



PREPARED TO GROW

A NEW HOME FOR CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY SCHOOL

THE TEAM BEHIND THE SCENES



ANNIE BEIER - BOARD PRESIDENT

Annie has been on the Board of Directors since 2013, serving as vice president for one year and president for the past five years. She has volunteered to be part of nearly all the board committees but enjoys the fundraising committee the most. Annie has called Mount Horeb home for 23 years, and in addition to her passion for volunteering for CCS, she also enjoys being involved in the Optimist Club and the Mount Horeb Mental Health and Wellness Coalition. She has been a teacher in Mount Horeb since 1998, with fourth grade being her favorite area in her 30 years of educating. Her two children Laura (24) and Joshua (21) both attended CCS and are grateful for the self-directed learning they experienced. Annie continues to be involved with CCS long past her days of dropping off and picking up children because she believes that peace, love and community should be at the heart of any educational institution. CCS has that, and she is dedicated to making sure it continues to enrich the lives of Mount Horeb families.

JONAS BEDNAREK - BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

Jonas Bednarek joined the Board of Directors in 2014. He was fortunate to have been one of seven students in the inaugural class of 1976. His mother was great friends with founders Sally Flood and Pence Revington, and he has very fond memories of witnessing the birth of CCS. Jonas still lives in Mount Horeb with his wife and four children, three of whom also attended CCS. A seasoned trial lawyer, he brings to our board a legal mind that ensures the well-being and safety of CCS. Having been part of the CCS family for the first 45 years of its history, Jonas is proud to be part of the continuation of its legacy.

SANDRA CANNON - BOARD TREASURER AND CCS BUSINESS MANAGER

Sandra has been the Business Manager at CCS since 1998. She has a bachelor's degree in Genetics from Bradley University with graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Prior to joining CCS, she was employed as a research scientist in plant genetics for 12 years and took a few years off to be at home with her family. She has served as treasurer on the CCS Board of Directors since 2000. Sandra and her husband, Shawn, have four children, Brittany, Dane, Derek and Melanie, who are all CCS alumni and who have all graduated from UW-Madison to pursue careers in law, information systems security, clinical psychology, and risk management. Through her children, she has seen firsthand how an excellent Montessori preschool experience has a positive impact throughout a child's life. Sandra appreciates being able to participate in the Montessori educational experience for others and is excited to help this program expand to serve more families.

ANNA WATERS - BOARD SECRETARY

Anna joined the Board of Directors in 2021. Anna received a Bachelor of Science degree in Communicative Disorders at UW-Madison and earned her Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology at UW-Whitewater. She has been employed as a Speech-Language Pathologist working with adults at UnityPoint Health-Meriter Hospital for the past ten years. Anna and her husband Jeff, an engineer at Epic in Verona, moved to the Town of Blue Mounds in 2015 and welcomed their daughter Elise in 2019. Elise currently attends CCS in the Toddler program. Anna enjoys working parttime to spend time with her daughter and their pets outdoors. When Elise was a year old, Anna began researching Montessori and has since read many books and completed an E-course on implementing Montessori practices at home. Anna and Jeff were thrilled to find a certified Montessori school so close to home. They look forward to many more years at CCS and building relationships in the Mt Horeb community!

MARTHA PFAFF - CCS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Martha began teaching preschool at CCS in 1985, the same year the school moved into its current building, and was appointed director in 2014. Martha graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Platteville with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a concentration in Early Childhood Education. She has a DPI teaching license plus a Montessori Paraprofessional Certificate and a Montessori Administrator's Paraprofessional Certificate from Seton Montessori. Martha has three children, Justin, Stephanie and Lincoln, who are all CCS alumni, and two grandchildren, Harrison and Camille. She has had the privilege of being a part of the CCS community on Parkway Drive for the past 36 years and is honored to be leading its growth into a new building. She is very excited to be part of a generation of parents whose dedication and spirit are leading the way for many future children to have the opportunity of a quality Montessori education in a new building designed with that philosophy in mind.

BECCA THOMPSON - BOARD MEMBER AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE CHAIR

Becca has been on the Board of Directors since 2016, serving primarily in fundraising and finance capacities and as chairperson of the annual Children's Community Fest. She is a Certified Public Accountant and works for Thousand CPA in Mount Horeb as well as for the Town of Vermont as its treasurer. Becca and her family relocated from Milwaukee five years ago and couldn't be happier to call Mount Horeb home. Her two children Olivia (8) and Owen (6) both loved their time at CCS and met their best friends while attending Blue Class. Becca and her husband attribute much of their successful transition into the community to their experience with CCS and the many amazing families they have met through their ties to the school. Becca feels incredibly honored for the opportunity to lead this capital campaign and to give back to the school that has given her family so much.

BRESCIA BERG - BOARD MEMBER AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEMBER

Brescia joined the Board of Directors in 2017. She is the marketing and communications director at JG Development and has more than 10 years of professional communications, marketing and leadership experience. Brescia is honored to have supported the growth of CCS on the marketing, fundraising, steering and capital campaign committees, and to have facilitated strategic planning for the organization. Originally from Onalaska, Wisconsin, and a graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Madison, she and her husband Joe moved to Mount Horeb in 2015. They look forward to their third child (due this fall) attending the new CCS, following in the footsteps of their alumna Grace (6) and current student Roland (4).

ALISHA ELLIS - BOARD MEMBER AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEMBER

Alisha has served on the Board of Directors since 2018 and supports the fundraising and hospitality committees. She is a Behavioral Interventionist experienced in a variety of settings and is currently a stay-at-home parent. Alisha and her family moved to Mount Horeb from Berkeley, CA in 2016. Both of her children, Lincoln (6) and Fiona (4), have attended Blue Class at CCS. They have deeply enjoyed their time at CCS and the many friendships they have formed in and out of the classroom.

KATIE SWEENEY - BOARD MEMBER AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEMBER

Katie joined the Board of Directors in September of 2020. Professionally, she is the Associate Director of Quality and Improvement at Exact Sciences and brings Process Improvement and practical problem-solving tools to the team. Her educational background is in Healthcare Administration, and she received her MBA from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. She has two boys, Adrian (Red Class) and Conrad (future Toddler class!). The Sweeneys view CCS as a true extension of their family as they continue to see the benefits of a strong, local community. They've seen within their own immediate family the difference the Montessori environment can make on young children as they grow into great adults.

TERI HENDRICKSON - STAFF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CCS TODDLER TEACHER

Teri has enjoyed being a teacher at CCS for the past 25 years, many of which have been spent leading the Toddler Program. She has an associate's degree in Childcare and Development from Madison Area Technical College, completed the Montessori Paraprofessional Course in 1997, and received her Montessori Infant/Toddler diploma through the North American Montessori Center in 2017. CCS is fortunate to be able to draw from Teri's many years of experience in the toddler classroom in planning the new building design. She has carefully thought out every square inch of the interior layout to ensure it will meet the needs of children, staff and families. Teri and her husband live in Barneveld and have three adult children who are all CCS alumni. CCS has been special for her family in many ways, and she's met so many wonderful people throughout her years of service to the school. She has seen CCS evolve to meet the needs of the community but still remain committed to the Montessori philosophy.

BRETT HALVERSON - BOARD MEMBER

Brett joined the Board of Directors in August of 2021. He is a native of Rochester, MN and first moved to Wisconsin for college in 2003. After a short stint in Washington DC, Brett moved back to the Dane County area with his wife Anna in 2012. He currently works for the Wisconsin State Legislature and has been a Mount Horeb Village Trustee since April 2021. Brett and Anna live with their daughter Lucy, a CCS alum, in Mount Horeb.

KEVIN KELBEL - BOARD MEMBER

Kevin joined the Board of Directors in August of 2021. He is a retired accountant, having been a CPA for 30 plus years, with the majority of his career spent in Madison. Kevin and his family moved to Mount Horeb in 1994 from Minneapolis, Minnesota. His children, Joey (30) and Megan (29) both attended CCS and met many of their life-long friends at CCS.

ELIZA (TOPALSKI) FOURNIER - CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEMBER

Eliza has the honor of sharing a birth year with CCS! Her mother, Pence Revington, and teaching partner, Sally Flood, opened the school's doors when Eliza was only one month old in the fall of 1976. She was the living practical life work for many of CCS' early students (diaper changing, feeding, etc.). Eliza grew up in Mount Horeb, serving as a night janitor in the current school building while in high school. She and her husband Dave have lived in Chicago for more than 20 years, where she has worked for the Chicago Botanic Garden in its urban agriculture department. Their two children, Georgia (14) and Dane (12), have attended Roger's Park Montessori School in the city since they were both three years old. The whole family is proud of the legacy that Pence and Sally started 45 years ago and loves coming back to Mt. Horeb to visit often. It is Eliza's privilege to support the amazing team leading the charge for this capital campaign and the next 45 years of CCS as a community anchor in Mount Horeb.

AMY MERTZ - CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEMBER

Amy is the owner of Brick Road PR, an independent consulting company that helps nonprofits and businesses with their communications and branding. She and her husband, Adam, have two daughters, Delaney (17) and Siobhan (14). Both are CCS alumnae, and each cleans the school one night a week. Amy is president of the Mount Horeb Summer Frolic and has served on its board of directors for six years. She also has served on the Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors. CCS' caring staff taught her children the values of independence, respect, environmental stewardship and social awareness. She truly loves the school's positive energy and is excited to share her time as a token of appreciation for all that CCS has done for her family.