

**November 2009
Report to the LCS Board of Education**

Here's a word of encouragement to all of us as we do the work God has called each of us to do on behalf of Lansing Christian School:

Be strong and courageous, and do the work.

Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD God, my God, is with you.

He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work ... is finished.

I Chronicles 28:20 (David, to his son Solomon)

November was a great, very busy, month. Briefly:

- The mortgage was paid off! Thanks to a generous friend of Lansing Christian School our wonderful \$12 million, 100,000 square foot school building is **mortgage free!** The gift also allowed us to pay off approximately \$30K of our short-term debt.
- **76** individuals made a pledge or asked for a pledge card during the call-a-thon November 16-19. Callers were able to share our fundraising goal of \$800K with 676 individuals (out of 1,919 calls made). Gifts and pledges are starting to come in response to follow-up letters sent the day after calls were received.
- Contributions received for this month, including the mortgage and debt reduction gift:

	Monetary	# of donors	In-kind	# of donors
November Comparison				
November 2009 Gifts*	\$506,626	33	\$ 70	1
November 2008	6,149	17	\$ 584	5

**includes \$2,575 from phone-a-thon; an additional \$490 was pledged in November.*

YTD Comparison				
July – November 2009	\$717,665	105	\$22,991	10
July – November 2008	\$236,538	89	\$ 2,954	16

New Donors				
November 2009	\$ 100	2		
YTD 2009	\$ 57,464	21	\$ 11,000	3
YTD 2008	\$ 26,213	36	\$ 552	4

- I had the opportunity to meet with six donors and six volunteers this month, with good results.
- Jeff Cutler informed the audience at **Grandparent's Day** that 1) tuition does not cover our annual costs and 2) we have a fundraising goal of \$800,000, through a modified version of "Are you Smarter than a 5th Grader?". We also provided this information in our printed program. Grandparents attending that day were asked to complete a registration form that included their email address and opportunities to help their grandchildren. Nine grandparents indicated they wanted to help by making a financial contribution to LCS. I'm in the process of following up with these grandparents.
- Paying off the building provided many opportunities to clarify our **debt situation** to school families. (We still need to raise \$500K for this school year. Our accumulated operating debt remains at about \$1 million, due to our on-going practice of using "this year's tuition to pay last year's bills".) We notified school families & Association Members via email. All individuals on our database (about 3,500) will receive the Fall Alumni Newsletter in early December which has an article on the School's financial needs.
- The **year-end giving opportunity** letter and pledge form was drafted and reviewed (by the newly created Foundation Marketing/Communication Committee) for mailing the first full week in December.
- Plans are underway for this school year's **fundraising event**:

The LCS Black & Gold Celebration


...Fundraising for scholarships through good food, fun and entertainment

Thursday evening, **March 18, 2010 @ Lansing Christian School**

The evening will be designed to capture "the essence of Lansing Christian" – through art, music, displays, presentations, etc. The Pastor's Breakfast will also be held that day, giving us the opportunity to use segments of the program for the morning event.

We continue to look for new, better, and/or more ways to help our LCS parents understand the on-going financial needs of the school. As you have an opportunity to talk with parents, please pass on any observations or suggestions you might have. Thank you, again, for your on-going work on behalf of the families of LCS.

With a thankful heart,



Carol Feuss, Director of Development