

We believe that the middle school years are among the most crucial when it comes to whether young people choose to view themselves as successful students – or not.

All of our students receive *A's* –  
Academics, Arts & Athletics



My grandson thrived at NOVA School. I was so impressed with the level of academic work expected and yet it was apparent to me from the conversations I had with Bryson that his experience there was also nurturing and supportive and quite a bit of fun! He seems to be navigating high school well, which I would expect given the tools he was provided in middle school.

Geraldine Hamilton (Grandparent of Bryson Albrecht, NOVA class of 2004)

## Our Mission

NOVA School is an independent middle school for highly capable students offering a challenging and engaging curriculum in a uniquely personal environment. The program also guides the social and emotional development of each student, emphasizing respect, responsibility, and active participation in a supportive community.



8th grader Westley Murry concentrating in Science Class

*Today I was doing my 10 millionth or so gel electrophoresis and I thought back to my very first one in that old building on Ruddell Road. I am working this summer in the molecular evolution lab at Bowdoin College... I really credit NOVA, and your science classes in particular, with sparking my interest in science.*

Aaron Cole  
(NOVA Class of 2003)

Challenging education... engaging middle school experience

[www.novaschool.org](http://www.novaschool.org)



## Stepping up for education

At NOVA School we believe that a specialized academic program and a positive, supportive school community during the middle school years build confidence and skills that keep doors open for the future.



Eliza Ramsey, 8th grade,  
NOVA School 2009

Annual Fund | 2009-10

# Why NOVA School?

\*In a study conducted with parents of independent school students, the following ranked as the top 5 most influential factors in making their enrollment decisions. We have matched our NOVA student and parent comments with the top 5 factors.

**SAFETY OF THE CHILD** I am forever grateful for the help and support you gave me, and I am so happy that you started NOVA so people like me could have a safe place to fall during middle school. I hope that it continues to be there for kids to find safety for a long time to come.  
 – Julia VanDerslice Alumna student, class of 2007

**FACULTY EXPERTISE, CARING & CONCERN** I have observed in schools all over the state and the country, and I have rarely seen a school with a more productive combination of high expectations, dedicated leadership and student engagement. It is precious and powerful the ways the teachers at NOVA are in the work with the kids, supporting their learning and challenging them to go ever further.

– Sue Feldman, current & alumna parent

**CHARACTER EDUCATION** Adolescence is such an awkward time for everyone, and the NOVA team is really able to help keep the kids on a pro-social track and help them maintain positive emotional development.

– NOVA parent survey response, 2009

**ACADEMIC RIGOR** Looking back, what I value most about my NOVA education is how it taught me to think critically, question constantly, and communicate clearly about ideas. These are exactly the skills I need every day as a research scientist.

– Hannah Snyder Class of 1996

**CLASS SIZE** NOVA's student/teacher ratio is 1:8; our class size average is 16

**please consider stepping up your donation...**

\*From "Ideas & Perspectives" magazine, March 16, 2009

# To Prepare Our Students for a successful future

Our program is a blend of rigorous, traditional teaching methods that ensure basic skills and more engaging, higher-level activities. The curriculum is designed to develop the thinking skills and catch the interest of highly capable middle schoolers.

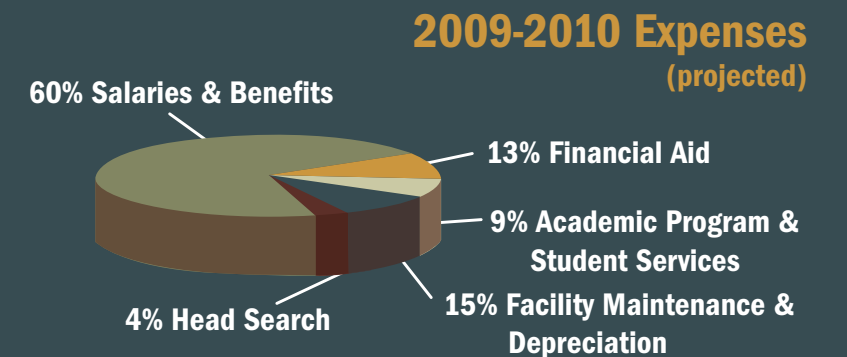
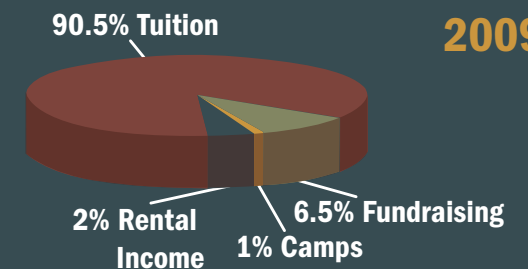


# Why Give to the Annual Fund Drive?

Isn't tuition enough to cover these costs?

- It costs \$12,600 to educate one student at NOVA School for one year
- Tuition costs \$11,000
- Raising tuition high enough to cover the actual costs would:
  - Deter qualified students from applying to NOVA
  - Increase the demand for financial aid
- Every contribution is significant. As one alumni parent states:

*"NOVA gets every penny out of every dollar spent. Well done with resources that we all realize are always going to be tight."*



Please take the next step for education by donating to NOVA School's Annual Fund Drive! **THANK YOU.**