

WILLING WORKERS



Mrs. Lynn Hook

AUCTION: The Annual OSCI Fundraising Auction Committee has been very busy making plans, organizing, and getting things ready for our biggest fundraiser of the year. It takes many hours of volunteering and help from school families and the community to make it a success. All items are donated by families and local businesses and it is not too late for you to help. If you have any skill, babysitting, woodworking or otherwise and feel led to donate, please contact Patti at our school office or contact Robbyn DeBruin at 641-660-7992.

This year the auction will be held February 13-18, 2022. The **silent auction** items will all be online this year, similar to last year's setup. Those items will be available for bidding starting Feb 13th and closing on Feb 17th. On Friday, there will be a **meal** served in the gym of either a hot dog or pulled pork sandwiches available for \$5/\$8, starting at 5:30pm. The **LIVE auction** items will be in person with bidding starting at 7pm on Friday the 18th. There will be no option for online bidding of LIVE items. Pick up of silent or live items will be Friday evening.

Themed class baskets and some class projects will be available this year to bid on. Please note: There will be no bake sale or childcare available this year.



ONGOING POP CAN DRIVE: A reminder that the pop can shed is open for drop off at any time. We have changed redemption centers and therefore glass and cans do NOT need to be separated anymore.

AMAZON SMILE: Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to our school! AmazonSmile gives you the same products, same prices, same service. If you already shop on Amazon, even just a little, you can help our school! Go to smile.Amazon.com or to the app and you can select Oskaloosa Society for Christian Instruction as your donation of choice. We are currently receiving approximately \$20 monthly. Please consider helping us make this easy fund-raiser grow!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ OSCI

Junior High History Fair	February 10
Pastors Day	February 11
Willing Workers' Auction	February 18
Kinder Kids Preview Day	February 21
OSCI Fine Arts for 6th-8th graders	February 22
End of 2nd Trimester	February 24
District V Fine Arts	March 3



726 North "E" St.
Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577

Return Service Requested



Mrs. Angie Dawson

The 6-8th graders will be performing at Oskaloosa Christian School for their Local Fine Arts Night on Tuesday, February 22nd from 5-8 pm. The students have been preparing instrumental and vocal solos and ensembles, prose pieces for speech, as well as readers theatre and improvisation. They will perform in front of judges and receive a rating. Top performers will advance to District Fine Arts at Pella Christian Grade on Tuesday, March 3rd. We invite you to an evening of the arts!



Boxtops for Education - Thank you to everyone who supports our Boxtops fundraiser! You can still clip boxtops and send them to school if they have a valid expiration date. You can also learn how to scan them with your phone by using the links below. If you have any questions about boxtops, please feel free to email Kari Fite at kari.fite@cir3.com.

The New Box Tops App: Scan for your school: <https://youtu.be/Hh94b2BvFK4>

How to scan: <https://youtu.be/v-bN-cykyK5Y>

How to Submit Digital Receipts: https://youtu.be/ZfUGb_3JzZg

PUBLISHING INFORMATION

HIGHLIGHTS will be published monthly, with the exception of June and August, by the staff of the Oskaloosa Christian School. If you would like more information about Oskaloosa Christian, you can call the Principal, Don Mitchell, at 641-672-2174.

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726 North "E" Street
Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577

Telephone: 641-672-2174
www.oskaloosachristian.net

Twitter: @OsKyChristian
Facebook: Oskaloosa Christian School

January 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

Vol. 41 No. 5

PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

By Mr. Don Mitchell



What makes Oskaloosa Christian School different? I hope that we are distinctive in a variety of ways. Teaching from a biblical perspective, partnering with parents to instruct children in the fear and admonition of the LORD, and being a part of a family are a few things that I hope would come to mind readily. However, I believe another way that we are distinctive that may not be as well known is the concept of teaching children to have a growth mindset.

A growth mindset is defined in a few different ways.

• "In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment." Carol Dweck, American psychologist

• Individuals who believe their talents can be developed (through hard work, good strategies, and input from others) have a growth mindset.

• Children with a growth mindset enjoy learning new things and VIEW CHALLENGES WITH MORE ENTHUSIASM (Caps mine). ... Growing their problem solving skills, curiosity and confidence along the way.

At Oskaloosa Christian School, both in the classroom and in the lives of our staff, a growth mindset is cultivated as part of learning. In summary, a person's giftedness, combined with a strong work ethic and genuine curiosity, allows a person to continue to grow and maximize their learning. Such a mindset is supported by Scriptural principles. God is the giver of every good and perfect gift (James 1:17) and he asks us to maximize the talents with which we are blessed (Luke 12:48). Combine this with a strong work ethic realized in serving God (Colossians 3:23), and you have a biblical foundation for a growth mindset. We will never fully know the mind of God, as we are finite creatures and He is an infinite Creator. However, the more we know about God and His world, the better equipped we are to serve.

We know that not all children have the same giftedness. This certainly applies to the classroom, as some students are more inclined to succeed academically than others. However, God does not hold us accountable for gifts we do not possess. Rather, He wants us to give our very best to whatever is set before us, even when those things are hard. This mindset should be modeled by teachers and parents and taught to children in a loving and encouraging way. Further, children should be encouraged to find and use the gifts God has given to them in a way that brings honor and glory to Him. We are blessed with teachers who model and teach a growth mindset to their students, and this mindset will serve them well for their future.

As parents, grandparents, or whatever role you have to positively influence children, please look to foster a growth mindset in them. We live in a dark and fallen world where, more and more, people are taught to give up easily and take the path of least resistance in all areas of life. For Christians, the most impactful times of growth are when things are hard, when obstacles are placed in front of us, and God tells us to press on in His strength, relying on Him. A growth mindset will help to set a foundation for our students' futures. May we all work together to foster and model that mindset to our children.

1946-2022

The mission of Oskaloosa Christian School is to assist families in equipping children to be effective disciples of Jesus Christ.



The Board and Staff of Oskaloosa Christian School would like to acknowledge and thank the families of John Veenstra and Tunis Kelderman for gifts received in their memory.

The gifts in memory of John Veenstra will be used for our Music

Department. The gifts received in memory of Tunis Kelderman will be used for our Phase 1 Capital Campaign to replace our roof and windows.

We humbly thank all the family members and friends of John and Tunis for blessing our school during their time of loss. These gifts will benefit our school families for many years to come.



For Generations to Come

For Generations To Come (FGTC) is our in-school tuition program. At Oskaloosa Christian School, we are aware that private school tuition requires sacrifice. This is why FGTC was created. We want to be able to help as many families that need help with tuition to send their children to our school. Our goal for fundraising for this school year is \$60,000.

Our Celebration of Friends banquet in November netted donations in excess of \$20,000. Our fall mailing continues to reap the kindness of others, as we have received contributions of \$18,590 from that endeavor thus far. Combine these two events with other gifts received, and we have been blessed with over \$45,000 towards our goal. Praise God for the provision of His people!

Our spring mailing will come out in a couple of months. In the meantime, I cannot thank our Oskaloosa Christian School family enough for the generous support for FGTC so far this year. Families will benefit from your kindness and will be able to access Christian schooling in Oskaloosa because of your willingness to bless others. May God bless you in great measure for your kindness to us!

SEIBA HONOR BAND

Congratulations to the following students who worked hard to audition for this year's SEIBA (South East Iowa Band Association) performance:

Sydney Bruxvoort, Taylor Hol, Anniston Meyer, Natalie Plate, Ben Spronk, Finn Spronk, Megan Veenstra, and Elie Westercamp. Sydney, Anniston and Megan were selected to perform at Clear Creek-Amana High School along with other students from southeast Iowa. Thank you to all of these band students who represented our school very well!



Left to Right: Megan, Anniston, Sydney



PREVIEW DAY and KINDER KAMP

Kinder Kids Preview Day will be held on Monday, February 21 at Oskaloosa Christian School. Parents interested in our Kinder Kids program for their child for the 2022-23 school year are invited to attend. Preview Day will include information about our Kinder Kids program, a parent Q & A session, and meeting our principal and Kinder Kids teachers.

Kinder Kamp, our readiness assessment time, will be held at our school on Friday, March 4. The Kinder Kids team will use the time during the morning or afternoon session to assess the readiness of four-year-olds whose parents have expressed interest in attending our school in August. Sign up for Kinder Kamp on our school's website under the admissions tab at www.oskaloosachristian.net or you can call the school office at 641-672-2174 to sign up.

The Preview Day and Kinder Kamp events will help us gauge the interest in the Kinder Kids program for the upcoming year, so share this information with anyone you know who may be interested! Questions may be emailed to kinderkids@oskaloosachristian.net. Flyers including this information are also available in the office to share with others.

Sign up for Kinder Kamp today!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We want to give you an update on the progress of our Phase I Capital Campaign, where we are raising money to address our exterior (roof and windows) and interior (i.e. furnaces, plumbing, etc.) school facilities. To date, your generosity has added up to over \$225,000 collected in hand, with other sources currently in progress that will yield additional funding. Our initial goal of \$250,000 to begin exterior projects is within reach, thanks to the blessings of those who have shared. Would you be willing to help us with this endeavor? Or do you know someone who may be able to help and would like someone to speak to them? Please contact the school at 641-672-2174, or email me at mitchellld@oskaloosachristian.net, and I would be happy to help. Thank you for your support, and praise God for the blessings He has given us thus far!

THANK YOU!



TRIP News (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program)

Ordering Schedule

Mondays - order by 12:00 noon
Fridays - pick up 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Order dates:

January 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28

Quick facts: June 2021--to date:

Total Sales to date: \$226,880!

Tuition Credit Accumulated: over \$8,540!

Cash and Carry TRIP cards are available from the office on a first-come, first-serve basis: Amazon, Applebee's, Arby's, Bredeaux, Casey's, Culver's, Eagle's Nest, Fareway, Great Clips, Hy-Vee, JC Penney, Kohl's, Mahaska Drug, Maurice's, Menards, PC Mall, Pizza Hut, Pizza Ranch, Subway, Sunnyslope, Taco Bell, Taco John's, Target, Taso's, Tupperware, Two Rivers Pella, WalMart, Wendy's

Weekly orders can be placed online!

Just be sure you have completed a registration form so that you are in our system.

Want to make sure the cards are available when you need them? Submit your orders to the office by noon for local and national cards and they will be guaranteed by Friday of the same week!

Don't want to come into the office to place an order? No problem! Go to shopwithscrip.com and set up an online account. You can use a credit card or automatic withdrawal from your bank account. You will then have the option to use "ScripNow eCards" which allows you, for some stores, to download a card for immediate use to your smartphone. For more info, go to www.shopwithscrip.com or contact Kristin Plate at 641-670-0583.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

December



- Janel Campbell opened with devotions and prayer.
- Motion made, seconded, and passed to accept board minutes for November and consent agenda for December.
- November financial reports were presented.
- Committee motions
 - Education Committee:
 - Motion to extend a contract to Tiffany Roozeboom for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion seconded and passed.
 - Motion to accept the school calendar for 2022-2023 as presented. Motion seconded and passed.
- The board met with representatives from Pella Christian, discussing a variety of topics.
- Don Mitchell reminded the board of the board workshop on February 1st and encouraged them to attend.
- Don Mitchell presented a capital campaign update.
- A motion was made to pay 50%, up to \$6,000, for a replacement mixer for the kitchen. Motion seconded and passed.
- Next meeting: January 18, 2022 @ 6:30 pm
- Motion to adjourn. Motion seconded and passed.
- Don Mitchell closed in prayer.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

January



- Lucas De Groot opened with devotions and prayer.
- Motion made, seconded, and passed to accept board minutes for December and consent agenda for January.
- December financial reports were presented.
- Committee motions
 - Education Committee:
 - Motion to extend Lisa De Bruin a contract for teacher's aide for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion passed via email, due to time sensitivity.
 - Policy motions:
 - Motion to accept Policy 501.1 as amended. Motion seconded and failed. Policy sent back to Education Committee for revision.
 - Motion to accept first reading of 600 Policy Series edits. Motion seconded and passed.
 - Motion to accept first reading of 700 Policy Series edits. Motion seconded and passed.
 - Finance Committee:
 - Motion to grant full-time staff three personal days with no rollover for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion seconded and passed.
 - To move property insurance deductible from \$1,000 to \$2,500. Motion seconded and passed.
- Don Mitchell reminded the board of the board workshop on February 1. Board members were encouraged to RSVP using a provided link.
- Don Mitchell gave an update on the upcoming IHSAA appeal regarding cooperative agreements.
- Don Mitchell gave an update on the progress of the capital campaign. The board discussed options for continued fundraising.
- The board read an email, asking for permission to use the gym for a community event. After discussion, the board denied the request.
- Don Mitchell presented a review of the governor's Condition of the State address, which included references for legislation that could affect Oskaloosa Christian School. Discussion took place.
- Don Mitchell asked the board for assistance with parent/teacher conferences, as he will be at a leadership conference at that time.
- Matt Drost reminded the board to be thinking of individuals to nominate for the school board for the 2022-2023 school year. Three board members have terms ending in June.
- Motion to enter executive session. Seconded and passed. Entered at 8:55 pm, exited at 8:56 pm
- The board conducted the administrator's evaluation.
- Motion to offer Don Mitchell a contract for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion seconded and passed.
- Next meeting: February 21, 2022 @ 6:30 pm
- Motion to adjourn. Motion seconded and passed.
- Jim Eveland closed in prayer.



Teaching for TRANSFORMATION

TFT Spotlight:

See the Story. Live the Story.
Our teachers are using TFT tools to create learning experiences that empower our students to play their part in God's Story.



Mrs. Rebecca Hoksbergen

Deep Hope: My deep hope is that we will see God at work through actions and words.

Story Line: ABC, 123 - I see

God at work in me!

TFT Reflection: In Transitional Kindergarten we learn how to "do school." We focus on a different social topic each week to explain how the students affect those around them. A few weeks ago our topic was about being selfish. We learned how when we share we are blessing others and being a good friend. The Bible verse that went with our lesson was "Do not neglect to do good and share what you have," Hebrews 13:16a As we each play a part in God's story, it is important for the kids to see that their words and actions are to reflect Christ; it gives them purpose and direction for doing their best! "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men," Colossians 3:23



Mrs. Kendra Foley

Deep Hope: In second grade, our deep hope is that together we will stand out and

be noticeable as we are lights to the world. We remember this by using our storyline.

Story Line: Stand out and be noticeable.

TFT Reflection: Philippians 2:15 points us in the direction we should go, saying, "Be blameless and innocent children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world." During the spring semester, we complete a FLEX project that has us looking into real life heroes and how they stand out and are noticeable. Working towards being lights to the world by standing out and being noticeable as Christians will help us to learn what it looks like to live well in Christ's image in the midst of our world.