



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
TINLEY PARK, ILLINOIS 60477

June 15, 2015

TRINITY'S BOARD OF CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL REPORT
"Build Each Other Up!"



Trinity Lutheran School exists to challenge and enable young people to grow in both Christian Spirit and academic wisdom, and to prepare them to be witnesses in God's Kingdom.

(Trinity Lutheran School Mission Statement)

What is unique about Trinity Lutheran School? Perhaps many would respond to that question in a variety of ways. As those who have had the privilege and tremendous responsibility of governing Trinity Lutheran School, our answers might include the following:

- ❖ Students begin and end each day with prayer in the name of Jesus.
- ❖ Students are encouraged to grow in their knowledge and in their faith of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Students are taught about God's world in an atmosphere that is enjoyable and exciting.
- ❖ Students understand service to the Lord and to others is part of the Christian life.
- ❖ Students soon understand the adults in their lives want them to use their God-given abilities in the arts, sports, the classroom, wherever, to the glory of God.
- ❖ Students are guided by Christian men and women who care for them deeply, to achieve to the best of their ability.

Please note every response above begins with... students - for that is what Trinity Lutheran School is all about. Trinity is truly Christ Centered – Child focused as our logo suggests. By God's grace, Trinity has been teaching children on the elementary and middle school level about God's Word and His world for 156 years. The faculty, staff, parents, and Board of Christian Day School members strive daily to insure each and every student experiences everything mentioned above. **This has been possible and continues today thanks to YOU, the members of Trinity Lutheran Church. Trinity Lutheran School does not exist without Trinity Lutheran Church.** The ministry of sharing the Gospel message to OVER 290 young lambs of Jesus does not happen without your support through prayer and the generous giving of time, talents, and treasures.

The theme for the 2014 – 2015 school year was "Build Each Other Up." Students were reminded daily to trust in the power of God's love, grace, forgiveness, and peace. Guided by His Word we are to treat each other as brothers and sisters in Jesus. We need to daily thank and praise our God for His gift of students, parents, faculty and staff. It was the responsibility of this Board to provide for the best environment possible in which to teach the children about Jesus and His message of salvation. God expects the best for His children. We must, at all times, give to our Heavenly Father the very best we have to offer. It can be no other way.

The students enrolled in Trinity Lutheran School know they are loved by a forgiving God. They know they are saved by God's grace and have received the gift of His heavenly kingdom. It is our prayer they become ambassadors for Christ in their lives. One of the goals of Trinity Lutheran School is to help our

students develop a dynamic relationship with their Savior and then share His message with others in their lives.

God blessed Trinity with another phenomenal year for the students, faculty, staff, and Christian Day School Board members. Many students excelled in essay contests, spelling bees, athletics, singing praises at nursing homes, raising funds for those outside of the school family, and many other activities. God blessed **YOUR** Christian Day School with so many wonderful opportunities and events.

In October of 2014, and again in February of 2015, the members of the Board of Christian Day School reported to the congregation on the "State of the School." At that time curriculum changes, personnel additions, and school activities were mentioned. It is the purpose of this report to "update" any previous implementations, activities, etc.

CURRICULUM



- Trinity is considering a new English series for the 2015 – 2016 school year. Illinois textbook loan funds are not available to assist in the purchase. It is our hope to maintain a six-year curriculum cycle.
- The implementation of the new science series for grades K - 8.
- Trinity continued with the NWEA program to assess our students three (3) times throughout the school year. MAP (Measurement of Academic Progress) testing is completed for the third (3rd) year at Trinity. All MAP testing is accomplished through the Internet. Students in grades 3 – 8 take tests during the fall, winter, and spring. Results are discussed at the teacher's post-school workshops, the Board's June meeting, and shared with parents. Students in grade K – 2 use the EasyCBM measurements in math and reading to establish learning benchmarks.
- Participated in the Lutherans for Life of Illinois Essay Contest which included students in grades 4 – 8. Fourth (4th) grader Senaa Debela and third (3rd) grader Shannon Parsons were respectively awarded a first place (1st) and second place (2nd) certificate for their Lutherans for Life Essays on their grade levels. Congratulations also to fifth (5th) grader Daniel Plattner and eighth (8th) grader, Deja Hill for achieving second place certificates in their divisions of the essay contest. There were over 470 essays submitted from the Lutheran Schools in the Northern Illinois District. Way to go Trinity students!
- Involved teachers in multiple Professional Development activities by attending workshops, conferences, and hosting a conference. Many activities were subsidized by SD 146 through Title I funding.
- Educated middle school students (grades 6 – 8) in Internet Safety.
- Introduced 7th graders to iPads for use in the classrooms. For the 2014 – 2015 school year both 7th and 8th graders were using iPads to assist in theory learning.
- Held elective classes for middle school students once a week.



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Enrollment for the 2014 – 2015 school year is again projected at over 290 students. **Praise to our awesome God for His blessings.** Please continue to pray for the enrollment process for Trinity and the sister Lutheran schools.
- BAPTISMS - Once again a number of students were baptized which brings the total to over 35 students in the last three years. PRAISE GOD!
- Sponsored “Honor the 8th Graders Week,” from May 26- 29. Eighth graders were spotlighted each day through morning announcements, treated to a breakfast served by 7th graders, recognized in chapel on May 27th, participated in a “Minute to Win It” competition vs. the faculty and staff, and applauded as they left school on May 29 prior to their trip to Washington D.C.

ACTIVITIES

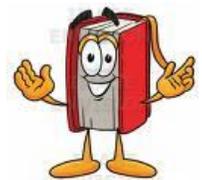


- Trinity’s Mighty God Chorus, under the direction of Miss Piel, presented “The Adventures of a Comic Book Artist,” on May 8. This was another opportunity for Trinity’s young Christians to use their God-given talents for His glory. An ENORMOUS thank you to all who assisted with the production.
- Hosted the annual school picnic on June 3rd.
- Completed the production of Trinity's yearbook. A group of seventh (7th) and eighth (8th) graders, guided by Mrs. Bliss and Miss Stork, were responsible for the production of this document. 
- The seventh (7th) graders participated in their annual class trip to Springfield in May.
- Trinity’s eighth (8th) graders joined the 8th graders from Trinity Lutheran School in Burr Ridge and spent a week in Washington D.C.
- Students in grades two (2) and three (3) had the opportunity to participate in Art Club with Mrs. Cook as their leader.
- Students in grades one (1) and two (2) had the opportunity to participate in Science Club. Eighth (8th) grade students assisted Miss Stork in this activity.
- Continued the celebration of Baptismal Birthdays during weekly chapel services.
- Thirteen (13) students qualified for the Lutheran Sports Association State Track Meet in both individual and relay events held on the weekend of May 15 and 16. Hundreds of student from all around the state attended the meet. Casey Starostka, one of Trinity’s eighth (8th) graders achieved the title of State Champion in the discus. Trinity’s 4 x 800 relay team also broke the school record. 

- Trinity's Band, along with the Cherub Choir, Trinity Chimes, Trinity Singers, and the third (3rd) and fourth (4th) grade song flutes classes, performed for the Spring Fine Arts Festival held on Wednesday evening, May 20. In addition every class displayed art projects created by their students transforming the gymnasium into an art gallery.



- Trinity's band combined with other schools for a spring concert at St. Mary in Mokena, during the month of May.
- Hosted the annual Solo Music Contest for Music Education Services, the company providing band instruction for Trinity, on March 7th. Over eighty-five (85) percent of Trinity's participants received a first or second place medal.
- Continued sending correspondences to Trinity's Shut-Ins. Each homeroom class has at least one shut-in with whom they correspond on a monthly basis.
- Continued with chapel families for the 2014 -2015 school year. Students from grade K – 8 were combined into groups (families) for worship on Wednesday mornings. These families have also enjoyed other activities together, including the first ever...Chapel Family Picnic.
- Participated in "chapel-buddy" activities during the year. Each Trinity student in grades K – 8 has a chapel buddy within the school population. Celebrated with an end of the year chapel family picnic lunch on the south lawn.
- Contracted, for the seventh (7th) year, "Language in Action," an after-school program of Spanish instruction for interested students.
- Continued the peer tutoring program using National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) members as tutors for other Trinity students. This group met twice a week.
- Grades K – 3 read and voted for their favorite Monarch title.
- Participated in the Blue Stem "Battle of the Books" for grades 3 – 5 through the Tinley Park Library. Mrs. Kathy Gilmore, school librarian, arranged for this activity.
- Participated in the "Read to Succeed" program for grades Kindergarten through 6. Mrs. June Cook is the coordinator.
- Fifth Grade again adopted "Pilots Chad and Amy" from Southwest Airlines as they learned cross-curriculum effects of air travel and visited Midway airport for a "behind the scenes" adventure.
- Once again had a number of finalists in the All American Boy and Girl Program sponsored by Congressman Dan Lipinski with seventh (7th) grader Logan Radgawoski capturing a third (3rd) place for the seventh grade boys.
- Inducted six (6) students from grades 6 and 8 into the Scholarship and Service Club of Trinity's Chapter of The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) in March.



- Through the gifts of Trinity's students and coordinated by the National Junior Honor Society and Trinity's Student Council, under the direction of Mrs. Nadine Hoger and Miss Laura Piel respectively, a number of service projects were implemented and performed within the school and community.

- Hosted the South Suburban Lutheran Athletic Conference Track Meet at Stagg High School.



- Hosted the South Suburban Lutheran Teachers' Conference in March.
 - Held numerous Open Houses for the Trinity members and the community.

- Initiated the Summer Reading program, "Rock Out with a Good Book," for all school families.
- Achieved a second (2nd) place in the South Suburban Lutheran Spelling Bee.
- Held two school dance evenings attended by over 80% of the students enrolled in 7th and 8th grade.
- Enjoyed multiple "school spirit days" throughout the year.
- Continued with the "Soccer Shots" after school program for students in 4 Pk - third (3rd) grade.

SERVICES

- Thanks to Mrs. Kelli Krause and Mrs. Janice McGeary-Seielstad, and the moms and dads who volunteer their time, Trinity was able to maintain a phenomenal Hot-Lunch Program. This program allows Trinity's students to purchase a hot lunch meal three days a week, and serves the Thanksgiving Feast and the school picnic lunch at no charge to the students.



- Maintained the Booster Club sponsored Beggar's Pizza and Subway Tuesdays throughout the school year. Mrs. Moses is the school representative for the Booster Club. Thanks to the many parents who helped raise funds with Booster Club activities this school year. Booster Club subsidized school wide classroom T-shirts, repaired and motorized the bleachers, and much more!

- Maintained involvement in the Federal Milk Program.
- Maintained involvement with Title II, Title IV and Title VI funds from local Public School District 146, while working in cooperation with SD 146 for speech and special education programs as needed.
- Held an "Evening of Honors, Awards and Talents" on Saturday, June 6th, as presented by the seventh grade parents and faculty.

PERSONNEL



- Current plans for the 2015 - 2016 school year call for two first grade classrooms, two second (2nd) grade classes, and two third (3rd) grade classrooms. Your prayers are greatly needed and appreciated.
- Acquiring educational assistants as needed.
- Transitioning administration as Mr. Stec retries as school administrator on June 30, but remains part-time until September 30, 2015, to assist in the transition and begin the accreditation process.
- Continued plans to contract from Lutheran Special Education Ministries for an on-site consultant to serve Trinity 3½ days per week. Mrs. Arlene Lapsansky has been serving Trinity in that capacity since the 2000 – 2001 school year.
- Maintained Mrs. Nancy Butterfield as Admissions Counselor for Trinity Lutheran Church and School.
- Said goodbye to Mrs. Bonnie Chenoweth after thirty-three (33) years of service to her Lord and their church. Retirement wishes to Mary Abbe and Christy Pickens after serving 20 years and 18 years respectively as faithful Extended Care workers.
- Blessings to the Huster family as they transition to the St. Louis area after 13 years of service to their Lord at Trinity.

A TREMENDOUS THANK YOU IS OFFERED TO THE MANY, MANY VOLUNTEERS WHO HELP TO SUSTAIN THE VARIETY OF PROGRAMS AT TRINITY. WE ARE BLESSED, MANY TIMES OVER, TO HAVE SO MANY PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND FRIENDS GIVE OF THEIR TIME, TALENTS AND ENERGY FOR THE CHILDREN AND THE MINISTRY OF TRINITY. THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU.



THANK YOU MEMBERS OF TRINITY. YOUR SUPPORT SPIRITUALLY, FINANCIALLY, EMOTIONALLY, AND PHYSICALLY IS VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT TRINITY.

PTL

- The continued collection of: Campbell's Labels for Education, General Mills box tops, Culvers, Target's Education Program, Carson Community Days. Almost \$8000 was collected from the above list of fundraisers. Special thanks to Trinity's LWML and Mrs. Jeanne Grassmick for their submission help with the Box tops and Campbell labels. **Thanks to all who help with PTL activities.**
- Continuation of Market Day. A very big THANK YOU to Mrs. Kathy Boor, Mr. Scott Huster and Mrs. Gretchen Lynch for their efforts each Market Day.
- Thanks to Mrs. Nicole Radgowski, who served as Head Room Parent and all the parents who served as Room Parents for the 2014 – 2015 school year.



- Special thanks to the PTL Executive Board members.
- Hosted a "Daddy-Daughter Dance," coordinated by Mrs. Hillard and Mrs. Loy.
- Sponsored a Mother – Son outing coordinated by Mrs. Tammy Picman.
- Sponsored four Coffee Ands... for parents to discuss issues relating to school ministry.
- Sponsored "Celebrate Children – Auction 2015" in April. A phenomenal evening for all who attended. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Floerke, and their outstanding committee members for all their efforts in this exciting event.
- Hosted a Spring re-sale with a \$500.00 donation from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Close to \$300.00 was earned for PTL and over \$300.00 for the eighth grade class trip.
- Contributed thirty (30) percent of the salary toward the LSEM on-site consultant.
- Presented programs throughout the year at scheduled PTL meetings.
- Assisted monetarily by budgeting dollars for Walcamp for the fifth graders, Principal's Lunch for grades 6 - 8, the annual Thanksgiving Feast, Grandpersons' Day, the school picnic, and graduation activities.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE 2015 – 2016 SCHOOL YEAR

- Preparing for a National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) visit.
- Searching for ways to maintain and enhance the quality academic and extra-curricular programs offered to the students who attend Trinity Lutheran School.
- Continuing the 1:1 tablet-based initiative for middle school students, by including the sixth (6th) graders for the 2015 – 2016 school year.
- Sending the faculty to the NID Educators Conference in DeKalb in September.
- Establishing dates and topics for the 2015 – 2016 Coffee Ands...
- Continuing the marketing campaign to the towns and villages in the community of Trinity Lutheran School.
- Continuing to offer a full day option for four-year old students and a two or three day option for three year old students.
- Developing ways to add donations to the student scholarship fund to assist the many families struggling financially.



THANK YOU to the many families who have contributed to the school memorial funds during the 2014 - 2015 school year. Almost 100% of technology and furniture purchased over the last ten years have come directly from third source funding (gifts and memorials). Thanks to all who participate in the Thrivent matching fund campaign and for those who contribute with matching funds from their employer. Thanks also

for the most generous contributions to the Church Worker Fund. At this point we are aware of three (3) students who greatly benefit from this fund as they prepare for service to the church.

Please pray for the students, faculty, staff, parents, our congregation and this Board daily. Pray that God's spirit, peace and wisdom will enter each and everyone's heart so that all is said and done for His glory.

Thank you for your support. May His peace be with you always.

In His Name,

Trinity's Board of Christian Day School

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

- A number of students were baptized!
- Girls' varsity volleyball team as league and tournament champions!
- Girls' varsity basketball team as (undefeated) league and tournament champions!
- Every class presenting one chapel message to the student body.
- Participating in activities to help others in the community, the nation, and in third world countries.
- PTL fellowship activities!
- An extremely dedicated and an unbelievable hard-working faculty and staff.
- Special Persons Day in November, along with Trinity's Book Fair.
- Choirs sharing the Gospel message through song at worship and to others in the community.
- Outstanding Parent volunteers who support the ministry of children.
- Graduation of 24 eighth graders in a worship setting!
- Eighth Grade Week!
- Use of iPads with the 7th and 8th graders!
- Celebrate Children Auction!
- Worship on Wednesday mornings.
- Walcamp out-door education for the 5th graders.
- Operetta!
- Trinity's inaugural Celebration of Learning night for 3 and 4 Pk and Kindergarten.
- Talent show highlighting the many God-given gifts and talents of the students of Trinity.
- The annual Walk-A-Thon raising over \$1000.00 for The Clean Water Project.
- Raising over \$1500.00 for two (2) families who were devastated by the tornado in Fairfield, IL.
- Eight Grade sponsored Lenten dinners.
- Pack the Gym Night for the O'Leary family!

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