



June 1, 2009

Dear MCS Community, Parents & Guardians:

MCS Shines 2009, held on May 7th, was a memorable evening as we celebrated the legacy of Meadowlark Christian School through student and guest performances and a mock Jeopardy game that informed us about school history and other interesting MCS facts. We appreciate all who participated, whether on stage, in the seats or behind the scenes.

A celebration of legacy would be incomplete unless we each consider our present role in the MCS community and the part we can play in shaping the future. **NOW** is the time to consider how you can be involved in building the legacy of MCS by your participation in the capital campaign for the modernization of our school building.

The architectural plans are posted in the school and can be seen online at www.letsgetbuilding.com. With the assistance of architects and the insight of staff and parents we have developed the following list of improvements:

- Renovated classrooms with new flooring, windows & lighting
- A multi purpose room
- Change rooms for Junior High phys ed
- Improved security and fire safety
- Upgraded electrical, heating and ventilation

The estimated cost to do these improvements is \$5,000,000. With our savings and manageable financing we still need to raise \$3,500,000. To date, Foundation members, staff and a handful of parents have pledged just over \$120,000. A big thanks to those of you that have already sent in your pledges.

For your information, a sheet is enclosed that outlines the answers to frequently asked questions regarding the renovation plans. Also enclosed are a pledge form and the brochure that was distributed at MCS Shines. If you already have a copy of the brochure, share it with family or friends.

The Foundation needs to hear from you in order to make important decisions. Please complete the form attached and return it to the school in the envelope provided **no later than June 1 at 3:00pm**. The Foundation needs this information for a meeting scheduled the following day.

Thank you in advance for your response.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Val Bergstrom'.

Val Bergstrom
Chair, MCS Foundation
Phone: 780-466-9683 (evenings)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Orville Chubb'.

Orville Chubb
Executive Director, MCS Foundation
Phone: 780-451-1379 (days)

Please complete the form attached and return it to the school in the envelope provided **no later than June 1, 2009 at 3:00pm.** The Foundation needs this information for a meeting scheduled the following day.

All information is kept in strict confidence by the Executive Directors and Business Manager. Only aggregate information will be provided to the MCS Foundation.

Name: _____

Please put a check mark beside the statement that most accurately represents your response and fill in any necessary areas.

- I support this project and my pledge was remitted previously.
- I support this project and my pledge is attached.
- I support this project but cannot commit financially at this time.
- I want to support this project financially but need more information.

Please contact me...

Phone _____

Best time to call is _____

• • •

I do not support this project because...



PLEDGE SHEET

As we look to the future as a school community we must address our current building. Yes, it's just a building... but having our own space has helped to shape and define our unique Christian program and sense of community.

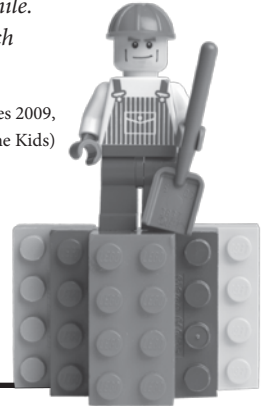
Our challenge is that our building needs some upgrades. It's not falling down but good stewardship requires that we take care of it so we can be prepared for the future. With the assistance of architects and the insight of staff and parents, we developed a list of improvements that will enhance the learning environment:

- Renovated classrooms with new flooring, windows & lighting
- A multi purpose room
- Change rooms for Junior High phys ed
- Improved security and fire safety
- Upgraded electrical, heating and ventilation systems

We have a BIG budget - \$5,000,000. With our savings and manageable financing we still need to raise \$3,500,000. It's a lot of money but,

"A tiny little grain of sand becomes a mountain in His hand. An inch becomes a mile. Just believe and watch what God can do."

(Kindergarten, MCS Shines 2009, What God Can Do, Songtime Kids)



Consider how you can be involved in building the legacy of MCS.

Please complete the following form and return to the school in the envelope provided.

I/we appreciate the heritage of Meadowlark Christian School and want to participate in the **"LET'S GET BUILDING THE FUTURE"** Campaign.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ PC _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

I/WE PLEDGE...

A LUMP SUM(S)

Enclosed

or

Will be paid on the following date(s):

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

If necessary, provide other information about your gift on a separate sheet.

OTHER

Other gift (please describe)

PRE-AUTHORIZED WITHDRAWAL

A monthly gift of \$ _____ starting:

- check one {
- July 1/09
 - Sept 1/09
 - Oct 1/09

- for -

- check one {
- 12 months
 - 24 months
 - 36 months

NOTE: In order to keep administration costs low, we prefer to not accept post dated cheques.

Please complete the Pre-Authorized Withdrawal Information on the back.

Unable to give financially at this time but we fully support the endeavor

PLEASE CALL ME

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF PRE-AUTHORIZATION

I/We will notify MCS Foundation in writing of any changes in the account information or termination of this authorization at least thirty (30) days prior to the next payment date.

My/Our financial institution will treat each debit as if I/we had personally issued a written direction authorizing MCS Foundation to debit the amount(s) specified to my/our account and need not verify that payments are drawn in accordance with this authorization.

I/We understand that any debits charged to my/our account will be re-imbursed by giving notice in writing to my/our branch of account within ninety (90) days of the debit to my/our account if:

- This debit was not drawn in accordance with this authorization;
- This authorization has been terminated; or
- The debit was posted to the wrong account due to invalid/incorrect account information supplied by MCS Foundation.

I/We acknowledge that delivery of this authorization to MCS Foundation constitutes delivery to my financial institution.

I/We warrant that all persons whose signatures are required to sign on this account have signed this authorization.

Dishonored cheques or payments will incur service charges.

Pre-Authorized Withdrawal Form

Please return this sheet to Meadowlark Christian School with one of your **personal cheques unsigned and marked VOID** (for verification purposes). Please do not write on the micro encoding at the bottom of the cheque.

Name _____

Account _____

Name* _____

Financial Institution _____

Address _____

Branch _____

City _____ Prov. _____ PCode _____

Transit # _____

(first 5 numbers at bottom of cheque)

I/We authorize MCS Foundation Ltd. to debit my/our account for my pledge amount.

Signature _____ Date _____

** For joint accounts, all depositors must sign if more than one signature is required on cheques issued against the account.*

Signature* _____ Date _____

PLEASE NOTE:

1. MCS Foundation Ltd is a registered charity and is able to issue tax receipts for the financial gifts received in a calendar year.
2. We respect your privacy. Only the Executive Directors, Treasurer and Business Manager will have access to your name and donation amount. Only aggregate information will be shared with other stakeholders.
3. We understand that payments may be revised or suspended due to a change in financial circumstances. In order to help avoid bank service charges, please advise us of any change 30 days prior to your pre-authorized withdrawal.
4. A pledge form is not a legally binding agreement; however, important decisions will be based on your commitment.



MCS Modernization FAQs

1. *What is the timeline for breaking ground?*

The scheduled ground breaking is for the summer of 2010; however, that is contingent on raising adequate funds, either in hand or committed, in order to ensure that the Foundation will not be over burdened with debt.

2. *How long will the reno's take? Months? A year?*

A modernization project of this magnitude will take a year or more to complete.

3. *Will we have to relocate during the reno's, and if so, where?*

Yes. The fastest, most economical and safest way to proceed with this type of project is to vacate the building and leave it to the contractor to do their work without having to work around students and staff.

Regarding relocation during construction, we would have that discussion with EPS as the time gets closer. This is not an unusual situation for EPS and we have every confidence that it can be done with the minimum of disruption.

4. *How much money do we need before we can go ahead with the reno's?*

The project has a budget of \$5,000,000, we will need to have \$3,500,000 raised or committed, in order to proceed with the project as planned.

5. *Will the reno's just bring the building up to code or will they set a groundwork for further expansion?*

The modernization of the school will not only bring the building up to code, it will also provide an excellent learning and working space. These improvements to the infrastructure of the school will better equip the school to support growth, with either modern portables or permanent structures.

The single largest constriction to growth in student population is the size of playing fields. We have had conversations with EPS regarding optimizing our playing fields, to allow maximum capacity, while not compromising the character of the school.

Modernizing the school at this time will ensure the viability of the building for at least the next several decades for the exclusive use of delivering Christian programming.

6. *Is new technology being incorporated as part of the renovation project?*

As an example, if we get more plug-ins will we also get the technology to plug into those new outlets or will TV's etc. be built into the classrooms?

The five million dollar budget does not include an equipment budget. However, we do have a significant contingency fund that could be used to purchase equipment should the funds not be required in the modernization.

Further to these funds, monies raised at future MCS Shines could be directed to equipment purchases, as the infrastructure would exist to support such purchases.

Finally, it is guaranteed that the school will never get these technologies if the infrastructure doesn't exist.

7. *Will these renovations provide more classroom space?*

Classroom square footage will not change because the footprint of the building is very much the same. Nonetheless, there will be significant changes in the classrooms: new floors, windows, electrical, lighting, heating and ventilation plus ceilings that will be opened up to allow more natural light. All of these improvements will provide an excellent learning space for students and staff.



8. *Are special needs kids being accommodated with the new renovations?*

MCS Foundation owns and maintains the facility and oversees the Community Christian Education Program (CCEP). The administration of the school oversees learning accommodations for all students, including special needs students. The focus of the modernization of the building is to create the best possible learning space for students and staff.

9. *Will staff be provided with their own lounge and washroom?*

There will be a staff lounge and a separate parent lounge.

Lack of staff washroom facilities was identified as a key need at the beginning of the process. According to the current plans, two staff washrooms will be added to the second level by the staff and parent lounges in addition to retaining the staff washroom facilities we presently have in the facility.

10. *How did Edmonton Christian and Strathcona Christian Academy raise their money?*

Edmonton Christian first sought support from their board and staff then they approached their parent body and other stakeholders for funds. They are also carrying mortgages on their facilities.

Strathcona Christian Academy also raised funds from all their stakeholders. In addition they were able to take advantage of a significant Alberta Government grant.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Val Bergstrom
MCS Foundation, Chair
780-466-9683

11. *Will the renovations allow for the easy attachment of portables?*

There are no specific plans at this time for the addition of portables. Nonetheless, we have considered how we would add portables should the need arise.

Further, preliminary discussions have taken place with EPS regarding the availability of portables in 2010 when six new EPS schools are opened with capacity of 650 students each.

12. *Will we have a travelling computer lab?*

This is a decision to be made by the administration of the school. It is the Foundation's understanding that, at this time, this is a direction that administration would like to take.

13. *Is Ty Pennington actually coming to our school and will we all be on TV? (asked by a Div. I student and the parent)*

Alas, all attempts to get Ty to come to Edmonton have not proved fruitful. We will be more than happy to accept his help should he choose to offer it.

14. *Will there be a Starbucks?*

Good idea!

Orville Chubb
MCS Foundation, Executive Director
780-451-1379