

building on 
STRENGTHS





A campaign for The New Community School



What if you read slowly and with much effort, but were often the one to solve the problem? What if you struggled with spelling and messy handwriting, but your writing showed terrific imagination? What if you had difficulty retrieving and pronouncing spoken words, but you had excellent vocabulary and ideas? One in five people is challenged by dyslexia or a related learning difference. Chances are, these are people who you know and love.

Students who come to The New Community School often feel different and may have given up on learning. Without the benefit of a school like TNCS nearly half of students with learning disabilities drop out of high school and only five percent go on to any form of higher education. Their frustrations can also lead to substance abuse, juvenile justice programs, and reliance on government support.

Through an innovative, customized curriculum that addresses dyslexia and related learning differences, TNCS students' unique minds are recognized not by how they fit in, but by how they stand out. TNCS empowers students who think differently and inspires tomorrow's leaders and innovators.





“The school has grown a lot in the last few years, but what hasn’t changed is the commitment of our faculty to our students and our mission. It’s always top notch.”



JASON CARMICHAEL, Upper School History Teacher



The New Community School is the only middle and upper school in Central Virginia dedicated to empowering bright minds who are challenged by dyslexia and related learning differences. Over 1,000 students who see, think, create, and learn in different ways have benefited from a New Community education since 1974. Our students come from all areas of Central Virginia and a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds.

The New Community School provides a unique combination of college preparatory study, intensive skills instruction, an extraordinarily low student-teacher ratio, and a customized approach to teaching that focuses on each student's learning style. At TNCS, our students find success, allowing them to regain self-confidence and self-esteem.



“The students are just about to burst with excitement about the new building!”



BECCA CARMICHAEL, Middle School English Teacher

“There is a need in our community for this school. It is a safe place for students like Joseph to bring out their talents.”



CAROLYN LOUPASSI, Grandmother of Joseph, Class of 2020



preparing FOR THE FUTURE

Since 2012, our enrollment has grown by more than 50 percent. We are overflowing with bright students discovering their academic and personal strengths! New Community cannot serve additional students or extend our reach to serve the wider community until we build more space.

TNCS is committed to small class sizes and customized instruction. As we have grown, we have added additional faculty and teaching spaces. We have created new arts and electives programs to help our students uncover their passions. Now we are simply out of room.



To address the need for increased teaching space and to give our students and faculty the facilities they deserve to be their best, TNCS has introduced the *Building on Strengths* Campaign.

Through *Building on Strengths*, the school will construct a new academic building that will increase academic, arts, electives, and collaborative spaces and grow the endowment to provide stable long-term support for the maintenance of the new building.



“It excites us to see the school growing! TNCS is a blessing for students with learning differences like dyslexia.”



WILSON AND GINA FRIEND, Parents of Sydni, Class of 2018





Building on Strengths is a campaign to raise \$5.5 million. Thanks to the generosity of early investors, TNCS has been able to break ground on our new building. We still need your help to reach the finish line.

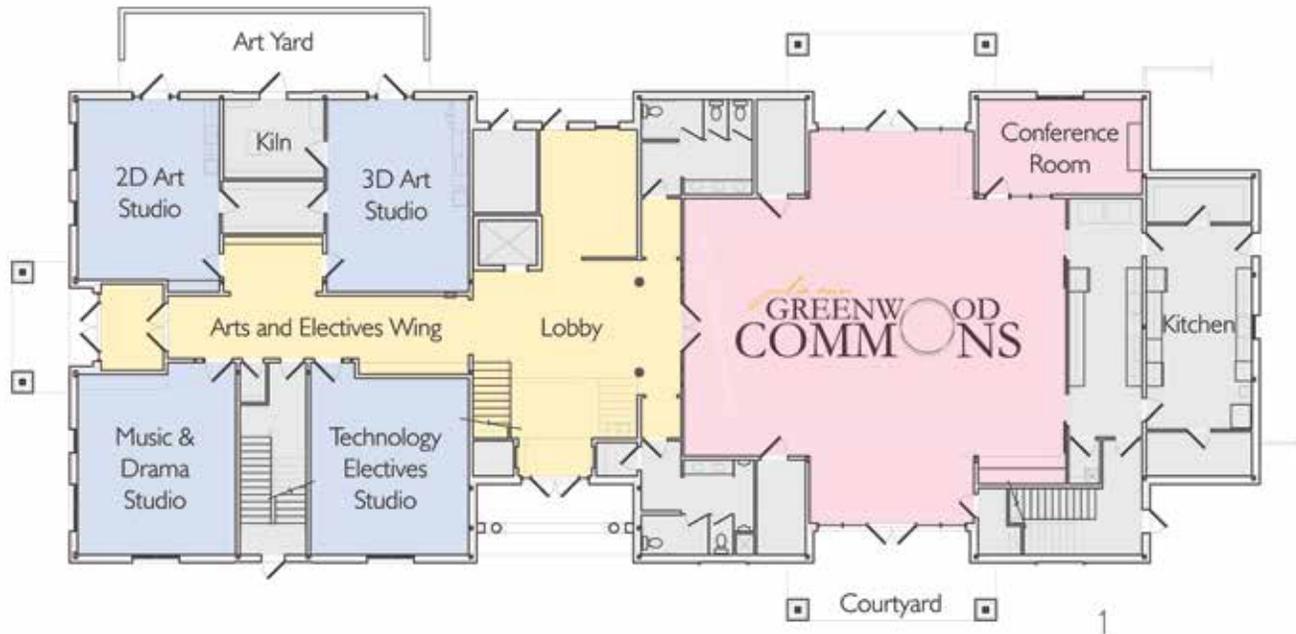
Building on Strengths will allow us to

- increase academic space to accommodate current and future growth,
- create dedicated arts and electives spaces to allow our students to uncover their unique gifts,
- expand our outreach and educational programs about dyslexia and training programs for parents, educators, and the community,
- endow the new building to provide stable, long-term support for maintenance.



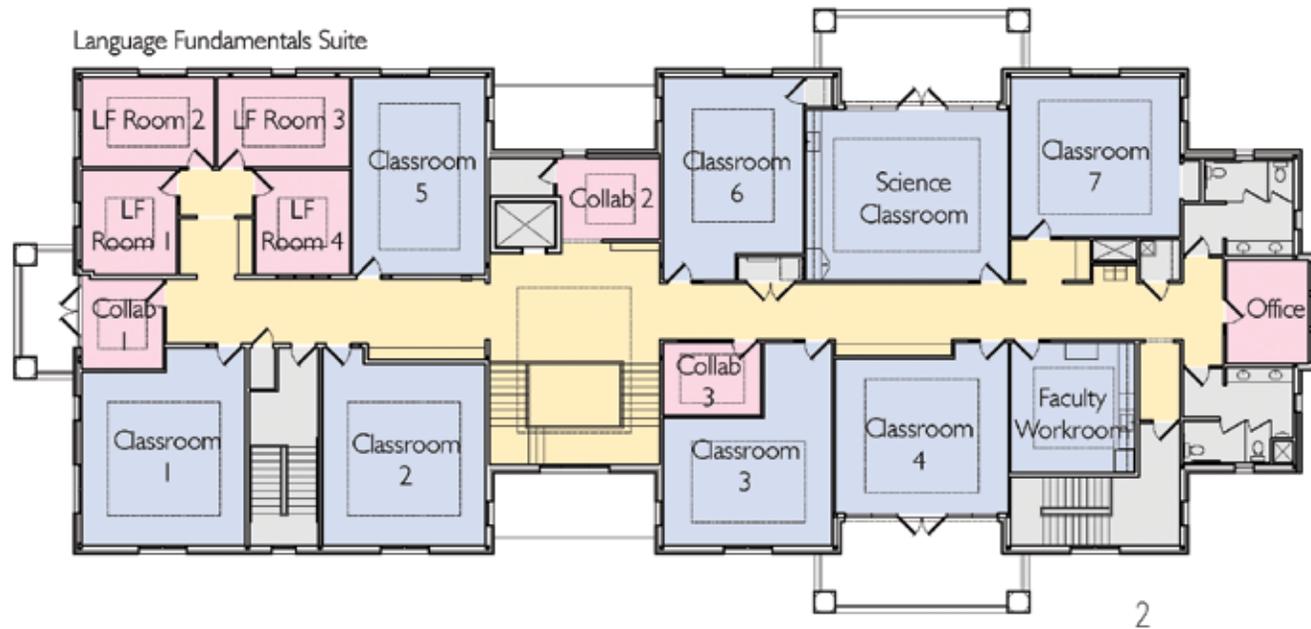
New Academic Building, *View from the green*





FIRST FLOOR

- 2D & 3D Art Studios
- Music & Drama Studio
- Technology Electives Studio
- Commons for gatherings, lunches, outreach, & collaborative work
- Conference Room for faculty & student collaboration
- Kitchen for lunches & school events



SECOND FLOOR

- 7 Academic classrooms
- 1 Science classroom
- 4 Language Fundamentals classrooms
- 3 Collaborative Learning Rooms
- Faculty Workroom
- Administrative Office



julia ann
GREENWOOD
COMMONS



Julia Ann Greenwood,
Former Head of School

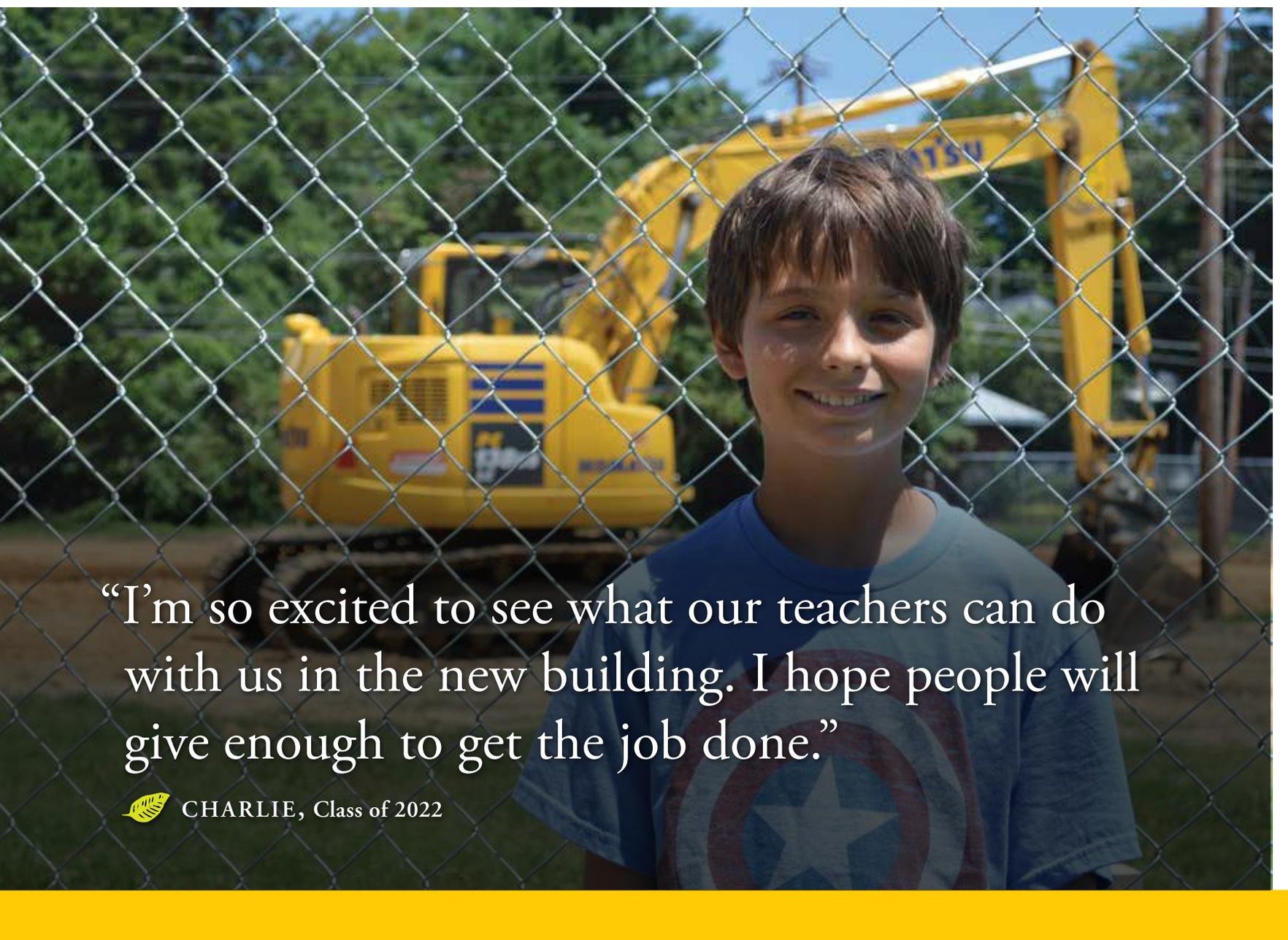
Julia Ann Greenwood led the school from 1977 until her retirement in 2012.

She grew New Community from a small program in a church basement into the region's only school dedicated to empowering bright middle and upper school students with dyslexia and related learning differences.

To honor her commitment, we are proud to announce the Julia Ann Greenwood Commons. Here, every student and faculty member will gather for lunch, collaborative work, assemblies, and more. Additionally, it will house TNCS outreach programs, impacting the larger community in a meaningful way.

The Greenwood Commons will be one of the most widely used spaces on campus.

Gifts to Building on Strengths can be designated to the Julia Ann Greenwood Commons.



“I’m so excited to see what our teachers can do with us in the new building. I hope people will give enough to get the job done.”



CHARLIE, Class of 2022

join us

What do Agatha Christie, Richard Branson, Whoopi Goldberg, Anderson Cooper, and Steven Spielberg have in common? They are all dyslexic and were fortunate to tap into the advantages of their learning differences. TNCS helps our students navigate their challenges and discover their strengths. By guiding more students to build their skills and discover their passions, we may be helping the next leader or innovator to fulfill his or her potential.

Pledge your support today to help TNCS empower these bright minds who think and learn differently. With your support, soon our students will have a new space that will help them nurture their differences and gain the confidence to see things in ways we could never imagine. These are truly strengths to build on.

how can you help?

Every contribution to The New Community School makes a difference. To reach our \$5.5 million goal, we are counting on you, our friends and supporters, to give generously. That's why we have chosen a variety of different levels for giving. Pledges can be made over a three-year period.

IN THE RANGE OF	NUMBER OF GIFTS NEEDED	SUBTOTAL
\$1,000,000	2	\$2,000,000
\$500,000	1	\$500,000
\$250,000	3	\$750,000
\$100,000	5	\$500,000
\$75,000	5	\$375,000
\$50,000	6	\$300,000
\$25,000	20	\$500,000
\$10,000	25	\$250,000
\$5,000	30	\$150,000
\$2,500	40	\$100,000
\$1,000	45	\$45,000
under \$1,000	Many	\$30,000

GIFT RECOGNITION AND NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

All *Building on Strengths* donors will be recognized through multiple channels including our annual report and email newsletters.

All gifts of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a donor wall in the new building.

There are also special naming opportunities for gifts starting at \$25,000. These include the naming of specific spaces within the building. This is a wonderful way to share your legacy with future students, faculty, and the greater Richmond community. We are happy to speak with you about naming opportunities that are still available.



frequently asked questions

What is Building on Strengths?

Building on Strengths is a \$5.5 million capital campaign to construct a new academic building that will increase academic, arts, electives, and collaborative spaces, and grow the endowment to provide stable long-term support for the maintenance of the new building.

Why are we doing this?

The New Community School has grown by more than 50% in the last 5 years. Additional space is needed to accommodate current and future growth and to provide facilities to help our students uncover their gifts. The school maintains a commitment to raise funds for building projects through capital campaigns, not tuition.

When will the building be finished?

TNCS was able to begin construction thanks to the support of early investors. We anticipate that the new building will open in the spring of 2017, but we need your help to reach the finish line.

Does this mean that class sizes will grow?

The core of the TNCS mission is a commitment to small class sizes and customized instruction. New classrooms will give our faculty and students the facilities they deserve, but will not increase the size of academic or Language Fundamentals classes.

When do you need my gift? Your commitment is needed today to ensure that we can complete construction on time. Pledges to *Building on Strengths* can be made over a three-year period.

How can I make my gift? Gifts of cash or check are the most popular, but gifts can also be made through transfers of stock or appreciated securities.

Can I designate my gift? Unrestricted gifts go to the area of greatest need within the campaign, but gifts can also be restricted to the construction of the building, the endowment, or to the Greenwood Commons.

Do you still need my Annual Fund gift? Absolutely! Gifts to the Annual Fund provide vital annual support to the school and are still needed. We hope that you will continue to support the Annual Fund in addition to *Building on Strengths*.

Other questions? Please contact Dan Stackhouse, Director of Development, at (804) 264-3276 or dstackhouse@tncs.org.

A photograph of three young boys in school uniforms (dark blue blazers, light blue shirts, and patterned ties/bowties) standing in a hallway with white tiled walls. They are all holding gold trophies. The boy on the left has curly brown hair and a purple and white checkered bowtie. The boy in the middle has straight brown hair and a blue and white striped tie. The boy on the right has curly brown hair and a green and blue striped tie. They are looking at their trophies with interest.

“The New Community School has defined who I am. It has helped me realize that I can do anything I put my mind to.”



RYAN HICKEY, Class of 2000

Nancy Foy, *Head of School*

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OUR MISSION

The New Community School empowers bright, talented students who are challenged by dyslexia and related learning differences. The innovative and research-based college preparatory curriculum uses a customized educational approach to build skills in language and math and to foster academic and personal strengths—igniting the passions and gifts of unique minds.

OUR VISION

The New Community School transforms lives by creating an educational environment that celebrates the strengths of dyslexia and related learning differences. The School empowers minds that think differently and inspires tomorrow's leaders and innovators.

For more information, please contact Dan Stackhouse, *Director of Development*, at 804.264.3276 or dstackhouse@tncs.org.



The New Community School

empowering bright minds who think & learn differently