSETS

Current Assets

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$17,792 |
| Receivables | <u>11</u> |
| Total Current Assets | <u>17,803</u> |

Investment Assets - Capital Fund

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | <u>\$11,892</u> |
| Total Capital Fund | <u>11,892</u> |

Investment Assets - Endowment Fund

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$38,151 |
| Marketable securities | <u>312,030</u> |
| Total Long Term Investments | <u>\$350,181</u> |

| | |
|---|----------|
| Furniture and Equipment, less accumulated depreciation of \$14,371 | \$19,932 |
|---|----------|

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$399,808 |
|---------------------|------------------|

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Accounts Payable | |
| Total Liabilities | |

Net Assets

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Unrestricted Net Assets | \$49,627 |
| Permanent Restricted Assets | <u>350,181</u> |
| Total Net Assets | \$399,808 |

| | |
|---|------------------|
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | \$399,808 |
|---|------------------|

Coralwood Foundation, Inc. Balance Sheet
for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011

"The Foundation is the steward of Coralwood's future. The Foundation takes the long term view to ensure this amazing resource serves our community for years to come," -Kristen Logan, Coralwood Parent, PTA Co-President



2010-2011 Classroom Challenge Donors

The Classroom Challenge is important to funding the Coralwood Foundation endowment and to funding the Foundation's faculty support. Coralwood Foundation supports the faculty by providing opportunities for workshops and other continuing education so that every student receives the most up-to-date instruction and interventions. Without the endowment, future students at Coralwood may not have the benefits of the inclusion program that we have helped create. Each teacher with 100% pledges receives an award to spend on her classroom wish list!

Vision Circle (\$5,000+)

Kevin & Jessica Bandy

Dedication Circle (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Elena Badiuzzi & Bill Ruck
Jeff & Wendy Henderson
Bill & Penny Keadey
Matt & Stacy Keadey
Scott & Crissie McCormack
Fred & Jeanine Norris
Laura Spier
Brett & Seth Williams

Pride Circle (\$500 - \$999)

Frank Bellati
Wendi & Jeff Berkman
Brad & Monica Cowles
K. Patrick & Kataska Davis
Sean & Dana Dolan
Brad & Christine Furr
Bill & Susan Garrett
Mike & Joanie Gross
Valerie & Steve Harrison
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas M. Hidell, Jr.
Matt & Amy Leiter
Kristi & Sean Meadows
Petra Cermakova & Jake Nadjmazhar
Michael & Amber Puline
Mike & Lucy Reid
James & Meg Scheid
John & Cathy Shires

Spirit Circle (\$250 - \$499)

Sharon & Todd Balfanz
Rebecca & Frank Blanton
Derek & Lori Clifton
Suzanne Baker & Britt Cloud
Todd & Lila Cooperider
Dawn & Alexander Durham
Matt & Tricia Fazio
Jennifer & Steven Freeman
Shiv-Gangappa
Jamie & Mare Love Garverick
Walt & Liza Gebelein
R.L. & Alysa Gibbs
Todd & Brooke Goodwin
Janet Hauray
Sonya Tinsley-Hook & Jeep Hook
Tammie & Trey Hudson
Seth & Elizabeth Hymar
Bryan & Becky Kidd
Janine & Jonathan Kupersmith
Michael W. Martin & Dan N. Cameron
Sarah Merkle & Brian Murphy
Robert & Cassandra Moore
Chris & Briana Peikert
Ed & Rosemary Ramsey
Phil & Jennifer Sedlack
Atiqua Hashem & Jacob Singh
Becky Smith
Mr. Jan & Mrs. Michelle Sorensen
Michael & Candace Stearns
Jon & Jodi Toppen
The Verrill Family
Alyson & Jason Watson
Diana Wood & Lesley Wood
The Yasine Family

Supporter Circle (Up to \$249)

In honor of Peggy Price
Anonymous
Andrew & Sarah Abend
Craig & Paula Ackerman
Holly Adams
Melissa & Michael Albuquerque
Carrie & Evan Andersen
Wm. Joel & Imani Armstrong
Carmen Avent
Martina & Max Baerman
Mr. & Mrs. Findley E. Bandy
The Bayer Family
Mark & Staci Beckwith
Jennifer & David Bell
Berkowitz Family
Bitar Family
Donna Bramlett
Candice & Darren Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Burton
Edith Calderon
Rob & Clay Calhoun
Vanessa Callaway & Tobious Callaway
Amy & Todd Cameron
Mrs. Gillian Cannon
John & Caterina Cappellari
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Carter
Chuka Family
Kendall & Courtney Clark
Carter Cocks
The Codman Family
The Collins Family
Collins-McClain-Sellers Families
Heather Corso
Michael Cudmore & Ann Mills
Ursula Daniels
Natalie & Bill Darling
Pauline & Ervin Daugherty
Lauren & Efraim Davidson
Brent & Paige Davis
The Deerys
The Doran Family
Elise & Scott Douglas
Douglas Brake & the Sizzle, Hiss, Pop Band
Walter & Brenda Dupree
Chris & Rebekah Edmonds
Eluvia Escalante
David & Katherine Evans
Mandy DeMott & Adrian Finch
The Fleshel Family
Ben & Kellie Garrett
The Gewirtz Family
Mr. & Mrs. J. Douglas Goode
John & Jennifer Graham
Brett & Susan Hall
Bryant & Angela Hawkins
The Heneghans
Kenneth and Anne Hindman
Mr. & Mrs. Hirano
Michael & Aimee Hoffer
Graham & Jennifer Hogan
Holloway Family
The Hopka Family
Richard & Vicki Horvieth
Sherry & Tim Howard
Melissa & Derek Hummel
Dan & Martha Hummer
Joy & Matthew Hurd

Mildred Jean-Leon
Akhil & Alok John
Paige & Jeff Jones
The Katsoudas Family
Shlomo & Deborah Katz
Christine & Jonathan Kaufman
Matthew & Tiffany Kellaway
Linda Kendrick
Suneeta Khanwani
David & Anna Kho
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Kirsch
Denis & Jenn Kler
Mr. & Mrs. Rickey & Caron Knight
Kelly S. Krause
Sharon LaFountain
John & Kerry Lenz
Emily Leung
Venita Lindsey
Kristen & Scott Logan
Michael & Anna Lutz
Ellie Marcus
Rob & Clay Calhoun
Miesha Masters
Michael & Jennifer Mazarky
The Mbengues Family
Rhonda McKamie
Kristen Ulven & Daniel McKeithen
Tom & Sara McKlin
John & Susan McLaren
Jay Merchant & Tara Merritt-Merchant
Brian & Sharon Misner
Taylor Montgomery
Kai Moolenaar
Jennifer & Mike Morris
Lashane Moss
Jeremy & Karen Nadler-Sachs
Doug & Farah Nelson
Brandon & Shari Nolen
David B. O'Hara Ltc. USA (Ret.)
Holly & Eric Ortlund
Gregory & Jennifer Peay
Jule W. Peek, Jr.
Jerome & Norma Perdum
Charlie & Rachael Phillips
The Pick Family
Ricardo & Paula Pinnock
The Pleitez Family
Peggy & Matthew Price
Lily Pruitt
Denise & James Purvis
Mr. & Mrs. Quarles
Christopher & Amy Quick
Deslie Webb Quinby
Derric & Victoria Raggs
Reaves Family
Holly & Dana Rector
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew & Catherine Reese
Adithya J. Rao & Vrinda M. Fernandes
The Roblero Family
The Rosenblatt Family
Allen Rosenfeld & Gina Giannone
Ms. Emily Roth
The Rowland Family
Laura Russell
Mark A. Sanders
Jessica & Brian Santucci
Rosalie Jensen & Mike Saunders
Jennifer Morris-Scott & Lovel Scott
Jennifer & Nathaniel Seay

David & Marcie-Jo Sedacca
Dr. & Mrs. C.O. Sennett
Brett & Elizabeth Sennett
Janna Seskin
Chris & Tiffany Showalter
Matt & Sheri Slappay
Tracey Paul & Monica Smith
Mark & Annette St. Onge
Cheri & Tracy Stakely
Relatives of Bella Stakely
Ms. Shirley A. Stakely
Jennifer & Rebecca Staple-Wax
Vajra & Stacey Stratigos
John & Susan Stembel
Bruce & Jacaia Swanson
Jamie & Tiffany Tabor
Jose Thaiparambil
Tony & Jennifer Tiberia
Anne & David Tracht
Majja & Rick Urban
Jennifer & Jim Vaughan
The Walker Family

Classroom Challenge Quick

Fact: *The 2006 Classroom Challenge helped fund the "Treehouse"! All of the students who attended Coralwood in 2006 were invited back for the Grand Opening. It was an awesome event. We are thankful for the 2006 participants in the Classroom Challenge!*

TraVonda Walton
Leisa Wamsley & Veronica Harrison
Warbington Family
Sarah E. Warlick
Karen & Dexter Warrior
Matthew & Elizabeth Washburn
Blake Weathers
Ryan & Michelle Webb
Heather Webb
Gayle & Jason Weiss
Gabrielle Wesley
Page Anderson & Dan Whitaker
Larry & Shelly White
Charles Williams
Julie & Greg Wilson
Harold & Stephanie Wodinsky
Will & Stafanie Zuber

Coralwood Silent Auction

The annual Coralwood Auction is the Foundation's primary fund-raiser and funds all Teacher Professional Development as well as other Foundation expenses. Dozens of parents, supporters and Foundation board members provide and/or secure donations of all types and values from the community. At the same time, these individuals work hard to create a memorable and profitable event that makes everyone involved, from organizers to attendees, confident about their contributions to the future of the Coralwood School.

The February 23, 2011 auction netted a record \$28,203.



Wine Tasting

For the seventh consecutive year, Coralwood parents and friends enjoyed an evening of gourmet food and wine together in the comfort of a neighbor's home. A favorite of parents old and new, the annual Coralwood Foundation Wine Tasting supports the Foundation's operating expenses. This year, attendees sampled lesser known varietals from the Mediterranean region while dining on delicacies prepared by local chefs, listening to live music, and bidding on enticing auction items.

The May 14, 2011 Wine Tasting netted approximately \$5,000.



"Our daughter Abbi, now a 4th grader at Immaculate Heart of Mary, attended Coralwood in Pre-K. It not only changed her life, it changed our lives. While Abbi does not have any identified 'special needs,' we never considered her 'typical.' The environment, the teaching attention and frankly the love Abbi received at Coralwood is something I make room to give thanks for every day. But more than that, Coralwood opened Abbi's eyes at a young age to a part of the real world around her that for many remains hidden behind a door that should never have been closed. They're all just kids; great kids!" -Catherine & Tim Buckley, Former Coralwood Parents



Special thanks to Morris Martin Manning for their assistance with this publication



Strong Roots and Big Dreams!



This annual report is published by the the Coralwood Foundation to acknowledge gifts between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011. Every effort was made to include all contributors and to verify the correct listing of donor names. If your name was omitted or listed incorrectly, please accept our apology for any inconvenience it may cause.

Coralwood Foundation

c/o Coralwood School
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www.coralwoodschool.com

See us on Facebook!

