



Newsletter of the John F. Kennedy School Foundation

It's Happening ... Thanks to You!

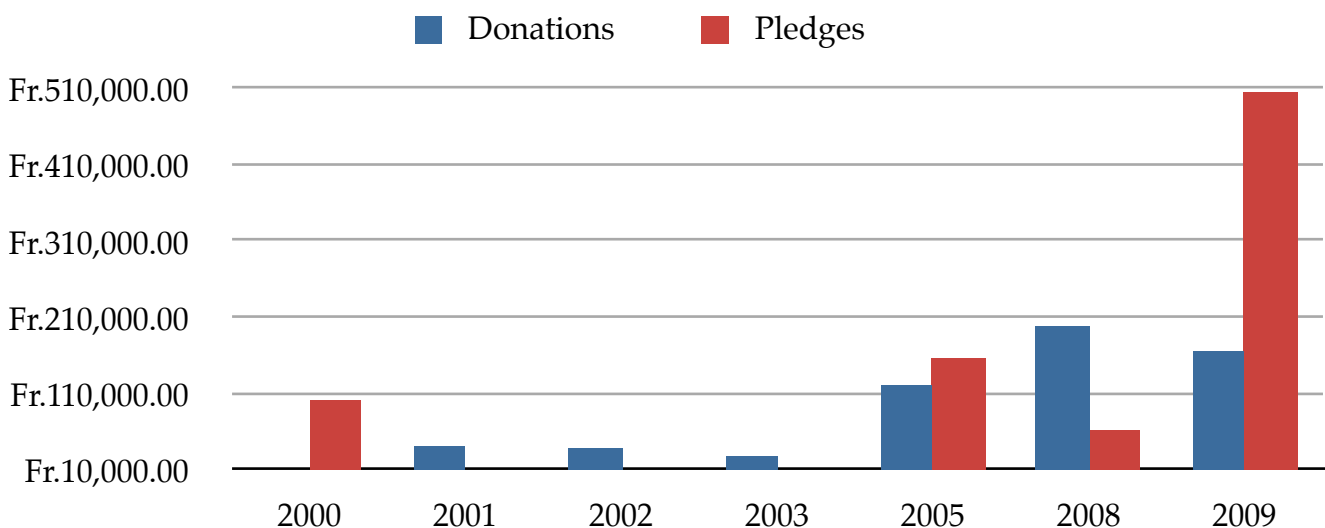
Over the past twelve months, great strides have been made in our fund raising so that we are now able to finance the restoration and renovation project of the historic Bernese Schoolhouse - thanks to all of you who have generously supported our capital campaign!

In June of this year the Board of Directors unanimously agreed to proceed with the building applications for the the Old Schoolhouse. Final plans and decisions will be decided on early next year. This means that the project could get underway as early as Spring 2010 and the building may be in use by September 2011.

A Few Interesting Facts:

- Largest Donation: CHF 100,000
- Largest Pledge: CHF 500,000
- Yearly Average: CHF 151,600
- Raised since 2005: CHF 1,213,890

- Donations: CHF 598,000
- Pledges: CHF 818,000
- Gifts-in-Kind: CHF 100,000 (*approximately*)
- Total: CHF 1,516,000**



So, why did we take this giant step to acquire this building and undertake its restoration?

A History Lesson

Throughout the 1990's the Kennedy School's student population kept expanding faster than its facilities. It was clear that the school needed more space and we decided to approach the community to see if they had anything available. As luck would have it, the local kindergarten was in the process of moving out of the old schoolhouse and re-locating to a new purpose-built facility attached to the Saanen Primary School.

The local community then came up with a solution - to create a **tax-exempt** Swiss Foundation to which they could gift the Old Schoolhouse building. The new Foundation would then be responsible for renovating the 130 year old building into a new education and cultural center. This would be greatly beneficial to both the Kennedy School and the local community.

Before this could be done the project would have to be put forth to the assembly of the community of Saanen, where all citizens would be able to vote. In April of 2000 *the community unanimously voted to donate the Old Schoolhouse* and thus the John F. Kennedy School Foundation was born.



The Old Schoolhouse in the late 19th Century

What is the Foundation?

The Foundation's mission is "to enhance and expand international education, culture and understanding in the community of Saanen." Its first goal is to restore the Old Schoolhouse to a state-of-the-art educational facility so that the School can provide educational and cultural programs for both the Kennedy School and for the community. As funds become available, the Foundation's plan calls for competitive scholarships to be awarded.

The Foundation is governed by a board of directors: 2 members of the John F. Kennedy School faculty/administration, 1 member appointed by the local community plus up to 6 additional members from the general community. (A total of nine.)

The current board of directors is an excellent representation of the community, including **William Lovell** and **Sandra Lovell** from the Kennedy School management team, **Jürg Müller** representing the Gemeinde (community of Saanen), **Gerhard Lehmann**, architect, **Laura Scherz**, member of the JFK Parent Association, **Lorenz Bach**, **Patrizia Montagni**, **George Minden** and **Thomas Riz**. Board members chair various standing or special committees.



The Old Schoolhouse reborn in the 21st Century

Where Are We Now?

With over CHF 1.5 million raised, the John F. Kennedy School Foundation is in a position to begin renovations on what is estimated to be a CHF 5 million project. The remaining CHF 3.5 million will be raised through loans, private donations, special events and rental income from the John F. Kennedy School, as well as rental fees for the use of the facilities from outside sources.

The need for donations is as great now as it has ever been. The Foundation will always be responsible for enhancing education and culture in the community of Saanen. Please join us by helping this worthwhile cause.



How can you Donate?

Donations can be made by bank transfer, cash, credit card or even stocks, securities, bonds and real estate. Donations can be pledged over time and it is important to note that the John F. Kennedy School Foundation is a registered, tax-exempt Swiss charity and donations are in many cases tax deductible.

Donors can also choose a 'Naming Opportunity' and the item will be named in recognition of the donor or a name of the donor's choice, in perpetuity.

Naming Opportunities

- Schoolhouse Dedication CHF 1,000,000
- Cafeteria/Multi-Purpose Auditorium & Kitchen CHF 800,000
- Science Lab CHF 250,000
- Art Room CHF 100,000
- Music Room (2) CHF 75,000
- Large Classroom (5) CHF 250,000
- Small Classroom (3) CHF 150,000
- Audio Visual Suite CHF 50,000
- Laboratory Equipment CHF 30,000

**Equipment & other items available on request*

Naming Opportunities Already Taken

- Library & Resource Center CHF 250,000
- Auditorium Piano CHF 30,000
- Memory Walk CHF 18,000

Bank Details:

Bank: Saanen Bank
Bank Address: CH-3792 Saanen, Switzerland
Account Name: Stiftung John F. Kennedy School
Account No. 16 1.015.466.03
Clearing No. 6342
SWIFT: RBABCH22342
IBAN: CH69 0634 2016 1015 4660 3
Reg. Charity No. CH-092.7.014.596-3

Special Projects

In February the Foundation hosted, on behalf of the Kennedy School, its first-ever Homecoming Weekend. Activities included ski races, a gala reception and dinner at the Palace Hotel and a typical Swiss Barbecue on the Eggli - which brought back many fond memories to the former students who attended. The Barbecue was the gift of Gerhard and Ruth Lehmann and we thank them for this thoughtful donation! Those who attended expressed enthusiasm for the event with the hope that it would be repeated again soon. **Be prepared for a special Homecoming 40th Anniversary Weekend in February 2011!**

A Culture of Philanthropy Emerges

"Thanks to you...It's Happening!" Philanthropy is not a new concept. It is known the world over as the means to the end - when it comes to helping people, animals or the planet. The Historic Schoolhouse Project has prompted the rekindling of this culture of philanthropy among the broad and widely-scattered family of the Kennedy School. The generous, enthusiastic, caring support for the generations of children yet to come - for the children who eagerly seek knowledge at the hands of the competent, capable JFK teachers - has been overwhelming. The Board, the Administrators, the Staff, and above all the children, are truly grateful!

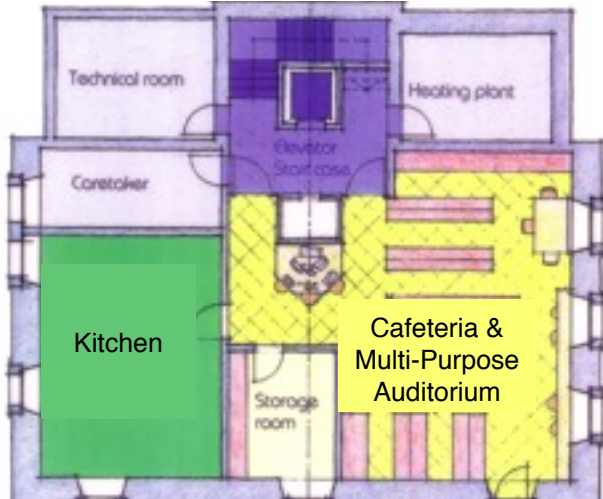
Craft Fair

As tradition predicts, the annual end-of-term Craft Fair, presented for the pleasure of the entire Saanenland, will be held on Thursday December 3, 2009. As always, the children will also present their annual play, this year a performance of 'Annie', and we extend a warm welcome to one and all.



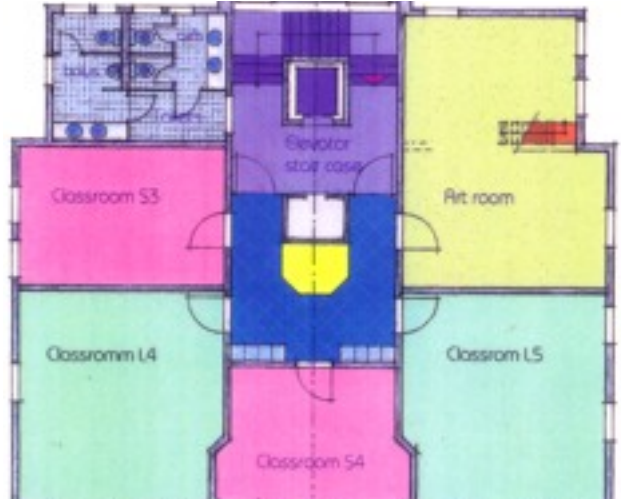
See The Plans

Lower Level



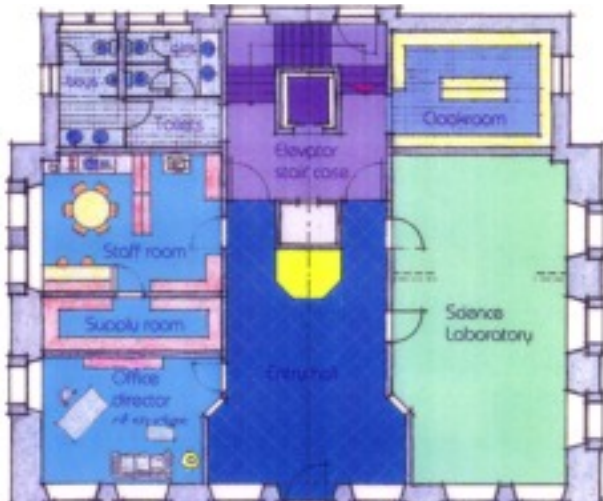
- Multi-Purpose Cafeteria - *Food Services*
- Kitchen

2nd Floor



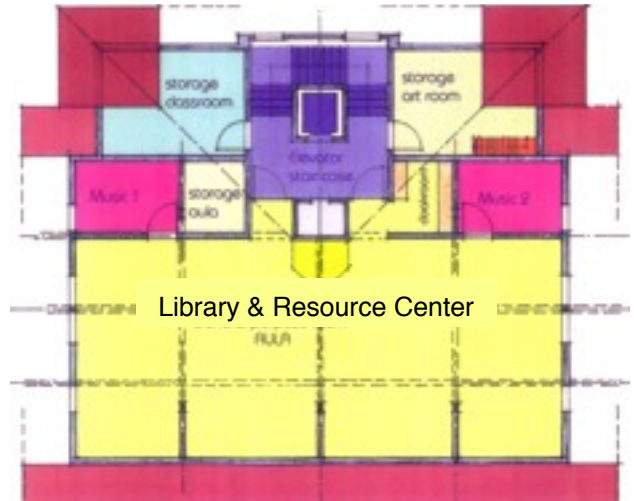
- Art Room
- 2 Small Classes
- 2 Large Classes

Ground Floor



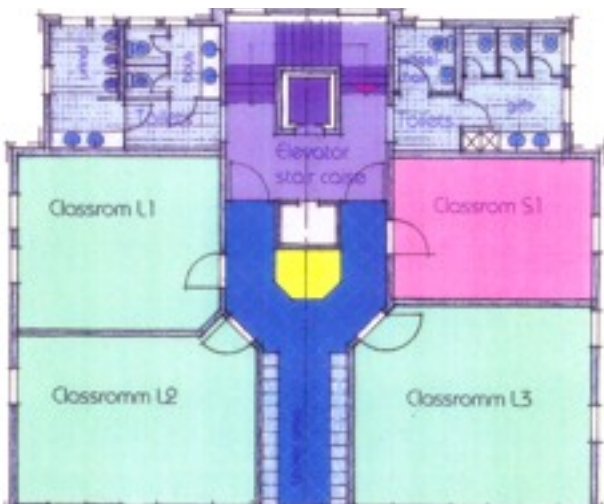
- Science Lab
- Main Entrance
- Offices

3rd Floor



- Library & Resource Center
- Music Rooms

1st Floor



- 3 Large Classes
- Locker Area
- 1 Small Class

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
KIND SUPPORT!**

John F. Kennedy School Foundation

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