



HUNTING PARK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Transforming Hearts and Minds



December 2008 Year 2008-2009: Volume 4: Issue 2

Changes and Challenges by Kevin Deane, Principal

Merry Christmas! I pray that this letter finds you well and blessed. It's hard to believe that the Christmas season is already upon us; it seems as though the school year is speeding by. Although there have been (and continue to be) changes and challenges, **the Lord has faithfully sustained Hunting Park Christian Academy**, and we remain grateful. We are also thankful for the continued support of those who partner with us to impact this community for the Lord.

We have had an eventful first quarter. The students participated in a mock election for President of the United States, parents visited during our open house, the middle school led a toy/fundraising drive for underprivileged children, our parent group organized a food drive, and we hosted our 3rd annual Career Day. This took hard work from students, teachers, and gracious volunteers. All of these events, and more, took place on top of the every-day activities here at the school.

The liveliness has not ended with the start of the second quarter. **Presently, HPCA is going through the accreditation process, and we are thrilled about the possibilities.** Much work has been done by the school in order to achieve this great goal. With accreditation comes multiple benefits, such as access to support and services, an expanded network, and continual school improvement, all with the objective of improving student performance. Right now, two accrediting bodies, CITA (The Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation) and The Middle States Association, are examining and reviewing the school. God has provided this wonderful yet challenging opportunity for the school, and we look forward to hearing the agencies' recommendation.

This is also a time of need. **This year, we must raise \$180,000 in order to provide for the students of HPCA. This month has been particularly difficult.** We are very thankful for the support we have already received; those funds, prayers, and time are key to our success. We ask that you consider joining with us in this time, as the Lord continues to grow and develop our school. Thank you again. May God bless you.

Scholarship Need

This year, we need to raise \$30,000 in scholarships for our most impoverished students. This is in addition to the \$180,000 we need to raise for general operating costs. If you would like to give to the scholarship fund, please make a check payable to HPCA, with "Scholarship Fund" on the memo line.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 18, 7:00 pm— Christmas Program

March 7— Banquet

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Mission Statement

Hunting Park Christian Academy's mission is to provide an affordable, quality Christian education that celebrates a diverse community and leads children to know and serve the Lord.

Ways YOU Can Help!

- Support the mission of HPCA with a financial gift.
- Go to www.goodshop.com and designate Hunting Park Christian Academy as your cause. HPCA will receive up to 37% of your online purchases from over 700 stores!
- Volunteer in the classroom or for building projects.
- Collect BoxTops and Campbell's Soup labels.
- Use your Target Visa for HPCA. Our school ID# is 126627.

Mock Election '08

Article taken from The Paper!!! (HPCA's student-led newspaper)

Written by Chelsea and Alejandra

This year, HPCA held it's first school-wide mock election, giving the students a chance to vote for their favorite candidate. So what do our students think?



Third graders show off their voter registration cards.

Aaliyah, a fourth grader, said she voted for Barack Obama because "he has a lot of good ideas. He rules!"

"He'll make a change," said third grader, Elijah, of Obama. "He'll stop wars and McCain won't."

Fifth grader, Isamar, said she voted for Obama because "he's going to lower taxes, stop the war, bring back the troops and give money to the poor."



Our wonderful poll volunteers!

Most of the students agreed in their belief that Barack Obama would help the country the most.

One of our poll volunteers agreed with the student consensus. Mrs. Dory said she's voting for Obama because of "the things he



stands for. He will consider how the people feel. He represents a bigger population of the people. Barack Obama cares for us and he is sincere."



Mr. Deane, principal, hands out ballots to our eager first-grade voters.

John McCain was not without support at HPCA. Eighth grader, Nafeece, stated that he voted for McCain because "I like how he handled himself in the debates. He seems more serious than Obama. He won't stop the war, but he will lower our taxes."



THE RESULTS

Overall, Obama wins 92% to McCain's 7%.



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT OF SAMARITAN'S PURSE

During the month of November, the junior high participated in Operation Christmas Child, a program that sends gift-filled shoe boxes to children all over the world in places such as poor neighborhoods, orphanages, churches, children's hospitals, and refugee camps. The boxes are used to open doors to introduce children



to Christ through Gospel booklets written in their own language and follow-up children's Bible study programs.

The junior high students held breakfast sales and collected offerings during chapel to raise \$140 to pay for the shipping of the shoe boxes. Through donations from all the students, we were able to fill 20 shoeboxes!



Autumn Church Visits



Lunch at the Minnos during our visit to Anchor Presbyterian Church.

This Fall, we had the privilege of visiting many different churches. In October, Kevin and Jen Deane, Principal and Dir. of Development, along with two junior high students, were able to share about HPCA with members of Anchor Presbyterian Church. We enjoyed getting to know members of Supplee Memorial Presbyterian Church during their Missions/International Dinner.

On November 15, our choir, "New Direction" had the joy of singing at Bucks County SDA Church's Unity Day. We shared in fellowship after the service at a wonderful international feast. The church graciously gave each of our 27 choir members a Thanksgiving basket and a \$25 Shoprite gift card. Thank you!



Our trip to Bucks County SDA Church.

