CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHRISTIAN

## Fall 2024

# CENTRAL FOCUS Celebrating Our Faith and Future

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHRISTIAN

# PASSING THE BATON

Welcoming our new Head of School

The 2024/25 school year at Central Wisconsin Christian School began with a significant change in our leadership structure. With the retirement of long-time CWC Administrator Mark Buteyn, the leadership baton was passed along to Dr. Chris Gann who assumed the role of Head of School this summer.



#### Goodbye Mr. Buteyn

Mr. Buteyn spent 42 years in Christian education here in Waupun. The first part of his career included 27 years as a teacher where he taught history, government, physical education, and Bible. In 2009, the CWC Board named Mr. Buteyn as the Administrator (later Head of School). His impact also extended to athletics as he spent many years coaching basketball, track and field, and golf.

#### Hello Dr. Gann

Dr. Gann worked for several years in Texas public schools and national education consultation companies. He earned a masters' degree in school counseling and a doctorate in educational leadership. For the past six years Dr. Gann and his wife both served on the leadership team at Santiago Christian School in the Dominican Republic. While at SCS he worked as both Elementary Principal and the Director of Advancement and Special Projects. "In searching for where God would lead me to serve, I looked at well over 100 schools but CWC really stood out." The CWC website, their foundational documents, and the historical tradition they hold really connected to my family." Dr. Gann and his wife Jennifer are the parents of three children – Calder (freshman at Oral Roberts University), Ainsley (sophomore), and Malachi (5th grade).

### **CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHRISTIAN**

#### Our theme for the 24/25 school year: "Renewed Minds, Transformed Hearts"

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

(Romans 12:1-2)



As we journey through this school year together, we will work to remember the importance of offering ourselves as living sacrifices, continually seeking transformation through the renewing of our minds. In doing so, we will be equipped to discern God's good, pleasing, and perfect will, and to make a lasting impact in our community and beyond.

We look forward to a year filled with growth, learning, and the joy of seeing our minds and hearts transformed by the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.



## Meet our new staff:

Dr. Chris Gann – Head of School Jennifer Gann – MS/HS Teacher Mallory Spiker – 1st Grade Hailey Bresser – MS Para

# **CWC BOARD MEMBERS 24-25**

Jeff Navis - President Luke Lentscher - VP Rob Servais - Treasurer Keith Buist Kevin Buwalda

Tina Gough Brad Mulder Steve Perry John Wellach Julie Westra

#### **ENROLLMENT UPDATE**

The enrollment for the 2024/25 school year is currently 532 students. Even though the 3K program was eliminated for the current school year, we hit record enrollment this school year and have added 55 new students. Full classes mean that our educational environment is bustling with energy and diversity which enhances the learning experience for everyone involved.

New inquiries are occurring almost daily and the CWC tour schedule is filling quickly. We have one elementary grade level that is full and a few that are close to reaching capacity. Pray for additional interest in Christian education to keep filling our hallways and classrooms with students.

We continue to partner with many area churches. We have 60 different churches represented in our student body and we hope to continue growing our connections with our churches and pastors.

As we look to the future, let's remain committed to supporting 'your' school. Whether through volunteering, participating in events, or simply spreading the word, every bit of support counts. Together we can ensure that our school remains a place where students can learn, grow, and flourish.

## Giving Tuesday is Almost Here!

Mark your calendars for Tuesday,

**December 3rd**, as we come together for Giving Tuesday! This special day is all about showing gratitude, giving back, and making an impact. By supporting Central Wisconsin Christian School, you're helping us continue our mission of nurturing faith, character, and academic excellence in every student.

Every gift, big or small, directly supports programs, resources, and opportunities that make CWC a place Where Christ Is Central. How to Get Involved:

- Make a Gift: Your donation, no matter the size, helps us create more transformative experiences for our students.
  - Go to Linktr.ee/WeAreCWC
  - Stop in or call the High School Office
- **Spread the Word:** Share our mission with family and friends. Let's come together as a community!

Join us this Giving Tuesday to make a difference in the lives of our students and in the future of our school.





#### **GIVE AND RECEIVE INCOME FOR LIFE!**

The Not-Too-Good-To-Be-True Giving Option

Support the Foundation and your local Christian schools in a major way and receive steady income payments for life!

Sound too good to be true?

A growing number of our supporters can confirm what they've already discovered. Life income gifts are a wonderful, no-catch solution for those who want to give more, but are concerned about having enough income.

A life income gift can be established by giving cash, or you can give non-cash assets that you no longer need or care to manage (such as rental property or a vacation home).

You'll receive an immediate tax deduction at the time of your gift, and then steady payments for a lifetime (or a designated number of years). The remainder of your gift will further the important mission of Central Wisconsin Christian!

Ready to learn more? Discover whether life income gifts are the right solution for you. Contact Central Wisconsin Christian (920.324.4233/ gift@WeAreCWC.org.



# Diamond Legacy Project Update

#### PREPARING KIDS TO GLORIFY GOD AND SERVE IN HIS WORLD

Planning for the Diamond Legacy construction projects began in 2021 when the CWC Board of Directors appointed an ad hoc committee to study the physical facility needs of the school to continue its Mission as it faced unprecedented demand for enrollment access. The committee recommended four primary projects to the board and to the CWC Association in subsequent meetings. Those four projects, in order of priority, included:

**1. Additional Middle School classroom space (Phase 1).** Because this initiative was a critical need for the next school year, it was quickly approved by the Association at a special meeting in January, 2022, contingent on raising enough commitments to cover at least 70% of the cost. The 3 new classrooms were added during the summer of 2022 and occupied by students in August of that year. This portion of the project was completed for a total cost of \$1.5 million.

2. Additional High School, Elementary School, and Ag-Pro-Tech facilities along with a new practice soccer field (Phase 2). A much larger project, this phase was approved by the CWC Association in April of 2022 along with phases 3 and 4 with the same 70% funding contingency requirement. That threshold was met for Phase 2 in August of 2022 and ground was broken in that same month. It was put into service the following school year starting in August of 2023. The price tag on this phase was \$9.5 million.

**3. Worship Arts space, a band classroom and expansion of kitchen facilities (Phase 3).** The goal of this phase is to provide a dedicated, intimate space allowing students to participate in a variety of performances and creative productions that are integral to their growth in confidence and artistic expression. This center will also serve as a gathering place for performances and events that celebrate our Faith and the arts as we worship God. Plans have been drawn up for this phase, but the 70% funding contingency has not yet been met. The most recent estimate on the cost for this phase is \$6.1 million.

**4. Additional Athletics space, including a baseball field and track (Phase 4).** This is the final phase of the Diamond Legacy project and would be tackled once Phase 3 is funded.



## **Current Situation**





The \$11 million that's been spent on this project to date has been funded by:

- 1.Funds on-hand from previous projects (\$200,000)
- 2. Paid Pledges and gifts (\$5.5 million)
- 3. A construction loan (\$5.3 million)

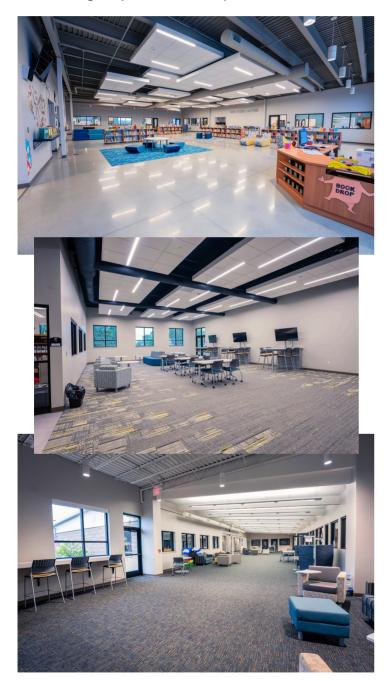
The balance of pledges made to the project but not yet paid is \$4.7 million.

The cost of the project grows each day due to the current monthly interest expense of \$17,000 per month (\$554 each day).

It is important to remember that tuition paid to CWC is used to run the non-profit operations of the school. Tuition is not used to fund construction projects. That means we need donations outside of tuition income to pay for the new classrooms and facilities added to meet enrollment demand.

## What's Next

To proceed with the Worship Arts Center (Phase 3), a minimum of \$1.7 million in additional pledges is needed to reach the 70% funding contingency. We also need \$3.3 million of current pledges to be paid to drop the loan balance to \$2.0 million before borrowing any more money for construction.



## What's Needed?

#### If you believe in the mission of CWC, we ask:

- If you've already pledged and paid it in full: Please consider an additional donation.
- If you have a current pledge balance: Please consider paying it off as early as possible. This will help limit interest expense.
- If you haven't yet made a donation to the project, your help is needed! A new gift of any size will move us closer to making the vision of Phase 3 a reality.

CWC was founded in 1948 and has survived since then through sacrificial giving by those that have supported it. Our mission is more critical than ever, as evidenced by the demand for a spot in our classrooms and the cultural battles being waged in America's society.

Your continued support will ensure that we not only reach our financial goals but that we also honor our commitment to providing a high-quality Christian education enriched by the arts.

We humbly ask you to prayerfully consider an additional contribution pledge to help make the Worship Arts Center a reality for current and future generations.

**To make a donation or pledge**, please email advancement@wearecwc.org or give online at <u>Linktr.ee/WeAreCWC.</u>

Phase Description	Total Projec Budget	70% Needed Begin Phase	Total Raised to Date	% Raised of 100%
Phase 1 - Middle School	\$ 1,475,900	\$ 1,033,100	\$ 1,033,100	70%
Phase 2 - Elem / AgProTech	9,504,900	6,653,400	6,653,400	70%
Phase 3 - Worship Arts	6,117,000	4,281,900	2,525,300	41%
Phase 4 - Athletic Fields	3,223,100	2,256,200	-	0%
Total	\$ 20,320,900	\$ 14,224,600	\$ 10,211,800	50%

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to Central Wisconsin Christian and for believing in our mission. Together, we can create a legacy that empowers our students to glorify God through their talents and passions.

## **STUDENT LIFE**

Our Art students got creative and shared some joy at the SSM Health Christian Nursing Home by painting pumpkins with the residents! It was a blessing for all involved to be able to share in the fun!







## **WOW JR**

A personal relationship with Jesus Christ is the focus of our worship at Central Wisconsin Christian School. As such, we aim to engage students in conversations, learning opportunities, and activities focused on developing that relationship. Over the years, CWC has made WOW (We Offer Worship) a highlight of each month where 4K-12th grade students join together in worship singing, activities, service, and devotional time together.

Due to tremendous growth, CWC has focused on developing WOW to be an expression of both God's goodness through growth and His desire for us to develop meaningful, personal relationships with Him and others. The result is to continue setting aside time for the 4K-12th grade students to worship as a school five times throughout the year either singing or playing together as one big community, and the other months we send a combination of 4-6 middle and high school students to each elementary classroom to teach, disciple, and serve together in a much more personal setting.









## PLAYGROUND PAINTING

A big thank you to our amazing staff for painting the blacktop around the playground! It looks incredible, with vibrant and educational designs that will make it a fun space for our students. Come check it out and see the wonderful transformation!



"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35





### **Regional Champs!**

A huge congratulations to our Varsity Volleyball team for an incredible season! They worked tirelessly and earned the title of Regional Champions, a well-deserved achievement.

#### **DECEMBER EVENTS**

December 3 - Giving Tuesday -All Day

December 9 - HS Christmas Concert @ 6:30 PM

December 13 - EL Christmas Concert @ 9:00 AM and 6:30 PM

December 17 - MS Christmas Concert 6:30 PM



We are so proud of these ladies and the heart they put into every game. Thank you to our coaches, players, and fans for an unforgettable season! Go Crusaders!



Linktr.ee/WeAreCWC

#### Follow us on Social!

Stay connected with Central Wisconsin Christian School! Find all our social media profiles, important school links, and updates in one convenient place at <u>Linktr.ee/WeAreCWC</u>. Follow us to keep up with school news, events, and highlights.



# PRAY

- Board member Steve Perry recovering from West Nile virus since September
- Ray Hofman ('86) & Gregg Zonnefeld continued treatments
- Positive events for engaging our new CWC Family
- Families struggling with illness/sickness in our community
- Tours with families with a desire Christian education for their kids

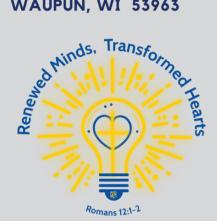
# PRAISE

- Thankful for staff who go above and beyond doing a lot of little things that are actually pretty huge for our school
- Thankful for our supporting churches
  and businesses
- Thankful for all of the good and faithful teaching that flies under the radar
- Thankful for our PIA and auction team
- Thankful for new families and for our rich heritage



CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHRISTIAN 301 FOX LAKE ROAD WAUPUN, WI 53963





# HARVEST AUCTION LUAU: A HEARTFELT THANK YOU AND EXCITING RESULTS!

We are thrilled to share the results of this year's CWC's 21st Harvest Auction! Thanks to your incredible support and generosity, the event was a resounding success, bringing our community together in a spirit of collaboration and giving. **GOD is GOOD! Total Funds Raised- Over \$280,000.00 – RECORD!!!** 

The funds raised during the auction will directly benefit our students, allowing us to enhance educational opportunities in the classroom and beyond. Your contributions make a profound difference in the lives of our students and families. **The Sausage Fundraiser raised \$37,000.00 with all funds going directly to help Rock Valley Christian School recover from the flood this summer.** 

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who donated items, sponsored the event, and volunteered their time. Your support is what makes this auction possible. A special thanks to our local businesses and community members who generously contributed items and services.

We're already looking forward to next year's auction! If you have suggestions for items or experiences you'd like to see, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your feedback helps us make this event even better.





