



"I give my time to the School because I believe to make a difference one must put forth an effort, no matter how small or big it is."

— SANDY MUNOZ



"I enjoy helping out at school when I can. My daughters are the most important thing in my life, and it's my job to know what's going on with them. By interacting with teachers, administrators, and other parents on a regular basis, I can gain a firsthand understanding of my children's daily activities."

— SABRINA MCINERNEY



"I love spending time with my children and my best friends. This is my second home. I love it here!"

— DEBBIE HOUSE

PARENT VOICES

DAD SAID, "LET'S TRY IT!"

How the Business and Entrepreneurship Club Got Its Start

Over the past three-and-a-half years, Tom Mallory, father of Daniel (class of 2010), Miles (class of 2012), and Bliss (class of 2015) has watched the Upper School's Business and Entrepreneurship Club grow from a mere nine students in attendance to a surge of over 35 at any given meeting.

When Miles came up with the concept of bringing business leaders to the School to share their stories, Tom said, "Let's try it!" While it was Miles' initiative and gumption that got the club started, it was Tom's support, behind-the-scenes organization, and strong business connections that gave it wings.

The club's co-presidents determine the type of speakers they want to learn from (parents, faculty, external experts, or community leaders), where to go on field trips, and how the club is promoted to the student body. Tom works closely with them to determine the variety of guest speakers to invite, then he gets to work.

As a well-established Atlanta businessman, Tom has access to people that most do not have. In just this past year, he was able to secure big names with even bigger stories. Speakers such as: Cleveland Indians' Jeff Francoeur and New Orleans' Saints Superbowl Champion Leigh Torrence; Georgia House Majority Whip Edward Lindsey; Alfreda Getald, professional backup singer to Elton John and Yanni;

Scott Rigby, the first double amputee to complete the Ironman; and Kat Cole, the CEO of Cinnabon, among others, were asked to share their vocational wins and challenges with the club.

Coordinating more than 20 different speakers over the course of the school year takes someone with an intricate network and a whole lot of heart. Heart for his kids, their peers, and our School.

Reflecting on his role of almost four years (and counting), Tom says, "Students really like having access to all of these speakers in various industries. Our high schoolers ask such great questions about more than just business. They ask about overcoming the

fear of failure, when is a risk worth taking, and how to determine when enough is enough. They are learning lessons about real-life situations. These kids are deep thinkers."

Tom is a deep thinker, too. He originally became involved in the club because his son asked him for help, and just as any father would do, he obliged. He stays involved because as a businessman, he decided to try something and stuck with it.

As an unexpected bonus, not only has Tom introduced the MVPs student body to these influential individuals, he has also introduced our School to them, and they have all been impressed.



Tom Mallory

