



## FAQs

**Q: What is the Cougar Pride Annual Fund?**

**A:** The Cougar Pride Annual Fund supports Clariden’s operating budget and helps provide an education focused on academic excellence. Clariden appreciates gifts to the Annual Fund at all levels: your participation and support matter most.

**Q: Where is the money from the Cougar Pride Annual Fund directed?**

**A:** Cougar Pride Annual Fund donations help to fund initiatives above and beyond our regular operating budget. Some of our current initiatives include enhancements in the areas of campus security, technology, athletics, S.T.E.A.M., faculty and staff professional development, and the implementation of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

**Q: Why do we need the Cougar Pride Annual Fund?**

**A:** As with most private and independent schools, tuition covers only a portion of a Clariden education for each child. We need the help of the Cougar Pride Annual Fund campaign to make up the “gap” between the tuition amount and the actual cost to educate each child. Clariden relies on tax-deductible Cougar Pride Annual Fund donations to maintain tuition costs.

**Q: Who participates in the Cougar Pride Annual Fund?**

**A:** All members of the Clariden community – Board of Trustees, current and former parents, alumni, faculty/staff, grandparents and special friends – are encouraged to participate. Every year, Clariden typically has 100% Board and faculty and staff participation.

**Q: When do I make my pledge?**

**A:** As soon as possible! Gifts to the Cougar Pride Annual Fund can be made through March 2024.

**Q: How much should I pledge?**

**A:** Your pledge should be based on your ability to give, your understanding of the need, and your belief in the mission of Clariden. We hope that while you are a member of the Clariden community, the School will be one of the top three charities you support.

**Q: I would like to help but I don’t think my gift amount will make a difference.**

**A:** Participation at any level is important. The percentage of parent participation is a factor considered by outside foundations, as well as an indication of parent support for the school. Every gift amount matters.

**Q: What forms of payment can we make?**

**A:** Cash, check, ACH, or credit card. Online ACH and credit card payments may be made on the [FACTS giving site](#).

**Q: What is the goal?**

**A:** Our 2023-2024 Cougar Pride Annual Fund goals are 100% participation and to raise over \$150,000.