



Soaring to New Heights Update

Pella Christian Grade School held a very successful Open House on Saturday, October 6 from 9:30am-11am. The entire community was invited, and many people came to check out the work that was done in Phase 3. It was very exciting to see the interest in the school.

Approximately \$1.5 million is left to fundraise to complete the \$13.5 million project. Phase 4 is estimated to be about \$2.5 million of work, but over \$450,000 has already been received and \$1 million has been pledged. Work in Phase 4 includes updating existing roofing, doors, hallways, and classrooms, renovating 3 classrooms to preschool standards to accommodate Creation Station, paving for bus parking, and upgrading technology and the gym sound system.

Please consider a year end gift to help complete the building project. Pella Christian Grade School has been so blessed with great donors who believe in the school's mission of "challenging students to develop their individual God-given gifts for a life of service in God's kingdom."



Student Tuition Organization

Pella Christian Grade School is a part of the Heart of Iowa STO (HOI STO) for the 2018/19 school year which is an organization made up of thirteen private schools in Central Iowa. This is a change from previous years. A 65% state tax credit will be given on the first \$1.72 million donated to the Heart of Iowa School Tuition Organization. We are excited to announce that \$1.55 million has already been donated and we have under \$170,000 remaining for the 2018/19 funding year. These monies help to assist the families in their desire for a Christian education. Here is a link to the 2018 donation form: <https://goo.gl/ZA6oxs>. A donation form has also been attached to this publication.

Merlin's Fire

You are invited to Merlin's Fire on Friday, November 9th and Saturday, November 10th at 7PM in Pella Christian High School's Vermeer Auditorium.

Our play is based on a short story by Mark Twain, and the legends of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. Our Eighth Grade Theatre Troupe is honored to present a story about the triumph of light over darkness, and life over death. The story of present day teenager Hank Morgan's travel back in time to save Camelot is a redemptive, exciting tale for your whole family.

We would love to have you in our audience. A free will offering will be taken.

Employment Opportunities

Bus Drivers - Pella Christian Grade School has openings for more bus drivers to become subs for the year, with the possibility of full-time next year. All expenses are paid by the school other than the cost of upgrading your license to a CDL. Subs are used as needed and paid \$35 per route (\$70 per day). Full-time is about 3 hours each school day, with starting pay around \$10,000 a year. Please call Chris Fynaardt at

fynaardtch@pellachristian.net

Food Service Opening - Pella Christian Grade School has a three hours a day food service worker opening. Primary responsibility include washing dishes, serving K-2, and general clean up/help around the kitchen. If you have questions about this opening please contact Taunya Van Maanen at vanmaanen@pellachristian.net for more information.

Kindergarten Aide - Pella Christian Grade School has an opening for a kindergarten aide. The candidate for this position would assist the teacher from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on days kindergarten is scheduled. A paraeducator license is preferred, but not required for this position.

Interested candidates should complete the non-teaching staff application and agree to the statement of faith (submit a signed copy of it.) The application and statement of faith can be downloaded on the employment portion of the PCGS website (<http://www.pellachristian.net/news/employment.cfm>.)

Randy Kelderman shared opening devotions.

Consent Agenda - The Partners In Education large item requests were approved by the board. The board approved updates to the building and grounds portion of the long-range plan.

Reports - Chad Vink shared the financial reports. Craig Juffer gave a curriculum and technology report. David Te Grotenhuis shared highlights from the preschool and head of school report. Brittany Dieleman and Steve Runner gave classroom visit reports.

Education - Information about the development of a high-quality emergency response plan was shared with the board.

Finance - The committee reported that the Heart of Iowa STO is funded at 90%. Information on giving will be shared with our society in the upcoming Focus. The committee will be meeting with financial advisors in November regarding staff retirement plans for 2019-20.

Building and Grounds - The board approved the updates to the 900 series of the policy manual, which addresses policies for the food service department. After discussion and an amendment to a motion from the building and grounds committee, the board approved a motion to update the

gym rental policies. The building and grounds committee shared updates made to the long-range plan.

Executive - The executive committee shared information regarding their progress reviewing the 200 series.

Development - The minutes of the October 8 meeting were shared for information.

Building Project - The board was given a prioritized list of items in Phase Four and discussed how to proceed with Phase Four completion of the project.

Soaring to New Heights

Fundraising - The board was updated on the open house and plans for the end of year giving to the building project.

New Business - Six board members indicated that they plan to attend the Fall Board Workshop. Joel Westa, CEO of Christian Schools International will be leading a workshop on five and ten-year financial plans on the evening of November 29 at Peoria Christian School from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Closing - Steve Runner closed in prayer.

Middle School Music Festival

Everyone is invited to the fall middle school music festival concert on Thursday, November 1 in the Pella Christian High School auditorium beginning at 7:00 p.m. The area Christian schools choir will be led by Mr. Tim Van Voorst, choir director for Pella Christian Schools. The combined band will be led by Mrs. Shannon Dykstra, the band director for Pella Christian Schools. Come enjoy this great evening of music. A freewill offering will be taken.

Creation Station Can Sheds

Creation Station Christian Preschool has two locations to drop off redeemable cans and bottles. One location is right next to Creation Station Preschool house at 909 Franklin Street. The second drop off location is at Pella Christian Grade School in the parking lot right off of Franklin Street. The can shed is in the closest parking spot to the street.

Fall P.I.E. Fundraiser

Partners In Education (P.I.E.) Fall Fundraiser is selling hot chocolate is from The Cocoa Co. which is made by Lisa Schelhaas' family in southwest Minnesota. The sale will run October 10-October 24. Orders will be ready for pick up on Wednesday, November 28.

Hot chocolate is available to purchase 10 ounces (5-6 servings) for \$12.00 or 20 ounces (10 to 12 servings) for \$20.00. Flavors include: original, white chocolate, salted caramel, peppermint, pumpkin spice and peppermint white chocolate.

Orders can be placed with a PCGS student or in the school office. Samples are available for \$1.00 in the school office.

October

22 1:35 p.m. dismissal, Parent Teacher Conferences Concert
 24 "Oklahoma" matinee for grades 3-8
 25 11:35 a.m. dismissal, Parent Teacher Conferences
 26 No School
 31 2:35 p.m. dismissal, professional learning

November

1 7:00 p.m. Middle School Music Festival
 7 2:35 p.m. dismissal, professional learning
 9 7:00 p.m. 8th grade Theatre Troupe
 10 7:00 p.m. 8th grade Theatre Troupe
 14 2:35 p.m. dismissal,
 19 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting

