

He is Risen Indeed!



Spring is definitely in the air. As new life springs up all around us, it is refreshing to know exactly where the source of all life comes. We just celebrated Resurrection Sunday, otherwise coined Easter, which to the world is a holiday filled with jelly beans and bunnies to ring in the spring season. But for us believers, we know there is so much more to Easter—and we find meaning from an empty tomb.

The tomb's emptiness ironically fills our lives with purpose. Our own emptiness is filled with the love of our Father, the gift of grace, and the sacrifice of our Savior. A tomb to us represents life! I love God's creative vision!

Likewise, it is so great to call out "He is risen!" For as I look at the budding trees and blooming flowers, it appears to me that even His creation during the spring bursts with verdant growth and beauty, seemingly responding, "He is risen indeed!"

Remember to read each monthly newsletter this Spring and to frequently check our website, www.dcs4you.org, so you can stay abreast of news and upcoming events as well as discover academic successes and outreach opportunities within DCS and our community.

- Principal Zachary Davidson



Recent News

ELEMENTARY AWARDS FOR FEBRUARY:

Each month, elementary teachers acknowledge a few students, who demonstrate characteristics of David, Solomon, and Paul (spiritual fruits). The following students were recipients for the month of February. Great job everyone! March's recipients will be announced soon and will be posted in the April newsletter.

	DAVID AWARD	SOLOMON AWARD	PAUL AWARD for LOVE
K	Spencer Mortell	Michael Foley	Brielle Balensifer
1 st	Connor Briece	Mark Sacara	Ashlynn Sudaisar
2 nd	Jackson Liepold	Jonathan Janzen	Brandon Roth
3 rd	Kate Nelson	Brayden Adler	Hailee Gianelli
4 th	Esther Davidson	Cole Myers and Gemma Kleve	Demetri Carandanis
5 th	Hannah Gianelli	Julia Mitchell	Ben Hartman
6 th	Zach Nelson	Daniel Wilson	Logan Maxwell

Upcoming Events

NEW IDENTITY FOR ANNUAL AUCTION: Our annual spring fundraiser is changing its identity this year. Instead of being a classy dinner and auction for the adults, May 7th will be a night for the whole family to participate in. Yes, there will still be a silent auction and buffet style dinner, but the main event will be filled with games where student-teams will be competing for prizes. We call this great event "60 Seconds to Victory"!



There will be a series of 60 second challenges, designed much like the show “Minute to Win It”. Students in grades K-6 will be on mixed teams competing together; likewise students in grades 7-12 will be on mixed teams competing. Of course, there will be team shirts! Points from these games, as well as individual pledges collected by students will help raise funds for our classrooms. Our goal is to raise \$20,000! All pledge donations are 100% tax deductible and *must be turned in by Friday, April 15*. Pledge packets were sent home with elementary students March 30. Secondary pledge packets will go home on April 1.

FINE ARTS FAIR and OPEN HOUSE: On April 8th, DCS will be hosting an open house to showcase the many talents of our K-12 students. This Fine Arts Fair will be held from 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. Please invite any neighbors or friends who are contemplating enrolling their kids at DCS.



OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATES:

- Auction Game-A-Thon pledges starts – Friday, April 1st
- Fine Arts Fair/Open House – Friday, April 8th
- High School Spring Fling – Saturday, April 9th
- Elementary Spring Concert – Tuesday, April 12th
- Auction Game-A-Thon pledges ends and Pledge Packets are due – Friday, April 15th
- Keaton Coffey Scholarship Applications Due – Friday, April 15th
- Drama Production: *The Magician’s Nephew* – Thursday–Saturday, April 21st–23rd
- DCC Men’s Getaway, cost \$79, Friday–Saturday, April 22nd–24th
- NO SCHOOL: Teacher Accreditation Day – Monday, April 25th
- Career Day – Tuesday, April 26th
- Mid-Terms – Wednesday, April 27th
- Drama Production: *The Magician’s Nephew* – Thursday–Saturday, April 28th–30th
- FACTS application deadline for financial aid – Saturday, April 30th
- 60 Seconds to Victory Fundraiser – Saturday, May 7th
- 6th Grade Outdoor School – May 4th – 6th
- School Auction – Saturday, May 7th starting at 4 P.M.

Staff Spotlight: Ed Darnell



Inspired by the Psalmist writing, “I’d rather be a gatekeeper in the house of the Lord...”, Ed Darnell left a career at G.I. Joe’s at the end of 2001, to take a position in the ministry of Damascus Community Church as Facilities Supervisor. Damascus Christian School is the biggest part of DCC’s ministry, and interacting with the students, teachers and staff have brought many blessings to him. “The opportunity to pray for the students and administer God’s grace in their school day is a priceless benefit,” beams Darnell.

If you see Mr. Darnell in the hallways, make sure you thank him for all he does for us.

Financial Update

FINACIAL REPORT: My job as the school administrator is to provide students an excellent education from a Biblical Worldview, a variety of extra-curricular activities, and meaningful spiritual development. I am tasked with offering this at a cost that is commensurate with other Christian schools in our area.

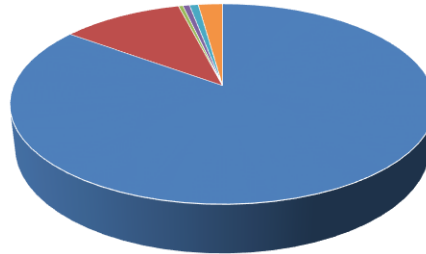


I have found this to be a delicate balancing act and even a step of faith as I seek to keep to our mission, provide our staff a professional wage, offer a variety of elective and co-curricular activities, maintain our accreditation, and provide staff proper resources and students sufficient facilities.

To maintain clear communication, I have included a pie chart below, depicting how our 1.1 million dollar budget is allocated. As you can see, most dollars are fixed, which free up only a minute margin of funds to be creative with. Despite the limitations, we are able to make big changes in the programs we offer. Please read the next section to see the exciting new opportunities we are putting into place for next year.

School Budget:

- Staff Salaries 85%
- Staff Benefits 11%
- Extra Curricular .4%
- Books and Fees .6%
- Utilities .8%
- Supplies and Other 2.2%



EXCITING NEW OPPORTUNITIES: After careful deliberation, prayer and seeking counsel, I am excited to share the following information concerning our tuition and programs for 2016-2017.

- 1) We will not be raising tuition next fall as we seek to remain competitive in our market.
- 2) We are excited to be offering the following classes next year: Physics, Foods/Home Economics, Criminal Justice, Shop and more advanced computer classes.
- 3) We are also excited to be implementing honor classes in our core classes next year.
- 4) We are also pursuing dual credit offerings with local colleges, who will allow us to maintain our Biblical Worldview.
- 5) Finally, we are requesting you as parents to join a group of teachers, elders and other stake holders in the school as we seek to develop our Continuous Improvement Plan. This will require a commitment of one Saturday and two or three evenings over the summer. We seek to create plans for the future along with the plans to accomplish them. Please contact the school office if you are interested at (503) 658-4100.

FACTS – TUITION ASSISTANCE: Our school is blessed to have financial resources to come along side parents. We can provide tuition assistance through scholarships for families, who struggle to afford Damascus Christian School. This past year, twenty families were awarded scholarships. While we do have limitations to the number of families we can help, I would like to encourage those who need financial assistance to visit our website and submit an application with FACTS, an outside organization that helps us determine how to best meet the financial needs of the applicants. This is a confidential process. Applications must be submitted by April 30th to be considered for tuition assistance next year.



KEATON COFFEY SCHOLARSHIP: Applications are available for 7th – 11th Graders for DCS students who have a heart for & participate in service-oriented, extracurricular activities are encouraged to apply for this scholarship. Applications are due April 15th.

MOTHER'S DAY SCRIP GIFTS: Scrip is an easy way to support our school by purchasing gift cards for items that your family regularly purchases. You receive the gift cards to use as you would like, and DCS wins by receiving a certain % back for the purchase of the gift card. Plan now to purchase gift cards as birthday presents, graduation gifts, or Mother's Day gifts. Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8th!



Outreach Opportunities

LOBBY GREETERS: I would like to thank all of our lobby volunteers who are serving at the reception desk in the foyer. You have not only enhanced our security, but you have also provided hospitality to all of our guests and parents. If you are still interested in serving in this ministry we do have a few remaining slots during the lunch time period.

Sport and Extra-Curricular Highlights

SPRING DRAMA PRODUCTION: Our students are working hard to prepare lines, costumes, and an enthralling theatrical performance of C.S. Lewis's *The Magician's Nephew*. Performances will run Thursday through Saturday nights, April 21-23 and April 28-30. Tickets will go on sale soon.

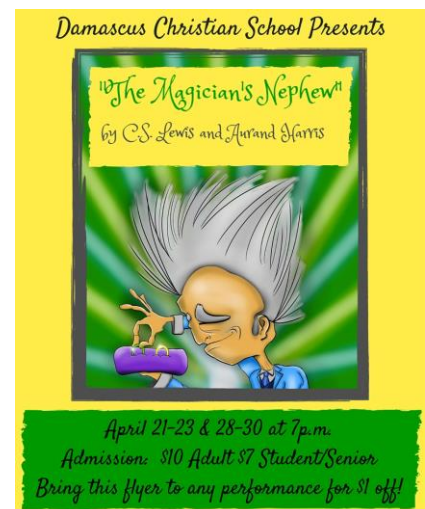
TRACK AND FIELD: Please consult our weekly Eagle Eye or the school website for upcoming meets, so you too can cheer on our Eagles as they jump, run and throw their way to success.

BASKETBALL:

The 5th and 6th grade girls basketball season was really enjoyable. We had a dedicated group of hard working players that applied themselves and focused on getting better each day. The girls went 9-1 for the season, and showed a lot of heart in gritting out a couple of really close wins. They played with great attitudes and sportsmanship that represented the school, and our Lord well. It was a blessing to get the opportunity to coach such a fine group of young ladies. Great kids, from great families, representing a great school and a greater savior. *Coach Powers*

Coaches - Elaine and Chad Powers. The 5-6th Boys team was comprised of 8 6th graders and 2 5th graders. The team experienced a successful season with the peace of mind knowing they gave their best effort on the court. They finished 8-2 in league play with a win against the team they lost to in the first game of the season. Players grew in skill, knowledge, character, and teamwork. Now, they will apply their good attitudes and best efforts in the classroom and where the Lord leads them. *Coach Troy Clear*

The JH Girls team had an exciting season. They started out strong and found their stride early. They worked hard and had several close games. They finished league in fourth place with only 3 losses. Their best game came in the playoffs against Life Christian, a hard-fought back and forth match, which the winner wasn't determined until the last second of the game. The girls learned this season to never give up, the importance of team unity, and how to use the talents God has given them as individuals to make a stronger team. Thank you parents and staff for your support; without you it's not possible. *Coach Powers*



The **JH Boys team** had a great season too. At the beginning of the year, we set goals for every player to improve their skills, their effort level, and their understanding of the game. Additionally, we wanted to make sure that we represented Christ, our family, and our school with honor and integrity each and every game. Our young men achieved those goals. As a bonus, they were able to go through the league schedule with a perfect 14-0 record and finish the season 19-2 overall. The coaching staff would like to thank the players for having great attitudes and a willingness to work hard; the parents for raising great young men and for all the help given throughout the season; and the athletic department for the tireless work in scheduling and keeping all of us on track and in line. Go Eagles! *Coach Chad*

It was a successful year for the DCS **high school women's** basketball team. They were the Valley 10 League Champions with a record of 18 wins and 5 losses. The team qualified for a first round state tournament home game, but lost a 2 point heart-breaker to the Arlington Honkers. One of the highlights during the year was the opportunity to play at the Moda Center. *Coach Wakefield*

High School Boys: I would like to thank everyone (coaches, players, and fans) who made this season possible. Seasons are often judged by winning league and a state finish. The true value of the sport is evaluated when asked: Did everyone accept their role, give 100% as a person and player, in spite of any shortcomings? Was it a season of iron sharpening iron? Did the team work to glorify God and become stronger as Christians? I feel the team worked toward these goals, and it showed up with the winning of the league sportsmanship trophy. Congratulation DCS Basketball family for a great year! *Coach T. Calhoun*



Damascus Community Church

Sunday Services: 8:15 & 11:00 A.M.

Community Groups: 9:45 A.M.

Children's Sunday School: 8:15, 9:45 & 11:00 A.M.

Zachary Davidson
Principal, Damascus Christian School

Website: www.dcs4you.org/

Email: zach.davidson@damascuscc.org

Address: 14251 SE Rust Way, Damascus, OR 97089

Phone: (503) 658-4100