Teaching for Transformation

Pella Christian Grade School is in year two of a three year implementation plan of Teaching for Transformation. Teachers will be attending a two day training on September 27 and 28 at Pella Christian High School. Teaching for Transformation trains and assists Christian educators in designing and implementing instructional practice across the school that emphasize how students are a part of God’s story through implementation of “throughlines” and “formational learning experiences”. The program is designed to work alongside schools in the development of high quality instructional routines that emphasize the divine opportunity for students to enter into a deeper relationship with their God. As we are seeking to prepare students for service we find that the sound instructional practices and emphasis of impactful practical experiences in this program’s design will help us to continue to grow in our integration of faith elements and help us better equip our students for that service. Ultimately TfT boldly claims that Christian education should not just be informational but transformational.

Below are some of the Core Practices of Teaching for Transformation:

- **Storyline** - Every Christian school classroom must have a powerful and compelling vision of the Kingdom that creates a longing and a desire within each student to play their part in God’s unfolding Story of redemption.
- **Biblical Throughlines** - Every Every Christian school classroom must have an articulate and inspiring student profile that invites every student to imagine how to play their part in God’s story.
- **FLEx** – Formational Learning Experiences - Every Christian school classroom must provide authentic opportunities for students to practice living the Kingdom story.

Bullying/Harassment

What is bullying and harassment? The short definition is any meanness to another student. The long definition is any electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or conduct toward a student which creates an objectively hostile environment that either:

A) places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student’s person or property,

B) has a substantially detrimental effect on the student’s physical or mental health or

C) has the effect of substantially interfering with the student’s ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

How can you help?

- Please pray for protection of all children.
- Please inform your child’s homeroom teacher, bus driver and/or the principal within 24 hours of an incident.
- Please click on the following link to view our policy or anonymously report an incident of bullying and harassment: [http://tinyurl.com/7k645os](http://tinyurl.com/7k645os) - “Jesus replied, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Matthew 22:39b

Fall Event

The Fall Event planning team wants to say a huge thank you to everyone who came out on Friday, September 7. Due to inclement weather, The Fall Event moved to the new addition of the grade school. The elementary students enjoyed inflatables and face painting, while the middle school students participated in a round robin dodgeball tournament. A new element to fundraising this year was “The Money Wall” lined with numbers 1-300. If all of the numbers were pulled, over $45,000 would have been raised for the school. We are happy to say that money is still coming in, but we currently have raised over $26,000. God is good! We would like to thank the business that have donated to the event. It was a very successful night and we saw over 65% of our student body! If you would still like to donate, The Money Wall is still up in the school office through September 26. Please contact Jodi De Vries (641-416-0073) with questions. Thank you.

You’re Invited to Our OPEN HOUSE

**PHASE 3 IS COMPLETE! COME SEE OUR NEW SPACE.**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, FROM 9:30am - 11am.**

**THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY IS WELCOME!**

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS!
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.

Building Security

The main entrance of school is secured after 8:30 a.m. Parents and students arriving after 8:30 a.m. can enter the breezeway of the school and need to use the intercom system to request access to the building. We request that all students, parents and visitors sign in before entering the school.

The school office will open at 8:00 a.m. and close thirty minutes following school dismissal each day school is in session.

Asbestos Notice

In compliance with the AHERA Asbestos Energy Act our school is regularly surveyed to the condition of any asbestos or suspected asbestos containing materials. The original floor tile contains asbestos and some ceiling tile is suspected to contain asbestos. In its current condition it poses no health threat to students and staff. Our AHERA compliance plan is available for parents to review. Mr. Kevin Stursma attends annual AHERA certification training.

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