2020-2021 ANNUAL FUND FAQ’s

What are the Annual Fund goals this year?
Our goal is to reach 90% parent participation and raise $900,000.

Why is participation so important?
Strong participation sends an important message of commitment to prospective parents and is integral to our applications for funding from foundations and corporations. Parents give at all different levels and the important thing is to participate at a level that is comfortable for your family.

How is my gift counted?
Gifts are counted for both cluster and school-wide participation. For families with more than one child at the school, gifts are counted toward each child's cluster goals as well.

What is the fiscal year?
The fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

I can’t give right now. Can we donate later this year?
Pledges can be made now and paid before June 30.

How much did I give last year?
Donor confidentiality is very important to the school. Please contact Emily Barnes in the Advancement Office for your giving history.

Is there a gala this year?
There is no gala this year, however, the Annual Fund is the ongoing philanthropic priority of the school even when there is a gala or a campaign.

We receive reimbursement but it is delayed and we feel financially strained. How can we still support the school?
A gift of any size counts toward cluster/parent participation goals. We encourage all families to make the Annual Fund their family’s philanthropic priority and to participate, as they are able. Gifts can be pledged and paid before June 30.

What is the Founders’ Society?
The Founders’ Society celebrates the generosity of Gaynor’s leadership donors and recognizes gifts to the Annual Fund of $2,500 or more made in a given fiscal year. Donors who give as part of the Founders’ Society can choose to be anonymous.

Can I give a matching gift or gift of stock?
Yes! To make a matching gift, please contact your HR department for the relevant form. To make a stock gift, contact Emily Barnes (contact info below).

How is Compassion in Action different from the Annual Fund?
Compassion In Action is supplemental to the Annual Fund. Gifts intended to support Gaynor’s mission and the ongoing operating expenses should be directed to the Annual Fund. A gift to the Annual Fund helps to show support for our hardworking faculty and staff. Gifts intended to support needs that arise in our community related to the pandemic, should be directed to the Compassion in Action Fund.

More questions? Feel free to contact Emily Barnes, Assistant Director of Advancement at ebarnes@stephengaynor.org or 212-787-7070 ext. 1118.