

# ANNUAL REPORT

*Swallowtail School*

OCTOBER 2021

# A message from our president

Dear Families, Friends, and Alumni:

When I reflect on this being my family's eighth year with Swallowtail Waldorf School and Farm, I feel gratitude, warmth, awe, and pride. Swallowtail has been on a remarkable journey of growth and educational leadership

within the greater community, cultivating a strong foundation for our children and planting the seeds to help our children become well-rounded, engaged, and thoughtful world citizens. This type of success is only possible with the support of our dear families, friends, and alumni.

During the past year, Swallowtail families came together to care for one another, and to help Swallowtail in creative and new ways. Additionally, Swallowtail's teachers and staff stepped up to the incredible challenge of maintaining our school values and educational philosophies, while keeping our children safe and emotionally balanced during a pandemic. Our community's commitment to the success of our children, both academically and emotionally, is one of the many reasons I am honored to be a Swallowtail family and to support Swallowtail's Annual Giving fundraising goal.

Making Swallowtail your top philanthropic priority will help to continue our success. Gifts of all sizes make a difference and are deeply appreciated. Thank you for your generosity and for helping our little seeds grow.



With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Theresa Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

President of the Board of Trustees

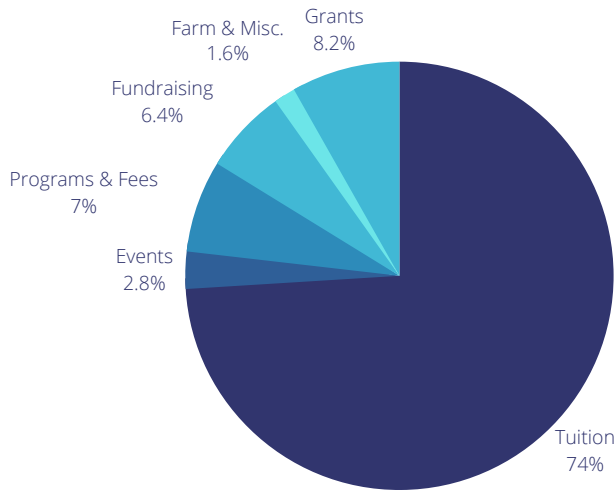


A photograph of two children from behind, sitting on a grassy field. The child on the left has long, dark dreadlocks and is wearing a bright orange, pointed hat. The child on the right is wearing a blue and white striped, pointed hat and a pink jacket. The background is a soft-focus green field with some blurred figures in the distance.

*Exploring Creating Celebrating*  
together

# THE FINANCIAL PICTURE

*Maintaining a balanced budget*



## REVENUE 2020-2021

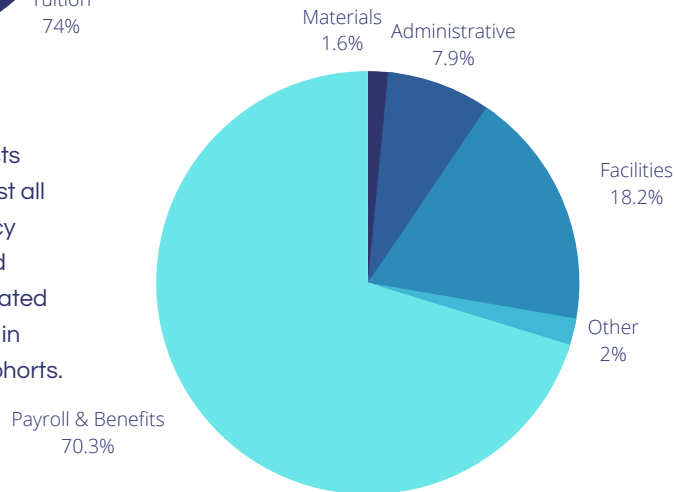
We enrolled over a dozen new students between Sept and May last year, which helped our revenue predictions significantly. We had excellent support from our families during annual giving and other fundraising campaigns. We also received some grants related to our designation as an emergency childcare provider.

**TOTAL REVENUE: \$1,382,518**

## EXPENSES 2020-2021

To adjust to our lowered enrollment, we cut costs significantly in our 20-21 budget, pausing almost all specialty classes. As we came out of emergency childcare, we added back in handwork, art, and movement. We had some additional COVID-related costs in cleaning and technology supplies, and in assistant teachers needed to facilitate small cohorts.

**TOTAL EXPENSE: \$1,350,533**



What steps are we taking to strengthen the financial outlook for the school?

*We see your tuition dollars and donations for the gift they are, and we honor them through sound fiscal management.*



# RESPONSIBLE STEWARDS

## 1 **A budget built on the income we have.**

This means we shape our expenses to fit the income we know we can count on, rather than vice versa. We sometimes have to make tough choices, but in the long run it sets us up for greater growth and stability.

## 2 **An accurate picture of long term maintenance needs.**

We have assessed the maintenance needs for the two properties and will now budget for yearly contributions to a reserve fund to cover large expenses.

## 3 **Strategic priorities guide budget decisions.**

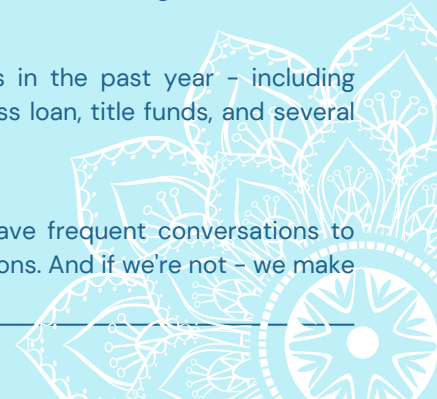
If an opportunity arises that does not fit within the strategic priorities we have identified as a school, we set it aside so we stay focused in our growth.

## 4 **Wide variety of funding sources.**

We have greatly expanded our funding sources in the past year - including different grants, a very low-interest small business loan, title funds, and several new private donors.

## 5 **Close, ongoing tracking.**

Even best laid plans sometimes go awry. We have frequent conversations to make sure we're on target for our budget predictions. And if we're not - we make adjustments as needed.





Plant the Seed  
*Annual Giving starts today!*

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# WHAT DOES YOUR GIFT SUPPORT?



## 1 Environmental Stewardship Program

This year's donations will help support our newly expanded farm program, which now includes a full time educator and a land steward.

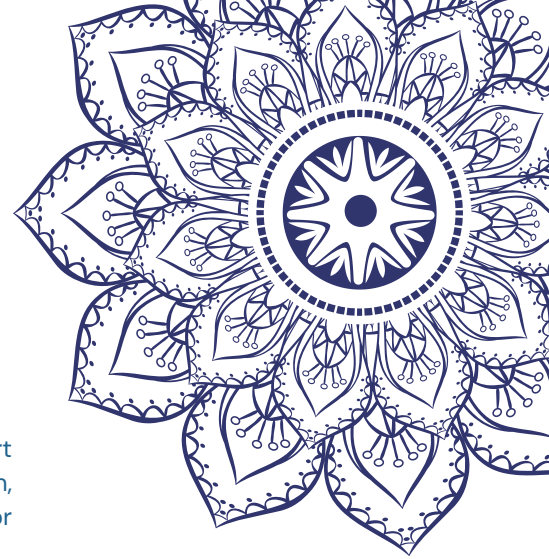
## 2 Main Campus Enhancements

We have big plans for the main campus too - garden boxes for each grade, a plant-based dye garden, and a weaving garden!

## 3 Specialty Classes

As our enrollment continues to recover from COVID, annual giving is supporting some old stand-bys and new favorites: Handwork, Movement, Middle School Math, & Spanish.

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*Giving is not just about making a donation — it's about making a difference.*

*-Kathy Calvin*



thanks for your support!

