# FALL/WINTER 2020-2021

BACK ON CAMPUS!

THE DC PROMISE

2019-20 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

M

DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### **KEYNOTER**

FALL/WINTER 2020-2021

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The Delaware County Christian School (DC) Keynoter is published bi-annually to communicate our school vision and news to alumni, friends, family, and prayer partners of the school. DC was established in 1950. The school serves students in Pre-K-12 on campuses in Newtown Square and Devon, PA. DC is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and by the Association of Christian Schools International. DC admits students of any race, color, and national/ethnic origin to all of the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national/ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, or athletic and other school-administered programs. In addition, DC is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students.





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OUR MISSION IS TO EDUCATE STUDENTS WHO WILL SERVE GOD AND IMPACT THE WORLD THROUGH BIBLICAL THOUGHT AND ACTION.



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#### Dear DC Friends and Families,

The past year presented many historic challenges for our nation which will likely continue well into 2021. Challenges that reinforced time and time again that we live in a broken and fallen world, ripe with frustration, confusion and uncertainty, along with hardship, anger, and fear. And yet, in an act of pure, unconditional love, Jesus Christ stepped into this world that we might be restored to the fullness of relationship with the living God. Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life and have it to the full" (John 10:10).

It is in the power of Christ and His promises that the DC community has carried forth this year - #DCSTRONG! Fueled by the DC Promise, we prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ, we opened our campuses on September 2nd for daily, on campus instruction for all students PK-12. By keeping the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff at the forefront, we have been able to maximize the power of life on life impact in a DC education. We continue to move our community towards attaining our racial and socio-economic principles recently articulated by the Board of Trustees. We celebrate the advances made academically, technologically, and spiritually and we commit to building on these in the coming year.

I invite you to celebrate and participate in the work that God is doing at DC even now, as we press on #DCSTRONG. The stories and photos in this issue of the Keynoter remind us that we serve a faithful God. May the content on these pages inspire us to continue our support of the fundamental work of DC – to prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ.

In a VUCA world (volatile, uncertain, complex, uncertain) our mission to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action is vital, now more than ever. Through God's gracious leading we have a fresh vision and strategic plan for DC. The past year has demonstrated the innovation, resilience, discernment, and perseverance of the faculty, staff, and administration to carry these strategic initiatives forward. And in Christ, we will experience fullness of life! #DCSTRONG!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Dan Steinfield

Head of School

# THE DOCUMENT OF THE PROMISE OF THE P

WE PREPARE STUDENTS FOR A

LIFE OF IMPACT
THROUGH AN

INNOVATIVE & EXEMPLARY EDUCATION

ROOTED IN CHRIST



## EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION Deeper Learning

To lead lives of impact today and tomorrow, students need to engage in the kind of deeper, independent learning that fosters curiosity and creativity. CACE, the Center for the Advancement of Christian Education, defines deeper learning "as the people of God's story engaged in real work that forms self and shapes the world." This definition, says Steinfield, serves as an umbrella for all DC students as they progress on their journey from PK-2 to twelfth grade. It's not only about what a student learns, but also about who they are—unique individuals created in God's image and maturing Christ-followers. The "real work" of deeper learning they undertake shapes them as they learn to communicate, collaborate, take risks, and make decisions.

The traditional school schedule leaves no room for these experiences. This is where the concept of core agility comes in. DC will clearly define its college prep liberal arts core curriculum so that, with a more focused core of required classes, there's space to identify and nurture each student's unique gifts, talents, abilities, and interests. "We want to provide a rigorous education that prepares students not only for college, but also for a future of engaging and leading in the 21st century workforce, in family and community life, within our churches and even on a global scale," Steinfield says.

DC students and faculty have already been hard at work on two initiatives that illustrate the power of this kind of learning and serve as examples of core agility in action. "We recently launched a new coffee shop and a school store, both completely student-run, to show the community what we mean," says Steinfield.

One of the natural economies of this kind of innovative learning is also one of its great strengths. "Twenty-first-century education is about partnerships," says Steinfield. He envisions adding innovative learning opportunities for DC students through establishing partnerships with like-minded organizations across a range of areas, from the arts to biotechnology.

DC's Director of Innovation Jim Favino, for example, is exploring a partnership with Yvonne English, the Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship + Innovation (E+I) at Grove City College and a fellow of the Praxis group, to plant an E+I Center at Delaware County Christian School. Innovation and Entrepreneurial (E+I) skills will be important for all students entering a rapidly changing workforce environment. Having the opportunity before college to explore what it means to be engaged in redemptive entrepreneurship will prepare students for the kinds of course and career choices they will make later on. In addition to that, we have the opportunity to help broaden and deepen their thinking about how Christians serve God.

"The focus of these experiences is on students having a restorative, redemptive impact—no matter what they do," says Steinfield. "It's part of the DNA of Delaware County Christian School." While the limitless opportunities that technology affords and the language and framework around innovation in education are new, the proven concepts are not. "Liberal arts education and Applied and Innovative Learning always go hand-in-hand," says Steinfield.

## "THE ARMORY" MORE THAN JUST A STORE

DC took the concept of investing in students to a whole new level this fall when the school extended a loan to the young entrepreneurs in Becky Pitofsky's SAIL class to start a school store. The rest was up to them.

Students wrote a vision, mission, and business plan and executed a "pop-up" launch of *The Armory* in time for Christmas. "They had so much fun doing this," Pitofsky says. "It was entirely student driven—and it was a big responsibility. I loved watching them step out of their comfort zones, blossom, and run with it."

Students had to collaborate and communicate with each other and with many different people in the DC community, and engage critical thinking skills in new and creative ways. "Students are used to being told exactly what to do, when, and how," Pitofsky says, "so it sounds foreign to them when we say, 'Here's your goal—go do it!"

"For the school to place this kind of trust in students, and for the students to be able to reflect God's character as they create, instills great confidence," she says. The students learned lots of lessons to take forward, too—for example, they now know they need to carry a broader range of products at different price points.

In all of this, the students hold their sense of purpose seriously. Their mission statement begins: "Our purpose is to create a business that is more than just a store but something that brings our community together and increases school spirit." Through this enterprise they want to glorify God, exemplify DC's core values, be environmentally friendly, and support local small businesses.

Students in Pitofsky's class in the spring semester will be tasked with designing the grand opening for the store.

Like entrepreneurship itself, innovative education is regenerative. When students in a future class pay off the initial loan, the funds will be reinvested in other student-driven initiatives.









## MISSION SUSTAINABILITY

## Carrying the DC Legacy Forward

Sustainability is multi-factorial. It includes everything from forward-thinking financial planning to growth in student numbers and wise stewardship of the school's beautiful facilities. At its heart, though, sustainability requires a willingness to embrace innovation and change.

Steinfield reflects back on the work of Roy Lowrie who for more than twenty-five years led the DC community. Lowrie believed that, "no child should take an academic penalty to get a Christian education." Christian schools should be leading in academic excellence and innovation, which in themselves will call for evolution or change over time

Although the DC community is justifiably proud of its 70-year heritage, it's important to remember that in 1950 the school looked very different from the way it looks today. In the same way, DC will look very different in 2090. "No one likes change," Steinfield says, "but many Christian schools, tragically, have closed. We can't expect to continue to look the way we look now and be able to provide the kind of innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ that will prepare students to lead lives of impact in our rapidly changing world." The people who teach, inspire, and model lives of impact for Christ are the most important indicator of student success. "So, the first priority of sustainability is retaining, recruiting, and pouring into DC's educators, coaches, and support staff," says Steinfield. This means providing the space, support, and tools these 21st century educators need to do their best work as they move beyond the post-industrial model of education to guide and challenge students to engage in deeper learning.

"While growth in enrollment is also part of sustainability, it's not about the numbers," Steinfield says. "Rather, it's about the school 'hitting its stride!" He looks forward to the school regaining its proper place as a national leader in Christian education. Part of the key to making this happen is equipping every parent, teacher, student, and alumnus to be able to share the DC narrative in a clear and winsome way, with anyone who asks about the school. "The DC promise," Steinfield says, "is an excellent place to start."

Another key element of sustainability that will help DC hit its stride is its early childhood education program. In the joyful and nurturing environment created by Becky Zaro, the new Director of the Early Childhood Center, and her staff, young learners build faith, knowledge, and confidence as they begin their journey to live lives of impact. The program, which now serves PK3, PK4, and Kindergarten students, will expand to include PK2 next year. Steinfield notes that this expansion is one way the school is working to partner with families to provide Christ-centered curriculum for early learners.

Sustainability, in the end, is all about DC fulfilling its promise. "We don't see numbers," Steinfield says, "We see a child who is making an impact."



During DC's Shark Tank-like Innovative Design Challenge last spring, students, Emily Chung and siblings James and Mary Schaefer, pitched their entrepreneurial concepts to parents and faculty. A campus coffee shop won the popular vote. Director of Innovation Jim Favino, and SAIL teacher Becky Pitofsky, coached the winning team of three students through the process of launching this new enterprise, *The Grounds*.

Students did all the research, planning, and budgeting required to write a business plan and established a partnership with Valero Coffee Roasters. *The Grounds* team figured out not only how to create a sustainable business model, but also how to meet strict COVID protocols to keep everyone safe.

After working hard all summer and through the fall, they opened *The Grounds* three weeks before Christmas to serve faculty, staff, and students. Like the students who launched The Armory, these students kept the purpose of this redemptive entrepreneurial enterprise in sharp focus. Their vision is to create "a welcoming community space that helps strengthen our school's fellowship and sense of unity." They want to offer an affordable, high-quality product in an inviting atmosphere. Their goal is to integrate core values such as community, worship, and friendship. Several ways they plan to do this are by offering open mic nights, displaying student artwork, and offering a safe space to hang out. And as for impact? "We hope to have a permanent impact at DC and keep The Grounds running for a long time!" they say.







## Grace-Filled COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The DC community is saved by grace to serve with grace. Cultivating a culture of grace builds unity and fellowship within the DC community and also in student-parent relationships. When teachers and staff model the fruit of the Spirit in their interactions with students and with colleagues, students learn to show grace to one another too.

Grace is the foundation for every in-school relationship, and for DC's external engagement with the wider community. DC's external engagement is key to sustainability, education, and mission. Newly appointed Director of Community Partnerships, Shannon Schreiber '02, is laying the groundwork for DC to be a good neighbor and engage in a real way with the community. She's reaching out to area townships, libraries, sports venues, and more to find ways that DC can partner with, or be of service to, the community.

"Because we care about where we live, we're continually looking outward to find ways we can serve and share resources," Schreiber says. It's about a willingness to stand out and connect DC with needs in the community.

A lot of this work has been going on behind the scenes so that, when the pandemic is over, students will be poised to make a difference. "I can't wait to see what Shannon brings to the school," says Steinfield.

In an increasingly interconnected world fragmented by sin, engagement for DC will also mean reaching out far beyond Delaware County. It's perhaps this goal of a global education that brings all three of DC's strategic initiatives together. "COVID has shown us that kids need to be prepared to engage as global citizens," Steinfield says. As DC commits to increasing its own diversity in addition to nurturing a growing appreciation among students of global issues within the framework of a biblical worldview, DC will fulfill its promise to educate students to live lives of impact for Christ.



# LIFE ON LIFE IMPACT



DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## REMAINS COMMITTED TO IN PERSON EDUCATION

For the last 70 years DC has committed to the life-on-life impact of a Christian education. But how do we continue to remain true to this calling during a worldwide pandemic?

#### **LEAN IN AND INNOVATE!**

As a community, we reflected on our heritage and worked to fulfill our new DC Promise by making adjustments that provided us the opportunity to open school on time and in person.

Even more important, our efforts have kept DC open all academic year with no shutdowns due to the pandemic. This effort took untold hours of planning and careful communication to allow DC to open school on September 2, 2020.

## #dcstrong

THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY RALLIED AROUND OUR THEME AS WE IMPLEMENTED A WEB OF INTERVENTIONS THAT INCLUDED:

Enhanced cleaning and personal hygiene protocols

Reduced density across campus buildings and classrooms

3

Use of face coverings and personal protective equipment 4

Updated ventilation and use of abundant outside space

5

Physical distancing is possible because of DC's small size and expansive campus





MINDA GARNER
was serving DC as
the Upper Campus
School Nurse and was
involved in DC's early
pandemic planning.
Upon request, Minda
accepted the role
as Pandemic Safety

Officer to assist the

school in coordinating

our pandemic safety

with her to get some

efforts. We visited

insights on DC's

mitigation efforts.

DC - How did your job change when you accepted this new role?

Minda – "If anyone ever thought school nursing was merely band-aids and ice packs - COVID has proven them quite wrong!" DC – How was DC able to be so successful in opening school and staying open?

Minda – "First, the collective responsibility of our community in implementing with fidelity our web of interventions - face coverings, handwashing, distancing, ventilation and density. I would also mention our teacher's commitment to in person instruction as being the optimal format as well as their clear love for being physically present with their students. We had and still have wise, evidence-based guidance from four top medical advisors in the region and the excellent service of the Chester County Health Department to support us. The strong and committed support of the DC Board and Executive Team helped us navigate the seemingly endless God-given provision of resources to meet the ever changing and sometimes crazy demands of proposed public health guidance."

DC – It certainly sounds like this was a full campus-wide effort!

Minda - "I wish everyone in the DC community could have the inside view I have had, to watch the Division Heads, Head of School, Facilities and IT staff, Athletic Department, administrative staff and faculty, work, serve, and adapt to make in person instruction a reality for our students. All this while exuding the passion they have for impacting the lives of our students. They have been stretched and wearied and spent more hours prepping than any other school year! They are my heros!"

DC - Why do you think DC was ready for the pandemic?

Minda – "One of our medical advisors mentioned early on that we would probably fare well in our endeavors because we are a faith-based school and accustomed to working in community. Those words have certainly proven to be true! The care and thoughtfulness of the members of this community for one another has been evident from day one of this most unique school year."

DC – How have our student's parents fared through the pandemic?

Minda - "Our parents are perhaps some of the most involved parents of any school I know. They have given by supporting our campus visitor policy, prayed for our teachers and staff, written notes of encouragement, and modified their traveling, going as far as to cancel trips, parties etc., just to support us in remaining open for in person instruction. We are so very thankful!"

DC – Thanks for sharing your insights and service to DC.



#### 47 STUDENTS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN EXTENDED DISTANCE LEARNING

- 17 International students
- 18 Lower & Middle School
- 12 Upper School



DC AVERAGED 22 STUDENTS PER DAY ON INTERMITTENT DISTANCE LEARNING.



DC PURCHASED 510 IPADS Creating a 1:1 technology environment giving students in grades 6 through 12 access to their curriculum at school and at home.

As we look back on the challenges, we have gained strength by trusting in the provision of our Lord and in the words of Jeremiah 33:3 "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know".

We covet your prayers as the school year continues and we work to impact our students for Christ.

## Pursuing and Celebrating DIVERSITY

Forming a community that more fully reflects the vision of Romans 15:7

### "Therefore, accept one another just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God"

requires ongoing work, self-examination, education, lamenting, and repentance. This is no less true for institutions like DC than it is for nations and individuals. When Head of School, Dan Steinfield initiated a conversation with Ray Garcia last February to explore questions of racial and socio-economic diversity and inclusion at DC, both men understood the urgency of change. While they knew there would be no quick fix, they also knew that a schoolwide desire to prioritize making DC a more loving and hospitable place for all, based on a common commitment to being obedient to the Word of God and its principles of reconciliation, restoration, sacrificial love, justice, and unity, would bring progress.

Garcia, who began as DC's new Director of Diversity and Inclusion in September, says steady progress will be achieved by meeting goals on a multi-year trajectory. The fact that this trajectory towards progress was already set at DC was one of the reasons Garcia felt it was right to accept the invitation to lead DC in this newly created position. "While there are certainly parts of our past we lament, DC has a strong foundation and history worth celebrating," Garcia says. "I love what DC stands for—educating the whole child to grow in knowledge and also in their walk with God, for example, as well as its support of local churches."

## Meet RAY GARCIA

DC'S NEW DIRECTOR
OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



While he had no illusions about the scope of the undertaking, Garcia knew he would be leading a community ready to begin this work.

#### THE MAN GOD HAS CALLED

As he looks back. Garcia can see how God has been preparing him for this role. During his 15 years as a local youth pastor, several kids from his youth group were students at DC and Garcia has coached football at the school as well. "I'm also a product of education," he says. "My mom was an educator." But something far deeper has uniquely qualified him for the work in which he's now engaged at DC. "My father was African American, my mother is an assimilation of white ethnicities, and my last name signals my hispanic heritage," he says. "I'm white enough to feel comfortable walking into a room full of white people, and black enough to feel comfortable walking into a room full of black people. And when I walk into a room full of people speaking Spanish, they assume I understand. But I don't know Spanish. And yet I don't feel that I fit in any of those rooms." Garcia laughs. "All that creates a beautiful mess and this work is just an extension of my own process." I want to help DC students express themselves, but they need an inclusive, safe space to do this. They need to see adults who look like them who are teachers, administrators, mentors, and coaches so that they can envision how they can belong."



Like many brown boys and girls, Garcia began questioning his racial identity when he was very young. "Where do I fit? How do I belong?" These questions also resonate with Garcia as a father. "I realized my own kids could go to DC and not see themselves reflected in many adult role models here. DC has the ability to have a far reach, he says, but the pieces aren't yet in place to make that happen".

Garcia's primary professional call is as Lead Pastor of Roxborough Church in Philadelphia. He and his wife Michelle also run The Philadelphia Project, a mission that partners with local churches to create transformative service opportunities. "The elders of the church saw this role at DC as an extension of what we do," Garcia says, "and I have great hope for this season." The four Garcia children—Isaiah, Nathan, Cadence, and Tommy—fully embrace the life of ministry and the joy that it brings.

#### THE WORK AHEAD

Garcia likens his work at DC to John the Baptist's ministry of preparation. "The first piece is helping people to examine their hearts, explore cultural bias, and ask important—and sometimes hard—questions," he says. "The fact that we have a homogenous staff, for example, doesn't make us bad, but the question is, have we lamented enough? We have to identify the reasons why we haven't become diverse and at least lament these—and maybe repent as well."

The second step is one of action. "We need to hire folks who will increase our diversity,"

Garcia says, "but we need to hire them into a place that welcomes them. This is Kingdom kind of work. We're preparing the way for people to lead at the highest levels of our school." A third piece of the work focuses on the student body. "We're working on instilling a bit more cultural awareness this year," Garcia says, "and going forward we'll be looking more deeply at curricula, chapel, and the spiritual trajectory as well as mentorships and internships." Although DC's student body is already one of the most diverse of any private school in the area, the desire is for that to continue to grow. For growth to happen in an authentic way, we must reflect diversity in both racial and socio-economic status. "The horse and the cart come together," Garcia says, "but we have to have systems in place to sustain students whose families can't afford a DC education."

Scholarships and tuition matching won't be enough. "We need to figure out how to help students from moderate to low-income families afford not only tuition, but also full participation in the life of the school." Garcia cites the example of one student with limited means who had to choose between buying lunch and paying for extra-curricular activities. "She chose to have lunch every other day," he says. "No student should have to make that choice. We need to have a pool of resources available to sustain and retain these students." DC faculty and staff agree that choices such as this one should not be choices at all. As disciples of Christ, we must know

#### Revelation 7:9

"After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands."

when a member of the flock is in need and provide as we are able.

#### A CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY

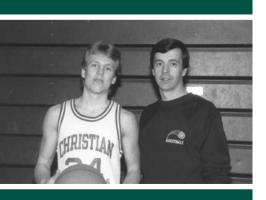
John the Baptist prepared the people of God for a seismic cultural and spiritual shift that would upend their expectations of what God was about to do in their midst. As he envisions what DC could look like in a decade or two, Garcia emphasizes how solid this groundwork being laid now needs to be. "These big changes will affect the culture of DC," he says. "If they don't, we'll only have become assimilated, not diversified."

Being part of a diverse and inclusive community is integral to the DC Promise—to students receiving an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ so that they are prepared for a life of impact in the diverse and multicultural world God created.

"In the national landscape today we can see the dangers of not doing this work," Garcia says. "We know what happens when we live in isolation from one another, but younger generations don't know what it is to live in a world that's not connected. Technology has given us access to world cultures, and we need to create space to celebrate our global connectedness." In time, with faithful hard work and prayer and God's guidance, that celebration at DC will look more and more like John's vision in Revelation 7:9.













## **RUSS NIXON**

Russ has always had a penchant for making lists. Accordingly, upon his retirement, we would like to honor him with several lists that offer a picture of his faithful work and his servant's heart for DC over the years.

"When I think of Russ's work and ministry at DC, I think of him as a culture changer. Who will not forget the auctions of the 80s and 90s when Russ made his famous appeal to bid on an item: "Remember, it's for the school!" And, by the success of those spring events, most of us believed him. When he was the Director of Advancement, he convinced us that we were marketing the school by the way we did our teaching or our work about campus. Other times, it was Russ who walked about campus talking and encouraging us in our labors. Whether as the Athletic Director, or Advancement Leader, Russ believed with all his heart in the mission of the school and because of that, we, too, believed more in what we were called to do. The Lord certainly used him in my life and the life of the DC community."

- Dr. George McFarland, Donor Relationships Manager

#### RUSS'S HISTORY WITH DC

- 1. Attended DC for grades 8-12
- 2. Graduated from DC in 1972
- 3. Attended Messiah College, and received a Bachelors degree in elementary education
- **4.** Married Linda Oliver in 1977, who was not a DC alum, but who attended DC basketball games with friends when she and Russ were in high school. They began dating while students at Messiah
- **5.** Earned a Master's in Athletic Administration from Temple University in 1982
- **6.** Proud father and grandfather of two sons, Mark '01 and Doug '04, and 4 grandchildren
- 7. Ken Tanis and Bud Gray invited Russ to consider the Athletic Director role at DC and started serving as Athletic Director at DC in 1984
- **8.** Became Assistant Director of Development in 1999 and then Director of Advancement in 2001

Thank you, Kuss, for your many years of faithful (and fun!) service to the Lord at DC.

#### We asked Russ...

#### CAN YOU SHARE SOME MEMORIES FROM YOUR DC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE?

I have many great memories that center around friends and colleagues!

- 1. Running the 16-team DC invitational basketball tournament. It was all Christian schools in the early days, and it kicked off with chapel for all of DC and all of the tournament teams
- 2. Coaching tennis, varsity and middle school boys basketball, and golf
- **3.** Hosting six major concerts where the school brought in well-known performers, including David Kim, Steve Green, Sarah Groves, Glad, and Michael Card
- 4. Launching the annual benefit auction in 1989, on the hockey field under big white tents
- **5.** Assisted with leading two capital campaigns; Advancing the Kingdom (\$8M) and Transformational Leaders (\$22M)
- **6.** Leading the design of the DeMoss Center
- 7. Assisted with the purchase of and transition to the Devon Campus
- **8.** Leading the Advancement team a good, fun, strong team
- 9. Hosting the Annual Golf Outing these were not only fundraisers but community builders

#### WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR TIME SERVING AT DC?

- 1. Colleagues
- 2. Solving problems and resolving issues
- **3.** Watching DC grow over the years, which enhanced my own personal spiritual growth as I saw God at work

#### CAN YOU SHARE A FUNNY STORY FROM YOUR YEARS AT DC?

There are too many - all connected to colleagues! Here's one. During an after-tournament gathering at my house, the police paid me a visit and I had to explain:

- 1. Why there were white packing peanuts all over my yard and tree
- 2. Why there were two DC moms and a student running up the street
- 3. Why a bucket of water was thrown in a DC parent's car
- 4. Why there had been a minor mishap in a neighbor's yard
- 5. Why I was the only administrator remaining...

#### WHAT WERE YOUR FAVORITE SAYINGS DURING YOUR YEARS AT DC?

- **1.** "WE"
- 2. "Always remember to honor and thank the people behind the scenes"
- 3. "It's for the school"

#### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO EMPLOYEES WHO ARE NEW TO DC?

- 1. Follow Mark 10:45 Christ came to serve, not to be served
- **2.** Follow Psalm 78:4-8 Our responsibility as a staff is to tell the next generation the praises of the Lord and His wondrous works
- 3. It's a privilege and blessing to serve at DC, so be a blessing on good days and bad days













Pictured (L-R): Fred Garner, Thomas Chung, Kirsten Rasmussen, Lori Chung, Claire Vesper, Anna Kane, Lori Sparks, Molly D'Antonio, Sarah Ortiz, Kevin Skaer, Grace Newman, Nate Shackleton, Elizabeth Lombardi. Additional new faculty and staff will be introduced in our Spring issue.

## Welcome NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

#### MOLLY D'ANTONIO

Molly comes to DC with a wide range of teaching experiences, which include homeschooling, teaching English at the Pingry School, and adjuncting at Grace College (IN). She has a B.A. in English from Gordon College and an M.A. in English from Georgetown University. She and her husband have three children at DC; Sam 8th grade, Maryn 7th grade and Luke 5th grade.

#### **DAWN POULTERER WOODS '90**

Dawn is serving as an Upper School Resource Room teacher. Dawn holds a B.A. in English from Messiah College and a Masters degree in Christian Counseling from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.
Her teaching career includes tenures at Charlotte Christian School and Covenant Day School, and she has worked in numerous ministry capacities, including family coach, writer, and speaker.

#### NATE SHACKLETON

Nate is teaching Upper School Math and assisting with the Varsity soccer teams. He is married to former DC math teacher and alumna, Liz Turner Shackleton '13, and with her, is parent to baby Isaiah. Nate is a graduate of Grove City College, where he earned a B.S. in Mathematics and minored in physics.

#### FRED GARNER

Fred is serving as Upper School Spanish teacher and World Languages Department Head. Fred holds undergraduate degrees from Wheaton College and The Technological Institute at Northwestern University and an M.Ed. in Teaching and Learning from DePaul University's School of Education. Fred and his family joined the DC Community by way of Nairobi, Kenya where he had served as a Spanish Instructor and World Languages Department Chair since 2011. Fred and his wife have two sons at DC; Zeke 10th grade and Salu 7th grade and two adult daughters.

#### **ANALIA PETERS '97**

Analia is teaching Biology classes in the Upper School. As a graduate of DC, she went on to major in Biology at Messiah College, and has a Master's degree in Spanish from Temple University. Analia has returned to teaching at DC after a season of homeschooling and teaching in higher education. She and her husband, Einar (also a former faculty member) have three daughters; Lily 7th grade, Caris 6th grade and Daisy 4th grade, all who have joined the DC community this year.

#### **CARLEY IANNACONE**

Prior to being called to DC to teach first grade, Carley taught PK and kindergarten and served as coordinator for a literacy program. Additionally, she served with her husband as a missionary in Indonesia for many years. Mrs. lannacone is a graduate of West Chester University with a B.S. in Elementary Education, and is currently working towards her Master's degree in Special Education. Carley and her husband have three children, Elijah 5th grade, Maya 3rd grade, and Delia 1st grade.

#### LYSSA ELLIS

Lyssa is serving as Interim Advanced Math Teacher for grades 4 and 5. She graduated from Northern Arizona University with a B.S. in Elementary Education and an M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction, in addition to grades 4-8 certification. Lyssa and her husband have four children at DC; Caden 9th grade, Paxton 6th grade, Teagan 4th grade and Makenzie 2nd grade.

#### ANNA KANE

Anna is teaching 5th grade, and holds a B.S. and M.S. in Elementary Education from Cairn University. She is also TESOL certified. With more than ten years of teaching experience in Christian education at the Timothy Academy in Philadelphia, Anna brings a solid understanding of teaching from a biblical worldview.

#### KIERAN THOMPSON WILLEY '16

Kieran is serving in Lower School Student Support Services, teaching Reading Replacement and RTI. Kieran recently graduated from Gordon College with a B.S. in Early Childhood Education (PK-2) and minors in Math Education and Linguistics. She also completed a concentration in Special Education.

#### KIRSTEN RASMUSSEN '14

Kirsten is teaching Lower School STEM. She has a B.A. in Teacher Education and Bible and an M.A. and certification in Teaching Early Childhood/Elementary Education, both from Columbia International University. Prior to stepping into the STEM role, Kirsten taught 6th grade Science in South Carolina and served as the Spiritual Life Director at DC Summer Programs.

#### LORI SPARKS

Lori teaches 3rd grade and holds a B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Delaware. She comes with an extensive teaching background in Christian and public schools in the greater Philadelphia and Lancaster County areas. She has also served as a Christian school administrator. Lori and her husband are the parents of four adult sons.

#### SARAH ORTIZ

Sarah is serving as DC's first ever PK3 teacher. Sarah is a graduate of Cairn University where she earned degrees in Early Childhood and Elementary Education and Bible. She joins us from Open Door Christian Academy in Fort Washington, where she taught Kindergarten for the last four years.

#### **GRACE NEWMAN '16**

Teaching 3rd grade, Grace is a recent graduate of the Templeton Honors College at Eastern University. She holds a B.S. in Middle-Level Education with a concentration in English. As a DC alumna, Grace brings a special affinity for DC and its mission. In the spring of 2020, Grace student taught in Vera Coburn's fifth-grade classroom.

#### **ELIZABETH LOMBARDI**

Elizabeth teaches 5th grade, and has a B.S. and M.A. from West Chester University. She taught at a Christian school in western Pennsylvania before heading east and becoming familiar with DC, initially, as a parent enrolling her two daughters. She then began substitute teaching, and soon after, was hired full-time. Elizabeth and her husband are the parents of two upper campus DC students, Carrie 11th grade, Katherine 8th grade and an adult son.

#### **CLAIRE DILULLO VESPER '06**

Claire is serving as a part-time music instructor in the Early Childhood
Center. Claire holds a B.A. in Music
Education and Vocal Performance from
Eastern University. She has taught at
both Collegium Charter School and
Ardmore United Methodist Preschool.
Claire is now happy to use her gifts at
DC, where she was a K-12 "lifer." She
and her DC alumnus husband, John
'02 have two children, Josephine PK-4,
and John Kindergarten.

#### **KEVIN SKAER**

Teaching Middle School Math and Bible, Kevin joined son Cody and brother Mike in serving at DC!
Kevin holds a B.S. in Education and an M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Cairn University. Kevin has over two decades of experience in Christian education, serving as a principal and a teacher of Bible, History, Math, and Logic. Kevin and his wife have four adult children.

#### **THOMAS CHUNG '16**

Thomas is teaching Middle and Upper School math and Middle School coding. Thomas graduated from Wheaton College in 2020 with a B.S. in Mathematics and Secondary Education. During his time at Wheaton, Thomas served as a resident assistant, a peer mentor, and was a member of the college's Community Life Council.



## FOCUS ON FACULTY





## MR.B

Scott Bateman '73 completed his 40th year of service at DC this past year, and has stepped into retirement. His contagious enthusiasm for learning, his desire to provide fun and memorable experiences in God's creation, and his love for sharing the truths of Scripture with students inspired those same passions in countless DC students.



"If you ask any student who has attended DC's Lower School in the last 40 years to share their most fond memories, you will undoubtedly hear a story about Mr.B. In his years at DC, Scott ignited an excitement for learning in his students through the passion he showed in each subject he presented. He consistently went above and beyond to develop positive relationships with his students that lasted far beyond their time in his classroom. His steadfast love for the Lord served as an example for his students and colleagues and filled his classroom with joy and excitement. Scott leaves a legacy that will be carried on in the life of Delaware County Christian School for many years to come."

- Kevin McIntyre, Assistant Head of the Lower School

As a student, Scott was a "lifer" at DC, attending from kindergarten through 12th grade. A member of the Class of 1973, Scott noted that all of his classes had been in the mansion (upper campus) until the spring of his senior year, at which point classes moved into the then-new high school building. Scott observed that whenever there were needs, such as additional space, God always provided; thus the DC community learned, from its earliest days, to trust the Lord.

After Scott graduated from college, he taught at Timothy Academy in Philadelphia for 3 years, and then in 1980 God gave Scott the desire of his heart - a position at DC. For the next 40 years, Scott taught mostly 5th grade (with a few years of 6th grade). He stayed at DC for 40 years because the mission remained the same: to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action. We caught up with Scott recently and talked with him about his years of impacting young lives at DC.

## What is one of your earliest memories from your DC teaching experience?

It was amazing to teach alongside teachers who had greatly impacted me, such as Frank Roberts and Bud Gray. I kept thinking, "I can't believe I'm a teacher with these influential, wonderful, great people." I loved teaching 5th grade because I could develop special culminating experiences for the oldest elementary students. Having the freedom to begin some programs that would stick around for 40 years was really special. When I started thinking about taking my students camping, my principal, Lucy Johnston, told me to go for it. That was a great memory. I had camped all my life, and I wanted every kid to have that experience. In 1984 I started taking them to French Creek to provide a safe atmosphere that would give them confidence. In the early years, we borrowed tents from families, and then DC eventually invested in tents. I also got the chance to create the seashore unit. Again, I wanted kids to experience being at the beach and seeing God's amazing creation firsthand; that's so important. So, I started the Cape May trip as part of the seashore unit, and then, in 1988, I added the Cape Henlopen summer trips.

## What did you enjoy most about your years of teaching at DC?

I made tremendous lifelong friendships. I worked with very good teachers who stayed a long time. Additionally, I was an extension of so many families at DC - a part of the family for a year, but lifelong relationships with them; that was huge. The thing about DC was you could teach the subject matter, which was enjoyable, but you

could also teach to the heart of kids. You could always approach situations from Scripture, teaching kids how Christ would have us deal with the circumstances and with each other. When I taught at a summer gifted program at a local university in the early to mid 80s, it was great, but there were certain things I couldn't talk about there. At DC, I never had to hold back. I could encourage kids and help them understand there is an answer and a guide book - God's Word - and I knew the parents were doing the same thing.

## Can you share a favorite memory from your camping trips?

Epic Naval Sea Battles that took place on Hopewell Lake! (Everyone who has gone on a French Creek camping trip knows all about this...)

### What advice would you give to teachers who are new to DC?

Each teacher is just a short stopping point along the way with the kids. Pray for their salvation and do your best in teaching them, and leave the results in the Lord's hands. All the things you pray for a student might not happen in the year that you have them. Sometimes they will, and you can be excited for the moments when your desires for students are met; and sometimes you'll see your prayers answered further down the road. Find joy and contentment in what you're doing in each moment with students, and pour into them every last bit you can, and then trust the Lord and be at peace. DC has been my home and family for all my life. The Lord let me be a part of DC for all that time, and I am very thankful for that. I sometimes ask myself, 'Did I do it well enough today?' Yes, Scott, we know you did! Well done, good and faithful servant.

"Mr. B's enthusiasm about every subject made me want to learn."

"There are certain teachers you will remember your whole life, and Mr. B is one of them. What stands out most is that Mr. B made learning FUN. I still, to this day, remember facts about outcrops and quarries. Mr. B also took such a personal interest in his students' lives and was invested in us, both inside and outside of school."

"Mr. B always made learning about knowing the material, not about the grade. He also incorporated so many hands-on activities, like exploring the seashore and dissecting squids, that allowed us to experience what we were learning."

-Quotes from former students



Join us or tell a friend about our next Virtual Open House.

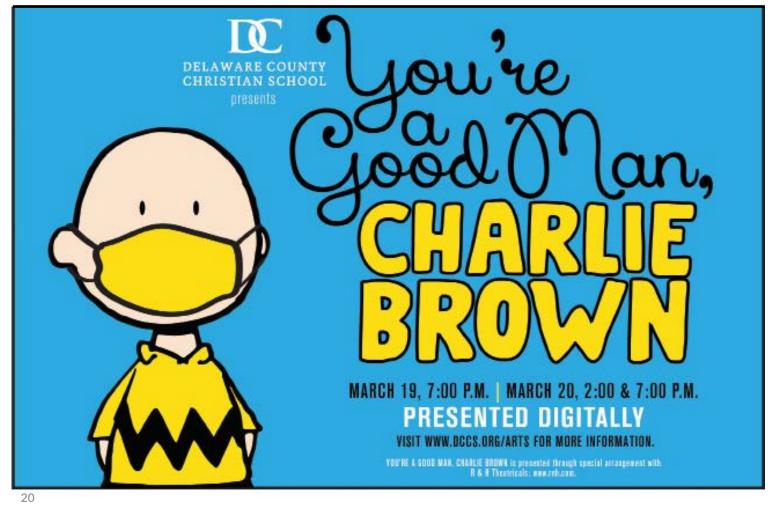
LOWER CAMPUS – PK3-5TH GRADE 9:30-11:30 APRIL 8
UPPER CAMPUS – 6TH – 12TH GRADE 9:30-11:30 APRIL 15

- Meet Head of School, Dan Steinfield and our Division Heads.
- Join our most recent virtual tour.
- Learn about the application process and meet the Admissions Team.

Space is limited so register early!

CONTACT THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE AT 610.353.6522 X 2285 OR GO TO DCCS.ORG/VISIT TO REGISTER





#### **EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER LAUNCH A HUGE SUCCESS!**



Fall 2020 saw the launch of our newly expanded Early Childhood Center (PK3-K) and the first year of PK3 at DC!

After opening school with 75 students, the ECC has grown to 84 students by January 2021 and added an additional PK3 section to meet interest in this grade and program. Next year DC will add PK2 and applications are coming in quickly. Praise the Lord!









## THE ARTS

The Arts are an expression of human creative skill and imagination. Whether through painting, music, sculpture, acting, or other forms of expression, the arts help us to see the beauty that has been created through the generosity of our Father God Almighty. For He graces each of us with talents that are ours and ours alone. It is important that we share these gifts and talents for which He has bestowed upon us.

As the Covid-19 pandemic hit, we saw many cases in which the art sector has been shattered. Through much prayer and determination of DC's Board, administrators and staff, the arts at DC have been able to redefine and reimagine their existing programs in order to bring to light the talents in which God has shared through members in our community.

## UPPER SCHOOL

Among the many offerings at DC, this year the art program reintroduced ceramics after adding several pottery wheels to the art room. Both students and faculty have been lining up to learn how to throw the wheel and get their hands in the clay. Additionally, our 3D art offerings have increased as students dive into woodworking and metal smithing.



#### **ARTIST IN RESIDENCE**

DC was proud to launch the inception of an Artist in Residency program this fall. DC alum, Hannah Sun '19 is a sophomore at Maryland Institute College of Art and Design and is currently working with Mrs. Coats and Mr. Taber twice a week. She is learning about gallery curation as the staff of DC added several gallery spots around campus this fall to showcase student artwork. In addition, Hannah is doing virtual classes in the newly-remodeled "Senior Studio" above the Upper School Art room. She completes her coursework online and then spends time with our students giving demonstrations of her artwork in 3D modeling, woodworking, sculpture and graphic design.

#### **BAND**

The Upper School Concert Band used flexible arrangements as a way in which to work during these non-traditional times. During the fall, the ensemble was split into four smaller ensemble groups each preparing chamber music pieces. Both the full band and the ensembles were recorded and these recordings were shared with the DC community in replacement of the annual holiday performance.

#### **THEATRE**

This spring, the DC theatre program will tackle a full-scale musical performance of *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*. Based off of the classic comic strip we know and love, Charlie Brown is told through a series of vignettes, allowing for smaller rehearsals and adequate spacing on stage. This production, like the MS play, will be filmed and released digitally in March. With the help of the DC Red Team and Tech Crew, the production will tackle new challenges while delivering high quality performances that are indicative of a DC musical. Please watch for more information about ticket sales.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School Art classes were presented with several challenging projects this fall which they accomplished with great merit. Among them were the sixth graders complex drawing arrangements from life. Seventh graders focused on negative and positive space to scale-up large images of whimsical and wonderful frogs. The eighth grade brought to life images of God's bountiful glory of the heavens, using chalk pastels to create sunrise and sunsets.



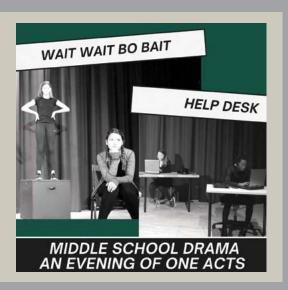
#### **BAND**

For the first time, Middle School Band was split into two groups to accommodate sixth grade players who missed inperson ensemble instruction last spring. Sixth graders focused on skill consolidation by working through method books while playing select small ensemble pieces. Our seventh and eighth grade students had a more traditional approach culminating in recordings that were shared with the community in lieu of the December concert.



#### THEATRE

DC Middle School students were able to participate in a variety of theatre instruction this fall. Sixth graders participated in pantomime and improvisation classes, which culminated in the creation of short silent films. The 7th and 8th grade students rehearsed and produced two one-act plays entirely in class, spending only two Saturdays filming in anticipation of a digital release.



#### MIDDLE SCHOOL & UPPER SCHOOL CHOIR

"The Masked Singers" took on a whole new meaning this year at DC. Both the Middle and Upper School choirs made beautiful music behind masks and staging themselves six feet apart. Choir in both divisions met the challenge and continued to produce exceptional music shared with our community through virtual concerts during the month of December. As most choirs have had to go silent amidst the pandemic, DC choirs met the challenges of the pandemic and helped to bring joy through song and worship.

## LOWER CAMPUS ART

The theme for this year's lower school art program, "Art Across America," takes us on a journey across our great country from sea to shining sea. Beginning the year, students studied sea life, expressing their studies of the underwater world through their artwork. Fifth graders, for example, took to their scuba gear and dove deep for inspiration to create sea life themed clay pot sculptures. They learned the skills of rolling, shaping, and decorating through this experience.

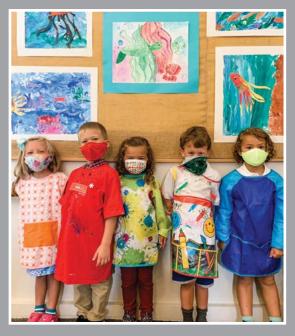
Our third graders put on their imaginary boots and trudged across the Midwest enroute to the Heartland. Students studied the great works of Grant Wood, a regionalist from Iowa. He referred the beauty of the countryside and farmland to a grandmother's quilt. The children learned about God's creation from different types of landscape and the layers of land foreground, middle ground, and background. They rendered their artwork with oil pastels and fabric swatches to resemble the quilted farmlands. Students added texture with decorated cardboard building structures.

All of our Lower School students took full advantage of the beautiful grounds at DC to use as their classroom. Students learned about the Hudson River School artists and Plein Air painting. How blessed we are to have this school, with both its internal and external space from which to learn, thrive, and grow.

#### AFTER SCHOOL FUN REIMAGINED

During October and November, the Lower School hosted grade level after school Fall Fun Days for 2nd-5th grade in lieu of traditional after school programming. Students learned about apple varieties, how to build a campfire, and baked a yummy apple treat on the coals of the fire they built. First Grade participated in Christmas Craft Club. The students created wooden mangers and decorated the characters in fabric. This time of fun and fellowship was to remind the students of the birth of Jesus, and the acts of humility, kindness, servanthood, and generosity coming alive in Christ's coming to mankind.







### VARSITY FOOTBALL

As a result of COVID-19, the Knights football season was never able to get off the ground due to opt-outs within the KASL league of schools. Never deterred, Coach Lloyd Hill and his staff decided in spite of the obstacles before them, they would take this season to grow with one another, building their bodies through strength training, while also building their hearts and minds through character and spiritual development. The team had intense workouts both in the weight room and on the practice field. They also spent time in devotions and watched and studied film. Coach Hill believes the ultimate payoff to this season was the camaraderie built amongst team members which helped to solidify the foundation that will produce a fantastic season next year with stronger, character laden young men.







The DC Cross Country team built their foundation with a solid conditioning schedule long before the start of the season. Even with strict Covid-19 pandemic regulations in place, the cross country team was able to train well by running alone and maintaining distance while still supporting their teammates. Two runners became part of the coveted 500 Mile Club in the same offseason. Senior, Michael Rhine, and freshman, Mary Schaefer, successfully completed this task on August 29, 2020. Just as impres-

sively, a number of other team members joined the 300 Mile Club, rounding out an impressive group of young runners primed for future success. In the BAL Cross Country Championships, the DC girls were led by Mary Schaefer with a 6th place finish overall. She was closely followed by Liza Lee in 7th place. In the boys race, Jude Metricarti was the first Knight to cross the finish line. In the District Championships at Tyler State Park, the girl's team finished with an impressive 3rd place overall. Bethany Jacox led the

Lady Knights with an 8th place finish. The boys finished 5th overall and were again led by Jude Metricarti's 14th place finish. Bethany Jacox was named a state qualifier and ran in Hershey, PA in the PIAA State 5000 meter race.

ALL-BAL FIRST TEAM Mary Schaefer Elizabeth Lee Ella Hines

ALL-BAL SECOND TEAM Chloe Bryant

### VARSITY BOYS SOCCER

(Overall Record 10-4)

From the very start of the season, the DC Knights varsity boys soccer team had the look of a team on a mission to finish what was left undone in 2019. This year's team had several returning senior starters and an array of talented underclassmen. Expectations were high and the Knights did not disappoint, finishing an augmented regular season with a 9-3 record, earning the second seed in District 1 playoffs. Looming ahead in post season play were two well-known rivals, Dock Mennonite and Faith Christian, both who stood in the path of the Knights in 2019.

In the first round of playoffs, the Knights were able to avenge their 2019 loss against Dock by defeating them 2-1 in a well-attended yet socially distanced contest at home on DC's newly minted turf field. The win granted DC a berth in District Finals for the second straight year. Waiting for the Knights was top seeded Faith Christian, who were defeated by the Knights in the first round of the 2019 playoffs. They too felt like they had unfinished business. In a well-fought contest on a dimly lit field in Sellersville, the Knights once again fell short to the eventual state champions Faith Christian Lions squad by a score of 1-0.

ALL BAL - FIRST TEAM Cole Levis (League MVP) Declan Thompson Jason Woo Max Cardone ALL BAL - SECOND TEAM Titus Ahlborn Joseph Collins Jack Dill Corin Sacks

BAL COACH OF THE YEAR Rob Atkins







#### VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER

(Overall Record: 4-7)

Like most athletic teams at DC, the Lady Knights entered the 2020 season with a lot of unknowns. Poised to better their season from a year ago, they began strong with back-to-back wins against Phil-Mont Christian and Christian Academy. They would best both these teams again later in the season. With limited teams competing because of the global pandemic, they found themselves faced with tough competition from both Dock Mennonite and Faith Christian, teams they fell to during both home and away meetings. With the leadership of six seniors, the team built upon the lessons learned both on and off the field and secured a playoff berth as a 4th seed in District Playoffs. In the district playoff game against Dock Mennonite, DC fought hard but lost a heartbreaker 1-0.

ALL-BAL FIRST TEAM Kate Green

ALL-BAL SECOND TEAM Hannah Gifford



#### VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY

(Overall Record 2-9-1)

Led by a spirited group of seniors, the field hockey team featured a consolidated and shuffled league schedule, being one of only five teams willing to compete this fall. With such a schedule, each team played the others three times. Featuring a nice blend of all classes, seniors through freshmen, this year's squad showed a lot of grit and fought hard all season. Highlights included two strong wins and a hard-fought tie against Plumstead Christian and two excruciatingly close, one-goal losses against Bristol.

Even against superior competition, the Knights fought hard, limiting league powerhouse and eventual BAL champ Dock Mennonite to three goals in the late-season contest.

ALL-BAL FIRST TEAM Meg Worthington

ALL-BAL SECOND TEAM Abbi Heacock Yewon Jeong Brooke VanEerden

ALL-BAL HONORABLE MENTION Caitlyn Goneau





#### **VARSITY GIRLS TENNIS**

(Overall Record: 8-0)

Coming off a storybook 2019 season, this year's DC girls tennis squad was challenged in the off season when they learned that Coach Turner and Coach Annino would not be returning in 2020. To fill the gap, DC tagged Coaches Connor Power and Maya Neal to lead this talented group of tennis athletes. The team did not miss a beat, finishing the season 8-0 heading into the BAL playoffs. They proceeded to win the BAL Championship and subsequently defeated Lower Moreland to capture this year's PIAA District 1-AA Championship. The win secured a spot in the PIAA State Tournament where the Knights lost to tennis powerhouse Moravian Academy.

> **BAL TEAM CHAMPIONS BAL Single Champion - Brette Foutch**

**BAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONS Brette Foutch and Caroline VanDixhoorn District 1-AA Team Champions** 

**BAL - FIRST TEAM SINGLES Brette Foutch and Caroline VanDixhoorn** 

**BAL - FIRST TEAM DOUBLES** Brette Foutch and Caroline VanDixhoorn. Sarah Stahl and Ashley VanDixhoorn

> **BAL - HONORABLE MENTION** Sarah Stahl

> > **BAL COACH OF THE YEAR Connor Power**

#### **VARSITY GOLF**

The 2020 DC Golf team endured a difficult season that included not having any matches at our home course (Applebrook) and a sporadic schedule with limited matches. Despite this, the team showed promise and growth throughout the campaign. With no golfers being lost to graduation this year, we look forward to seeing a return of our entire golf roster a bit more seasoned and ready to go for 2021.





## #dcstrong

A worldwide pandemic may have altered the normal homecoming festivities, but it didn't dampen the energy and enthusiasm of the DC community. Students, faculty, and staff participated in a week-long series of events to showcase their DC pride. There was something for everyone from spirit days, grade-level outdoor activities and games, to sidewalk art drawings, special snacks, and fall sports competitions.

The week culminated in the annual Friday night Powder Puff game won by the senior class and on Saturday concluded with Senior Athlete Awards and Recognition on the newly installed turf field.



## TECHNOLOGY & YOUR PRE-TEEN/TEEN PARENT WEBINAR

On December 5, 2020, DC families had the opportunity to listen to current parent and expert Dr. Leonard Sax MD and Ph.D, who presented a webinar on managing teens and technology. Dr. Sax focuses his work on evidence-based parent strategies to best manage the use of technology in the life of our children. As a leading thinker, author, and keynote speaker on Christian parenting, Dr. Sax has been a guest on the TODAY show, CNN, PBS, Fox News, NPR, the BBC and the Eric Metaxas Show. He has authored books including; Why Gender Matters, Boys Adrift, Girls on the Edge, and the New York Times bestseller, The Collapse of Parenting. It's not too late if you missed the webinar. Visit DC's website to receive a recording of the webinar at dccs.org/parenting.



#### AFTER SCHOOL FUN

During October and November, the Lower School reimagined after school programming. Fall Fun Days were an opportunity for students to gather by grade level to learn about apple varieties, how to build a campfire, and baked a yummy apple treat on the coals of the fire they built.

#### CELEBRATING EUGENE VICKERS P'60'65'68'75GP'92

On Veteran's Day, November 11, 2020, alumni parent and Navy veteran, Eugene Vickers turned 105 years of age. Mr. Vickers and his family were one of the founding thirty-six families that helped to establish DC back in 1950. He has been a faithful friend and supporter for more than 70 years. On Veterans Day, the Newtown Square community and DC honored Mr. Vickers with a drive-by parade and birthday celebration. The Knight Tones Select Choir serenaded and presented Mr. Vickers with birthday cards from alumni and students.





#### **AROUND CAMPUS**



#### THE ARMORY DC'S NEW SCHOOL STORE OPENS

The soft launch of a new school store, led by students through the DC SAIL program, has opened in Lowrie Hall. The Armory features an assortment of DC sweatshirts, jackets, hats, candy and seasonal bundles. The store also offers local honey varieties from Pieters Apiary. The Armory will be open daily during upper school lunches and again on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2:50-3:30 for Upper School students to shop. Please check with the school prior to visiting the store for updated store hours and for any campus restrictions due to COVID-19 pandemic protocols.



#### **WELCOME BACK!**

Head of School, Dan Steinfield handed out coffee to Back to School drivers and hosted virtual "Head of School Coffee Events" in the fall.



#### **COFFEE ANYONE?**

The Grounds is now open! Stemming from the spring 2020 Innovative Design Challenge, The Grounds is a student run coffee shop serving Valerio Coffee and other tasty treats during DC Time. Students can purchase coffee, mocha's, and teas including seasonal favorites. According to Junior, Emily Chung, "The biggest lesson I learned from starting The Grounds this year was to be flexible. So much has changed from our original plan, and it's been a challenge for us to go with the flow and adjust our plan according to what works, rather than trying to force something that just doesn't make sense, especially in Covid times."







Beekeeper and DC grandparent Ed Pieters visited with second graders to teach about honeybees and the job of a beekeeper. Mr. Pieters shared about the roles of the bees in the hive, the life of the queen and the important job of the worker bees. Students then played a pollinator game taking turns playing the role of the bees traveling from flower to flower in the field, collecting pollen at each one.



#### DECORATING WITH CHALK

Upper School Students, led by Upper School Art teacher Christian Taber, decorated the entrance of the School during #DCSTRONG week.



#### MULTICULTURAL ALLIANCE

This fall the Multicultural Alliance hosted a "Donuts and Discussion." Prior to hosting

this event, student leaders prepared and trained how to lead conversations about some of today's most pressing societal issues. Students joined multiple breakout sessions to engage in meaningful discussion focused on politics and voting as a believer in Christ. Much of the objective was to build unity despite who you were voting for and further build skills in how



to have difficult conversations. The event was very successful with over 60 members of our community in attendance, including ten faculty. This year's student leaders are seniors Endiah Johnson, Jordan Mitchell, and Joseph Collins; and juniors Eowyn Oh, and Emily Chung.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL ROBOTICS

Expanding Minds Beyond the Classroom, DC offers an array of school club offerings. Middle School Robotics traditionally partakes in Vex Robotics competitions. While times are uncertain about possible competitions this year, our students have remained busy designing, building and coding.



#### **AROUND CAMPUS**

## "SOUPER" COMMITTED TO SERVING OTHERS

Fifth grade students at the Lower campus have a heart to serve. After reaping the final harvest from the Lower Campus vegetable garden, they teamed up with Mrs. Ludwig to make squash soup and get well cards for members in the community who are recovering from illness and surgery.



#### DINO DIG DAY

Our students enjoyed a Science unit on dinosaurs with a Dino Dig Day, complete with measuring footprints, excavating chocolate chips, and unearthing fossils in sand.

#### CLASSROOMS EXPANDED

Our Lower Campus has utilized our outdoor space in new and creative ways this fall with both outdoor tents and natural learning spaces.



## A VISIT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

On October 9th, Frank Brogan, Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of Education visited our school to learn more about our health and safety reopening plan. He was impressed with the use of our web of intervention and our use of outdoor classrooms. He is visiting schools all across the US that have remained open during COVID-19.



#### DC SERVES THE GREATER COMMUNITY

"You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:11. This year, our lower and upper school campuses came together to support the efforts of the Chester County Food Bank. Students in all grades participated by collecting donations of non-perishable food items which were personally delivered in time for Thanksgiving food distribution.









## Recognition of Faithful Commitment

On October 17th we gathered with alumni and alumni parents to recognize six individuals who served DC for many years.

God blessed us with a picture perfect fall day while we took some time to show our appreciation to Scott Bateman '73, Peggy Bell, Russ Nixon '72, Chuck Patterson, Janet Smyth, and Linda Unger. Over 100 people gathered on the new turf field to honor their contributions. These faithful servants impacted decades of DC students as teachers, coaches, mentors, and living examples of Christ's love in action.

We wish you could have all been with us. If you were unable to join, a video recording from the event is posted on our Facebook page bit.ly/OctAlumVideo.

Missing communication from us?

Make sure your Alumni Information is
up-to-date! Contact us at

ALUMNI@DCCS.ORG





#### **ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES**

## 1967

JK Williams '67 is the Founder and President of EG Ministries, a ministry to girls preschool through high school age. The ministry works with local churches to put together weekly Christ-centered girl's club activities as a way to help reach young girls in the community. EG Ministries also hosts women's retreats. Pictured at a recent retreat are alumni, Top (L-R): Jody Dempsey Puckett '74, Christine Pickett Goss '87, Ruth Ann Hofmann Anderson '67, Bottom: Becca Hegman '15, Marilyn Martin Darity '67, and JK Williams '67.





## 1971

Karen James Wesley '71 is rejoicing in God's blessings. After losing her husband in 2001, God blessed her with another chance at love. Now married to Marvin Wesley, the couple are enjoying the next phase of life as retirees living in an Arizona active retirement community.



## 1979

Kathi Caldwell Amar '79 and her husband Steve have served as missionaries for twenty years among the 250,000 strong Iranian population in the Washington, D.C. area. Through their ministry, they've been able to plant a Farsi speaking church and established ESL programs. As the Lord leads, they continue to minister to the surrounding immigrant and refugee populations.

## 1988

Pearette Tootle Hill '88 and her husband Ricky were ordained as Deaconess and Deacon of Ezekiel Baptist Church in Philadelphia on November 29, 2020. Pearette continues to sing, leading praise and worship at the church as well as singing with the choir. She has also been the director of their children's choir, *The McCoy Specials*, for over 25 years. Together Pearette and Ricky share the love of six children and one grandson.



## 2004

Kieran Keelan '04 and his wife Claire welcomed baby Luna Eloise Keelan, born on Nov 30, 2020, a healthy 8lbs1oz. Luna is already cheering on dad's favorite soccer team. She recently enjoyed her first Liverpool game and stayed warm by wearing the team jersey. Proud grandparents are DC's own "Mr. Fixit" Peter and Angela Keelan.



## 2006



Kelly Keelan '06 has been an assistant coach for the Vanderbilt University women's soccer team since 2015. Her work has made quite an impact on the Commodores, helping to bring home divisional titles over the last

three seasons and most recently an SEC Championship and bid to the NCAA Tournament. Kelly began her coaching career with the University of Pennsylvania and Georgetown University, after a standout career as a student athlete with George Mason University.

## 2006, 2010

Doug Walker '06 and Nick Mascioli '10 are serving together at 2nd Baptist School in Houston, Texas. The duo coach the boy's Upper School soccer team. In addition to coaching, Doug teaches Bible in the Upper School and Nick is the Director of Athletic Performance.



## 2009

**Issac Williams '09** recently started as the Donor Relations Coordinator for Hope Walks. In an effort to share the gospel in both word and deed, this international non-profit serves children and their families in Latin America & Africa who are in need of medical care to correct clubfoot.

## 2011

Emily Homan '11 recently presented to our 3rd graders about her career as a geologist and her work with geotechnical engineers. As part of DC's STEM curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), students had been studying geology and its role in identifying soil types and how to prepare the soil for building different types of structures. Emily talked about the process of a project from start to finish which helped the students conceptualize the Design Cycle, which is the foundation for learning in STEM. Emily shared some photos of her in the field which sparked a lot of interest and conversation.



## 2012

Jessica Pruette '12 Since graduation Jessica has continued to cultivate DC connections in both her professional and personal life. She's currently leading a Bible study in West Chester with Emily Bronkema '14 which includes a number of DC alumni. This spring she and Amanda Heacock '19 worked with a ministry called Transport for Christ. The pair put together packets of snacks and Bibles and handed them out at a truck stop in Maryland where Transport For Christ has a mobile chapel. Jessica recently joined the staff of Wycliffe Bible Translators where she'll be involved in a translation project, Jessica would like to hear from her fellow alumni at jessica\_pruette@wycliffe.org.



## In Memoriam

**Sharon Piersma Hecker '64** went home to be with the Lord on June 1, 2020. Sharon spent 45 years working as a registered medical technologist until her retirement in 2012. She also enjoyed working with her church, skiing, and traveling. She is survived by her husband Hap and their four children and families.

**Jim Bennet '73** a resident of Exton, passed away on August 20, 2020 after a long battle with Multiple Myeloma. Jim is survived by his daughter Sydney Bennett Northcut and is remembered fondly by many of his DC classmates.

Susan Weaver Kettelle '80 shared with us the passing of Susan's husband John Dunster Kettelle III on April 1, 2020 after a two year battle against cholangiocarcinoma. The family says of John that while his body may have failed him his faith never did. A celebration of his life was held at Calvary Chapel in Chester Springs, PA.

#### **ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES**

REUNIONS WERE PUT ON HOLD THIS YEAR BUT NOT THE SPIRIT OF CAMARADERIE. MEMBERS FROM WOULD-BE REUNION CLASSES SENT US A LITTLE SOMETHING TO REMEMBER THEIR CLASS. ENJOY THIS GLIMPSE INTO WHERE THEY ARE NOW.

#### THE CLASS OF 1960 -**CELEBRATING 60 YEARS**

Sheila Cook Wheatley (far left) and friends, living in Delaware; Walt Bowman and his wife Emilie, living in Murrieta, California.





#### THE CLASS OF 1970 - CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Class mini reunion via Zoom. Top Row (L-R): Connie Kraftson McDowell and husband Glenn, Craig Hopson, Curt Eldredge, Karl Evans and wife Kathy. 2nd Row (L-R): Marge Calderwood Dill with husband Steve, Don Tapper, Dick Speers, Susan Martindale Lewis. 3rd Row (L-R) Tim Chambers and wife Cheryl, Scott Hill, Judith Meckling and husband Jo, Kay Van Ess Gagliardi.

Bottom Row: Dave Shockley joined by phone. Class reunion





Save the (New) Date! Class of 1970 50th reunion will be held on July 23 and 24, 2021.

#### THE CLASS OF 1981 -**CELBRATING 40 YEARS**

Memories from celebrating together, Front row (L-R): Brian Clark, Jennifer Roth, Sonja Amalikson, Gwyneth Gray, Katie Whiteneck, Sue Terjanian, Lori Buckwalter, Donna Howe. Back row: David Wallace, Tim Sanville, Sam Smick, Dave Parry, Karen Borgman, Phil Specht, Joel Evanson, Mark Davis.

The Three Amigos: Tim Sanville, Sam Smick, Dave Parry.





Save the Date! The Class of '81reunion is postponed to July 17, 2021.

#### THE CLASS OF 1995 - CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

1. Mini reunion (L-R): Amy Kinch Grothe, Christie Almond Negley, Carolyn Correia Martin, Jim Booth. 2. Jeff and Kristin Proto Wisnewski - still one of the cutest couples. 3. Jeremy Hooper working with Rock Bridge Community Church in Dalton, Georgia. 4. Brandon McLean with wife Jewels and children Katie, Nate, Ty, and Cami. 5. Karen Tice Noble, living in New Jersey with her family and working as Executive Director with the Pampered Chef.











### THE CLASS OF 2000 - CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Sharon Bayley Suhr and family, run their business, *The Calistoga Bikeshop*, in the heart of the Napa Valley wine country.
 Thad and Jennifer Fling Grush—still sweethearts.
 Dave Anthony—still smiling.
 Still friends: Jackie Burger Carson and Karen Kuzmick Kilby.
 Sarah Allen Kallel and Anna Kessler Haring.
 Kristin DiCanzio Betz, Lindsay Hall McGowen, Angela Kolowitz Payson.













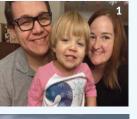
#### THE CLASS OF 2005 - CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

Morgan McGowan Handwerk with her husband Michael and daughter Nora.
 David Sulla on top of the world in Horseshoe Bend, Arizona.
 Tyler Krotzer with her husband Jesse and their family.
 Katie Griffiths Pfeffer and her husband Oli with their family, living in the West Chester area.
 Stephanie Anderson Pye and her husband Robert and their family in South Central, PA.











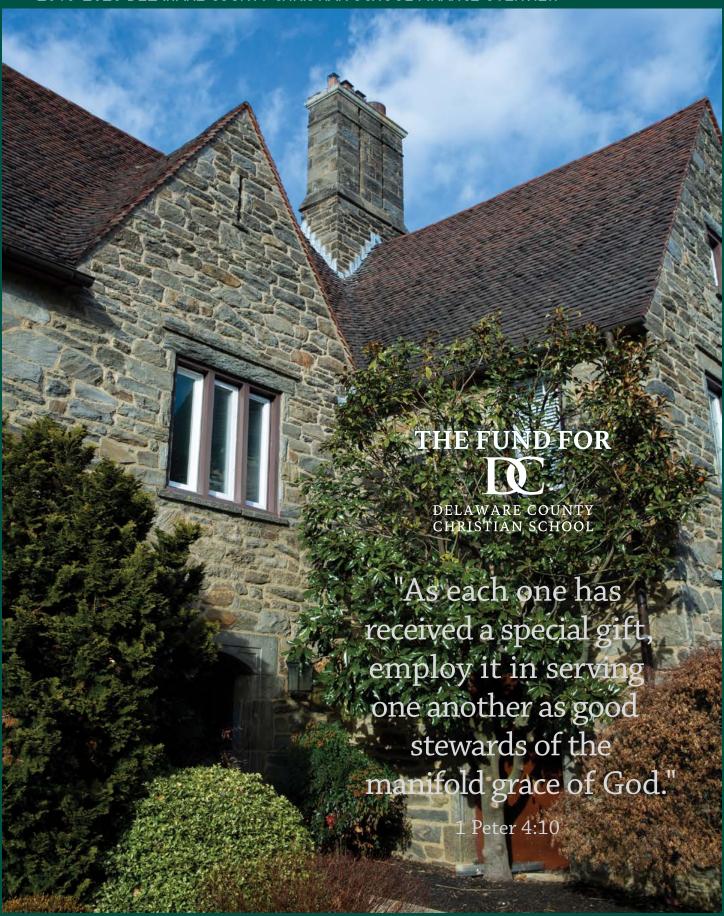
### THE CLASS OF 2015 - CELEBRATING 5 YEARS

Jennifer Vance, completing her MBA and embarking on a career in real estate with Keller Williams in West Chester, PA; Abby Semple Drass and husband Justin, beginning a new life together.





#### 2019-2020 DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FINANCE OVERVIEW



## **TOTAL GIFTS** FOR 2019-2020

\$5,413,218

RESTRICTED: \$4,064,848 UNRESTRICTED: \$1,348,370

## Thank You!

DC has been richly blessed by the sharing of gifts and talents from members of our faithful community. During a time of great challenge for us as a global community, the DC family has unified in support of the Fund for DC and its transformative role in supporting the programs and services we provide our students, faculty and staff. In addition to our annual campaign efforts, we saw a spiritual calling from members of our community who supported specific initiatives that helped to enhance our daily offerings. Two projects completed through these additional gifts included the new athletic turf field and the COVID-19 Emergency Aid Fund.

Like so many, families in our DC community have faced challenges and numerous obstacles stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. To meet the unforeseen challenges and immediate needs of some in our community, the COVID-19 Emergency Aid Fund was developed. With fifty-five generous supporters, this fund enabled DC to provide additional aid to families who, due to the pandemic, were unsure if continued enrollment at DC was possible. These and many other efforts led to the enrollment growth we have seen in the 20-21 school year. We thank those who have been called to use their gifts to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace.









"WHEN OUR ATHLETES WALK ONTO THE NEW FIELD THEY LIGHT UP.
THEY'RE PROUD THAT THIS IS OUR FIELD.

WE KEEP EVERYTHING TO A HIGH STANDARD AT DC, AND THIS FANTASTIC NEW FACILITY IS ANOTHER REFLECTION OF OUR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE."

-Mike Pinelli, Assistant Athletic Director



Senior Cole Levis, Soccer Captain



Mike Pinelli, Assitant Athletic Director and Reggie Parks, Athletic Director



Dan Steinfield, Head of School

The long-awaited turf field was ready by mid-September for DC soccer and field hockey teams to play their first home games of the season. "The state-of-the-art facility enables athletes to play a faster game on its level surface, which has great bounce", Pinelli says. The new field is one of the nicer facilities in the area, and Pinelli laughs when he says players sometimes grumble now about having to play on grass. "I tell them it's a reminder to be thankful and stay humble," he says. The field makes an athletic director's life easier, too. "It was tough to schedule that lower field, which used to be a pond. Whenever it rained, we had to figure out where to move the game and last season we could only use it two or three times."

"We've been wanting and praying for this facility for a long time," Pinelli says, and he and Athletic Director Reggie Parks are grateful to Head of School Dan Steinfield for taking the initiative to make it happen and to the entire DC community—athletes, parents, and donors. DC athletes are excited to play

their first season of lacrosse on the new field this spring, and the baseball and softball teams will also be able to use it for their practices. "There's lots of opportunity for the school in general to use this new facility," Pinelli says, "including lower school development clinics, summer camps, and more. Part of the vision is to use the field to bring the community together."

DC officially dedicated the new field and honored senior athletes in a combined celebration at the end of the fall season. "We wanted to honor their hard work," Pinelli says. "After years of playing on grass, they get the bragging rights of being the first to play on the new field." Pinelli and his wife are looking forward to their newborn son experiencing all that DC has to offer.

"DC is an amazing place to grow in your faith, to develop as an athlete, an artist, an entrepreneur—it's a great community, where we prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ."



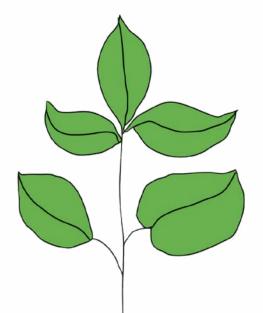
#### 2019-2020 DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FINANCE OVERVIEW



Planted in the soil of Truth, watered by the generosity of our donors, and warmed by the Son –

This is the soil where the seeds of a DC education take hold,

This is why we believe that what's in the soil matters.



#### WHAT'S IN THE SOIL MATTERS

TEACH US TO NUMBER OUR DAYS ARIGHT, THAT WE MAY GAIN A HEART OF WISDOM-PSALM 90:12 DO NOT BE ANXIOUS FOR ANYTHING, BY PRAYER AND PETITION, WITH THANKSGIVING, PRESENT YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD! AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH TRANSCENDS ALL UNDERSTANDING, WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS. PHILIPPIANS 4:6 FINALLY: BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN HIS MIGHTY POWER PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD SO THAT YOU CAN TAKE YOUR STAND AGAINST THE DEVIL'S SCHEMES. EPHESIANS 6:10-11 DON'T LET ANYONE LOOK DOWN ON YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE YOUNG BUT SET AN EXAMPLE FOR THE BELIEVERS IN SPEECH: IN LIFE: IN LOVE: IN FAITH AND IN PURITY: 1 TIMOTHY 4:12 MAY THE GOD WHO GIVE ENDURANCES AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVE YOU A SPIRIT OF UNITY AMONG YOURSELVES AS YOU FOLLOW CHRIST JESUS: ROMANS 15:5 GLORIFY THE LORD WITH ME: LET US EXALT HIS NAME TOGETHER. PSALM 34:3 DO NOT LET ANY UNWHOLESOME TALK COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTHS, BUT ONLY WHAT IS HELPFUL FOR BUILDING OTHERS UP ACCORDING TO THE NEEDS: THAT THEY MAY BENEFT THOSE WHO LISTEN. EPHESIANS 4:29 YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD....LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE MEN. THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD DEEDS AND PRAISE YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN. MATTHEW 5:14-16

#### **GIVING PARTICIPATION TOTALS:**

FACULTY AND STAFF = 94%

CURRENT PARENTS = 34%

ALUMNI = 10%

INCOME: \$11,608,148 EXPENSES: \$11,561,709



81% TUITION & FEES

14% GIFTS & ENDOWMENT
5% OTHER REVENUE



67% Compensation & Benefits

13% Financial Aid

7% Maintenance & Capital

7% Administrative Costs

6% Educational Programs

## THE EITC/OSTC PROGRAM

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN REDIRECTING YOUR STATE TAXES TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN RECEIVING A DC EDUCATION?

Contributions made through the

## EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT TAX CREDIT (EITC)

provide financial aid to qualified students who attend an eligible scholarship organization, like Delaware County

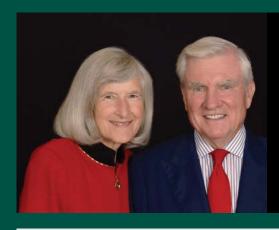
Christian School.

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR PA TAXES TO SUPPORT

A PROGRAM YOU BELIEVE IN?

Contributions made through the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) program support DC students who live in neighborhoods with low-achieving public schools (bottom 15% in Pennsylvania). When an approved individual or business agrees to participate in either the EITC and/or OSTC programs for two consecutive tax years, they may be eligible for a tax credit equal to 90% of the total contribution.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CARTER SKEEL, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AT CSKEEL@DCCS.ORG



We have found the EITC program to be a perfect marriage of supporting an institution that we care deeply about and being prudent and effective in our charitable giving. It allows DC to provide financial aid to families that could otherwise not afford access to Christian education while we receive a 90% tax credit. Another way of looking at it is that it allows us to donate to scholarships at DC for ten cents on the dollar. That makes it an easy decision for us. We know the program sounds too good to be true; but we're here to tell you that it's real!"

- Colin and Pricie Hanna P'92'99GP'28'33

#### SAMPLE TAX CALCULATION

(LLC, PARTNERSHIP, S-CORP OR INDIVIDUAL BASED ON A TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT)

**CASH GIFT TO CHARITY - \$3500** 

PA TAX-CREDIT REDUCTION (90% OF CONTRIBUTION) - \$3150

OUT OF POCKET EXPENSE \$220

NET-FEDERAL TAX DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTION (37% OF TAX RATE) - \$130

# DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



College and Universities
That Accepted Graduates
From the Class of 2020

Professional Development Opportunities For Faculty and Staff

National
Merit
Finalists
In the last
Four Years

94% of AP Exam Test Takers Scored a 3 or Higher



PK3-K Students
Enrolled in Our New
Early Childhood Center
(ECC)



Students Involved In
The Upper School Musical
Production:
CINDERELLA



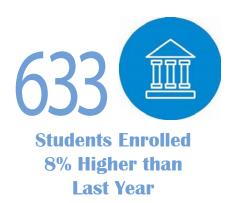
STUDENTS
WHO PLAY A SPORT
IN UPPER
AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

250



Sandwiches Consumed at the POWDERPUFF GAME

# OUR HEARTFELT APPRECIATION TO ALL THE ANNUAL FUND DONORS WHO MADE THESE NUMBERS POSSIBLE



38
Students Enrolled in Extended
Distance Learning



90+%ile

Acheivement Level
On Standardized Tests
For Elementary Students





TOTAL 2019-2020 ANNUAL FUND DONORS

**94%** Faculty & Staff Donated to the Annual Fund

**100%** Board Members Donated to the Annual Fund

Acres on Two Campuses to Enable Expanded Indoor/Outdoor Classrooms





Upper Campus 462 Malin Road Newtown Square, PA 19073

Lower Campus 905 South Waterloo Road Devon. PA 19333 NON PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID BROOMALL, PA 19008 PERMIT #25



DAY CAMPS • SPORT CAMPS • ENRICHMENT CAMPS 484-654-2425 • for info & registration go to DCCS.ORG/SUMMER