

Corporate Impact

Making New Partners



Faegre Drinker Law Firm

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**NICOLE WIXTED,
PARTNER AT FAEGRE DRINKER**



Partners and staff at Faegre Drinker law firm donated a collection of school supplies to Girard College elementary students.

THE LAW FIRM of Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP made a lot of new friends this year. Not only did they get to know the students at Girard College, they also merged with Faegre Baker Daniels to form one of the nation’s 50 largest law firms. Now known as Faegre Drinker, the firm has already made a big impact through their support of the school.

Nicole Wixted, a Faegre Drinker partner, first learned of Girard College during the lead-up to the school’s inaugural Beyond the Wall 5K in October 2019. At the invitation of Girard’s VP of Operations, Jon Tucker, Wixted toured the campus and came to realize what many do the first time they visit—the unique history of the school and its founder is an incredible but often unsung Philadelphia story.

“I’ve been at the firm for 12 years now and Girard is literally in our backyard,” said Wixted. “But I didn’t know the history of the man or the school. I was blown away.”

Faegre Drinker came on board as a lead sponsor and Wixted brought a team to run the on-campus race to raise funds for student activities. She now is on the planning committee for this year’s event, which will be a virtual race held October 1-2.

Over the winter holidays, lawyers and staff of the firm’s Philadelphia Office collected school supplies, including markers and crayons, drawing books, games and more. Shortly after the new year, the donated supplies were happily received by students in the elementary school.

This type of philanthropy is central to the ethos of Faegre Drinker, according to Wixted.

“When we see an opportunity to give back, we want to take it,” she said. “The firm is very supportive of our professionals and the causes they are passionate about. For me, meeting the youngest students (1st graders) at Girard really resonated with me as a mom. The school is a great opportunity, of course, but it’s not easy to be away from home at that age. Those children are so brave, and I’m inspired to give as much as I can to provide for their future.”

The budding relationship with Faegre Drinker shows what can happen when the school’s leaders are passionate about sharing Girard’s story with the world. Through direct support of programs and the potential for experiential learning, our corporate partners add another dimension to the promise of a Girard education.