

HP HUNTING PARK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Transforming Hearts and Minds

CA



September 2010 Year 2010-2011: Volume 6: Issue 1

LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS



by Kevin Deane,
Principal

Greetings, friends of HPCA! Welcome to a new and exciting school year in North Philadelphia. We have started the year strong. All of our teachers are returning faculty members and we have waiting lists for most of our classes. Praise God!

Our school-wide theme this year is "Love Your Neighbor."

Lately, I've been thinking about God's love for us and our neighbors and seeing that the Lord has been generous even in tough times. In a season where some fellow Christian schools have regrettably been forced to close, HPCA's doors are still open. God is at work here, and I want to thank you for playing a vital role. Your gifts and your prayers make you co-laborers with us in our mission to reach the children and families of Philadelphia.

At HPCA, we want to love our students by providing for their needs holistically. **The Lord has blessed us to build the program we have today to effectively love our students.** We have Foundations and Frameworks, a strong reading program that fosters a love for reading, Responsive Classroom, our social curriculum and classroom management model, MAP testing, a computer-based standardized testing that students take three times per year and that gives immediate feedback, and more. This year we have added the Student Government Association, and these middle-schoolers are already hard at work planning great things for this school year, such as field day, harvest day, and a food drive. We know that the Lord has blessed us in order to bless our students, providing opportunity for greater proficiency in reading and math, improved social skills, leadership opportunities, and deeper understanding of Scripture.

We are thankful, too, that you are **loving your neighbor** by partnering with HPCA. You have made a difference in the lives of hundreds of children and families. I want to encourage you to keep up this neighborly love. In order for our mission and work to continue, we need you. **To keep our school affordable, tuition is kept low and only covers about 50% of our total operating expenses.** This year, we need to raise nearly \$190,000 for these expenses. There are many ways to get involved, from donating supplies (see back) or volunteering, to providing a scholarship, making a gift to our general operating fund, or spreading the word about the EITC program mentioned in this newsletter. **Would you consider partnering with us again (or for the first time) to bless your neighbors in Hunting Park?** Thank you and God bless!

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Gathering
November 20, 2010
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Thompson Memorial
Presbyterian Church**
1680 Aquetong Road
New Hope, PA 18938

Please RSVP to Jen Deane
at 215-324-9180 or
jen@hpcaphilly.org

Scholarship Need

This year, our scholarship need is \$75,000 to allow Christian education to be accessible to those who cannot afford it.

Here is how **you** can help make HPCA more affordable:

- **Business Owners:** Use your tax dollars to provide scholarships to our students through EITC. See back for details.
- **Join our Scholarship Club:** Become a monthly donor in the amount of \$50, \$100, or \$150 to provide one student a scholarship this year. You will also receive a quarterly update from a student who is benefitting from your gift.

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.

Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program

...A Great Way for Businesses to Direct Tax Dollars



The EITC program is a way for the business community to get directly involved in education by providing scholarship money. The program enables companies in Pennsylvania to support local non-profits, like HPCA, at minimal cost, instead of sending their tax dollars to Harrisburg.



Companies can claim the credit against

- Corporate Net Income Tax
- Bank and Trust Company Shares Tax
- Title Insurance Companies Shares Tax
- Personal Income Tax - Subchapter s-corporations and other "pass-through" entities will be able to use the credit against the shareholder, member or partners' PA personal income
- Mutual Thrift Institutions Tax
- Insurance Premiums Tax
- Capital Stock and Franchise Tax



Businesses receive a tax credit of 90% if they donate money toward a scholarship fund for HPCA students for 2 years (75% tax credit if it is one year).

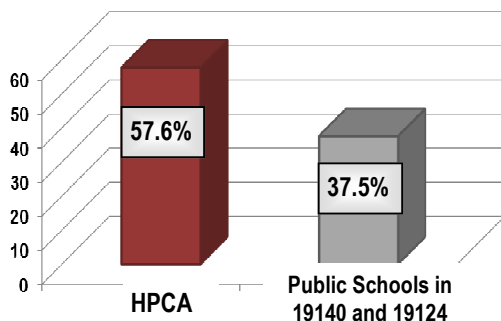


If you would like more information on the program, please contact Jen Deane at 215-324-9180 or jen@hpcaphilly.org, or simply return the enclosed response card and check off that you would like more information on the program.

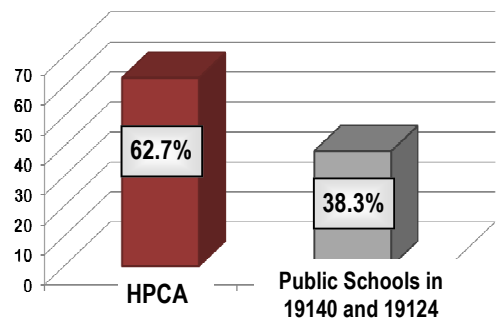
Results are in...

The following graphs compare proficiency levels in math and reading for middle school students in HPCA and in public schools in the 19140 and 19124 zip codes, where the majority of our students reside. Students at HPCA take the NWEA MAP test, which has been converted below to reflect the PA levels of proficiency.

MATH PROFICIENCY



READING PROFICIENCY



THANK YOU, DONORS!

In August and September, HPCA received approximately \$4,300 in donated school supplies from various churches including Doylestown Presbyterian, Supplee Presbyterian, Langhorne Presbyterian, and New Hanover United Methodist. The pastor of Langhorne Presbyterian Church, Bill Teague, wrote about the experience in his weekly blog. Here is an excerpt.



"We were given the opportunity to give to the work of HPCA, our mission partner in North Philadelphia. Their list included everything from paper clips to rubber gloves, felt-tipped markers to brooms and dustpans. Simple things, K-Mart things, that would help HPCA in its mission and ministry to the kids of Hunting Park. The school year has begun at HPCA and

it's been just a little bit easier for the teachers and the students because of these gifts provided by LPC.

Just yesterday, Jen Deane, Director of Development at HPCA dropped by with a thank you video to us for our generous (and cheerful) giving. Members of our mission committee got a sneak preview of the video yesterday. One of them responded this way. **'Very nice. Now I can dry my tears of joy and get back to work. We are so very blessed and it feels so good to give to others who need the help. And the great part about it is that HPCA makes such good use of the resources they are provided. Makes you want to do whatever you can to assist them.'**



For a running list of supplies needed, contact Jen Deane or visit our website: www.hpcaphilly.org.