



Crossroads Connection

November 2013

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From the Principal's Desk... *by Connie Nourse*

As you read this newsletter we are about 3 weeks into the 2nd quarter. It is a great time to reflect on how we started, celebrate our growth and progress, and make adjustments to effectively address our students' learning needs for the rest of the school year. It is also a good time to recognize and appreciate all the support Crossroads School receives from our community and parents. Having a successful school takes all of us working together for a common cause! I know the staff and volunteers at Crossroads truly appreciate the support of the community. Strong schools need strong communities and strong communities need strong schools. We are truly connected, and together we will accomplish great things!

Crossroads is particularly grateful to Central Presbyterian Church. Without their community support Crossroads would not be in a position to continue growing. The space for the school is fantastic and the church staff support we receive is unbelievable! What a blessing it is to come to work and have others asking on a weekly basis – "What can we do to make your job easier?"

If you have not had a chance to do so, and are in the Longmont area, I invite you to give us a call and share in the blessings. We would love for you to stop by. Just give Barb (our school administrator) a call. She will give you a tour so you can see firsthand what awesome blessings God is pouring out on Crossroads School.

Finally, as the seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas approach, I would like to wish all our families and supporters a restful and blessed time away from the everyday grind of life.

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good." Psalm 100:4-5

Food & Fellowship: Join Us at Chick-fil-A: Tuesday, Nov 19, 6-7:30 pm

Join us for chicken and fellowship! Crossroads will get 15-20% of the proceeds, depending how many people we have. We hope to see you there!



Development Corner... *by Howard Nourse*

Wisdom from Jim Elliot

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

These words of martyred missionary James Elliot cause us to confront what we have to give and what it is that we cannot lose. In one sense it is a stewardship statement, in that it shapes our lifestyle. What is it we cannot keep? Our time, our talent, our treasured possessions are all gifts from God, on loan to us during our lifetime. None of it is permanent; it all belongs to God who created it. What we choose to do with it while it is in our care defines our lifestyle. A lifestyle of using it, or in Elliot's words giving it, to advance God's plan is the pathway to gain what we cannot lose – our eternal souls. God has promised in John 3:16 that belief in Jesus Christ is the means to eternal life. Our love response for this promise is the lifestyle of one who gives what he cannot keep to advance God's kingdom so that others as well may know Jesus Christ and gain what they cannot lose.

Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure to Crossroads School are investments in the development of the lives of our students of a Christian lifestyle contributing to society and advancing God's plan.

Spotlight On: Career Development Center... by Konni Keuter **Students gain trade skills**

Within the mission statement of Crossroads School is the core principle of equipping students with the skills they need to allow them to positively impact their community. The new relationship between Crossroads and the Career Development Center (CDC) this year is helping to fulfill that mission in the lives of our students.



Students model welding gear

CDC, part of the St. Vrain Valley school district, specializes in career and technical education classes that provide students with practical experience. CDC offers a wide variety of classes ranging from welding to cosmetology to multimedia tech. All of these classes are designed to train students to be productive citizens in our community.

Currently, Crossroads School has all four of our 10th-12th grade students enrolled in the CDC program. According to Luke McManus, his Welding instructor tells him to "experiment using different strategies," which gives him the opportunity to figure out solutions by himself. Joey Corwin, enrolled in the Engineering Technology course, likes how CDC offers hands-on experience. "The teachers give us good instruction but we get to work on our own." According to these students, the program offers real-world learning.

CDC courses are designed for 10th through 12th grade students and, like Crossroads, aim to provide students with relevant education that is connected, responsive, and real. The 9th graders at Crossroads are looking forward to the opportunities that the partnership with CDC offers. Jon Ballard enjoys working on cars and hopes that an automotive-related career is in his future. He is very excited about the real-life opportunities that the Auto Tech course at CDC will offer him.

Relationships like the one with CDC and the St. Vrain Valley School District are integral to the rounded and focused learning experience that Crossroads strives to offer each of our students. Along with keeping students engaged, these relationships allow us to present a wide range of opportunities for every child. As we grow, Crossroads will continue to foster community and educational relationships such as this one, because they are essential to our on-going mission – changing our world, one life at a time.

Longmont Ford: Supporting Organization Snapshot... by Michael Shutes



Longmont Ford, owned by Michael Peebles since 2005, is a local car dealership with a heart for their community. Many local organizations have benefited from Longmont Ford; in fact, an entire wall at the dealership is dedicated to photos and thanks from organizations such as the Longmont Humane Society, the OUR Center, a variety of other local charities--and now Crossroads School.

Longmont Ford connected with Crossroads School through Jennifer Danner, wife of Brent Danner, a manager at the dealership. Jennifer has been a volunteer at Crossroads since 2011 and joined the Crossroads School Board in 2012. She brought the school to the attention of the leadership of Longmont Ford. After a review of Crossroads, Michael and Brent agreed there was a need. As Michael clearly stated, "I know and have seen these kids," and he knows they need this school.

From that point forward the support began. One major gift to Crossroads was our 15 passenger van, donated in the spring of 2012. This is such a blessing to our school, and is used to drive weekly to PE classes at the local YMCA as well as a variety of other off-site events. This year, Longmont Ford was part of a generous three-year grant that helped us fund additional full-time staff. This grant has significantly increased the stability and relational connections between staff and students. Other gifts have come from the dealership as well as individual employees.



At Longmont Ford, the heart for the community is abundant. Any attempt to express gratitude to them is just returned. As Brent Danner put it, "It's the staff and volunteers that deserve the gratitude for all their hearts, lives, and faith that they put into it!" We are very thankful to have Longmont Ford in our community and as a supporter of Crossroads School.