Soaring to New Heights... Development Update

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NASB)
18 in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

Gratitude. Thanksgiving. “In everything give thanks …” is constantly top of mind for me during these first hectic weeks representing Pella Christian schools.

Personally, heartache and the loss of a sibling here in Pella late this summer were catalysts in choosing to come back home. But amid the sadness and my heart’s pull to move home and family a great distance, the good Lord was working behind the scenes. Pella Christian Schools was searching for a graduate like me who’d been called as a young man to raise money for Calvin College and Holland Christian Schools. God had a plan, and I am deeply thankful He led me home and to a newly created position.

The clear inspiration for gratitude and resounding thankfulness regarding my view of Pella Christian is the remarkable progress that donors and friends, volunteers and businesses, parents and grandparents have already achieved in the “Soaring to New Heights” campaign! Today we stand at $10.3 million dedicated to this ambitious building project, and this allows us to finance the first two major phases of this four-phase plan.

An accompanying photo displays the growing classroom and gymnasium additions. It’s both exciting and inspiring to see and know God’s faithfulness through his people and his guiding hand as the building grows and generous, dedicated friends continue to step forward with key financial support. To complete and empower all four phases for a dynamic new Grade School we look forward to securing the remaining $3 million. With the outstanding accomplishment of more than $10 million already committed, we move forward with prayer and “thanksgiving in all things” and the knowledge that a final total of $13.5 million will equip and launch Pella Christian Grade School to “New Heights” in teaching and nurturing each child for Christ-centered service in our Creator’s world! -- Frederick DeHaan, Development Coordinator, Pella Christian Schools

Thank You Donors

PCGS appreciates their business donors!! Many thanks to the following Star Donor businesses who supported us at the Fall Event. More Star Donors will be listed in the next FOCUS, or you can see the entire list of business donors on the school website under the NEWS tab.

PCGS Star Donors ($1 - $499 given)
- Baymont Inn and Suites
- Beek’s Barber Shop
- Boat’s Home Furnishings
- Browne Family Chiropractic, PC
- Champion Seed
- Classic Aviation Inc.
- D & D Pump, Inc
- De Bloemenhof
- DeJong Greenhouses
- Ducts In a Row
- Dutch Meadows
- Eagle Electric, Inc
- Expressions by Design
- Expressions Hair Studio
- Focus 50 Capital Management
- Franklin Street Clothing
- Frisian Farms Cheese
- Grefe and Sidney
- H & S Feed

FOCUS

A Monthly Newsletter from Pella Christian Grade School

October 2017
Carrie Andringa shared opening devotions.  

Correspondence - The board reviewed two items of information regarding the CSI Pension Task Force findings. The board received a letter from CSI confirming a decision to allow PCGS an additional year of accreditation so as to align to PCHS accreditation schedule. The board received a letter from the PCGS prayer group.

Reports - Craig Juffer shared highlights of his work as Head of Teaching and Learning focusing on curriculum and technology. David Te Grotenhuis shared highlights from the Head of School and Preschool Director reports. Craig and David gave the board feedback on the first two days of Teaching for Transformation training. The board discussed highlights from Lenard Stobs Mission Directed Governance third chapter on Characteristics of the Traditional Governance Model. The board also received Fredrick DeHaan’s Development Coordinator report for information.

Education - The board approved the PIE large item request list.

Finance - The October 12 minutes were shared for information. October 10 minutes were shared for information.

Executive - The board approved a first reading of two policies in the 200 series that address board structures. The Executive Committee reviewed the 300 series and the board approved the proposed structural changes.

Development - The committee shared branding information that a joint PCGS and PCHS committee have been working on for the past year. A proposed branding guide for Pella Christian will be developed in the coming months. The committee will be contacting new families in the coming months to follow up with them following the completion of the first quarter at PCGS.

Building Project - The building project is proceeding on time. The board reviewed the decisions that have been made by the committee over the past month.

Soaring to New Heights Fundraising Minutes of the October meeting were shared for information. To date the campaign has brought in $10.33 million dollars.

New Business - David Te Grotenhuis shared the state of the school

Closing - Steve Runner closed in prayer.

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October
23  1:15 p.m., Parent Teacher Conferences
25  Grades 6-8 attending Les Miserables matinee
26  11:15 a.m. dismissal, Parent Teacher Conferences
27  No School

November
1  2:35 p.m. dismissal, professional learning
2  Middle School Music Festival at PCHS
7  Building and Grounds, 7:00 p.m.
8  2:35 p.m. dismissal, professional learning
10  8th grade theatre performance, 7:00 p.m. at PCHS
11  8th grade theatre performance, 7:00 p.m. at PCHS
13  Development, 7:00 p.m.
13  Education, 7:00 p.m.
15  2:35 p.m. dismissal, professional learning
20  Board meeting, 7:00 p.m.

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Thank You
Yeti cups with the PC logo on them are still available to purchase. These cups were available at the Fall Fundraising Event, but the offer has now been extended! Thanks to a generous donor, for every PC Yeti Cup sold, $10 will go back to the school. What a great way to support PC and show your school spirit with a PC Yeti Cup. Please see attached flyer for details on pricing and how to place an order. These cups will make a great gift for anyone who loves Pella Christian. Any questions, you can contact Jodi De Vries at rdevries@iowatelecom.net. Check out size options and pricing on the following link: http://tinyurl.com/y9zkhwye.

Oliver
Please join us for Oliver! An Orphan Finds His Way Home… on Friday, November 10th and Saturday November 11th at 7:00 p.m. in Pella Christian High School’s Vermeer Auditorium for a play based on the classic novel by Charles Dickens, updated to a 1960’s setting. Our PCGS 8th Grade Theatre Troupe is excited to present this redemptive, exciting tale of an orphan searching for his family.

Oliver’s story is a wonderful reminder of our own adoption as God’s sons and daughters through Jesus Christ. We’d LOVE to have you in the audience! A free will offering will be taken.

Casey’s Pizza and Donut Punch Cards

PIE’s Fall Fundraiser is going on now through October 25! The Punch Cards are a great value AND they can be used at any Casey’s Pizza locations with no expiration date! I encourage you to ask all your family and friends. The top selling family will receive a Family 4-pack of tickets to Skyzone in Grimes, Iowa. Forms with collected money should be returned to the school office by Wednesday, October 25. DON’t have a current student? Contact Tricia Heinen at hawkhei@yahoo.com or 641-204-1425 to place an order. Thanks so much on behalf of PIE!