

## Envision the Future: FRIENDS SELECT SCHOOL IN 2015 AND BEYOND

**Quaker Values and Practice** By 2015, the Quaker testimonies of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality and stewardship/service are recognized as hallmarks of a Friends Select education. From pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, students are taught to seek truth, to resolve conflicts peacefully, to be inclusive of others, to honor differences, and to steward their physical and social environment. Friends Select is known as a community where adults and students model Quaker values every day in the life of the school.

**Program** By 2015, Friends Select has clearly differentiated its educational philosophy and practice: the aim of a Friends Select education is to prepare children for nothing less than the “whole of life.” The educational program is relevant, holistic and coherent, and offers a rich and balanced range of academics, arts, and athletics. Teachers encourage students from the earliest age to exhibit curiosity, to think critically, to respect tradition, yet question the status quo, and to embrace a love of learning.

By 2015, Friends Select continues to graduate students who are college-ready, city-savvy, intellectually and culturally sophisticated, and globally literate. Graduates continue to be accepted by an extraordinarily diverse array of private and public colleges and universities around the world, including some of the most selective.

By 2015, the International Studies Program at Friends Select has evolved into a model program and a distinctive offering among schools in the region. Friends Select students have multiple opportunities to connect with other countries, languages, cultures and people.

By 2015, the Friends Select community understands that to ensure the long-term vitality of the school and to accomplish its strategic goals, the school requires resources beyond tuition. The school regularly communicates the value of a Friends Select education, and everyone in the community contributes to the school at a level that is personally meaningful to them.

**People** By 2015, Friends Select is a full but not a large school, with balanced composition of classes across all grade levels and divisions. At the same time, Friends Select remains an intimate learning community, grounded in Quaker values and practice, where students are fully known and valued for who they are.

By 2015, Friends Select remains one of the most diverse independent schools among peer schools in the region. Friends Select continues to be an inclusive community which welcomes people of varied ethnic backgrounds, religions, belief systems, family structures, sexual orientations, socio-economic status, and countries of origin, and which celebrates a multiplicity of talents and interests among community members.

By 2015, Friends Select faculty and staff are appropriately compensated, at a level commensurate with peer independent schools. Friends Select encourages focused and strategic professional development, and regularly offers such opportunities to faculty and staff. Friends Select honors faculty and staff accomplishments and regularly communicates these to the wider community.

By 2015, Friends Select has leveraged its communications and social networking technology to build community across all facets of the school. Friends Select has made it possible for alumni/ae, parents, students, trustees, faculty and staff and other members of the community to connect with each other and to create lifelong relationships with the school.

**Place** By 2015, Friends Select is recognized as the school of choice for families who value an excellent education intentionally enriched by the many resources and treasures of Center City.

**Mission** Friends Select School's mission is to provide a challenging, college-preparatory academic program to its diverse, coed student population, from pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade. Members of the Friends Select community believe in the Quaker values of respect for all, simplicity, the peaceful resolution to conflict, and a constant search for truth. The school works to achieve a balance between the needs of individuals and the community, in an atmosphere of cooperation and concern for the betterment of all. It values the rich diversity of its urban setting and the opportunities and challenges it provides for the education of its students. Under the caring oversight of dedicated faculty and staff, Friends Select students gain the knowledge, skills and character that will help them to live full lives.

**History** Friends Select School traces its lineage to 1689, when the Monthly Meeting of the Friends of Philadelphia (Arch St.) recorded this decision in its minutes: “Friends being willing to encourage a school in this town and in order thereto, they agreed with George Keith to assure him a certain salary of fifty pounds p. year...” Friends Select today still is under the care of that original meeting and the Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting (Race Street), and is overseen by a board of trustees appointed by the two meetings. More than 300 years after the founding of that first Friends school, Friends Select remains the only pre-k through 12th grade independent school, and the only Quaker school in Center City Philadelphia.

### Friends Select School

17th & Benjamin Franklin Parkway  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

215.561.5900

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PHILADELPHIA PA  
PERMIT NO 2640

[friends-select.org](http://friends-select.org)

Envision 2015

Friends Select  
SCHOOL

# Distinctive Qualities of Friends Select School

These qualities, taken together, distinguish Friends Select: its grounding in Quaker values and practice, its well-rounded educational program, the people who make up its diverse, intimate learning community, and its sense of place in Center City Philadelphia.

Friends Select students experience, in ways that they cannot at any other school, the advantages of belonging to an intellectual community that is itself an integral part of a vibrant, urban, cultural milieu. Friends Select has partnered with local colleges and universities, Parkway museums, city government and corporate partners to enhance the educational, cultural, political and financial capacity of the school.

By 2015, the Friends Select facility has expanded to accommodate program growth and full enrollment. The existing school building and campus have been reconfigured and renovated to maintain a safe, environmentally sustainable, and high-quality teaching and learning environment for all students, faculty and staff.

## SIGNPOSTS TO 2015

### Program

**Goal 1: Ensure Contemporary Program** Refine and evolve the college preparatory academic program to be continually challenging and contemporary with emerging global trends and technologies.

**Goal 2: Enhance Athletics and Co-Curriculars** Enhance athletics and co-curricular activities to assure that Friends Select offers a compelling, rich and holistic educational experience.

**Goal 3: Safeguard Financial Capacity** Grow the endowment to ensure long-term vitality of the school and its mission. Enhance the school's financial resources to realize the strategic goals outlined in this vision statement.

### People

**Goal 1: Manage the Size and Composition of the School** Maintain articulated admission standards. Preserve the school's distinctive character as an intimate learning community grounded in Quaker value and practice. Manage enrollment to:

- Become a full rather than a large school (not to exceed 600 students), striving for balanced classes across grade levels and divisions.
- Build, nurture and sustain an inclusive, diverse community.

**Goal 2: Value and Enrich Intellectual Capital** Cultivate, enrich, engage and reward intellectual capital (knowledge, skills, experience, talents and creativity) at Friends Select. Leverage such capital to position the school as a resource to inform and enrich the larger community.

**Goal 3: Extend the Community** Leverage existing communications tools and social networking technology to expand and sustain relationships within and among various affinity groups, and with Friends Select.

### Place

**Goal 1: Develop and Enhance City Partnerships** Create new partnerships and deepen existing programs with Parkway and other city institutions. Develop strategic relationships with local colleges and universities, and political, cultural, business and government entities in order to enhance the intellectual, educational, political and financial capacity of the school. Create, articulate and promote a pre-kindergarten through 12th grade city curricular program.

**Goal 2: Upgrade Physical Plant** Redesign, renovate and maintain existing school facilities to provide a safe, environmentally sustainable, and high-quality teaching and learning environment for all students, faculty and staff.

**Goal 3: Expand the Campus** Expand the school's footprint to ensure that the school facility and campus meet the demands of the educational program and growing student enrollment. At the same time, remain true to preserving an intimate learning community.

Strategic Planning Workshop  
November 8, 2008

### PARTICIPANTS

#### Head of School

Rose Hagan

#### Facilitators

Andrew Mozenter, Concentrics, Inc.  
Corky Potter, Concentrics, Inc.

#### Board of Trustees

Robin Joan Bernstein '67  
John W. Chin '83  
Ronald Cohen  
Leah Glickman  
Catherine Hawkes  
Patricia Prudence Hill  
Richard W. Huffman  
Eliot Ingram  
Tony Junker  
William P. Madeira  
Janet Margolies  
Jeffrey Maxson  
Joshua Piven '89  
Michael Purcell  
Joseph E. Ronan, Jr. '72  
Kevin D. Satterthwaite  
Harris Savin  
Paul Steege  
Elizabeth Widdicombe

#### Faculty and Staff

Anita Bailey  
Rae Asbridge  
James Brubaker  
Judy Clever  
Heather Fortune  
Natan Gottesman  
G. Richard Hoffman  
Galen Horst-Martz  
Stuart Land

James Miller  
Christa Quint  
Penny Razler  
Kathryn Rice  
Caroline Sime  
Ed Smiley  
Ann Wallace

#### Administrative Council

Sherry Claypool  
Roger Dillow  
Jesse Dougherty  
Christine Jefferson  
Terry Kessel  
Michael J. Noonan  
Colleen Puckett  
Michael Zimmerman

#### Current and Former Parents

Carol Anthony  
Matthew D'Annunzio  
Brenda Faust  
Abbe Fletman  
Melissa Weiler Gerber  
Diana Hare  
Jennifer Mansfield  
Maria Petrillo  
Scott Schaeffer  
Stella Tsai  
Coleen Williams  
Peter Yaffe

#### Students and Alumni/ae

Fumnanya Ekhaton '09  
Jake Gardner-Rosen '10  
Darren Headen '11  
Emma Horst-Martz '14  
Judy Love Keogh '55  
Lauren Lamb '12  
Peter McCurry '13  
Anna-Claire Siena '11  
Hannah Silverblank '08  
Zach Wright '09

#### Community and Meeting Partners

John Claypool  
Mark Focht  
Helena Grady  
Demie Kurz  
Cleveland D. Rea

Strategic Planning  
Committee

Robin Joan Bernstein '67  
Roger Dillow  
Rose Hagan  
Richard W. Huffman  
Christine Jefferson  
Terry Kessel  
William P. Madeira  
Janet Margolies  
Colleen Puckett  
Joseph E. Ronan, Jr. '72  
Paul Steege  
Patricia Torosian  
Tony Junker  
Elizabeth Widdicombe

Expansion Advisory  
Committee

Charles X Block '81  
Sherry Claypool  
Jesse Dougherty  
Melissa Weiler Gerber  
Rose Hagan  
Richard W. Huffman  
Eliot Ingram  
Christine Jefferson  
Michael J. Noonan  
Colleen Puckett  
Joseph E. Ronan, Jr. '72  
Kevin D. Satterthwaite  
Harris Savin  
Paul Steege  
Peter Yaffe