

"Every thoughtful step to reimagine our campus and create an Academic Village began, and ends, with Penn Charter's Strategic Vision."

Jeffrey A. Reinhold
Clerk, Board of Trustees

"The new Lower School inspired our aspirations from day one. It was our first goal. By ultimately making it our final goal, one division has helped us reimagine our entire campus."

Darryl J. Ford Hon. 1689
Head of School

THE INTENTIONALITY AND IMPACT of our final project are clear: a stunning new lower school with space, flexibility and access will ignite curiosity and inspire teaching and learning that never stand still.

Image: architect's rendering of the central lower school space



SO NEAR
SO CLEAR

WORKING TOGETHER, we have been able to accomplish more than we once imagined possible. Our Strategic Vision, adopted by consensus a decade ago, has served as the roadmap for a journey benefiting the entire Penn Charter community now—and for decades to come.

A brand-new milestone, the opening of the William A. Graham IV OPC '58 Athletics & Wellness Center, empowers us to see with fresh eyes our tremendous progress and the wisdom of the path we have chosen.

We are already realizing the impact of the campus transformation this community has made possible. Breaking ground on the new lower school next summer is the final piece.

MILESTONES OF TRANSFORMATION have marked our Strategic Vision journey. What resonates most powerfully about this shared process, firmly rooted in our Quaker values, are the unexpected and transformative departures from our original plans. Because Penn Charter always remains open to new ideas and allows thinking to evolve, this work and its outcomes promise to have greater, more lasting value.

1

STRATEGIC VISION CONFERENCE CONVENED

From the outset, the Quaker nature of this endeavor was clear. Over two full days in April 2011, our community came together to craft a Strategic Vision, recommit to our green, urban campus, and plan for the future.

2

SIX PILLARS + CAMPAIGN ADOPTED

In December 2011, the Board approved our Strategic Vision—structured around six pillars: Quakerism, Program, Teaching, Time, Space, and Financial Sustainability—and a new expression of our mission: “educating students to live lives that make a difference.” The board authorized a campaign to undertake the vision’s program and capital goals.

3

MASTER PLAN COMMISSIONED

A gift from Jeffrey Reinhold led to the development of Penn Charter’s Master Plan, synthesizing community input to guide a bold transformation to protect our campus and develop spaces to meet the changing needs of our academic and athletics programs.

8

SECOND CAMPUS SECURED

By purchasing an additional 2.7 acres across School House Lane, we created a true second campus, featuring the Palaia Baseball Field, modeled on Citizens Bank Park, and complementing the Kline & Specter Squash Center and adjacent Reiger Tennis Courts.

13

THE GRAHAM COMPLETED

Penn Charter’s newest building, the Graham Athletics & Wellness Center, has quickly become a hub of school life. Its light-infused design, blurring the lines between indoor and outdoor, and its enhanced facilities will elevate athletic performance and support community wellness and a healthier school-life balance for students across all divisions.

6

LANDMARK GIFT SECURED

To put momentum behind the central projects, William A. Graham IV OPC ’58 took the lead, making the then-largest gift of the campaign—a commitment that made possible a new athletics and wellness center adjacent to Maguire Field.

7

NEW MULTIPURPOSE SYNTHETIC TURF FIELDS ADDED

The first major athletics projects centered around two new synthetic turf fields: Maguire, including construction of an eight-lane IAAF 400-meter track, and Perrott, which serves field hockey, lacrosse and soccer, and provides space for recess.

10

OUR MISSION STRENGTHENED

We formalized our Center for Public Purpose, the hub of Quaker service for our community, and recommitted to the radical inclusivity at the heart of our mission and origins.

11

OUR CURRICULUM DEEPEENED

Led by the Strategic Vision’s emphasis on curricular innovation, new approaches, like project-based learning; concentrations, like certificates in Environmental Stewardship and Global Studies; and innovative spaces, like the IdeaLabs for all divisions, thoughtfully built on one another.

9

OUTDOOR CAMPUS INTEGRATED

Deeply connected to our natural environment, the Wissahickon, and two watersheds, we use our outdoor spaces as classrooms—engaging students in active learning, from gardening to nature walks to environmental sustainability courses.

4

OUR FACULTY SUPPORTED

In 2013, we created our Teaching & Learning Center, the first of several Strategic Vision-driven investments to promote excellence in teaching and inspire curricular innovation across all divisions and in every grade.

5

ACADEMIC VILLAGE ENVISIONED

The Master Plan revealed the potential of a campus transformed. By situating the new Lower School where Dooney Field House is located, we could create a true Academic Village—spurring collaboration across three divisions in closer proximity.

14

SUMMER 2022 GROUNDBREAKING

Once we have secured all necessary funding, we will raze Dooney Field House and break ground for the new Lower School.

15

LOWER SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

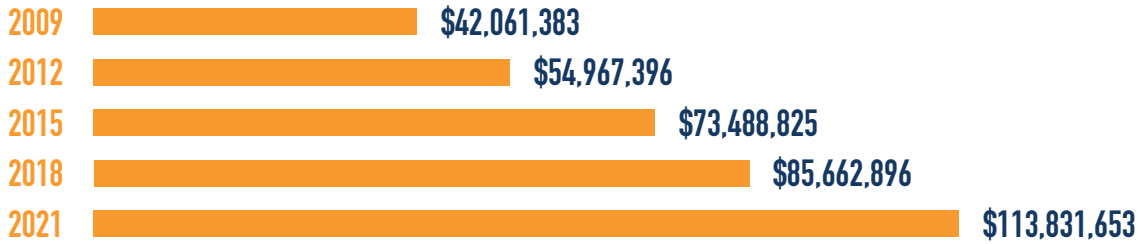
Our visionary Lower School will soon become a reality. It will be a world-class home to learning, discovery and exploration for our youngest students and will also mark our journey’s final, crucial milestone: the completion of our Academic Village.

STILL TO COME...

Your philanthropy makes everything possible

THE IMPACT OF OUR HISTORY-MAKING CAMPAIGN, *By the Light of Our Charter HOW FAR? Can We See*, will reach far beyond this era of transformative philanthropy. Its capital projects will serve this community for decades to come, as will the growing endowment—the best measure of a school’s financial health and sustainability.

TRANSFORMATIVE ENDOWMENT GROWTH



BASED ON MARKET VALUES ON JUNE 30 OF EACH YEAR

Corporate gifts have played key roles in the campaign through Educational Improvement Tax Credits (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credits (OSTC). To date, 107 donors have secured \$12.4 million in EITC/OSTC funding.



Because the Annual Fund is included in the campaign, all Penn Charter donors are campaign donors. **HOW FAR?** belongs to everyone—just as it benefits everyone.