



HUNTING PARK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

MARCH
2022



RISE: Respond. Ignite. Serve. Excel.



by Kevin Deane,
Head of School

"The Butterfly, the Badger, and the Body"

Being the principal of HPCA is like being both a butterfly and a badger. One part above, overseeing and visioning. One part below, traversing through the weeds, constantly processing in order to solve the problems that arise right in front of you.

I have recently returned from a sabbatical and now serve as HPCA's head of school. Everyone asks me what that means (and I am working on detailing that myself). The easiest way to explain it is that now I get to function more as the butterfly - more vision and long-range planning, less navigation through the immediate issues of any given day. It's not quite that simple, of course, especially during another COVID-impacted school year. But the hope is that I can begin to focus more on oversight and strategic planning for future growth.



My main directive, however, is to follow the Spirit's leading - to be attentive to His calling and direction. The Lord holds HPCA because it belongs to Him, and I am privileged to be one part of the Body that is called to participate in His work. This Body is made up of many, including teachers, staff, volunteers, and you! **You, our supporters, are integral to the Lord's work at HPCA.** Whether you pray for the students and staff, donate supplies or funds, defer your PA taxes to help fund our scholarship program (see Gabe's article about this on the back), volunteer, or do it all, you are an active participant in true transformation.

Just take a look at the other stories in this newsletter to get a small glimpse of what the Lord is doing at HPCA.

The mission of HPCA is huge and needs numerous partners. I am supremely confident, though, that the Lord has it all in His hands. It's His Work, His Kingdom. And we are invited into the Kingdom Work which the Lord is already accomplishing. The butterfly, the badger, and every other part of the Body - how blessed we are!

RACE FOR EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 27TH, 2022

WAYS TO HELP

- Contribute toward this year's fundraising goal of \$582,000!
- **Pay Taxes in PA?** Donate to our scholarship fund and receive a **90% tax credit!**
- Join our email prayer team.
- Help us reach our Race for Education goal by being a **Special Runner!**
- Be a Race for Education volunteer! We could use help with mailer folding (March 21 —March 25) or on Race Day (April 27).

Contact Jen Deane,
Director of Development,
at 215-324-9180 or
jen@hpcaphilly.org for more

Scan here
to donate



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.

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Pay Taxes OR Give a Scholarship?

by Gabriel Wang-Herrera



HPCA means the world to me and my wife, Pearl! It's where I "cut my teeth" in ministry as the school's first kindergarten teacher from 1999 to 2003. I also served as director of development and later as board president. **At HPCA, I am confident that disciples are being made and sent out.** So, anytime we are given an opportunity to "sow" into HPCA, we take it, if we are able. A few years ago, Jen Deane, HPCA's director of development, let me know that **we could give our**

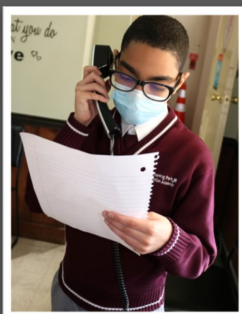
PA tax dollars toward HPCA scholarship through the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit program. Once our PA tax liability reached \$3,500, we were eligible to participate! It was simple. I filled out a one-page document, sent it in to Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund (which, at NO charge, helps HPCA register donors), and later sent our donation to the scholarship fund. At tax time, I claimed the credit and received 90% of my donation back as a refund. **This opportunity was a no brainer.** I was ALREADY giving a small monthly donation to HPCA, so I simply redirected those funds into this program, and **my donation exponentially multiplied on behalf of the students, parents, teachers, and administrators of HPCA.** It's really an extremely easy process, and our tax dollars can be used towards a Kingdom cause! Please reach out to Jen Deane (jen@hpcaphilly.org) right now - don't wait! She will walk you through all that you need to know. Blessings!

GIVING BACK

In order to encourage our students to learn a life of generosity, we decided to fundraise support for a ministry of the students' choice. The students voted to support Friends of Children's Village, a Christian orphanage and school in India that takes in "untouchable" children. One student explained that he wanted to support this ministry because, "I was adopted, so I know what it's like not to be able to see your family. You need people to support you, so I thought this was a good way to give toward that." Students were able to purchase dress-down days on Valentine's Day, dressing in red and pink, and on "Twos-Day" (Tuesday, 2/22/22), wearing two shirts or pants, with all funds going to the orphanage.



DAY OF PRAYER



Our school-wide theme this year is "Kneeling We Rise." This long pandemic has forced us to alter so much about our lives, but prayer remains a key component of life at HPCA. Each month, we set aside a "Day of

Prayer." Though we cannot physically gather together in one place to pray, Mrs. Figueiredo has found an alternative approach. We use the intercom system to broadcast to everyone! Every hour, a different student heads to the office to lead the whole school in prayer. Often, students read a prayer that they have written. Even though classes are kept separated, HPCA students and staff are still praying in unison multiple times per day during our monthly "Day of Prayer."



CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



While our HPCA community celebrates ethnic and racial diversity year-round, we also think it is very important to make space that is focused on learning the particularities of Black history in the United States. For this reason, we encourage our teachers to incorporate intentional projects and activities that honor Black history in the classroom during February. To give you a glimpse of what this looks like, you can see Mrs. Miller's doorway pictured, announcing that "Black history is American history." Walking through the door, you would witness students engaged in discussion and projects, delving into the work of Black authors. In the office, you might catch our students recording Black poetry for our virtual chapel, or you may even witness Mr. Caro joining his social studies classes practicing traditional African dances and learning their cultural significance on YouTube. Going down to the basement, you would quickly be drawn to a timeline on the wall sharing important landmarks in the Black freedom struggle in the United States. Through all of these activities and more, we hope to honor the legacy of Black history, while also encouraging our students to forge a future that more deeply reflects the justice of God's kingdom.