

# DISCOVER

*all* THE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL  
has to offer



# A MESSAGE FROM...



SINCE THE SCHOOL'S INCEPTION MORE THAN 14 YEARS AGO, The Highlands School has remained true to its mission of serving bright children who struggle with memory, language and auditory processing difficulties, Dyslexia, ADHD and other learning differences. Our philosophy and personal belief — that a failure to learn is because a unique learning style has not yet been discovered — remains unchanged and is the driving force behind all that we do.

The students we serve come to us having already experienced frustration in school. They enter The Highlands School in all grades, ages and levels. During their short time here, about two to three years, they discover that they have many gifts that will carry them far in life. Through specific strategies and multisensory approaches, the students learn to compensate for their weaker areas, gain confidence in their own abilities, achieve academically, and advocate for themselves. They begin to recognize and build upon their strengths, making it possible for each one to receive the help needed to become a successful, independent learner.

With the support from you, your businesses, foundations and corporations in the area, we are able to return our students as productive, employable, contributing members of our community. Thank you for making this possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Bonney".

Patricia Bonney  
*Executive Director, The Highlands School*



ONCE AGAIN, AS WE REFLECT ON THE PAST YEAR, we find ourselves blessed to be able to share with you all we are able to accomplish with such wonderful support from the community. We have transitioned a third of our student body to traditional classroom settings where they are now equipped to succeed because they have learned the skills and strategies they needed to thrive in other educational settings. But, our task is never done. The more students we serve, the more resources we need to raise in order to meet the needs of those coming in behind them.

Please read this report with the knowledge that every contributor, whether in time, talent, or financial resources, is valued not only by the staff and Board of Directors, but by the families whose children's lives have been transformed by attending The Highlands School for an average of just two to three years.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George L. Buckless, Jr.".

George L. Buckless, Jr.  
*President, The Highlands School Board of Directors*

# MISSION

The Highlands School exists to identify and serve children who have the potential for average or above average achievement, ages five and older (grades K-8) who are struggling to learn by conventional methods and who manifest difficulties in one or more areas of skill development.

## These areas include:

- language—receptive (*auditory processing*) and expressive (*communication*)
- reading and spelling
- perceptual-motor integration—(*writing/copying tasks*)
- organization, study and social skills

The program is designed to provide an environment conducive to fostering optimum growth in the child's overall educational competence, remediating skill deficits and permitting the student to transition to a traditional school in a timely manner. The Highlands School respects the individual's learning style, appropriately emphasizes strengths, and addresses specific weaknesses.

Specialized techniques, instructional groups of four or less, and support personnel are employed to implement this program.



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*The following individuals and organizations made gifts and pledges as of August 31, 2009, to The Highlands School's BUILDING ON THE DREAM CAMPAIGN which began in 2002.*

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#### \$100,000 and above

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† Deceased

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### In memory of Elise Bane

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### In memory of Ossie Bonn

Mrs. Kathy Casey  
Peggy Liberatore Castagna  
The Highlands School Faculty & Staff

### In memory of Larry R. DePace

Mrs. Kathy Casey  
The Highlands School Faculty & Staff

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### In memory of Emilie B. Vondracek

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Mr. and Mrs. Jim England  
LTC and Mrs. Jeffrey C. Springer

### In memory of Jonathan Alton Wilson

Mr. Rowland J. Tipler  
Mark and Joy Wilson

### In memory of Andrew Windham

John and Peggy Liberatore Castagna



THE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL admits students entering grades 2 – 8 (*ages 7 – 14*) to its morning academic program, which focuses solely on Math (*at the student's appropriate level*) and Language Arts (*including phonics, reading, and written expression*), utilizes the same structured, sequential, research-based and multi-sensory approach to learning that we use during the school year.

Our small group setting (*2-4 students per instructor in Math; 2 students per instructor in Language Arts*) benefits:

- students who are behind in Math or Language Arts
- students in public or private school during the school year
- homeschooled students
- special education students
- students wanting to try out The Highlands School's program before registering for the full school year program
- students who need continuity during the summer to maintain skills learned during the school year

# full year academic program



The Highlands School's full year program operates under a rolling admissions policy (space permitting) and admits children ages 5-14 (grades K-8) who have the potential for average to above average achievement levels but who are not currently achieving academically at their age level. Mid-year enrollment is possible. Needs-based scholarships are available to those who qualify.



## LAURELS

*Annual and Capital gifts honoring people associated with the school.*

**In honor of Sue Brown**  
Residex LLC

**In honor of Ms. Melissa, Ms. Pam, Ms. Sam, Ms. Jen, Ms. Kris, Ms. Rhonda & Mr. Craig**  
Ms. Lynn Schumacher

**In honor of Zachary Sutton**  
Ms. Dina Meredith  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Novicki

## LEGACY LEAGUE MEMBERS

*The following members have designated The Highlands School to receive a gift through estate planning.*

Mrs. Patricia A. Bonney  
Mr. and Mrs. George L. Buckless, Jr.  
Mrs. Kathy Casey  
John & Peggy Liberatore Castagna  
Mrs. Patricia Ford  
Mrs. Beth Maahs-Hoagberg  
Mrs. Barbara Marc-Wogau †  
Ms. Sally Somerville-Barron †

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General Mills Box Tops for Education  
Giant A+ Bonus Bucks  
GoodSearch  
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Target Take Charge of Education

## FEDERATED FUNDS

Combined Federal Campaign  
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† Deceased

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 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Zullo



## SPECIAL EVENTS

*Basket Bingo, Dinner Dance, Golf Tournament, Harford Book Festival, Scholastic Book Fair, Volunteer Luncheon*

## INDIVIDUALS

*The following individuals participated in and supported events of the Parent Association and School.*

Mrs. Charlotte C. Ainsley  
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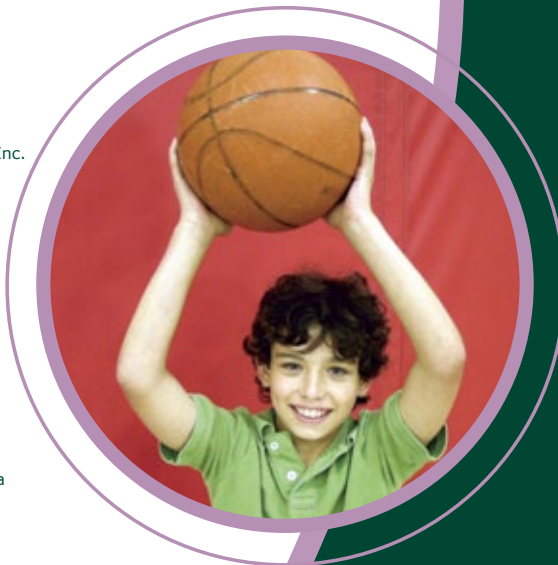
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is specifically designed to provide opportunities for social interaction in a variety of settings led by Highlands-trained professionals. The fun and interactive five-week, half-day sessions cover many topics including:

- organized play
- creative thinking
- conversation skills
- body language
- conflict resolution
- self-awareness

Families may choose to enroll their child in the Summer Academic and/or the Summer Social Activities Program.



A PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL provides the community with:

- Access to the latest research and resources on literacy, language development and learning differences
- A lending library of books, videos, and magazines on the theme of learning differences and language development
- Workshops, conferences and lectures for parents, teachers and the wider community
- A Tutoring Program for children and adults who wish to enhance and strengthen:
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Mr. Rowland J. Tipler  
Mr. and Mrs. Willis M. Trott  
Mr. and Mrs. Brian D. Walsh  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. Whitaker  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Zelina

## BETH MAAHS-HOAGBERG SCHOLARSHIP

Mrs. Cheryl Bolstad  
Dr. James B. Brayton  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Robert Buddemeier  
Mr. and Mrs. Leight D. Collins  
Ellen E. Crouch  
Vincent P. Culotta, Ph.D.  
Ms. J. Carol Dann  
Ms. Sandra Demczak  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony DeNicolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Finglass  
Ms. Ellyn T. Finnigan  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Heckman, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy J. Hughes  
Jean M. Kantor  
Ellen and Ronnie Katzen  
Mrs. Beth Maahs-Hoagberg  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas C. Martin  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Martin  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Novicki  
Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence C. Pakula  
Mrs. Robin E. N. Redding  
Mr. and Mrs. William S. Rheubottom  
Mr. and Mrs. David Ross  
Mr. Andrew L. Rutherford  
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Ryerson  
Thomas and Ann-Marie Spakowski  
Ms. Mary-Louise Stenchly  
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Tapscott  
Mrs. Patricia H. Treanor

## EMMA GRACE BONNEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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Mrs. Connie Beckwith  
Mr. and Mrs. Brian D. Bonney  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas G. Bonney  
Mrs. Phyllis Bonney  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Bowen  
Mrs. Paula A. Carmody  
Mrs. Kathy Casey  
Mrs. Peggy Liberatore Castagna  
Mr. and Mrs. Alan R. Conway  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas M. Dorer  
Ms. Mary K. Doyle  
Mrs. Brenda K. Gillingham  
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Heldrich  
Mrs. Nancy Hofmann  
Mr. Nelson D. Lewis  
Mrs. Suzanne C. Lippa  
Mrs. Beth Maahs-Hoagberg  
Dr. and Mrs. William J. Maurits III  
Mr. and Mrs. Rick McGhee  
Mrs. Paula A. Moraine  
Mrs. Theresa H. Mulqueen  
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Tapscott  
Ms. Mary G. Warns  
Mrs. Vicki K. Whitaker



## GEORGE L. BUCKLESS, JR. SCHOLARSHIP

Brian and Pat Adelhardt  
Mr. and Mrs. John Bacon, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Buckless  
Mr. and Mrs. Leight D. Collins  
Mr. and Mrs. Alan R. Conway  
Mr. and Mrs. John Cook III  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas M. Dorer  
Mr. Barry P. Gossett  
George and Sharon Langenfelder  
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Tapscott

## SENATOR BOB & SHIRLEY HOOPER SCHOLARSHIP

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James and Dorothy Fisher  
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Gibson  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Gottwald  
The Harford Mutual Insurance Company  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry R. Harrison  
Mr. and Mrs. David J. Hooper  
Paul & Carolyn Hutchins



### PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS THIS PAST YEAR:

*Note: These workshops were open to any parent in the community free of charge*

- **Improving Handwriting Skills**  
Presented by Beth Moore, Educational Consultant; Orton-Gillingham Academy Fellow Practitioner
- **Keeping Your Brain Alert**  
Presented by Paula Moraine, Director, Community Outreach Center for Literacy at The Highlands School
- **How to Improve Comprehension**  
Presented by Beth Maahs-Hoagberg, Admissions Director at The Highlands School
- **The Grammar and Writing Program at The Highlands School**  
Presented by Vicki Whitaker, Educational Director at The Highlands School
- **Social Skills**  
Presented by Paula Carmody, Educational Director at The Highlands School

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

August 31, 2009

## ASSETS

### CURRENT ASSETS

Cash .....	\$1,014,937
Current portion of pledges receivable .....	84,750
Tuition receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts .....	56,058
Other Current Assets .....	8,048

**Total Current Assets** ..... \$1,163,793

**PROPERTY, NET OF ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION** ..... \$9,445,001

### OTHER ASSETS

Pledges receivable, net of current portion .....	\$107,630
Interest in net assets of The Highlands School Foundation, Inc .....	0

**Total Other Assets** ..... \$107,630

**TOTAL ASSETS** ..... \$10,716,424

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued expenses .....	\$67,186
Current maturities of note payable .....	244,388
Current maturities of capital lease obligations .....	58,924
Advanced tuition .....	847,411
Due to affiliate .....	0
Deferred revenue .....	51,481

**Total Current Liabilities** ..... \$1,269,390

### NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

Note payable, net of current maturities .....	\$6,626,422
Capital lease obligations, net of current maturities .....	27,889
Total Non-Current Liabilities .....	6,654,311

**Total Liabilities** ..... \$7,923,701

### NET ASSETS

Unrestricted .....	\$2,746,310
Temporarily restricted .....	41,530
Permanently restricted .....	4,883

**Total Net Assets** ..... \$2,792,723

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** ..... \$10,716,424



## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

August 31, 2009  
Total

### SUPPORT & REVENUE

Full time tuition.....	\$1,826,156
Summer tuition .....	128,000
Tutoring .....	47,587
Application and book fees .....	9,412
Testing fees .....	28,137
Financial aid grants.....	-161,000

**Net Tuition and Fees ..... \$1,8782,92**

Contributions and gifts .....	\$143,380
In-kind contributions.....	45,374
Scholarships .....	43,195
Fundraising, net .....	119,637
Facility rental fees .....	52,479
Interest income.....	7,385
Net assets released from restrictions.....	0

**Total Support and Revenue ..... \$2,289,742**

### EXPENSES

Program services.....	\$232,623
Management and general .....	264,308
Fundraising.....	16,103

**Total Expenses ..... \$275,1574**

### OTHER SUPPORT & REVENUE FROM AFFILIATED FOUNDATION

Increase (decrease) in net assets of affiliated foundation.....	\$214,452
Costs funded by affiliated foundation.....	75,000
Affiliated foundation's net assets released from restrictions .....	0

Total Other Support and Revenue from  
Affiliated Foundation .....

\$289,452

**Change in Net Assets..... \$-172,380**

**Net Assets at Beginning of Year ..... \$2,965,103**

**Net Assets at End of Year ..... \$2,792,723**

# THE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL, INC.

at the James T. and Virginia M. Drescher Campus

2409 Creswell Road | Bel Air, MD 21015

(410) 836-1415 | [info@highlandsschool.net](mailto:info@highlandsschool.net)

[WWW.HIGHLANDSSCHOOL.NET](http://WWW.HIGHLANDSSCHOOL.NET)

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## NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY *as to Students*

The Highlands School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its admission policies, educational policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

*To our friends whose names are omitted or misspelled, please accept our apologies; be assured it is a slip of the pen and not the heart.*

## DISCLAIMER/DISCLOSURE

Donors listed in this report contributed gifts to The Highlands School between September 1, 2008 and August 31, 2009. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. Contributions received after August 31, 2009 will appear in the 2009-2010 Annual Report.

The Highlands School is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your contribution is fully tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting The Highlands School at 2409 Creswell Road, Bel Air, Maryland 21015 or by calling 410-836-1415. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary.