



# The Connection

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

SPECIAL EDITION

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Growing in Faith

## From The Board Of Trustees...

Dear CPCS Community,

The 2010/11 school year is upon us; what an exciting time of year! For our pre-kindergarten class and many of our kindergartners this is their first year at CPCS. We have many years to challenge their thinking and educate them on God's magnificent creation. For most of our students, it is a time to connect with friends new and old. This is also a time to get to know their new teachers who have been busy preparing for the unique challenges that exist at each grade level. For our eighth graders, this is their final year at CPCS. It is their chance to lead our student body; to be examples of Christ at school, and inspire students in the grades below them. We thank God for each and every student here. We pray for wisdom and creativity to challenge their minds and spirit.

This year we are celebrating our 25 year anniversary. We are proud of our past and excited for our future. CPCS has again been blessed with growth. The increased enrollment from year to year has continued to exceed our projected estimates. We are faced with some inspiring challenges as a result of our growth. Our administrators have been very creative and proactive with their approach to maximize the use of our facility as it currently stands. We remain committed to managing class sizes that ensure students are receiving the individual attention they need. We are also exploring all options available before we consider turning families away that desire Christian education in their community.

As the Board of Trustees and your administrators prepared for this school year, it became clear that we will likely be out of options to accommodate growth at our building as it currently stands for the 2011/12 school year. The east wing of our facility was intentionally left unfinished with painted block as opposed to face brick. This was to provide a cost effective location for an anticipated expansion. The Phase III construction of this facility will be a multi-classroom addition. In addition to the new classrooms, the proposed Phase III construction will include an expansion of our existing parking. The \$100,000 seed money to launch the Capital Campaign is a carry over from Phase II fundraising which included parking lot expansion. The parking lot addition was not completed in Phase II but will be a necessary requirement of our Phase III project.

The CPCS Board of Trustees is officially launching an exciting capital campaign titled **Growing in Faith** for the purpose of constructing the addition to our building. The challenge put before the **Growing in Faith** Campaign is to raise the necessary funds in advance of beginning construction of the project. Mr. Ivan VanEssen and Mr. Dale Wiersbe have agreed to lead the campaign as co-development directors. We are amazed at their energy for the project and their passion for CPCS and the surrounding communities.

The Facility Completion Committee is working on the design of the Phase III addition as well as the master plan that will include a future Phase IV construction. Phase IV will complete our facility at three classrooms per grade level. The well-planned design/concept and drawings will be available in the next few months.

Please take time to look through this special edition of *The Connection* for more details about the faith-centered launch of this capital campaign. This is a great time to invest in God's Kingdom and our community. Building classrooms takes financial resources. Educating and building our future leaders of families, churches, and workplaces takes dedication, passion, and resolve. Let's resolve to grow in faith together and continue to build God's Kingdom right here in our community.

Sincerely,

Jeff Pals, President  
CPCS Board of Trustees

"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." Hebrews 11:1

# CPCS Journey

## History

The Crown Point Christian School Association was established in 1985 as an association of Christian families who desired to provide a Christ-centered education for their children. From 1985 until December of 2006, CPCS classes were held in a variety of supporting churches. There were years of challenges and blessings as the school struggled with growth and uncertainties as to where to go and what church would house our school.

In 2004, CPCS received a generous offer of land and seed money to begin a school home at 10550 Park Place in the development known as The Gates of St. John. From humble beginnings, CPCS moved into Phase I in January of 2007. At that time, prayers of students, parents, and staff were written on the concrete floors throughout the building expressing thanks to God for past, present and future blessings.

CPCS keeps growing, growing and growing in student population adding approximately 50 new students per year. In 2008/09, Phase II was built to provide middle school classrooms, a gymnasium and a kitchen.

## Present

It is now 2010 and student enrollment continues to grow, especially in the lower grades. At present we are experiencing three classrooms per grade in kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade. In fact, our projection of student enrollment which was established in 2004 is now one year ahead of our estimations.

For the 2010/11 school year, CPCS will be using part of the library, a back storage room and the faculty lounge to accommodate increased growth (see floor plan on page 3). Our enrollment is at an all time high of 479 students!

## Future

After many hours of studying and praying by the CPCS Board, the need to begin Phase III is now. The plan is to build additional classrooms to accommodate our growing student body. This will cost an estimated \$1,000,000. To make this plan a reality, the funds must be secured through gifts and pledges as we do not want to increase our current debt load.

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***As we look forward to the task of raising the full amount needed to build the additional classrooms, we will be challenged to grow in our faith. But that's okay because God wants us to trust Him.***

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The current property including land, building and contents is valued at over \$10,000,000. We hold a \$3.4 million debt on Phase I and Phase II. At present, all annual interest on this debt is added to the tuition paid by the families who have children enrolled in CPCS. Through gifts given to the CPCS building fund, \$150,000 was paid to reduce loan principal this past year. In 2012, we will begin paying principal monthly on this debt which will be amortized over a 25 year period.

Five years ago, the CPCS Association stepped out in faith to build Phase I. As we look back, we see how the Lord has blessed this school – not only in brick and mortar and improved curriculum but most importantly through the growth exhibited in our students' minds, hearts, and souls.

As a school, our mission is to partner with parents so that children are developed spiritually, academically, socially and physically to honor God in all areas of their life. What a privilege this

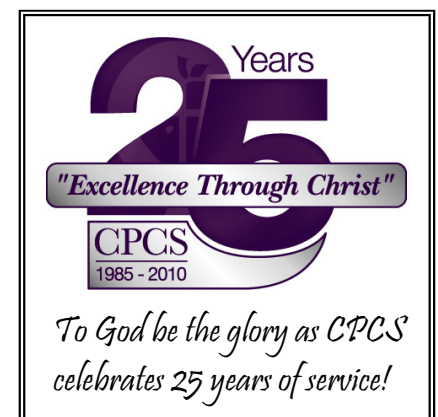
is! What a thrilling and humbling experience it is to be given the opportunity to mold, influence, and develop God's kingdom through children.

As we look forward to the task of raising the full amount needed to build the additional classrooms, we will be challenged to grow in our faith. But that's okay because God wants us to trust Him. He is worthy of that trust.

Please join us in praying for CPCS. Pray that we will be able to instruct the students enrolled at our school with godliness and excellence. Pray that God will provide generously for the financial means we need to build so that we do not have to turn Christian families away from CPCS.

Shortly, we will be contacting grandparents, parents, and visionary, supportive friends to ask for your help. Please accept our invitation to partner with us in our mission through prayer and financial giving. We also plan to contact supportive businesses in northwest Indiana.

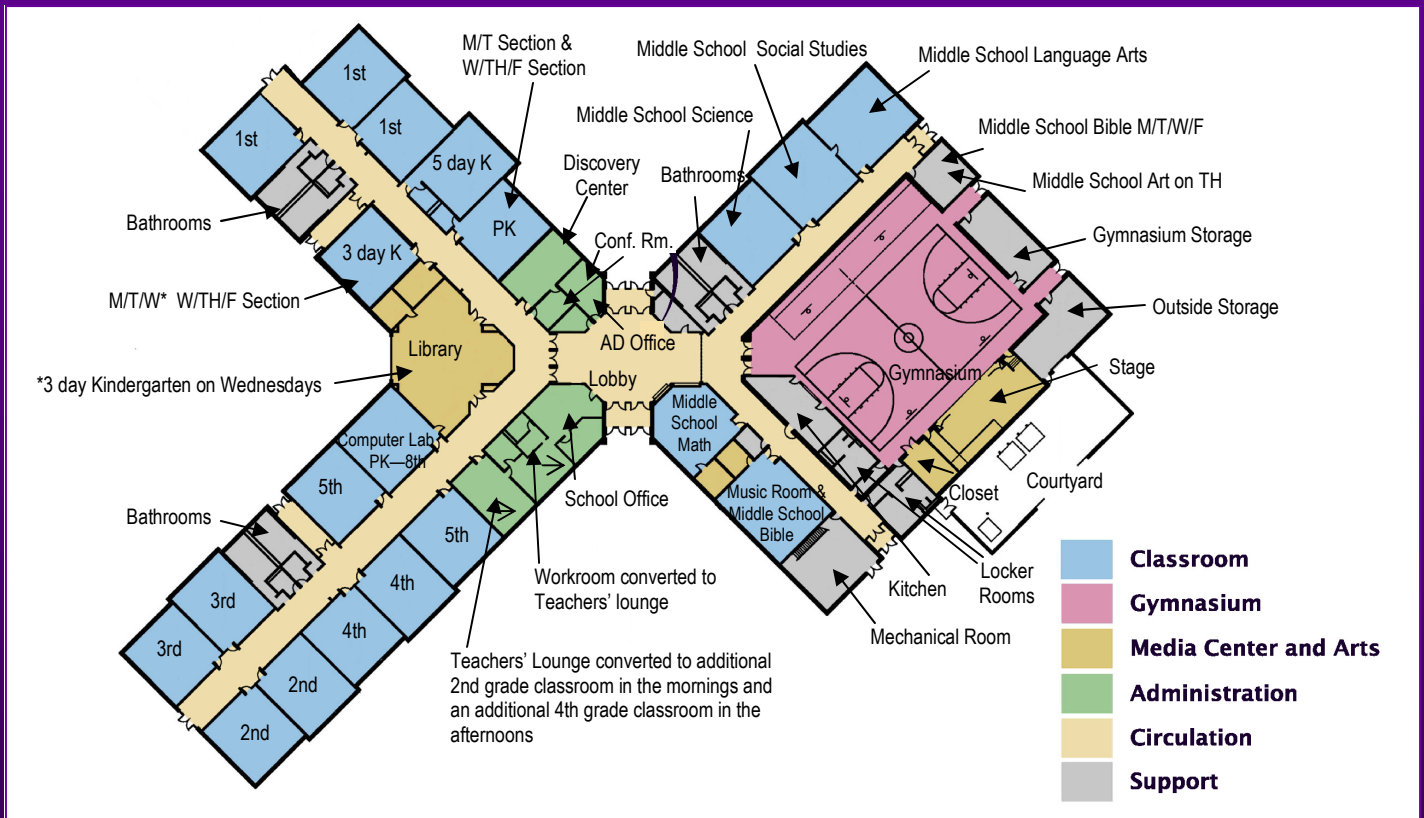
We believe God will bless! He will work through His people. We will all grow in faith in our Lord, Jesus Christ. This is an adventure worth taking.



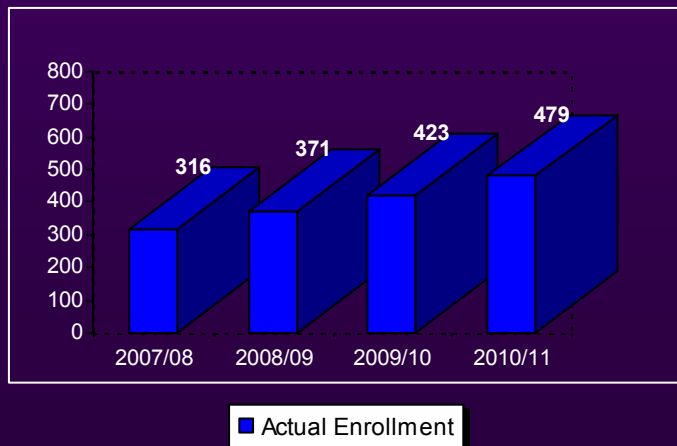
## Mission & Purpose

Crown Point Christian School is an association of evangelical Christians committed to providing a Biblically based, Christ-centered education that partners with parents in preparing children spiritually, socially, academically, and physically to honor God in all aspects of life.

# CPCS is filled to capacity for the 2010/11 school year!



## Enrollment Continues To Increase!



## Did You Know...

- In 1985 CPCS started with a pre-kindergarten class of seven students.
- We added 50 new school families this year.
- Students travel from 16 different towns to CPCS.
- CPCS currently has an enrollment of 479 students.
- Kindergarten had the greatest enrollment this year with 73 students.
- CPCS students represent 40+ evangelical churches.
- There are seven sets of twins and two sets of triplets within our student body.

# What can YOU do?

**Pray** We covet your prayers greatly during this time of tremendous growth.

Please pray for the Lord's blessing on our school and for support from the CPCS family, grandparents, friends, churches and surrounding community. Please also pray for Mr. Ivan VanEssen and Mr. Dale Wiersbe as they solicit donations from a variety of contacts.

**Participate** There will be CPCS student and family Capital Campaign activities scheduled throughout the school year.

If you are asked to help, please do so if you can. This campaign is for the benefit of all those involved with CPCS, allowing our campus to align with the growth of enrollment. This campaign will only succeed if we join hands and all work together.

**Give** Everyone can give equally to God, not in actual dollars, but in equal sacrifice.

Please prayerfully consider your giving. Any donation, large or small, is of great value to this important campaign. Please drop donations off at the school office or via mail to CPCS, 10550 Park Place, St. John, IN 46373. Checks should be made payable to CPCS and should clearly be designated as "CAPITAL CAMPAIGN".



Crown Point Christian School  
 10550 Park Place  
 St. John, IN 46373  
 219-365-5694, 219-365-5729 (fax)  
 cpcs@crownpoinchristian.org (email)  
 www.crownpoinchristian.org

Non-Profit Org  
 US Postage  
 PAID  
 Crown Point  
 Indiana 46307  
 Permit #473

## 2010/11 Board of Trustees

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 Mr. Richard Cook  
 Mrs. Stephanie Cowser—Asst. Treasurer

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 Mr. Jeff Pals—President  
 Mrs. Nicole Smit—Secretary

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 Mr. Darren VanEssen

*Crown Point Christian School is governed by a Board of Trustees currently comprised of eleven members. The school board determines policies, sets the vision of Crown Point Christian School, and directs the Education Administrator and Business Administrator to carry out its policies. We are thankful for the Godly leadership the Lord has blessed our school with each year.*

## Introducing our Development Directors

### Ms. Ivan VanEssen

Ivan, a CPCS grandparent, has an extensive background in grade school education. Seven years ago, Ivan was approached to become the part time development director of CPCS. His main objective continues to be to raise funds to support the needs for this growing student body.

CPCS has a special place in Ivan's heart. There is an exciting pulse in this school that is energized by a forward looking board, a great association of parents, a great staff of educators and wonderful students. Ivan's been blessed to help begin the CPCS Foundation, the memorial tree and now being President of CPCS' new venture, the Second Life Resale Shoppe.

It is Ivan's prayer that the Lord will open doors and hearts as funds are sought for the much needed classrooms. Great things can happen if we all do our part as God has blessed us!

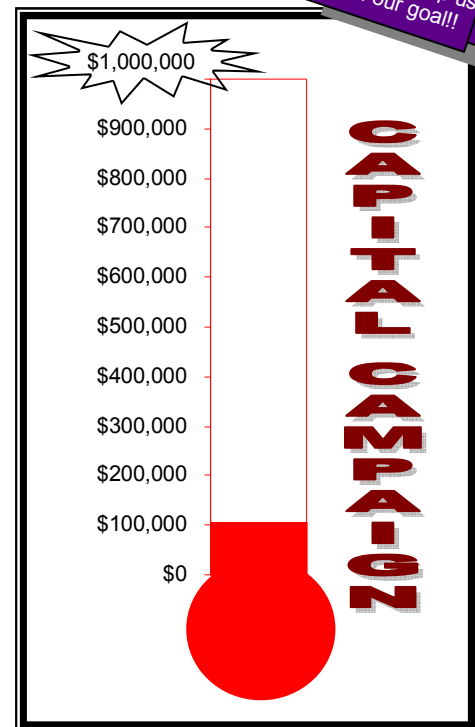
### Ms. Dale Wiessbe

Dale worked at Inland Steel for 30 years and retired in 2000 as the President and CEO of Ispat Inland. Since his retirement he has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and the Boys and Girls Club of Northwest Indiana. Dale has served in various capacities as a volunteer at CPCS. Dale is also a proud CPCS grandparent!

Recently Dale and his wife went on short term mission trip where they helped repair the buildings of an orphanage in Mexico.

Dale has seen the wonderful influence that Christian Education can have on children and is honored to be asked to be a Development Director. He feels that God has opened this new door in his life and with His help he is anxious to get started!

YOU can help us reach our goal!!



### Now is the time to prepare for the future of CPCS!

*When you take a walk through the CPCS hallways you will notice we are filled to capacity for the 2010/11 school year. God has placed us in a wonderful situation! It is our prayer that we will not have to turn away families desiring a Christian education for their children in the 2011/12 school year.*

*As a school, we have a history of great love and commitment. With the Lord's blessing, we have made things happen before, and we can do it again! Please join us in our effort to expand Christian education in St. John, Indiana. To God be the glory!!*



CSI Accreditation  
 State of Indiana Freeway Accreditation  
 National Council for Private School Accreditation

*"Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have." II Corinthians 8:11-12*