



CAMPAIGNING DIFFERENTLY

DUANE VANGEST, CAMPAIGN CABINET

I stare at my phone ready to call a potential supporter to schedule a campaign visit. The hardest part used to be dialing and saying 'Hi'. With the COVID lockdown, the thought of explaining to someone that I want to meet virtually weighs heavy on me. How do I explain that I would like to visit them remotely? What if they don't know how to meet remotely? How will I adequately share with these amazing supporters my excitement about the school and how remarkable the teachers and staff have been through these past 10 months with everything turned upside-down? How do I show these supporters the mission and vision of our school and invite them to join the incredible things that are happening? What if my internet or reception cuts out?

I finally make the call. I explain who I am and why I am calling. A virtual visit is welcomed and with no other

social activities or commitments going on, evening visits are easy to schedule. There is no pressure for them to host me, clean their house or serve coffee. Counter to my worries, the visit goes better than expected. We have a great conversation, we talk about the exciting things that are going on at the school and the ways that we can partner to complete some well needed projects at each campus.

I realize that God can do great things and will find a way to provide strength, encouragement and support throughout this process. I believe that God will use this campaign to continue to build this community and his Kingdom through these virtual one-on-one visits. I can now pick up that phone again and get excited about sharing with another supporter what incredible things God is doing at Cairn Christian School.

PRAY

GIVE

VOLUNTEER

SUPPORT

GROW

DO WE STILL NEED ROOM?

This is a fair question asked by some about the current pandemic response as it affects our schools. As parents and students look to September and the academic year 2021-22, and plans are already well underway, the answer to that question is “Yes, now more than ever!”

Enrollment projections for the coming school year are in line with what we were expecting already for September 2021, which means that any campaign delays we have experienced due to the pandemic have also delayed building plans. Where before we identified a need for physical space, it has simply become more urgent!

A visit to our Smithville campus will reveal that our Kindergarten classes have ‘spilled’ into the junior hallway and overtaken the previous staff room. The teachers are making due, but longing to teach in a space that is built with the young learner in mind: with room to move, lots of light, sufficient storage, and space to be curious and wonder and awe in God’s creation!

Bottomline – we need more room! The proposed addition for Smithville campus will meet the needs of our growing student population and in particular, the needs of so many young minds and spirits!

Kevin Huinink
Executive Director

FAQ: How will this new build affect the timing and frequency of the incoming Kindergarten classes? What if enrollment exceeds capacity of the new classrooms and building?

With the expansion project, each of the Kindergarten classes will be able to meet together in their own room rather than split across rooms as the current JK class does. Our Kindergarten programming has been creative to this point to meet the needs of the incoming classes in our current space. If enrollment exceeds what we can handle in one classroom, we will creatively adapt again. We want this build to be visionary, yet also conservative. This will ensure we aren’t overbuilding. If overall enrollment quickly strips our capacity, the Board will need to discuss optimal school size and the possibility of further expansion in the form of more rooms, or another campus. All of this, of course, hinges on our community’s response to this campaign.



We give our heartfelt thanks to our Campaign volunteers, and their families, for sharing their time and talents with the *Building the Way Campaign* to ensure its success.

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