

Crossroads Connection

Crossroads School

September 2010

The Dream Becomes Reality. . . First Day of School: August 18, 2010!

What an amazing blessing to watch God take a dream and make it reality! About 50 people joined us to celebrate our Grand Opening on August 13, including former Longmont Mayor Leona Stoecker, who said a few words, and local pastor Gary Jefferson, who prayed a blessing on the new school. The Grand Opening was covered in the Longmont Times Call newspaper; check it out here:

The following week, after a little less than a year of planning, preparing, raising funds, and spreading the word, Crossroads School opened with the first class of four students. Each of the students receives a thorough educational assessment by Educational Specialist Joanna Topham, a process that takes 3-4 hours to complete. Then Joanna works with Principal and Teacher Connie Nourse to design individualized lessons for each student, to help them build the foundation for learning and develop the skills they need for success. Joanna will also follow up with one-on-one remediation and continuing assessments.

Connie is also spending significant time in the first few weeks of school on organization, following directions, persisting in difficult tasks rather than giving up, and other foundational skills that students need in order to succeed. It's exciting to see the students responding to Connie and Joanna and our volunteers. We look forward to a bright future for these students and others who will join them! See below for photos of the first few weeks of school.

Applebee's Fundraiser Breakfast: Saturday, October 2

Mark your calendars! Tickets are \$7 for all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, and beverages. Crossroads gets \$5 of each ticket! Tickets are available at Crossroads or at the door. See you there--come hungry!

In the News: Grand Opening in the *Longmont Times-Call*

The Longmont newspaper published a photo and article about our Grand Opening--we've been thrilled with their supportive coverage! Visit our website to see the article!

Welcome, Susan Hofland: New Board Member!

Susan Hofland has been appointed to the Crossroads School Board to represent the Journey church. Part of our fiscal sponsorship agreement with the Journey includes having a representative from the church on the school board.

Susan earned a BS in Nutrition at the University of California at Davis. After over 20 years as a stay-at-home mom, she recently went back to school and received her nursing license and is now a practicing nurse. Over the years, Susan has invested countless hours volunteering in school, church, and community activities. Susan's son, Chris, was diagnosed with lymphoma at age 11, and fell behind in school during his two years of chemotherapy. As a result, he and his parents struggled to find good schooling options for him, and to help him make good choices. Susan's heart is with Crossroads School because she understands from experience what it's like to deal with an "at risk" child. She is proud to be part of a school that wants to build into the lives of these struggling children.

Welcome, Susan!

Volunteer Opportunities: **Ways to Get Involved**

Facility Support: Each Sunday afternoon the school has to be set up, which means moving desks, putting up bulletin boards, and so on. Each Friday afternoon, we clean it all up again, as well as cleaning bathrooms, mopping floors, vacuuming, and so on. We'd love your help any time you're available!

Special Events: Serve pancakes at our Applebees Fundraising Breakfast, or help us plan and run other fundraisers, Family Nights, and other events we haven't even thought of yet.

Teacher's Aides: Get involved by spending half a day each week, each month, or just once in a while with the students at Crossroads, helping in the classroom. This may involve working individually with a student, assisting the teacher with group activities, or helping prepare materials for the class, among other things. Most of all, it will be an opportunity to make a difference in the hearts and lives of kids.

Special Area Teachers: Do you have a special skill, such as art, or music, or carpentry? We would love to have you come in and share that skill with our students, either in a single lesson or a series of lessons. You don't need to be a teacher to share your skill and passion!

Volunteer Coordinator: We have had such a plethora of volunteers that we're in need of someone who loves organizing, who would be willing to help coordinate them all!

Interested in any of these? Until we identify our Volunteer Coordinator, please talk to Barb (303-709-9881; bjbulhuis@gmail.com). If you want to be the Volunteer Coordinator, God bless you! We'll put your name here next month!

Crossroads In Action: **Pictures are worth a thousand words!**



Students are busy with lots of hands-on activities, including an impromptu lesson from a mosquito abatement expert who happened to stop by during break.