

ALUMNI VIP NEWSLETTER

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Dear VIP:

School News

The school year is really moving at a rapid pace. Enrollment is up slightly (222 students) and we have seen increases in our junior high and high school counts. While the increase at the secondary level is a bit of a surprise, it has challenged us to expand some of our existing programs. Growth in boys' participation for fall soccer has caused us to add a junior varsity team. Currently, we have three soccer teams (JH, JV, and varsity) and four girls' volleyball teams (two junior high teams, JV and Varsity). Because we participate in the city parochial junior high leagues and the MACS Christian school league for JV and Varsity, we have games every night of the school week with the exception of Wednesday nights.

We have also formed a partnership agreement with Faith Baptist Bible College to teach a college Bible course live and on-site. We have hired an adjunct professor who teaches Old Testament Survey as a part of our new Honors Program. Junior and Senior level students can earn dual college/high school credits with the objective of amassing a number of college credits by graduation. Twelve students are currently enrolled in the Honors program and parents seem to be favorable toward it. A number of students are working hard to keep up with the college-rigor courses, while also being involved in music and athletics. Besides the Faith course, we also are availing ourselves to the University of Northwestern PSEO program (on-line). My hope is that the Faith program can be expanded to include general education courses taught on-site. If the plan comes to fruition, students could earn 25-30 college credits (at least) by the time they graduate. Because both institutions are regionally accredited, courses generally receive credit depending upon the transfer policy of the college or university the student plans to attend.

Legislative News

A number of private school organizations (including the MN Association of Christian Schools) are working on legislation for our state to provide state tax vouchers for students attending private schools. In order for this to be a possibility, we need to keep a conservative House in our state. Please vote on election day! Nationally, we also need to keep the House majority in order to battle the liberal policies that seem to be taking over education, including private education. In my last trip to Washington, D.C., I spent several hours speaking to our Minnesota House members (through their legislative aides) about religious freedom and the importance of helping us maintain our current freedoms in the operation of our Christian schools. It seems incomprehensible that in our nation, legislation would have to be introduced which would be needed to protect our religious freedom (First Amendment Defense Act (FADA)). But that is actually what is happening in our government. Should the liberal agenda prevail and gain more ground as a result of this next election, we may face some very significant challenges for the future of our schools and churches. Please pray and please vote on November 8. If you are voting in Minnesota, the Minnesota Family Council has a wonderful website that can help you with the election. You can even print out your sample ballot. Please check out family@mfc.org.

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FOURTH BAPTIST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL WARRIORS VIP NEWSLETTER

Our Next Alumni Event

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, February 18, at Fourth Baptist Christian School's gymnasium. We are planning an Alumni Brunch from 10:00 a.m. until noon. On Friday night, we will be playing St. Francis Christian School for our **Homecoming basketball games**. JV boys will play at 4:00, Varsity girls at 5:30, and Varsity boys at 7:00 p.m. At halftime of the girls' and boys' games we will have several alumni vs. student contests. Gift cards and prizes are planned at all of our weekend events. At our Saturday morning brunch, John Jordan ('79) will be our alumni speaker. We are planning a dessert auction at this event. Please remember that all proceeds benefit the Karen Burns Memorial Scholarship Fund. Ticket prices and order forms are forthcoming.

Mr. John Jordan has served the city of Brooklyn Park as a member of the Brooklyn Park City Council as well as a member of the MN House of Representatives. John is a member of Edinbrook Church and has two children. He has been married to his wife, Michelle, for over 35 years. John works as the director of Zerbee Business Products, listed in Inc. Magazine's Top 5000 Fastest Growing Companies two years in a row. His interests include being a grandfather, travelling, reading, and of course, politics.

Gymnasium Bleacher Drive

Our recent "Sportswalk" fund raiser was very successful raising about \$15,000. We received additional donations for a matching gift scenario in order to purchase a new set of bleachers for the west side of our gymnasium. We are kicking off a drive this week and are hoping to raise the needed \$30,000 (approximate amount) in order to install new seating in the gym over Christmas break or later in the Spring. If you would like to help us with this project, please mark your donation for "Bleachers FBCS". All donations are tax-deductible and will be used for this project. With the \$15,000 already donated, we are half-way there! Can you help us get closer to our goal? The drive for "Project Bleachers – FBCS" ends on November 18.

Thanks for reading and praying for FBCS.



Mr. Hodak, Administrator