

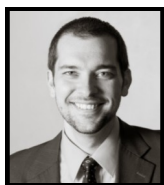
HUNTING PARK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY Transforming Hearts and Minds



SEPTEMBER 2012

YEAR 2012-2013: VOLUME 8: ISSUE 1

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING



by Kevin Deane,
Principal

Hello, Friends and Family of HPCA. Welcome to a brand new year at Hunting Park Christian Academy! Whether you have been partnering with us over the past 13 years or you are reading our newsletter for the first time, I want to thank you for your essential support.

Our theme this year is “Blessed to Be a Blessing.” We are teaching our students that God has provided greatly for us, and, in turn, He has called us to be giving and good to others. Even more, He has called us to be stewards over these gifts and His creation. Even though it is early in the school year, we have already seen God bless HPCA and this community. Here are some of the highlights:

- Before the school year began, HPCA hosted two very successful **work days**. (See story on back)
- Many of our students and staff attended the **groundbreaking ceremony** for renovations of the football field in Hunting Park, which is the site for our Race For Education. (See story on back)
- The school has partnered with **Esperanza Health Center**, which is allowing HPCA to hold physical education classes in the health center’s brand new gymnasium. (See story on back)
- Pennsylvania established the **Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC)**, which works like EITC, but focuses on low-income students and families residing within the boundaries of low-achieving schools.
- HPCA increased its budget by 10% this year. **All of these funds will go directly to staff salary increases and continuing education!** We know that the generous members of our staff sacrifice in order to serve the children of this community, and we are beyond excited to take this step in faith to bless them.

The Lord is continuing to bless and provide for the people of Hunting Park! *Would you consider praying about how the Lord might use **you** to bless this dynamic community?* I would also ask you to join us in prayer this year, as we strive to meet the challenge of raising an extra 10% in order to more properly compensate our staff. **If you are able to give a financial donation, please consider adding 10% to your donation to help us reach this goal.** We recognize the many ways we have already been blessed and are truly thankful for your support and prayers. God bless.

FALL GATHERING

Friday, November 16th, 2012

6:30 pm–7:15 pm
Hors d'Oeuvres and
Silent Auction at HPCA

7:15 pm–8:30 pm
Desserts and Program
at Esperanza Health Center
4417 N. 6th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140

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

WAYS TO HELP

- Contribute toward this year’s fundraising goal of \$290,000
- **Business Owners:** Donate to our scholarship fund through OSTC (Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit)
- Consider an estate gift to HPCA
- Join our monthly prayer team
- Send us your Box Tops for Education, Labels for Education, and used ink cartridges
- Volunteer at HPCA

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.

4400 N. 6th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140 • 215-324-9180 • www.hpcaphilly.org • jen@hpcaphilly.org

ESPERANZA HEALTH CENTER PARTNERSHIP

In December 2011, Esperanza Health Center opened a new facility across the street from HPCA. It is a community-based, non-profit health center that provides affordable, quality, bilingual primary health services in Jesus' name, without regard to an individual's ability to pay. Esperanza serves approximately 8,600 patients in their three locations. At the Hunting Park location, in addition to offering health care, Esperanza offers a healthy café, Zumba and kickboxing classes, and family cooking classes for the community.



Demo of the Sportwall

This fall, Esperanza has opened its doors to HPCA students, allowing our 1st- through 8th-grade students to use its gymnasium for our physical education classes. This will offer our students a new experience for gym and the opportunity to use a full-size basketball court. Our students will also be able to use a state-of-the-art Sportwall, an interactive tool that uses fun, short, fast-moving full-body games to involve students in different kinesthetic experiences that will help keep them fully engaged. The gym will also allow us to have a home field for potential future HPCA basketball and soccer teams.

Christe Lee, Café and Exercise Programs Manager at Esperanza, spoke of the mutual benefit, saying, "We are very grateful to God for providing this building with space for exercise and other wellness programming. Having HPCA's physical education classes take place in our gym is very exciting. As a Christian clinic interested in the health of the whole person, we are thrilled to have the opportunity to engage the young people in fitness programs, as well as nutrition and healthy living classes."

We are thankful for the work Esperanza does for the community and HPCA and look forward to serving the Hunting Park community alongside them!

Our 2012-2013 HPCA Staff



Team Vick Foundation to Renovate Hunting Park

On September 18th, many of our students were able to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new football field in Hunting Park, where Eagles' quarterback, Michael Vick, announced that his foundation was donating \$200,000 toward renovations of the field, which will be renamed Team Vick Field. Renovations will include improvements in the drainage systems, re-grading and resurfacing play and field areas, field lighting, installing goal posts and a new scoreboard, and leveling and paving of a new track.

The renovation of the football field is part of the Hunting Park Revitalization Project, a long-term comprehensive plan led by the Fairmount Park Conservancy to transform the park into a safe and well-maintained space. The goal is to provide a place for healthy recreation for children and families, bring neighborhoods together and serve as a catalyst for larger neighborhood renewal.

We are thrilled to see the changes to our community and excited to hold future Races for Education in Hunting Park!



HPCA students with Swoop at the Groundbreaking Ceremony

WORK DAYS

In August, we held two back-to-school work days to prepare the building for the upcoming school year. **Many thanks to our over twenty volunteers, which included board members, donors, alumni, parents, and staff. Our volunteers represented seven different churches.**

The workers were able to install a front door video intercom system, replace broken windows, scrub various surfaces, and paint around the building.

Thank you for your hard work!

FYI

- **Thanks to your support, we were able to raise about \$277,000 for the 2011-2012 fiscal year! Thank you!**
- **Many thanks to Suplee Presbyterian Church, Langhorne Presbyterian Church, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid for donating \$2350 worth of back-to-school supplies!**