

# NEW CSF SCHOLARSHIP TO HONOR SARAH DORER

BY DOT BERGIN ~ JUNE 13, 2019

When Sarah Dorer was asked to come to the front of the room at the 2019 CSF Scholarship awards night, she had no idea she was being honored with a permanently endowed scholarship in her name. Much to her surprise, Sarah found herself in the spotlight, receiving her award from long-time friend Christine Anderson.

Dorer is retiring at the end of this school year, after more than 23 years teaching in the Bedford School system. Her official titles are “Teacher of the Gifted/Curriculum Specialist” and “Elementary Math Curriculum Coordinator and Coach Grades K-2 and 3-5.” In these roles she has worked with hundreds of elementary school students at both Davis and Lane Schools.

She serves on the CSF Dollars for Scholars board as a co-chair of the Permanent/Endowed Scholarships and a scholarship reader, and always attends the awards event to meet students and their families, as well as scholarship sponsors. It’s an opportunity for her to see and greet students whom she first met in their elementary school years and to reconnect with them before they head off to college.

But despite her deep involvement with CSF, Dorer says this named scholarship was a complete surprise. Sometimes, she says, she has a sixth sense of when a surprise is in the making – but not this time! She had no idea her friends and supporters were quietly raising funds “behind the scenes” to make the scholarship possible.

As Sarah made her way to the podium there was a round of applause when Anderson – who said she only had 30 seconds to speak – announced that beginning next year there would be a fully funded Sarah Dorer scholarship. “You all know her for the wonderful work she has done,” said Anderson.

Dorer’s hope is that community members will continue to support the program and points to the information provided on the CSF website about ways to set up a scholarship in someone’s honor.

*[To learn how to establish a named scholarship, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y2tzkc8g>]*

A native New Yorker, she received her undergraduate degree in history from Cornell University, then followed that with a master’s degree in education, special education and teaching from the Bank School of Education in New York City, where she discovered she really loved math – “you can see patterns in both history and math.” She taught for 15 years at the Advent School in Boston. When she moved to Bedford in 1983, she continued to teach in Boston but by 1996 she decided it was time to apply for a position in Bedford. All told, Sarah has been a “gifted” teacher for 41 years.

Why retire now? “It’s the right time,” she reiterated. “My Dad is turning 95 and lives in New Jersey; I’m planning to visit him more often and then I have my daughter and two grandchildren out in Portland, Oregon-so more travel is coming up.” And she’s looking forward to a very special occasion on July 4 – a trip to Tanglewood for the James Taylor concert!