

Planned Giving A Lasting Legacy

Charles River School

Looking Back

In the fall of 1911, three families that share your passion founded our school in a one room out-building on a farm along the bank of the Charles River. They sought to establish a school that would offer a strong academic program, advance moral learning, provide leadership in educational innovation and instill in its students a love of learning.

A century later, through the generosity of many individuals and families, CRS has developed and expanded. But our fundamental commitment remains the same: we pioneer an elementary school education that attends to the whole child, stimulates intellectual curiosity, nurtures children's self-worth and achievement and prepares our graduates to be active participants in a diverse world.



...Giving Back

The Richard Thorndike Legacy Society

Drawing by Peggy Thorndike



Become a member

Join others who have made CRS part of their estate planning. Simply notify CRS that the school is provided for in your estate. You will secure the future of CRS for generations to come.

Richard K. Thorndike '23, a long-time supporter and enthusiastic alumnus, named Charles River School as a beneficiary in his will. An old-line investment banker and broker, he was one of four Thorndike siblings who graduated from CRS and the grandfather of Lucy '80, Zander '82 and Cynthia Sprague '86.

Charles River School recognized his extraordinary generosity and that of his extended family by creating The Richard K. Thorndike Legacy Society in his memory.

Subject to the donor's permission, we recognize the generosity of members through public announcements, profiles in school publications and identification in the Annual Report. Society members are invited to participate in milestone events, other functions and special occasions.

Ways to Give and Meeting Needs

There are a number of ways to direct your support to Charles River School AND meet your philanthropic and estate planning objectives. Please consider a planned gift.

A planned gift is any charitable gift that is planned to optimize a donor's financial, tax and/or estate plans while helping secure the long-term financial security of a charitable institution. This type of gift might enable you to make a larger gift to CRS than you might have thought possible.

Please read about the various ways you might express your commitment to the School while

- reducing income tax
- avoiding capital gains tax
- increasing income from your assets
- securing retirement
- securing your spouse's income
- leaving more to your heirs
- having a far-reaching impact on a charitable institution
- creating a lasting legacy.

Bequests

A bequest is simply a gift made through a will. It ordinarily requires only the inclusion of a simple directive in your will, or in the case of an existing will, the preparation of an amending codicil. A particular advantage of a bequest is its flexibility: you can modify it from time to time in accordance with changes in your circumstances. A bequest can consist of almost any asset in your estate: cash, securities, real estate, personal property, etc. Bequests can also take other forms:

Specific Bequest names the particular asset or fractional share of an asset that you wish to give.

Residuary Bequest makes a gift of all or a portion of what is left of an estate after it has distributed assets to other named recipients and paid administrative costs, taxes and other expenses.

Contingent Bequest makes a gift to CRS contingent upon the needs of other individuals for whom you wish to provide.

Testamentary Trust enables you to regulate the timing of a gift. Under the terms of your will, the asset to be gifted becomes the principal of a trust and only passes to CRS after other beneficiaries you name have enjoyed the use and income of the asset during their lifetimes.

Planning for a Specific Purpose

Charitable Remainder Trust A charitable remainder trust can provide you and your spouse with income for life, or for a specified term of years, while providing a charitable income tax deduction. If the trust is funded with appreciated securities, capital gains taxes can be avoided as well.

Other Ways to Give

Life Insurance Policies

At a certain point, many people find that they no longer need the coverage afforded by one or more of their life insurance policies. For example, you might own a policy purchased years ago to cover a mortgage obligation that has since been materially reduced or eliminated. A life insurance policy that offers only marginal benefits to you could one day yield a significant addition to CRS's endowment.

You can make a gift to CRS by simply designating the school as the policy's primary beneficiary. If you wish to split the proceeds between CRS and one or more other recipients, most insurers allow you to name co-beneficiaries and to specify their fractional interests. By retaining ownership of the policy, you retain access to the policy's cash value and still qualify for an eventual estate tax deduction.

In the case of whole life insurance, you can make a gift entitling you to an immediate federal income tax charitable deduction by donating the policy itself to Charles River School.

Real Estate

Gifts of real estate, such as personal residences, farms, vacation homes, commercial buildings, and undeveloped lots can generate tax savings similar to those that pertain to appreciated securities. If the value of a property has appreciated, the decision to donate it to CRS avoids all capital gains taxation while also giving the donor an income tax deduction equal to the property's current appraised value. Arrangements can also be made to defer the transfer of title to CRS, providing you with the opportunity to continue to enjoy the use of the property and to any income it generates during your lifetime.

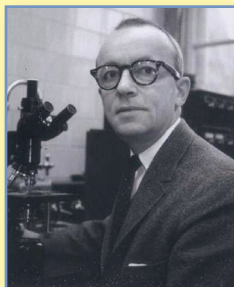
Other Ways to Give continued

Tangible Personal Property

You can also support CRS through gifts of tangible personal property such as antiques, art, rare manuscripts, vintage automobiles, and jewelry. The CRS Gift Acceptance Committee evaluates contemplated gifts to determine whether they are directly related to the institutional purposes that qualify CRS for tax-exempt status.

Retirement Plans

A pension plan or retirement fund -- an IRA, 401(k) account, Keogh plan -- warrants special consideration for charitable giving. If left to family members or other individuals as surviving beneficiaries, the benefits of qualified retirement plans are subject not only to whatever estate taxes apply to your estate but also to federal income taxation at the recipients' tax rates. In the case of a large estate and a high-tax bracket beneficiary, the combination of income taxes and state and federal death taxes can claim the lion's share of retirement assets. If left to an exempt charitable organization like CRS your retirement assets could avoid both income and estate taxes.



Alfred Pope '23 A Lifetime of Giving

Charles River School received a very generous bequest from the estate of Dr. Alfred Pope '23, a world renowned scientist and researcher in the field of Alzheimer's. With this bequest, Dr. Pope, joins the Thorndike Legacy Society. The Society recognizes alumni, parents and friends who have included Charles River School in their wills or with planned gifts. Richard Thorndike and Alfred, classmates and friends, supported our school every year with annual fund gifts, stepped up to help us make changes to the campus during capital building and endowment campaigns, and both wanted this small school to reach great heights in years to come.

Have you already included CRS in your plans?

Please be in touch with the Development Office so we can thank you and include you in the events involving Thorndike Legacy Society members.

Thank you...

for considering ways to give Charles River School a larger gift than you might have thought possible, while helping you achieve personal and financial goals.

Please bring us your questions:

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