

2021–2022 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.



**Iva Mills,
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 grew up in San Diego, CA, and received her BA in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her JD from 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 is also a Trustee of Trinity School, serves on the Acquisition Committee of the Studio Museum in Harlem, and previously served as a Trustee of Safe Horizon.



**Myles Amend,
Vice 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, a fiduciary services firm. Prior to this, Tim enjoyed a twenty-four-year career in investment management and research, and banking. Tim holds a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation and serves as a director on several for-profit boards, and previously on the College Board of Advisors and in the Admission Ambassador program for Georgetown Uni-

versity. Tim graduated in 1992 from Georgetown University where he was a Baker Scholar.



**Mort Haque,
Treasurer**

Mort Haque is a Partner and 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 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. 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, both WSMS graduates. Jennifer and Victor also served as co-chairs of the first annual Fall Festival.



Dana Bliss

Dana Bliss is Executive Editor at Oxford University Press, where he oversees a book publishing program in social work and counseling. Prior to joining OUP in 2012, Dana worked at Taylor & Francis, another scholarly publishing company in New York. Dana was born and raised in downtown Manhattan, and began his educational journey at a Montessori preschool in Tribeca, before attending Friends Seminary and then Colgate University, where he earned his BA in philoso-

phy and classics. He is a Fellow of the Library of America, a non-profit organization dedicated to the publication and preservation of the nation's cultural heritage through America's greatest writing. At WSMS Dana has served as co-chair of the Fall Festival, Class Rep Coordinator, and class rep, and has pitched in at the Auction and Hooked on Books events. Dana and his wife, Saya, live on the Upper West Side and are the proud parents of two WSMS alumni, Nami (WSMS '17) and Emi (WSMS '21).



Nadine Carroll

Nadine Carroll currently serves as the Academic Dean and an 8th grade math teacher at De La Salle Academy, the only private, independent middle school in New York City for academically talented and economically less advantaged children. Nadine is responsible for faculty development, communicating with parents, and supporting the academic needs of all students. Nadine has extensive experience in education starting with her work as a Center Director in 2001 for a Kaplan Educational Center, to her role as a 5th grade teacher and Lower School Chair at George Jackson Academy, where she worked for 10 years. Nadine received a BA in Sociology from Emory University, and a Master's in Childhood Education from Bank Street College of Education, and is deeply committed to the work of supporting the academic and social needs of all children. Nadine is the mother of two current WSMS students, and married to Jimmy Carroll.



Nikki Chase-Levin

Nikki Chase-Levin is a returning board member and former parent who served as the WSMS Events Director for five years. A graduate of Michigan State University with a BA in Journalism, Nikki's 25-year marketing career started at an entertainment publicity firm in Los Angeles in 1995, and continues here in New York City. Nikki has worked for some of the most recognizable consumer brands in the marketplace, including *Captain Morgan Original Spiced Rum*, *Sony*, *Morgan Stanley*, *Discover Card* and *Miller Brewing Company*. Her responsibilities included strategic planning for new and existing products, television advertising development, marketing communications, public relations programming and event planning. As the co-founder and president of Straight Line Marketing, Inc.—her independent consulting firm—she has counseled clients such as *Pepsi*, *Smirnoff*,

Discovery Networks, and the lifestyle marketing agency, MKTG. Nikki and her husband Dave are the proud parents of Max (WSMS '14), Zach (WSMS '16), and two 70-pound labs ... Bubbles & Rocket!



Mary Pat Dowhy

Mary Pat Dowhy and her wife, Donna Canfield, are the proud parents of Pierce, a 2020 WSMS graduate! Mary Pat served for two years as co-president of the WSMS Parents Association, where she had the privilege of working alongside the dedicated families and administrators of this wonderful school on so many of its key initiatives, including the Auction, the Fall Festival and the Admissions Committee. Mary Pat received her BA from Fordham University and spent more than a decade working as a performer in theater, before moving to Los Angeles to continue her career in film and television. She returned to New York to accept a position with a strategic marketing firm, 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 championed LGBTQ rights, including marriage equality. Mary Pat is happy and grateful to continue serving WSMS as a trustee alongside such valued friends and community members.



Victoria Feltman

Victoria Feltman is a nutritionist who specializes in family and childhood nutrition. Vicky is the Director of Partnerships and Programming at Green Beetz, a food and environmental education non-profit that provides a ready-to-teach curriculum to educators. In addition to her work with Green Beetz, Vicky teaches Food & Culture at Hudson County Community College in Jersey City, NJ, and counsels patients at a pediatrician's office in Manhattan. 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 in history from Cornell and an MS in nutrition from NYU. Vicky and her husband are the parents of George (WSMS '16), Oliver (WSMS '19) and Simon (WSMS '21).



Joseph Gilbert

Joseph Gilbert is married to Damaris Hernandez and is the father of Mariana and Ollie, both proud WSMS alumni. 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.



Steven Han

Steven Han is a Portfolio Manager at Quent Capital, an equities fund focused on global, small cap investments, as well as a co-founder at Sypher Capital, a special opportunities fund. Over the last 20 years, Steven has been an investor and advisor, primarily in the technology sector. Prior to his current roles, Steven worked across public equities, private equity, and management consulting. Steven holds a BA from Stanford University and an MBA from Northwestern University. Steven and his wife, Gee Young Lee, currently live on the Upper West Side. They have been active travelers over the years and have lived in eight cities between the two of them. Their daughter, Lina Han, graduated from WSMS in 2021.



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 two WSMS graduates. She earned a BBA and an MBA from the University of Karachi.



Lilian Kim

Lilian Kim and her husband, Scott Kim, are proud parents of Grayson (Collegiate, 4th grade) and Taylor (Brearley, Kindergarten). Lilian is a native of Los Angeles, and also lived in San Francisco for over a decade. Lilian has been an active parent volunteer, serving as co-chair of the Auction Committee, a volunteer on the Annual Fund Committee, and a member of the Admissions Committee, and she was active in various projects on the decor of WSMS. Lilian received her BFA of Merchandising and Design at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. Prior to taking time off to raise her family, she worked in various roles at Gap, Inc., focused on merchandising and production. Currently, Lilian designs a line of children's clothing and accessories, in

addition to working as a production stylist.



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 a BS and a BArch 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 nine years practicing architecture at HLW International and GKV Architects in New York City. She is currently working from the Columbia Startup Lab to develop her own tech company. Nigel-Ann serves at WSMS as a member of the Admissions Committee, was a class representative for two consecutive years, co-chaired the 2017 Sandsational, and is actively involved as an alumni parent volunteer. She also advises the ad hoc Real Estate Committee for Grand St. Settlement, and is an enthusiastic volunteer at the Hewitt School and Hillsong Church. Nigel-Ann and her husband, Marco Williamson, are proud parents of two WSMS alumni, Ayn and Adi Williamson, and Asa, who is excited to start at WSMS in 2022.



Scott Li

Scott Li is a managing director with CRG, a healthcare-focused investment firm that has committed over \$4 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 also 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. He and his wife, Vernaliz, are committed WSMS volunteers; they co-chaired the WSMS Bulb Planting and Vern co-chaired the Fall Festival. A New Jersey native and long-time resident of New York, Scott lives on the Upper West Side with his family, which includes both an alum and a current student at WSMS. He received an AB in economics from Princeton University and an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.



Marguerite McNicoll

Marguerite McNicoll and her husband Iain were delighted to join the WSMS community when their older son (Miles '20) started in the Multi-Age Program. Their younger son Henry thrived in the Twos last year, and they are thrilled that they have two more years of daily pick-ups and drop-offs to spend time with the wonderful WSMS community. Marguerite grew up in Northern California, attended Deerfield Acad-

emy, and received a BA from NYU. She started her real estate career managing a large portfolio of residential properties along the Upper West Side and Chelsea, before transitioning to broker with the Corcoran Group. She has served on the Executive Committee of Deerfield, and is currently a director on her co-op Board. She chaired the recent PS 166 Book Fair, was co-chair of WSMS's Hooked on Books, a member of the Admissions Committee, and a class rep. She has actively volunteered with Auctions and Fall Festivals. She is thrilled to continue serving WSMS and to help further its important legacy.



Kurt Miller

Kurt Miller and his wife Melissa are happy to have been part of the WSMS community since 2015. They are parents of one current WSMS student and one WSMS alumni. Over the years, Kurt has had the pleasure of serving as Auction co-chair once, as well as volunteering at the Auction and Fall Festival multiple times. Originally from northern Virginia, he moved west for undergrad at Stanford. After graduation, he taught English in Japan for a year before pursuing a PhD in Computer Science at UC Berkeley. He and Melissa moved to NYC in 2011 for Kurt's job at PDT Partners, a quantitative asset management firm. From 2014–2018, Kurt was also an adjunct at the NYU Center for Data Science.



Kelly Morrison Opdyke

Kelly Morrison Opdyke and her husband, Jonathan, are the proud parents of three WSMS alumni. 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 rep, member of the Admissions Committee, and two-time co-chair for the Fall Festival. She has served as a WSMS trustee since 2017 and Chair of the Development Committee since 2019. From 2014 to 2020, she also served on the PTA Executive Board for the Anderson School, serving two terms 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.



Tenille Skelton

Tenille Skelton and her husband, Travis Skelton, are the proud parents of two WSMS alumni. During her time at WSMS, she was an active parent volunteer, serving on many committees, including two years as Parents Association co-president. 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 is also a member of the board of Rise Outside, a guiding organization that provides adventure programming for groups who have traditionally encountered barriers to the great outdoors.



Gillian Weindling

Gillian Weindling has been an active parent volunteer since 2014. Gillian received her BA in Women's Studies from Barnard College. Prior to starting a family, she worked in advertising at McCann-Erickson in their New York office as an account manager, and then moved to Tokyo for three years to teach English. Upon returning to the United States, Gillian spent eight years as the Chief Operating Officer of a boutique corporate financial restructuring firm with offices in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Gillian and her husband Adrien are the parents of Sofia (class of 2017), Margaux (class of 2019), and Elyse (class of 2021).



Liz Martorella, Parent Representative

Liz Martorella is serving in her second year as co-president of the Parents Association. Liz has been an active parent volunteer over the last eight years, having had the privilege of working alongside many wonderful parents on various committees, including as co-chair of the Auction and Fall Festival. Liz has over ten years of experience in pharmaceutical marketing and advertising, working at agencies like Sudler & Hennessey and LM&P. As an account manager, Liz was a key player in the strategic planning and conceptual development of promotional and educational programs directed at medical professionals and patients. Her marketing experience spans many therapeutic categories, including Parkinson's disease, osteoporosis, prostate cancer, antibiotics, antivirals and osteoarthritis. Liz received her BA in psychology from SUNY Geneseo and her MA in psychology with a focus on cognition, perception and neuroscience from NYU. She was part of a research team investigating the intersection of memory and emotion in the

brain and published findings in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, a peer-reviewed scientific journal. Liz and her husband, Ben Swinburne, are the proud parents of Josephine ('16), Vivian ('19) and current WSMS student, Isabel.



Christina Wang, Parent Representative

Christina Wang is currently serving as co-president of the Parents Association and has been an active parent volunteer since her family moved to New York from San Francisco in 2018. She has served on many committees at WSMS, including the Admissions Committee, and co-chaired the Auction, Fall Festival and Hooked on Books. Christina is the Clinical Quality Director of Cancer Prevention at The Institute for Family Health, one of the largest community health centers in New York State, with a mission-driven focus of providing high quality, affordable health care and addressing racial and ethnic health disparities in medically underserved populations. She received her BA in biology from Rice University and her MD from Baylor College of Medicine. Prior to moving to New York, she worked at Kaiser Permanente, where she was a Senior Physician Partner and Medical Director of Acupuncture. Christina and her husband Henry are proud parents to Preston, Thompson (WSMS '20) and current student Estella.



Kira Walker, Faculty Representative

Kira Walker (née Haag) has been at WSMS since 2017 as a student teacher, assistant teacher, and, for the last three years, a head teacher in 4E. Kira is a Montessori child herself, and attended Hershey Montessori from two through Upper Elementary. After graduating from NYU, she found her way back to Montessori as an assistant at a school downtown. Believing in the Montessori method and wanting to commit to the philosophy, Kira trained through WSMS-TEP, with which she now works closely as an instructor, supervising teacher, and field consultant. In addition to her AMS credential, she has a master's degree in Early Childhood Education from The City College of New York, as well as her New York State teaching license.