

David Stolow

From: Judith Obadia <judith.obadia@symphonie-com.com>
Sent: January-24-23 11:25 AM
To: 'Pita, Tony'; David Stolow
Cc: 'Manstavich, Steven'; jchaim@icloud.com
Subject: RWAF Solicitation to Private Foundations
Attachments: Private Foundations - Template Rev Jan 23 Draft 3.pdf

Hello:

I hope this email finds you both well.

As you know, RWAF is actively fundraising to raise money for the Active Learning Classroom project. As such we are putting together a campaign to private foundations that currently support similar projects in the Montreal area. We already have one such Foundation (The Hay Foundation) which gives to RWAF consistently year after year and we are working to expand the base of support in this sector.

We have prepared a solicitation package to Private Foundations which demonstrates that the project is supported by RWA and Governing Board as well as RWAF. In the attached draft (still some elements to be finalized such as renderings of room 313) , you will see that we have included you both with Jesse as signatories to the cover letter. I am writing you to ensure that you are comfortable with this approach. If so, we would like to obtain your approval to move forward and if approved, electronic versions of your signatures which of course would only be used in the context of solicitation to private foundations.

Please do not hesitate to contact Jesse or myself to discuss. Your comments and feedback are very welcome.

Thank you!

Judy

Judith Obadia
cell: 514-887-0035
www.symphonie-com.com

GIVING US ROOM TO LEARN TOGETHER

The Active Learning Classroom Campaign



DATE

ADDRESS

Dear [FIRST NAME LAST NAME],

We are writing to you today on behalf of Royal West Academy, its Governing Board and Royal West Academy Foundation. Royal West Academy (RWA) is an alternative public high school within the English Montreal School Board. From its beginnings in 1983, Royal West Academy earned a reputation for excellence within the Montreal community.

Today, our school is undertaking a project, the *Active Learning Classroom Campaign*, to modernize classrooms to facilitate innovative pedagogy and to provide students with opportunities to learn in a more engaging and collaborative environment. We are appealing to [FOUNDATION NAME] to support us in this important initiative.

RWA represents a vibrant cultural cross-section of Montreal. The school is public not private, economically accessible, and available to all genders, races, religions, and cultures. Although it is operated by an English school board, Royal West Academy's dedication to advanced French-language instruction is representative of the broader community.

The school's philosophy of merit-based admission and enrolment, combined with the outstanding talents of a dedicated staff and administration, have made Royal West Academy the top-ranking English public high school in the Province of Quebec.

Public funds are prioritized to maintain and enhance the 100-year-old Royal West Academy structure. To this end, regular maintenance and structural improvements are carried out every year. The Foundation needs to raise funds from private sector donors for the Active Learning Classroom Campaign to continue leading the way in pedagogical excellence, in Montreal and in the province of Quebec. Through the Active Learning Classroom Campaign, modernization of classrooms with flexible seating, will accommodate different learning styles, facilitate movement, collaboration, and creation.

Royal West Academy allows future leaders to develop and flourish before taking their places in adult society. **The excellence Royal West Academy fosters has found, and will continue to find, its way into the corporations, professions, and institutions of Montreal.**

Today we are appealing to [FOUNDATION NAME] for a donation of [AMOUNT] to help us reach our goal of raising \$80,000 for our pilot project this year.

Please help us complete this necessary project by supporting the next generation of leaders through enhancing educational opportunities for thousands of Royal West Academy students over the coming years.

Please see the attached information regarding Royal West Academy, the Active Learning Classroom Campaign, its benefits to students and staff, and how [FOUNDATION NAME] could help our community ensure that the excellence that Royal West Academy provides, reaches new heights for our talented youth.

Sincerely

Jesse Chaim
President
RWA Foundation

[RWAF website](#)

Tony Pita
Principal
Royal West Academy (RWA)

[RWA Website](#)

David Stolow
President
RWA Governing Board

ABOUT ROYAL WEST ACADEMY AND RWA FOUNDATION

The mission of the Royal West Academy Foundation is to raise funds for capital improvement projects mandated by the administration of Royal West Academy and its Governing Board.

Volunteer parents incorporated the RWA Foundation in 1997 to raise funds for essential capital improvement projects: the construction of a new gymnasium, the renovation of the auditorium, and the enlargement of the library. These projects have reached completion and the Foundation has now been mandated to modernize the school's classrooms in line with modern learning and teaching methods that encourage collaboration, flexibility, and adaptation to different learning styles.

Royal West is a high-achieving public school and provides a well-rounded French immersion education to a diverse student body and represents a viable alternative to private education. We are continuously driven to improve — measured not only by our students' achievements, but by their learning environment as well. Our goal: students who graduate as independent, knowledgeable, versatile, bilingual, and creative individuals well-equipped to handle life's challenges and opportunities.

Consistently ranking at the top of public schools in the province, Royal West Academy features enriched French, Science, Math, Music, Drama, and Visual Arts programs that attract academically and artistically gifted students from across Greater Montreal. All students follow the Enriched or Accelerated Math program.

Nearly 100% of Royal West students continue with higher education. All students must participate annually in cultural, community and athletic extracurricular activities. Every year, student life is enriched by international exchanges, and trips to underdeveloped countries are part of the school's global awareness policy.

A few facts about RWA:

- Enrolment is limited to 880 students.
- 600 apply annually for Grade 7 and the top 180 are accepted.
- Admission depends partly on the results of an entrance exam and interview.
- Girls and boys are equally represented.
- The student body mirrors the ethnic, cultural, and economic mosaic of Montreal.
- Students in accelerated French graduate with a French certification and automatically qualify for French CEGEP.

PROMOTING INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING

Educators today are embracing the importance of teaching students to work together to solve problems and complete projects, just like they will in the adult world. The days of students sitting at a desk all day listening to a teacher at the front of the room are increasingly behind us. Modern teaching and learning methods require new and innovative classroom design. Classroom furniture needs to be more portable in order to form multiple types of group configurations. **Current Royal West Academy classrooms use seating arrangements and technology that date back to the 1950s.** Increasingly, tables are being used rather than single-seat desks. Changing up the furniture arrangement automatically encourages greater collaboration.

In addition, just like other schools, Royal Wrest Academy caters to students with Individualized Education programs, as well as students who suffer from ADHD and/or who are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

By embracing classroom modernization and active learning spaces, learning at RWA will become even more dynamic, individualized, and active. Physical learning environment has an enormous impact on both student and teacher mindsets .

Concordia University, McGill University, Trafalgar school for girls are just a few respected Montreal institutions who have embraced Active Learning Classrooms.

BENEFITS TO OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF

Classroom redesign at RWA will have the power to impact students' well-being and motivation. As students spend large chunks of time in school, classrooms should be welcoming and warm to boost morale.

Modernization of classrooms with flexible seating will :

- ✓ Facilitate individualized learning
- ✓ Create opportunities for collaboration and creation
- ✓ Strengthen relationships within the classroom
- ✓ Improve student exchanges during group work
- ✓ Responding to the needs of different teaching subjects or activities
- ✓ Increase student motivation and engagement

This environment will help to develop communication and critical thinking skills. Flexible groupings give students the opportunity to work with their peers, to learn and to contribute. When students work in groups, they learn to work independently and in cooperation with a variety of personalities.

Modern learning environments have a wide variety of benefits, including increased student engagement and motivation, stronger relationships with peers and teachers, enhanced collaboration and an increased sense among students that they have ownership over their own learning.

Teachers can decide what they need most to improve their teaching spaces. We want to ensure they can continue to do their job well, in ways that level power dynamics within the classroom and promote engagement; teacher input is key.

Students mix and match in different groups. This makes students accountable for sharing information and creates space for students who are less comfortable speaking in large groups to contribute. With static desks, students tend to cluster with the same peers and sit in the same place. Flexible set-ups allow for more engagement, more discussion, more cross-pollination, and the necessary movement to keep kids awake! Changes like this can also break down the walls of the classroom entirely.

ECOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

RWA will select a supplier that has identified sustainable green measures as guidelines and priorities to minimize our impact on the environment.

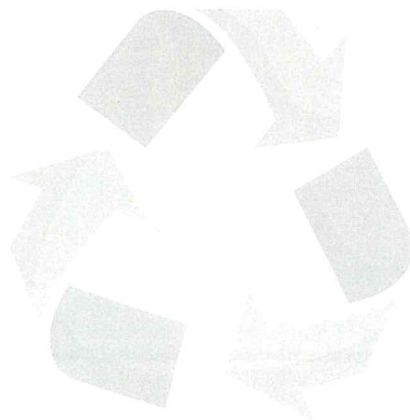
Products must be designed to ensure sustainability of at least 10 years in a rigorous academic or public use. The durability of the products purchased is an environmentally important principle for the long-term reduction in waste. Products are ANSI (American National Standards Institute) and BIFMA (Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association) tested and approved.

Manufacturers must be chosen for their sustainability, lean and recycling methods to reduce the impact our products have on the environment from manufacture to end user.

GREENGUARD and SCS certifications are designed to protect human health and improve quality of life by enhancing indoor air quality and reducing people's exposure to chemicals and other pollutants. Reducing emissions of VOC's, formaldehyde and phthalates from furniture ensure these products are safe for use in schools and offices as well as protecting the environment. Manufacturers are chosen that are SCS and/or GREENGUARD certified. ANSI/BIFMA testing ensures that a product meets durability cycle testing and will stand up in the environment for which it is intended.

The school plans to re-use existing furniture that will be replaced through the campaign. In addition, RWA has a \$4000 annual budget to replace furniture. Some of those funds will be re-directed to other important teacher and student needs.

For furniture that cannot be reused, the school can possibly generate revenue and/or reduce the environmental impact by recycling the materials.



OUR COMMUNITY OF PARENTS AND DONORS

The Active Learning Classroom Campaign was launched November 2022 to parents and donors of Royal West Academy and the response has been overwhelming. However, we know that we need to reach out to the greater Montreal community's business and philanthropic leaders to reach our objective over the life of this multi-year campaign.

Royal West Academy FOUNDATION

GIVING US ROOM TO LEARN TOGETHER

The Active Learning Classroom Campaign

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

Royal West Academy in collaboration with The Royal West Academy Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of **The Active Learning Classroom Fundraising Campaign**.

Funds raised will go towards the modernization of classrooms to accommodate different learning styles and facilitates movement and collaboration within the class.

Modernization of classrooms with flexible seating will increase student engagement in many ways. Flexible seating:

- Alters classroom dynamics and improves academic engagement
- Facilitates individualized learning
- Creates opportunities for collaboration and creation
- Strengthens relationships within the classroom between peers and teachers
- Improves student exchanges during group work
- Responds to the needs of different teaching subject or activities within the same classroom
- Increases student motivation and engagement

During the 2022-2023 school year, the objective of this pilot project is to raise \$80,000 for 3 classrooms:

- o Room 301 Math and Science
- o Room 313 History and Ethics
- o Room 209 English and Drama

Find out more about The Active Learning Campaign and how you could support it by visiting rwaf.ca/pages/active-learning-classroom

Thank you in advance for your support.

Tony Pita
Principal,
Royal West Academy

Jesse Chaim
President,
RWA Foundation

Royal West Academy FOUNDATION

Flexible Classroom 301

Modernization of classrooms with flexible seating to accommodate different learning styles, facilitates movement, collaboration, & creation

My class, my place to learn

Royal West Academy FOUNDATION

GIVING US ROOM TO LEARN TOGETHER

The Active Learning Classroom Campaign

Hello,

I am writing to you today to thank you for your support of the Royal West Academy Foundation and to let you know that after more than a decade, during which many in our school community [including you](#), have generously contributed, the Performing Arts Centre renovation is expected to be complete by Spring 2023.

This state-of-the-art facility is only made possible with the support of parents and donors to the Foundation like you.

Thanks to you and the generosity of the RWA community, the Foundation has raised \$500,000 towards the auditorium project. In partnership with the EMSB and the Ministère de l'Éducation, we have been able to contribute to making the new auditorium project a reality.

Over the years, the RWA Foundation has played an integral role in fundraising for some of the most important projects at RWA, including the building of a new gym, which opened in 2008, and the new Performing Arts Centre.

Today, I am very excited to announce the launch of **The Active Learning Classroom Fundraising Campaign**.

Funds raised will go towards the modernization of classrooms to

La Fondation de l'Académie Royal West lance la campagne de collecte de fonds « Apprentissage actif en classe ».

Les fonds recueillis permettront de créer des espaces dotés de sièges alternatifs flexibles conçus pour soutenir davantage nos éducateurs et nos élèves.

Les sièges alternatifs flexibles transforment la dynamique de la classe et améliorent l'engagement scolaire des élèves.

LA MODERNISATION DES LOCAUX DE CLASSE AU MOYEN DE SIÈGES FLEXIBLES PERMET UNE MEILLEURE ADAPTATION AUX DIFFÉRENTS STYLES D'APPRENTISSAGE ET FAVORISE LE MOUVEMENT, LA COLLABORATION ET LA CRÉATION.

- Facilite l'apprentissage personnalisé
- Crée des occasions de collaboration et de création en favorisant le mouvement entre les élèves et l'enseignant.
- Renforce les liens entre les élèves et les pairs et les enseignants.
- Stimule les échanges entre les élèves lors des travaux d'équipe.
- Répond aux divers besoins de différents niveaux ou activités pédagogiques.
- Accroît la motivation et l'engagement des étudiants.
- En mobilier durable qui est:
 - o Facile à assembler et à démonter
 - o Résistant aux taches et à l'usure
 - o Répondant aux besoins de durabilité, utilisation à long terme et de réduction des déchets.
 - o Certifié GREENGUARD et SCC, 1 est conçu pour protéger la santé humaine en réduisant l'exposition aux produits chimiques.

Au cours de l'année scolaire 2022-2023, l'objectif de ce projet pilote est de recueillir 80 000 dollars pour 3 salles de classe:

- o Local 301 Mathématiques et Sciences
- o Local 313 Histoire et Éthique
- o Local 209 Anglais et Théâtre

Le déploiement de la campagne « Apprentissage actif en classe » se déroulera sur plusieurs années en fonction des priorités de l'école.

Flexible Classrooms

My class, my place to learn

Soutenez la campagne « Apprentissage Actif en Classe »

Veuillez accepter mon don:

Montant: \$10, \$20, \$30, \$40, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1000, \$2000, \$5000, \$10000

Moins de \$10: \$

Autre: \$

Mode de paiement:

Chèque (Veuillez indiquer le montant en lettres et en chiffres)

VISA MC

Nombre de cartes: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Numéro de carte: _____

Date d'expiration: ____/____/____

Signature: _____

Nom: _____

Adresse: _____

Code postal: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Country: _____

Numéro de téléphone: _____

Numéro de fax: _____

Numéro de courriel: _____

Autres renseignements: _____

Je soussigné(e) _____, déclare que les renseignements fournis sont exacts et complets.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Pour faire un don en ligne visitez www.rwaf.ca

FUNDING REQUEST

Given the cost of modernizing classrooms to fit today's pedagogical needs, the RWA Foundation is considering a phased approach, with fundraising efforts in year 1, focusing on the modernization of 3 classrooms.

3 Classrooms have been chosen for their application to a maximum number of students with input from the teachers who use the classrooms most.

During the 2022-2023 school year, the objective of this pilot project is to raise \$80,000 for 3 classrooms:

- Room 301 Math and Science
- Room 209 English and Drama
- Room 313 History and Ethics

The rollout of the campaign will take place over several years based on the priorities of the school.

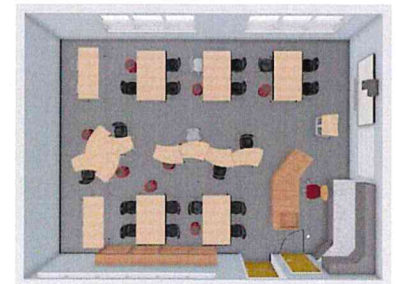
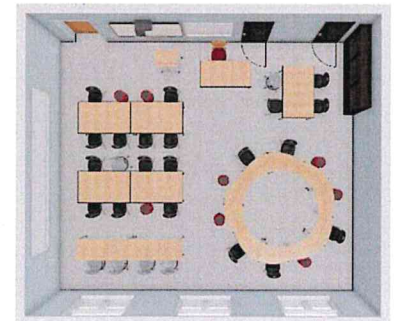
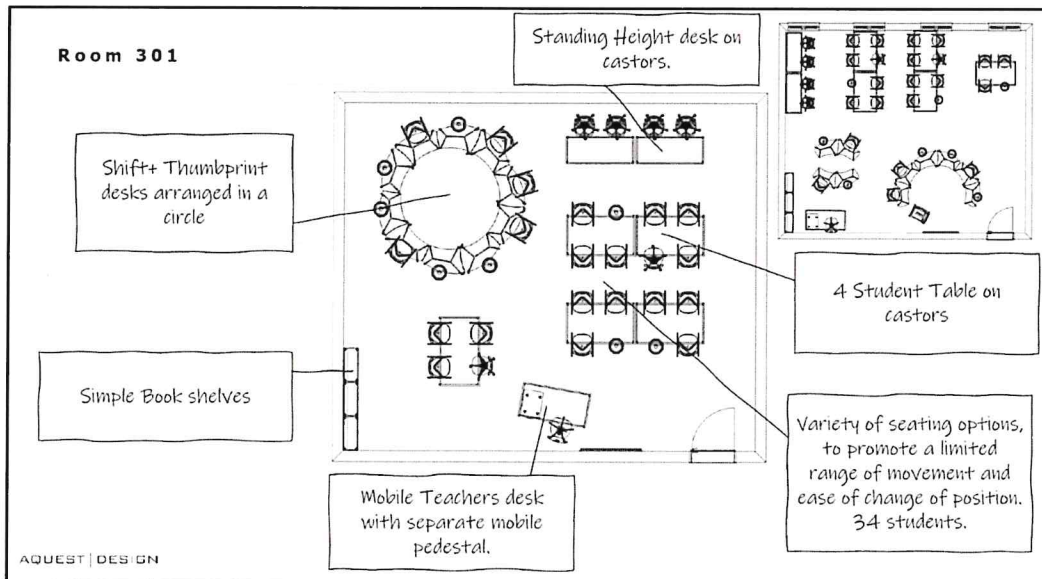


ROOM 301 – MATH AND SCIENCE



Currently Room 301 has 34 desks with attached chairs. The attached chair makes it difficult to form groups of students, as there are a limited number of configurations that function within the space. The walls of the classroom are a mix of painted-over corkboard, blackboards, and old whiteboards. The room is used for Science and Mathematics courses.

Sketch and renderings of new configuration



ROOM 209 – ENGLISH AND DRAMA

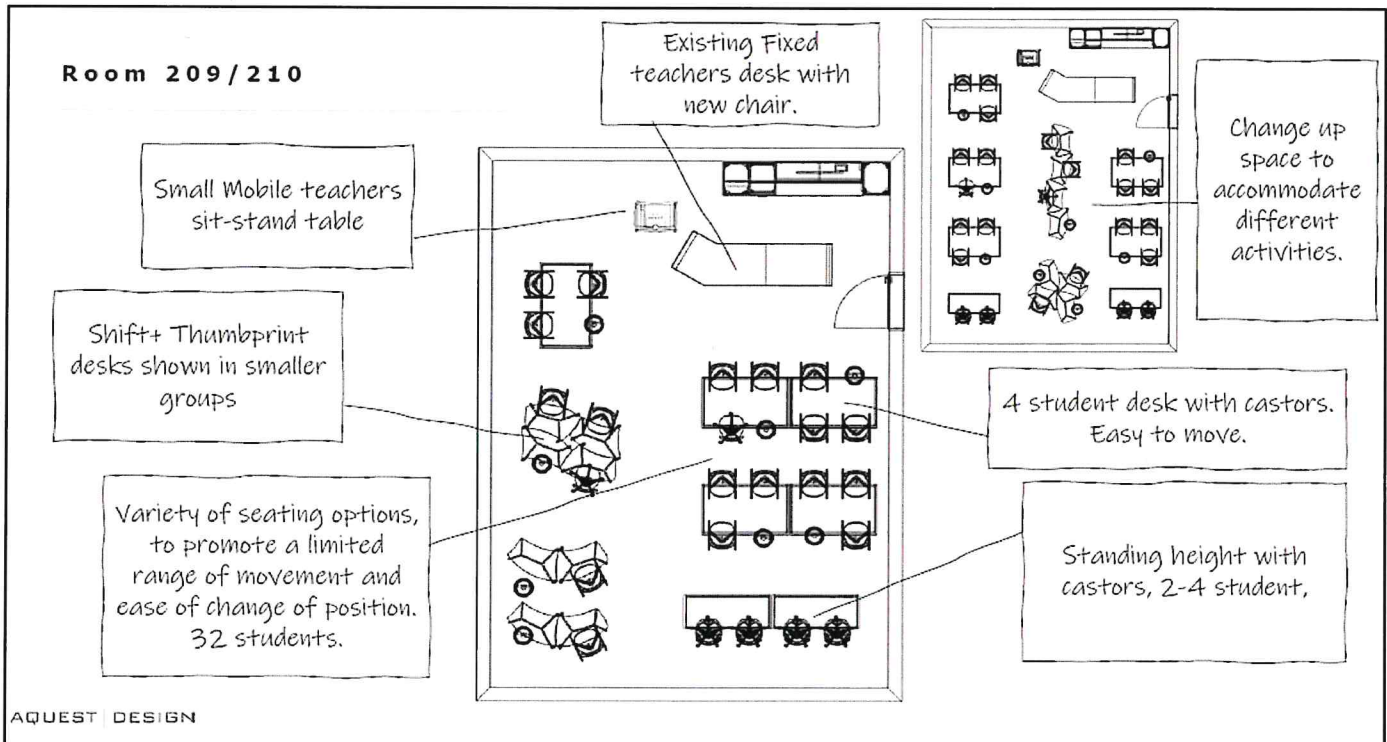
Current Layout



An updated English language arts room will allow for better student exchanges during writing activities and projects. Collaboration between students is essential in any language course. The variety of seating arrangements will allow smaller and larger groups to work together much more effectively.

The easy mobility of these proposed tables will also make it much easier to create the space needed in a drama class where students are performing skits and doing presentations in front of the class.

Sketch of new configuration



ROOM 313 – HISTORY AND ETHICS

Current Layout



These new tables will allow students to work on more versatile projects. The ability to change the configuration will allow students to work in different size groups more easily and effectively.

Sketch of new configuration

ROOM 313 – SKETCH HERE

THE ACTIVE LEARNING CLASSROOM REPORT CARD



ROYAL WEST ACADEMY FOUNDATION
ACTIVE LEARNING CLASSROOM
CAMPAIGN REPORT CARD
Pilot Phase 2022-2023



1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of school : Royal West Academy
Institution code : 887111
Address : 189 Easton Avenue, Montreal West, Que. H4X 1L4, Telephone : (514) 489-8454

2. IMPACT

	2022-2023 Pilot Project				2023-24 Phase 2			
Facilitate individualized learning	✓							
Create opportunities for collaboration and creation	✓							
Strengthen relationships within the classroom	✓							
Strengthen relationships within the classroom	✓							
Improve student exchanges during group work	✓							
Responding to the needs of different teaching subjects or activities	✓							
Increase student motivation and engagement	✓							
Comments : Classroom redesign at RWA will have the power to impact students' well-being and motivation.								

3. PROJECTED BUDGET

	2022-2023 Pilot Project				2023-24 Phase 2			
Room 301 – Math and Science	\$21000							
Room 313 – History and Ethics	\$29000							
Room 209 – English and Drama	\$18000							
*ADJUSTMENT for inflation & materials increase – next 12 months 17.5%	\$12000							
Sub-total	\$68000							
Grand-total including taxes	\$80000							
Comments : Your Fo.undation's support of [AMOUNT] will contribute greatly to the implementation of our Active Learning Classroom project.								

4. COMMENTS

2022-2023 Pilot Project
Modernization of classrooms with flexible seating will accommodate different learning styles, facilitate movement, collaboration and creation.

Jesse Chaim, President
Royal West Academy Foundation

Tony Pita, Principal
Royal West Academy

CONCLUSION

Classroom modernization to at RWA will have the power to impact students' well-being and motivation. As students spend large amounts of time in school, classrooms should be welcoming and warm to boost morale.

Flexible groupings give students the opportunity to work with their peers, to learn and to contribute. When students work in groups, they learn to work independently and in cooperation with a variety of personalities. This new environment will help to develop communication and critical thinking skills.

Thank you for partnering with us on this exciting initiative. Your support helps to ensure that we continue to deliver the highest academic standards for our community's youth.

Contact

Judith Obadia,
Parent Volunteer &
Vice-President, RWA Foundation
514-887-0035
info@rwaf.ca