

# 2018-2019 WSMS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**The primary responsibility of the Board of Trustees is to see that the School operates in the best interests of its students, teachers, and parents. The Board sets the purpose and policies of the School, ensures its financial stability, plans for its future, and hires the Head of School, who is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the School.**



**Myles B. Amend,  
President**

Myles Amend is Associate Head of School for Advancement at Trinity School, where he has worked since 2000.

Prior to that he served as Director of Development and Finance at Rice High School in Harlem; as Principal of Tampa Catholic High School in Tampa, Florida; and as Associate Director for Institutional Advancement and Governance at the Museum of the City of New York. He is a graduate of Iona College and holds master's degrees in history from New York University and in independent school leadership from Columbia University Teachers College. He is also a trustee of De La Salle Academy and a past president of the New York City Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Myles and his husband, Marc Thomas, are parents of a WSMS alumna who completed her two-year career at WSMS in 2011.



**Tim Daileader,  
Vice President**

Tim Daileader, the father of Declan and Madeleine Daileader (WSMS '14), and husband of Maggan Daileader, is a Partner in Drivetrain, LLC, the fiduciary services firm. Prior to this, Tim enjoyed a twenty-four-year career in investment management and banking. Over the course of his career, Tim was a senior analyst at Litespeed Management and Strategic Value Partners, a portfolio manager at Stanfield Capital Partners, and the Direc-

tor of Research at Knight Capital. Tim is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA). Tim also serves as a director on two for-profit boards, and previously served on the College Board of Advisors and in the Admission Ambassador program for Georgetown University. Tim graduated from Georgetown University with a bachelor's degree in economics in 1992, where he was a Baker Scholar.



**Iva Mills,  
Vice President**

Iva Mills is the mother of twin WSMS alumni (2016). Iva served as co-president of the Parents Association

for two years and assisted with the Annual Fund, Auction, Spring Fair, and Admissions Committee. Iva received her BA in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles, and JD from the American University, Washington College of Law. Iva practiced law for ten years, first at a law firm, primarily in the area of advertising and marketing litigation and, later, in-house litigating intellectual property disputes. Iva also serves on the Board of Safe Horizon and the Acquisition Committee of the Studio Museum in Harlem, and volunteers for the Harlem Children's Zone. She is married to Scott Mills.



**Kyra Nelson,  
Vice President**

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Kyra Nelson spent many years as an investment banker, be-

ginning with Cowen and Company, where she focused on healthcare and technology, and later with the Credit Suisse First Boston Technology Group. She then worked in real estate in the Bay Area until she moved to Manhattan in 2013. Kyra holds a bachelor's degree in history from Georgetown University and an MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Kyra and her husband, Travis, are proud parents of four children: a daughter who graduated WSMS in 2017, her twin brother who is in a home-school special education program, a son who graduated from WSMS in 2018, and a son who currently attends the WSMS Twos Program. Kyra has been actively involved at WSMS as a parent volunteer and serves on the WSMS Admissions Committee.



**Mort Haque,  
Treasurer**

Mort Haque (Treasurer) is a Portfolio Manager at GoldenTree Asset Management, an investment management firm

specializing in below-investment-grade corporate and structured credit markets. Prior to GoldenTree, Mort worked at Sound Point Capital as a Portfolio Manager and before that at Apollo Management in their capital markets group. He spent a number of years as an investment banker at Bank of America and J.P. Morgan in their leveraged finance and M&A departments. He is a graduate of Georgetown University (SFS) and Columbia Business School. Mort is married to Henna Khan, and they have two daughters who graduated from WSMS.



**Jennifer S. Conway,  
Secretary**

Jennifer S. Conway is a partner at the law firm Cravath, Swaine & Moore, where she is a member of the Executive

Compensation and Benefits Department. She regularly advises public and private companies on executive compensation and employee benefits matters, principally in connection with mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings and other business transactions. Jennifer is a graduate of Georgetown University and Columbia Law School, and she serves as a trustee for the Lawyers Alliance for New York. She is also a member of the Steering Committee of the Kate Stoneman Project, an organization devoted to the advancement of women in the legal profession. Jennifer and her husband, Victor Manuel, have two daughters, one who is a current student at WSMS and one who graduated in 2018. Jennifer and Victor also served as co-chairs of the first annual Fall Festival.



### Mark Cicirelli

Mark Cicirelli is married to Lisa and father to Emma and Alexandra. He is a Portfolio Manager and US Head of Insurance at Elliott Management, a NY-based investment firm. He joined Elliott in 2005, before which he worked at TH Lee Putnam Ventures, a private equity fund, and at J.P. Morgan Chase & Company. Mark graduated from Dartmouth with an AB in government and economics, and from Harvard with an MBA. He serves on the New York board of All Stars Project, a non-profit that supports the development of inner city youth. He also serves on the boards of Opus Bank, Paraline Holding, and Aeolus Capital Management, and is Chairman of Bernoulli Health.

of the Admissions Committee and a Board Trustee. Lindsay also serves on the board of Trees New York, a non-profit dedicated to the care of street trees in New York City.



### Joseph Gilbert

Joseph Gilbert is married to Damaris Hernandez, and is the father of Mariana, a WSMS graduate, and Ollie, who is currently at WSMS.

He works as a Program Manager in the pediatrics department for NYU Langone Health. He joined NYU Langone Health in 2015, after working in the Preventive Medicine department at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS). He serves as a co-investigator for the NYU Children's Health and Environment Study (NYU CHES), a longitudinal study examining the environmental influences on growth and development of babies in utero, and the NYU Factors Influencing Reproductive Success and Time to Pregnancy Study (NYU FIRST), a prospective cohort study aimed at identifying environmental influences that lead to difficulties in attaining and sustaining a pregnancy to term. Joe graduated from Bridgewater State University with a BS in biology, and from ISMMS with an MPH.



### Elise J.

Elise J. is a dentist and mother of two. She holds a doctorate in dental surgery from the University of Strasbourg, France, as well as a master's

degree in cellular and molecular physiology. She relocated from France several years ago and lives on the Upper West Side with her husband and their two children. She has previously worked with several non-profit organizations, and is actively involved in the community.



### Victoria Feltman

Victoria Feltman is a nutritionist who specializes in family and childhood nutrition. Before going into private practice, Vicky worked at the New York Children's Health Project in the South Bronx, where she counseled kids and adults and taught nutrition education classes. Prior to becoming a registered dietitian, Vicky spent four years as an editor at O, the Oprah magazine, and later worked as a restaurant publicist in New York and Los Angeles. Vicky has a BA from Cornell University and an MS in nutrition from NYU. Vicky and her husband Josh have three sons, two who are current students at WSMS, and one who graduated in 2016. She is a member of the WSMS Admissions Committee and is actively involved as a parent volunteer.



### Justin Hamilton

Justin Hamilton is a media, message and strategy consultant based in New York City. He has spent over a decade advising elected officials, candidates for higher office, federal cabinet members, CEOs, Fortune 500 companies, venture capitalists and entrepreneurs on how to develop and execute winning strategies. Prior to launching his business, Justin served as Chief of Staff and Head of Corporate Communications for News Corp's education technology division, Amplify. He also served as the national spokesperson for President Barack Obama's education reform efforts, where he helped to develop and execute the groundbreaking media campaign around the President's Race to the Top competition. Before joining the Obama Administration, Justin served on both the Obama-Biden Presidential Transition Team and as a battleground spokesperson for the President's 2008 Campaign. In addition to working on presidential and congressional races across the country over the past 10 years, Justin has served in both policy and management positions for members of the House and Senate. Justin lives on the Upper West Side with his wife Lucia, their two beautiful daughters, Vivienne and Lyla, and their Boston Terrier, El Guapo.



### Natasha Kazmi

Prior to taking time off to raise her family, Natasha Kazmi spent fifteen years in a number of roles in the financial services industry, ranging from corporate banking to restructurings and asset management, across diverse geographies like Pakistan, Indonesia and the U.S. Natasha was a member of the 2014 WSMS Online Auction Committee, a member of the Admissions Committee and Chair of the Annual Fund. She is also involved in projects related to furthering girls' education in Pakistan's remote areas and serves on Manhattan's Community Board 7. Natasha and her husband, Qaisar Hasan, are proud parents of one current WSMS student and one WSMS graduate. She earned a BBA and MBA from the University of Karachi.



### Lindsay Forbes

Lindsay Forbes holds a BS in natural resources conservation from the Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia, and a JD from the University of Toronto. Born and raised in Vancouver, Canada, Lindsay practiced commercial real estate law in both Vancouver and New York and later helped develop the U.S. east coast market for EAB Tool Co., an environmentally-focused power tool accessory company. Lindsay and her husband, Ali Dibadj, are proud parent of two WSMS alums. During her time as a parent at WSMS, Lindsay served for two years as the co-head of the Parents Association, and before that helped run the Auction raffle and WSMS's annual Bulb Planting event. She remains an active participant in WSMS as a member



### Nigel-Ann La Qua Williamson

Nigel-Ann La Qua Williamson was born and raised in Grenada, West Indies. She holds an MBA from Columbia University, and BS and a BArch in Architecture, from The Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture at The City College of New York. Prior to taking time off to raise her family, Nigel-Ann spent 9 years practicing Architecture, at HLW International and GKV Architects in New York City. She is currently developing her own company, one of the Columbia University ventures working from The Columbia Startup Lab. Nigel-Ann currently serves at WSMS as a member of the Admissions Committee, was a class representative for two consecutive years, co-chaired 2017 Sandsational, and is actively involved as an alumni parent volunteer. Nigel-Ann and her husband, Marco Williamson, are proud parents of two WSMS alums.



### Scott Li

Scott Li is currently a Managing Director with CRG, a healthcare-focused investment firm that has committed over \$3 billion of assets.

Scott has been dedicated to the healthcare industry as an investor, advisor, and executive for nearly 20 years. Prior to joining CRG in 2015, he worked at Hammond Hanlon Camp and Lazard Freres as an investment banker focused on mergers and acquisitions. He was previously the chief financial officer of pingmd, a venture-backed health IT company. Scott serves on the boards of several companies in the healthcare industry and is active in the community, serving on the board of FC Harlem, a youth soccer and enrichment organization. He and his wife, Vernaliz, are committed WSMS volunteers, and were co-chairs of the 2017 WSMS Bulb Planting in Hippo Playground. A New Jersey native and long-time resident of New York, Scott, Vern and their two sons live on the Upper West Side. He received an AB in economics from Princeton University and an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.



### Kelly Morrison Opdyke

Kelly Morrison Opdyke and her husband Jonathan are the proud parents of three children, including two WSMS alumni and one current WSMS student.

Kelly spent ten years as a senior technical advisor for Cicatelli Associates Inc., a public health non-profit headquartered in New York, where she led projects providing technical assistance to community-based organizations on the collection and use of data for nationally recognized initiatives, including the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and the Avon Foundation Breast Health Outreach Program. She previously interned as a research assistant with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and provided administrative support to continuing medical education programs at the School of Sleep Medicine in Palo Alto, CA. She spent her early career in digital marketing, co-leading an email marketing practice at online ad pioneer, Beyond Interactive. At WSMS, she has served as a class parent, a member of the Admissions Committee, and a two-time co-chair for the Fall Festival. Since 2014 she has also served on the PTA Executive Board for The Anderson School, currently serving her second term as Co-President. She received her Master of Public Health from Columbia University, and a BA in psychology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



### Jing Wang

Jing Wang was born and grew up in China and came to the states to pursue graduate study after getting his BS in physics from Peking University.

After receiving his PhD from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2004, he joined Tricadia Capital LLC, a \$4.2B multi-strategy credit hedge fund, and worked there for fourteen years as a partner and portfolio manager, trading U.S. and European fixed income and equity derivatives. He recently joined Millennium Partners L.P., a \$36B hedge fund, as a portfolio manager. Besides work, Jing would like to dedicate more time to philanthropic efforts and nonprofit organizations. He is married to Yi Zhang. They have one son, Dillon, at WSMS and another son, Aaron, who graduated in 2016.



### Kelly West

Kelly West is currently the Director of Admission at The Browning School. Kelly first joined the Browning faculty in 2003, where she served

as an Assistant Teacher, Head Teacher, and then Acting Head of Lower School, before moving to Admission. Kelly received her MA from the Steinhardt School of Education at N.Y.U. and a BA in psychology from George Washington University.



### Bonny Whitcher

Bonny Whitcher is a CPA and received her BS in business and economics from Lehigh University. Prior to starting a family, she worked at Ernst

& Young for nine years in their financial services office, and then spent several years as the corporate controller of a boutique investment bank headquartered in New York City. She also provides volunteer financial advisory services to the Harlem Educational Activities Fund. Bonny served two years as co-president of the Parents Association and served on the Admissions Committee. Bonny and her husband, Jonathan, reside on the Upper West Side and are the proud parents of a daughter who graduated from WSMS in 2017, a son who is currently attending WSMS, and a son born in 2018.



### Mary Pat Dowhy, Parent Representative

Mary Pat Dowhy is serving as the current co-president of the Parents Association. Mary Pat and her wife, Donna

Canfield, are the proud parents of Pierce, who is in his second year at WSMS. Mary Pat received her BA from Fordham University and spent a decade working in theater before moving to Los Angeles to work in film and television. Mary Pat returned to New York to accept a position in marketing managing high profile clients such as Absolut Vodka and MillerCoors. Mary Pat served on the board of The Empire State Pride Agenda, a statewide political advocacy organization that advocated for LGBT rights, including marriage equality. Mary Pat has been an active member of the WSMS community serving on several committees.



### Tenille Skelton, Parent Representative

Tenille Skelton is currently co-president of the Parents Association and an active WSMS volunteer, having

served on several committees since 2015. Tenille received her BS in finance and accounting at Tulane University. She has ten years of experience in real estate finance and capital raising, having spent her career at The Carlyle Group, Goldman Sachs and TPG. Tenille is a member of the board of Grand Street Settlement, a non-profit organization that provides programs and services to over 10,000 under-served New York children, families and seniors, and serves on its Executive Committee and Ad Hoc Real Estate Committee. Tenille and her husband, Travis Skelton, are the proud parents of one current WSMS student and one WSMS alum.



### Casey Gomez, Faculty Representative

Casey Gomez received a BA in Human Development and Family Studies from the University of Connecticut.

Casey was always interested in working with children and was introduced to WSMS by a former family of the school. Casey received her AMS Early Childhood Montessori certification from WSMS-TEP. She earned a master's degree in Early Childhood Special and General Education from Concordia College and has her New York State teaching certification. Casey joined WSMS in 2011 and joined WSMS-TEP as an instructor in 2018.