

Dear Parents and Friends of WCGS,

"I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your Name, O Most High" (Psalm 9:1,2). As we reflect over the 2019-2020 school year, we pause to give thanks for how we have experienced God's goodness, kindness, and faithfulness in the life of our school. Faculty and staff daily join with you to lay down their lives to invest into the hearts and minds of your children. It has been our joy to see students commit their lives to Christ, pursue a deeper knowledge and understanding in their walk with the Lord, and become more courageous in sharing their faith in Christ. Students have been given opportunities to ask deep questions, learn and be challenged to think critically, and to more fully understand God's truth so as not to be taken captive through the hollow and deceptive philosophies of the world (Colossians 2:8).

Please take just a few minutes to review this abbreviated Annual Report. As you do, we trust that you will be encouraged with the ways in which God is at work in our school and the lives of our students. More than ever, we understand that this is the Lord's school and we need His help.

Thank you for investing yourselves into the lives of your children and our school. The support we receive from you is so helpful and encouraging. You are amazing! Through your prayers, time, and financial support, you beautifully demonstrate your love for the Lord and His school. Thank you for being vested into this wonderful work. All praise and glory to God!

With a grateful heart,

Stephen E. Clum  
Head of School, on behalf of the  
WCGS Administrative Team



## 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



## SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL LEARNING



The addition of Mandy Jasper as our social worker has provided key services for our students and teachers. Social-emotional learning is the foundation for students to be able to connect to self and others in a safe, caring environment. The school social worker assists students in developing positive self-awareness, self-management techniques, and interpersonal skills to aid in biblical decision making. Some key initiatives in social-emotional learning at WCGS the past year have been:

- Individual counseling support
- Social Work Small Group for kindergarten and first grade students
- Newcomer Lunches for new students in grades 1-8
- Zones of Regulation implementation and training for faculty, families, and classrooms
- Buddy Bench presentations in kindergarten-fifth grade
- Classroom presentations on social-emotional learning decided by grade level team.

## SPUR ONE ANOTHER ON

This year students have been learning, discussing, and applying the theme of Hebrews 10:23-24 to “spur one another on.” They have been cultivating a growing personal relationship with Jesus and unity within our school community, as well as transforming their world by loving others and carrying out good deeds. By spurring one another on, we are encouraging others, sharing the love of Jesus through our actions, and putting others before ourselves.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Every school year our dedicated faculty and staff seize the opportunity to participate in professional learning communities, highlighting essential learning and teaching practices across the content areas and grade levels. This year was no different as we engaged in specialized workshops, professional learning communities, and in-house curriculum development. To date this year, a third of our faculty have already attended specialized workshops building instructional expertise in science, literacy, Bible, civics, music, and student support services. Professional development has come through a variety of leading organizations such as ACSI, Everyone Reading IL, Christian Schools Bible Conference, Wheaton College, DuPage Regional Office of Education and national educational entities. In February, our faculty will rub shoulders with local educators through the DuPage Countywide Institute Day, attending over a dozen workshops supporting growth in technology, executive functioning, literacy, social-emotional learning, the arts, foreign language and mathematics. Amid these robust PD events, WCGS teachers are also examining, evaluating, and refining the curriculum for Bible, reading, geography, and social studies this school year. It is essential that WCGS continue to implement the best researched, pedagogical practices to guarantee the successful nurturing of the whole child, meeting the needs of our students, for God’s glory.



## BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW SURVEY (BWS) RESULTS

The BWS was administered to our students in grades 3-8 this fall. Here is the summary of those results:

Average % per grade level	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
	94.9	95.5	96.8	97.2	98.2	98.2

- Across grade levels, our students are doing very well on this survey!
- The students' scores trend up from 3<sup>rd</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- For most grade levels, students' scores are improving from one year to the next (Ex: The 5<sup>th</sup> grade scores from this fall of 2019 are better than the scores of those same students who took it in 4<sup>th</sup> grade in the spring of 2019).
- We are hoping to add an open-ended question to the survey that would allow students to demonstrate how to apply their knowledge of a biblical worldview.

## ACSI/COGNIA REACCREDITATION/ISBE NON-PUBLIC RECOGNITION

We are amid final preparations for our ACSI/Cognia Accreditation visit on April 19-22. Much work continues to be done in advance of the team's arrival. We are confident that this rigorous process will once again help us as we seek to improve our school.

At the same time, we are seeking renewal of our Full Nonpublic School Recognition from the Illinois State Board of Education.

The accreditation and nonpublic school recognition process is designed to assist WCGS in achieving a standard of excellence and to encourage our continuous process of assessment and ongoing development.

## CURRICULUM UPDATES

Three different subjects (K-8 Social Studies, K-8 Bible, and K-5 Reading) continue to be reviewed under the leadership of Sue Macaluso, Director of Curriculum and Instruction. We continue to be diligent in our selection of core curriculum and resources to stay on mission by implementing materials such as [Dangerous Prayers: 50 Powerful Prayers That Changed the World](#) by Susan Hill. We want students to see historical evidence of God using ordinary people who pray courageous prayers to do extraordinary things for Him, transforming the world.

## BIBLICAL INTEGRATED INSTRUCTION



The faculty continues to take time to prepare well and plan intentionally for biblically integrated instruction (PAQ) across the grade levels and across disciplines. Through their training in writing PAQ lessons, teachers are becoming well-versed in modeling, teaching, and applying a biblical worldview to lessons and units while also practicing WCGS spiritual disciplines. It is exciting to witness students asking questions, correcting assumptions, and generating purpose for their learning as they examine various resources: text to the Bible, author's worldview to a biblical worldview, text to biblical truths, and text to themselves, as followers of Christ. Students are exercising their spiritual muscles as they study God's Word, reflect on the meaning and message, memorize Scripture, and put it all into practice through daily interactions.



## MARKETING

Throughout the past year, the school has made enrollment and marketing a point of emphasis. Our goal is to attract “mission-fit” families who are longing for a Christian education. Our focus has led us toward market research, intentional storytelling, and a social media campaign. We have restructured our Visit Day experience to be more effective for our prospective families. Our goal is to provide an individualized experience so families can learn the maximum amount of information about who we are and where we are headed as a school. In addition, we launched a Parent Ambassador team to gain traction within the community with word-of-mouth strategies. Families continue to be our most effective advocate for telling the story of Wheaton Christian Grammar School. We are grateful for excellent numbers in our incoming Kindergarten classes and will continue to pursue different avenues for helping families in their school decision making process.

## CONTINUING THE DISCUSSION PARENT SERIES

We continue to see great value and receive wonderful feedback from our parents regarding this series. It has provided a great platform for education and discussion. Here are a few of the topics that have been presented that continue to meet the goals (1. To strengthen our school-home partnership; 2. To provide families with awareness, resources, and support from experts; and 3. To reinforce the biblical worldview) of our Parent Series.

- Raising Financial Responsible Kids/Adults
- Connect film: The influence of technology on our kids
- Executive Functioning
- The Zones of Regulation: Teaching students self-regulation and self-control
- Screenagers: Next Chapter: Uncovering skills for stress resilience with social media
- Coffee with Administration



## SPIRITUAL

We continue to challenge our students into a deeper understanding and application of Scripture. The life process of being transformed by the renewing of their minds is a daily commitment. We seek to partner with you in raising up young children who love Jesus and are passionate about their relationship with him. We believe that together, we have the opportunity to train young people to love God deeply and to take the gospel message to the ends of the earth. We long for this next generation to know they are loved (Romans 5:8), to navigate the world through the lens of Scripture (Romans 12:2), to reflect the grace and love of Jesus (Eph 5:1-2), to worship God in everything they do (Col. 3:17) and to articulate their faith to others who are in desperate need of Jesus (Mt. 28:19-20). Students are engaging with Bible classes, God’s Word, chapel programs, Bible memory, local service opportunities, biblical worldview training, leadership opportunities, global ministry partnerships, mission trips, and many more activities. These activities are brought to life by teachers, staff, and administrators who long for children to love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. God is planting seeds daily, and we are honored to partner with families in the spiritual formation process.

## PROPOSED 2020-2021 TUITION

Kindergarten (Half-Day)	\$6,360
Kindergarten (Full-Day) & Grades 1-5	\$11,510
Junior High (Grades 6-8)	\$12,165

Multi-Student Discount:  
Available upon request

## PROPOSED 2020-2021 BUDGET

## Revenue:

Tuition	\$5,858,035
Annual Scholarship Fundraising	\$450,000
Endowment & Other Income	\$77,240
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$6,385,275</b>

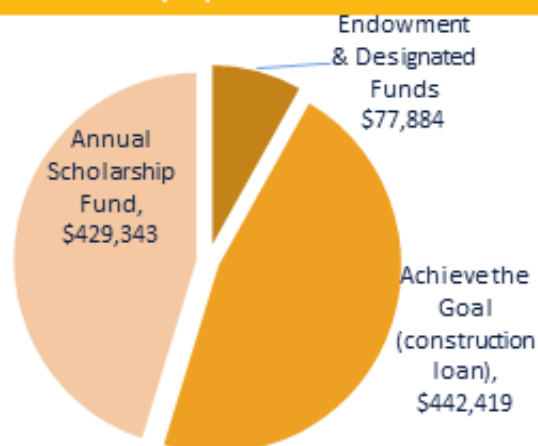
## Expense:

Salaries & Benefits	\$4,769,511
Student Scholarships	\$465,000
Contracted Building Services	\$256,618
Development & Marketing	\$124,000
Athletics & Student Activities	\$108,100
Curriculum & Technology	\$230,000
Contracted Organizational Services	\$112,000
Utilities & Telephone	\$116,000
Departmental & Classroom Supplies	\$64,700
Office Supplies, Printing & Postage	\$61,500
Professional Educational Services	\$29,000
Construction Loan Interest	\$10,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$37,000
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$6,383,429</b>

Highlights of the proposed 2020-2021 budget are as follows:

- 2.85% average full-time teacher salary increase
- 3.6% tuition increase
- 500 student budget base

## DONATIONS FOR YEAR ENDING 6/30/19



We're so thankful for your generous gifts!

We have just \$1.35M left on our construction loan (as of 1/29/2020).



Erin Dieter, President  
Allison Montalto, Vice President  
Holly Taritas, Secretary  
Carrie Lynn Reeder, Treasurer  
Micah Lindquist, Chaplain

# WCGS Auxiliary



**21 Auxiliary Committees**



**Box Tops:** generated \$1410.50 last year, and \$804.10 thus far in 2019-20



**Sunshine committee:**  
70 volunteers  
blessed 10 families



**Food Pantry:** collected  
734 items, 770 pounds  
of food



**Fathers' Prayer Breakfast:** blessed 50  
dads



**Ladies' Salad Social:**  
welcomed over 200  
ladies



**Grandparents' Day:**  
Welcomed almost 500  
grandparents



**Christmas Sale:** Raised  
funds which blessed 44 non-  
homeroom faculty and staff

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Moore, President  
Scott Shelton, Vice President  
Paul Mathews, Treasurer  
David Ochs, Assistant Treasurer  
Mike Lanham, Secretary  
Brittany Fellowes, Assistant Secretary

Stephen Clum  
Jason Eckert  
Jennifer Eldersveld  
Nathan Hancock  
Kent Legel

## ADMINISTRATION

Stephen E. Clum  
Head of School  
  
Jeffrey K. Brooke  
Associate Head of School

Marc C. Painter  
Principal  
  
Roger J. Burgess  
Assistant Principal of Spiritual  
Life and School Counselor

### YEAR VERSES 2019-2020

*"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.  
And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."* Hebrews 10:23-24