

Building upon
the *Legacy*

HMDCS Capital Campaign

“God can do much, much
more than we could
ever ask or imagine...
to Him be the glory!”

Eph. 3:20



A Building Campaign for
Holland Marsh District Christian School

HMDCS fast facts

Students: 206
Families: 104
Teachers: 12
Educators/Teaching Assistants: 4
Administrative Support: 1
Financial Assistants: 2
Vice Principal: 1
Music Teacher: 1
(part-time)
Caretaker: 1
(part-time)

The curriculum at HMDCS conforms to the Ontario Ministry of Education guidelines and regulations. At HMDCS, fully accredited teachers are accountable to God, the school and parents.

a Message from our Principal



Holland Marsh District Christian School. It is in Him and through Him that all things work. We started this wonderful journey trusting God to lead us and we will keep our eyes fixed on Him every step of the way.

The future of Holland Marsh District Christian School is bright and we are blessed to be a part of this journey in faith. *Lead On, O King Eternal!*

Rod Berg, Principal, HMDCS

Both my husband and I attended Holland Marsh from grades 5-8. As I am now attending teacher's college at U of T this year, the benefits to having attended this small Christian school are all the more glaring. This is not just a school, it is a community. It is a place where teachers are able to model for the students the morals and Christian values that are so vital in education, and so easily forgotten. While observing one of the classes recently I was reminded of the special times the students received in the mornings to share praise reports and requests. What better way to start off the day than with our friend Jesus. As a student there, I can barely count the times I encountered bullying, there was never any issue of drugs, or alcohol; it was a safe environment. And I cannot go without mentioning the amazing special education program. What a gem!

Chlöe MacDonald

a little bit of our History

Holland Marsh District Christian School opened its doors in 1943 to 19 students. Over the last 67 years our school has provided a Christ-centred education to hundreds of students. This was the first Christian school of its kind in Canada and was temporarily accommodated in a room at the back of the Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church. In total, HMDCS has graduated 1,304 students. Our history and legacy are steeped in tradition and a love for God. HMDCS came to be during some of the most difficult times; through Hurricane Hazel and shortly following the Great Depression, just to mention a few. HMDCS has collaborated with surrounding schools, merging on two separate occasions, always remaining true to its fundamental values and humble beginnings. Over the years, HMDCS has seen many families and students pass through our doors who have moved on to serve in God's kingdom in a way that, as their school, makes us proud. As we move forward, creating new memories and milestones for our school, we also take time to reflect on our humble beginnings and thank the generations who came before us and paved the way for where we are today.



*For 67 years HMDCS has provided exceptional Christian education.
What we accomplish now will leave a legacy for future generations.*

HMDCS Milestones...

- February 15, 1943 HMDCS opened its doors.
- Mr. J.W. Uitvlugt served as the 1st teacher of 19 students. His salary was \$85/month plus free housing.
- 1954 – Hurricane Hazel left the school severely damaged.
- 1954 – A new brick three-room school was erected.
- 1972 – The Newmarket Christian School Association joined the HMDCS Society to form one association.
- 1975 – A partial merger with the Springdale Society took place.
- 1982 – As a result of the amalgamation with Springdale Christian School, HMDCS expanded to include four more classrooms, gymnasium, staff room, kitchen and resource room.
- 1991 – An additional four classrooms were added, a new resource room, change rooms, a larger staff room and new offices.
- 2007 – The Bathurst Street property was purchased.

what's happening Today



Today, Holland Marsh District Christian School is a thriving Christian elementary school offering classes from JK to Grade 8.

HMDCS offers the Ontario Ministry of Education core requirements within a Christian worldview.

Students at HMDCS come from the communities of:

- Aurora
- Bradford
- East Gwillimbury
- Holland Marsh
- Newmarket
- Schomberg, and surrounding areas.

The current school has 10 classrooms, fully dedicated rooms for music and computers, resource rooms, a large gymnasium, and outdoor playground. Our school offers a specialized intermediate French teacher and a band program for Grades 6-8.

Extra curricular programs include:

- an award winning choir which has recorded a Christmas CD with the Toronto Mass Choir (Released in November 2010)
- Battle of the Books
- Speech contests (Grades 4 – 8)
- Science Fair

A significant Grade 8 outreach project that gets our students into the community and blessing a Christian ministry takes place annually for one to two days. This has included outreach projects such as:

- preparing meals for Blue Doors Shelter
- helping renovate The Mercy House
- working with The Yellow Brick House
- various projects at Teen Challenge GTA

We are also very proud of our student council that has a heart for serving not just our school community, but the global community as well.

We are very proud that HMDCS is one of only 15 of the 80 Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools that is fully accredited by CHI (Canadian Hallmarks Institute). We were accredited in June of 2009.



HMDCS is proud of its sports program which competes in the Toronto District North Christian Schools tournaments:

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------|---------------|
| soccer | basketball | cross country |
| volleyball | ice hockey | badminton |
| | track and field | |

a Message from the Board

Dear Supporters of Holland Marsh District Christian School,

This school comes from humble beginnings. It began in 1943 when a handful of families who were passionate about Christian education, stepped out in faith and sacrificed their time and resources to start a new school; the first of its kind in Canada. From a one classroom school set up in the back of a church with only 19 students, to now having 10 classrooms, with 21 staff and 206 students, this school has become an essential part of this community. Essentially, those families paved the way for the current generation of students.

Today, we continue to build on that faith and passion by assembling a very talented team of teachers and administrators whose purpose is to provide quality Christ-centred education to each and every student. Now it is our time to step out in faith and pave the way for this and future generations of HMDCS students with a brand new facility.

I ask that your family pray for God's provision as we launch a brand new capital campaign. We fell short in our last campaign effort and were unsuccessful in securing the future for HMDCS that many had envisioned. However, we have learned much from that experience and it is time to put aside the past and look to the future again. As members of the HMDCS family, it is our responsibility to enthusiastically respond to the

call made in 2 Corinthians 8:11-12, *“Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.”*

It is an honour to be able to serve Christ as Chairman of the Board. I too was a student of HMDCS and am now a parent. Join me in giving back to a place that has blessed us all so richly.

*In Christ,
Cameron Loopstra
Chairman of the Board & Alumni
Holland Marsh District Christian School*





our Community

Family chooses Christian education because of biblical worldview

"Having school and home values align is key", says mom.

Monday, September 13, 2010 – Jennifer Neutel
Excerpt from the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools' website

For Tara Hunter and her husband, choosing to send their daughters to a Christian school meant supporting and reinforcing the biblically based values that are central at their home. The Hunters view school as an extension of home, and it is important to have a school environment that supports teaching the Bible as truth, she tells the OACS News. "Our goal was to raise children who really know Jesus and His love for them, so that they are equipped to share that hope with others," says Hunter. "I think we are called as parents to really work on the heart issues of our children so that they have a transformed life, not just an external look at things," she says, noting she and her husband take the main responsibility of educating their children at home.

Because of the many hours children spend at school, it is important they are being taught the same values

as they are at home, she adds. "We're focused on bringing glory to God in our everyday lives because we have an eternal perspective," she says. Choosing a Christian school is important because the biblical perspective flows into all subjects that are taught, which would not be the case in other schools, she says. The Hunters' two daughters entered Grade 4 and Grade 1 at Holland Marsh District Christian School in Newmarket last week. They were previously enrolled at a different Christian school. Hunter says she is excited to join the Holland Marsh school community and hopeful about seeing how her children will enjoy it. She says she likes that the school has an environment that works with the family as a team. As a stay-at-home mom, she is looking forward to volunteering her gifts to the school.

Thinking into the future to her children's graduation, Hunter says she would likely feel many different emotions, including happy for their success and sad for how quickly their school years passed.

"I think I would also feel hopeful about the future that their education has equipped them for," she says.

Our family has enjoyed the blessings of being part of the Holland Marsh District Christian School family for over 13 years.

We believe that the Christian education our children are receiving is an investment into their future that cannot be measured by dollars and cents. It is invaluable. Our children are spending their days in a school where the very words of the living God are taught in every classroom, and in every subject by a caring, dedicated staff. What a blessing! It has been a joy and privilege for us to be a part of the HMDCS family as we work together to teach our children to glorify God and serve Him in all they do!

Sid & Heather Biersteker
HMDCS Parents



our Endowment Fund

In 2004, HMDCS established an Endowment Fund with Christian Stewardship Services (CSS), www.cssservices.ca. The Endowment Fund is a permanent investment designed to provide income to the school for the long term. The income is intended to support five major areas of the school:

- Tuition Assistance
- Capital Projects
- Scholarships
- Operational Budget
- Other purposes determined by the HMDCS Board

The endowment was established with an initial deposit of \$28,000. Today, the fund has a balance of approximately \$32,000. An additional \$185,000 in expected bequests are on file with CSS.

The continued growth of our present Endowment Fund is essential to the growth of Holland Marsh District Christian School. As part of the campaign goal, up to 10% of each donation and pledge can

be earmarked to the Endowment Fund. With the successful completion of the campaign, this would result in an increase of approximately \$400,000 to the Endowment Fund.

During the course of the campaign, an Endowment Committee will be established to oversee the Endowment Fund and establish necessary policies and procedures. The Endowment Committee, over time, would also continue to cultivate the community to encourage continued contributions through one-time donations and/or bequests over the years to come. As well, the affiliation with Christian Stewardship Services would be fortified, ensuring that the expertise in investing and managing the Endowment Fund are maintained at all times.

Ultimately, with a successful campaign, HMDCS would benefit from a new campus and facility, as well as a healthy Endowment Fund that will provide a long term legacy for the future.

Endowment Fund Policy Committee: Sammy Bonsu, Mike Hoving, Peter Lycklama and Peter Vanderkooij

At HMDCS, we know that our kids are at school but further, that their whole lives are being enhanced. The values of faith and hope in God's revealed Word and his plan for all mankind runs parallel with our kids' learning of reading and math. Our eldest daughter has come home singing "do everything without grumbling or complaining"... need I say more?

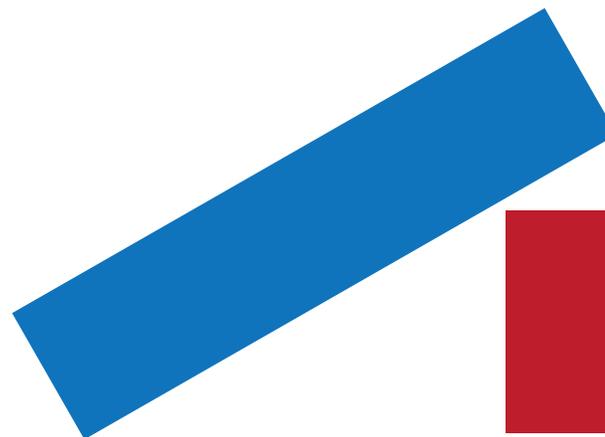
Once we made the decision to have our children attend HMDCS, I anticipated some of the things that have come to pass for our daughters; it has been to our great delight, however, to realize what a blessing to our whole family being a part of this community is. We are all richer for walking alongside one another as our kids go through their school years.

The staff at HMDCS is genuine, dedicated and experienced. Without a doubt, it is a very special place. It is our privilege to attend and pour our lives into the work already being done so well there.

*Ian & Sheri Cantle
HMDCS Parents*



*The success of this campaign
is sacrificial giving.
The need is great, the need is
urgent, and we move forward...*



our New Home and Future

- In early 2004 the provincial government placed a one year land freeze on all undeveloped land in the Greater Toronto Area. Our recently purchased property is located within this land freeze.
- January 2005 – The land freeze was lifted and our Planning Committee continued to request our land be rezoned to allow us to build the new school on this property.
- July 2005 – Both York Region and King Township gave their approval to build a school on our new property.
- September 2005 – The Planning Committee dissolved and the new Building and Capital Campaign Committees were started up.
- October 2005 – A successful soil test was done on our new property in preparation for building the new school.
- November 2005 – The membership voted 91% in favour of proceeding with a capital campaign to raise funds for our new facilities.
- Summer 2006 – King Township approved our rezoning application on the new property.
- January 2007 – All conditions on the offer to purchase were met and the purchase of the land closed.
- January 2008 – The interest-free mortgage on the land was paid off in full, one year later.
- February 2008 – HMDCS celebrated its 65th anniversary.
- November 2005 – Our “Growing our Future...Child by Child” Capital Campaign commenced with the school leadership (Board of Directors, Campaign Team, Building Committee & Staff). It continued until 2009.
- January-April, 2009 – A Community Assessment was undertaken by The Dennis Group Inc., a fundraising consulting firm to determine the viability of reaching goal and to help identify challenges that had impacted the campaign.

Task Force

In the fall of 2009, following recommendations from The Dennis Group Inc. on next steps to move the capital campaign and building project forward, a Task Force was established to undertake further due diligence on the property and to explore other options. Among other initiatives, the Task Force recommended an independent Development Feasibility Analysis be undertaken. Malone Given Parsons Ltd., a planning consulting firm, was commissioned by the Board of Directors of Holland Marsh District Christian School to evaluate the suitability of the Bathurst Street site.

Development Feasibility Analysis Holland Marsh District Christian School February 24, 2010

A school use is a permitted land use on the subject property in accordance with the Regional and Local Official Plans and the Township of King Zoning By-law. In order for development to proceed, site plan approval will be required through the Township of King, along with Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority permits for any on-site works.

Although municipal water and wastewater is not available to the subject property, the subject property can be serviced through an on-site well and septic

system. A detailed servicing study should be completed for the subject property which considers various water conservation methods (i.e. low flow toilets) and accurately calculates flows appropriate to the use of a school.

This study may indicate that the daily design sewage flows are well below 10,000 L/day and a Certificate of Approval through MOE is not necessary.

The subject property is well situated and is easily accessible from the Town of East Gwillimbury, communities of King, Bradford and other nearby communities. The extension of Bathurst Street in 2012 will only improve its visibility and access. Continued population growth is anticipated in the surrounding communities. This growing population combined with a population that is largely characterized by young, growing families will continue to provide a strong student base for the school. This additional population supported by the continued infrastructure improvements in the area, promotes the attractiveness of the subject property for a school use.

Yours very truly,
MALONE GIVEN PARSONS LTD.
Don Given, MCIP, RPP
President



“It is proposed that the NEW campus will include 30,000 square feet of new construction on a 15-acre parcel of land, owned by the membership”.

Our new location - Bathurst Street

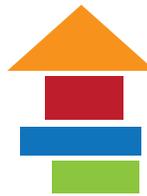
- The new property is located about a 7 minute drive from the present location and is 15 acres in size.
- Because of the rich history of the school in Holland Marsh, it is a blessing to have the new location still within the Marsh.
- Our present school is located on 2.5 acres. The playground area next to our school is a township park that we are allowed to use during the day. The parking lot, and most of the baseball diamond behind the church, is owned by the church who are also gracious enough to allow our children to play there. The actual school property is a narrow 2.5 acres from the road to the canal. The baseball diamond infield, and the land behind the school, is the only property actually owned by the school society.
- The new property is very central for all families attending. Most of our families come from the Newmarket and Bradford areas so the new location will work well for busing.
- With Bathurst Street coming through within the next few years, the corner of Bathurst and Graham Side Road will be an ideal location for our new school.
- Members of our Board of Directors have already had several meetings with representatives from the Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church to discuss the historical understanding of what will happen to our present property when the school moves.

Our new facility will, among other things, offer:

- new facilities for our children to learn and grow.
- gathering spaces for social and spiritual development.
- facilities such as a gymnasium and soccer fields that can be used by our students and staff and also rented to other community organizations, providing a source of rental income to HMDCS.
- focused learning environments for music, drama, visual arts, computers and the sciences.
- space for staff and volunteers to work with children outside the traditional classroom setting.
- larger library and resource/enrichment spaces.
- upgrades to equipment and educational resources.
- the ability to expand with future growth as enrolment continues to increase.

Teaching, learning and developing young minds will be enhanced through the new environment in which education occurs.





Building upon
the *Legacy*
HMDCS Capital Campaign

Campaign Cabinet

Ron Voorberg, *Campaign Chair*

- Rod Berg
- Kevin Bouwers
- Janet deWinter
- Wilma Drost
- Eleanor Horlings
- Cameron Loopstra
- Angelo Santorelli
- Joshua Scholten
- Phil Van Andel
- Jim Verkaik
- Megan Wallar
- Jim Winter

Campaign Counsel

- Chonee Dennis – The Dennis Group Inc.
- Jackie Jones – The Dennis Group Inc.

our Capital Campaign



A Message from the Campaign Chairman

HMDCS has decided to launch a new Capital Fundraising Campaign entitled *Building upon the Legacy*.

I invite each of you to join the team as we endeavour to raise \$4 million towards the construction of a new school building. Every gift is important. The success of the campaign will not only be measured by the dollars raised but also by the many donors who will make this project possible. We can only reach our objective together with the Lord's blessing.

The current building has gone through a series of renovations and expansions over the years which has provided for the Christian education of thousands of students. However, starting as far back as 2001 there was a growing recognition of the fact that something major needed to be undertaken in order to provide a building which was suitable for the long term. It

became evident that a new school building was the wisest course for the long term.

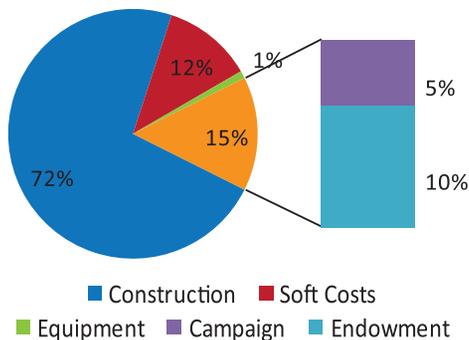
Over the past 9 years, more and more people have been involved and consulted. This is a trend which will need to continue in order to achieve the goal of providing the funds required to construct a new school facility. Please become involved, and be part of the solution. Our children have greatly benefited from Christian education in a building provided in large part by the sacrificial giving of those who went before us.

Now it's time for us to do our part. I would encourage each one of us to prayerfully consider how we can follow the example of those pioneers of Christian education more than 67 years ago. We need the support of the whole community to raise the funds required. The Lord has blessed each of us in different ways. This is your opportunity to be a blessing to future generations of HMDCS students.

May God bless this campaign and all those who work tirelessly for Christian education.

Ron Voorberg, Chairman, Capital Campaign

Project Cost Breakdown



To support the cost of a new school, Holland Marsh District Christian School has launched the *Building upon the Legacy* capital campaign with a goal of \$4 million. This campaign will encompass both the construction of a new campus and the enhancement of the Endowment Fund.

The chart to the left highlights the percentage breakdown of dollars raised.

In total, the construction costs (including soft costs such as permits, site preparation etc., and equipment) are projected at \$3.6 million.

The Endowment Fund portion of the campaign would be set at \$400,000. In order for this to work, every donation to the campaign will see 10% of the total giving designated to the Endowment Fund. Donor pledge cards will reflect this designation.



Together we can

Our campaign will require an unprecedented level of support. It is known that parents, grandparents, alumni, staff and friends must respond. The key to our campaign is sacrificial giving.

For some, a commitment of doubling or tripling their annual giving will represent a sacrifice. In other cases, a large gift, well beyond annual giving, will be possible. Together, with everyone giving according to equal sacrifice – not equal amounts – we can build a stronger community to fulfill God’s purpose for Christian education.

To reach our goal of \$4 million, the following giving chart indicates the typical kind of gifts required to fulfill the financial obligations of our call to honour God and nurture our children through Christian education. There are many options for contributing. Gifts can be made in the form of a single gift or in annual or monthly pledges.

Pledges can be payable over three to five years, normally commencing in the year the pledge is made, or according to a schedule convenient to you.

As you consider your gift to the school, you may find it helpful to review the “Ways of Giving” document, available on the Campaign website. This document reflects the various options donors have to make a charitable donation, which is eligible for an income tax receipt.

The Canada Revenue Agency provides tax credits for donations to charitable organizations. Your donation to the HMDCS *Building upon the Legacy* campaign is eligible for a tax credit. In the majority of cases, the donation tax credit is approximately 41% of the total donation. Your actual cost is only 59% of the donated amount. The following chart shows some examples:

3-Year Pledge Gift Amount	Annually	Monthly	Tax Credit (based on 41%)	Actual Cost of Gift	Actual Annual Cost	Actual Monthly Cost
\$500,000	\$166,667	\$13,889	\$205,000	\$295,000	\$98,333	\$8,194
\$250,000	\$83,333	\$6,944	\$102,500	\$147,500	\$49,167	\$4,097
\$150,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$61,500	\$88,500	\$29,500	\$2,458
\$125,000	\$41,667	\$3,472	\$51,250	\$73,750	\$24,583	\$2,049
\$100,000	\$33,333	\$2,778	\$41,000	\$59,000	\$19,667	\$1,639
\$75,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$30,750	\$44,250	\$14,750	\$1,229
\$50,000	\$16,667	\$1,389	\$20,500	\$29,500	\$9,833	\$819
\$25,000	\$8,333	\$694	\$10,250	\$14,750	\$4,917	\$410
\$15,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$6,150	\$8,850	\$2,950	\$246
\$10,000	\$3,333	\$278	\$4,100	\$5,900	\$1,967	\$164
\$7,500	\$2,500	\$208	\$3,075	\$4,425	\$1,475	\$123
\$5,000	\$1,667	\$139	\$2,050	\$2,950	\$983	\$82
\$2,500	\$833	\$69	\$1,025	\$1,475	\$492	\$41
\$1,000	\$333	\$28	\$410	\$590	\$197	\$16

To invest in the children of the future, through an expression of thankful giving, all for God's glory!

“As parents of four children who have attended HMDCS, and at present grandparents of three grandchildren in the same school, we feel very blessed seeing them and all of God’s children being taught by a very dedicated staff. We believe that the world and everything it contains belongs to God, which includes education. In education we seek to acknowledge the Lord by promoting schools and teaching in which the light of His world shines in all of learning. As Dr. Joel Nederhood once said “Christian School Education in which Jesus Christ is honoured and recognized in every subject taught in the classroom is rooted in faith. Examine its foundation, and you will find that it is based on a vision of God.” What a wonderful testimony to have an eight-year-old student openly share that his best friend is Jesus. These are just some of the reasons we are thankful for and blessed by HMDCS.”

Louis and Effie Bierling



Holland Marsh District Christian School

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Our mission is to work together as staff, students, and supporting community to provide a Christ-centred education in an interdenominational membership-run school.

Canadian Hallmarks
INSTITUTE

