

Students Love St. Paul Early Childhood Center-Canfield



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FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Dear Friends:

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."
Matthew 7:7

If you ask God for abundance, He will provide in ways that you never imagined. This is the foundation of faith. As we celebrate the new year, we must have faith that God will open new doors, so we can accomplish great things in 2019.

While some may view writing goals for the New Year as a pointless exercise, it can be the start of an incredible dream and vision for the future.

The "dream" to empower urban Lutheran schools began more than 26 years ago when founding board members Jay Christopher, Bill Mattes, Clarence Schawk and their families began the Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation journey. Each of our dedicated board members along the way has played an instrumental part in the success of our 23 CLEF schools and their teachers, principals and students.

Our Board of Directors helps shape our goals, and our talented staff, generous donors and community partners help us plan and put these goals into action.



The dream has never been more clear – academic excellence, coupled with Christian values, is the best gift we can give our students in 2019 and into the future. Our Pathways to Excellence program, generously gifted to us by Dean and Rosemarie Buntrock, continues to uplift our principals and teachers. They continue to receive training and resources that empower them to become more effective leaders and instructors in their schools, classrooms and communities.

In the new year, we will start the next Pathways to Excellence goal-the Medallion program. The goals of the Medallion initiative will help us benchmark an individual school's excellence based on specific Medallion criteria, and acknowledge schools that have achieved high standards in existing criteria areas. We are excited to take our school leaders on this

pathway to empower them to continue to seek excellence for their schools, students and community, all while providing education in a Christ-centered environment.

We hope you will join our Pathways to Excellence at the next Gala event on Saturday, April 13 at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle. You're invited to this event so you can see how we're branching out to provide even more students the gift of education. It's also a fun night out with friends and you'll get a close-up look at how CLEF is making a difference... one student at a time!

We wish you an abundance of blessings in the New Year, and know that many new doors will open as God's grace shines upon you and your families.

Blessings,

Janet Klotz
Executive Director



"Thank you making it possible for children to learn in a Christ-centered environment. God has blessed us with your provisions and I pray He in return blesses each of you in abundance." CLEF Parent



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation is to empower urban Lutheran schools to deliver innovative, quality education in a Christian environment.



PATHWAYS TO EXCELLENCE



TEACHERS FOLLOW THE PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE!

Two years ago, CLEF partnered with Concordia University Chicago to deliver the Pathways to Excellence Teacher Development program exclusively to Pre-K-8 teachers at our Lutheran schools. The partnership is designed to distinguish our Christian schools as hubs of innovative literacy curriculum and faith-based practices. The goal of the program is to equip teachers to provide their students with academically challenging, individualized, caring, and faith-based learning experiences. Through communities of practice, teachers work with other educators in the CLEF community to realize the potential of each student and promote academic excellence.

The program includes the following key components:

Innovative Teacher Institute (ITI):

- Offers weekly in-class coaching sessions
- Provides bimonthly professional development sessions
- Shares objectives to meet the academic, emotional and spiritual needs of all children
- Focuses on modeling, feedback, and co-planning
- Offers collaboration with all CLEF schools
- Provides funding for teacher stipends and substitute coverage

Collaboratively Articulated Plan of Study (CAPS)

- Outlines grade level goals and expectations
- Establishes continuity between grade levels
- Systematizes the spiraling of important content and skills
- Provides common language and reference points for teachers and administrators
- Promotes innovative literacy and faith-based practices

The collaboration between schools and teachers is helping teachers excel. Two participants share how this collaboration is helping them to discover the Pathways to Excellence in their classrooms:

"Excellent session! I will definitely use ideas/activities shared in my classroom."

"Very informative, collaborative, and great reflection! I learned a lot from other colleagues. I received lots of wonderful ideas."

New for 2019: Medallion Program

As we celebrate the New Year, the Pathways to Excellence program will be branching out with the introduction of the Medallion school initiative. The goals of the Medallion program are twofold: benchmark an individual school's excellence based on specific Medallion criteria and acknowledge schools that have achieved high standards in existing criteria areas. While not an accreditation or school ranking program, the Medallion initiative is designed to help enable change and improvement at schools by facilitating the following:

- Support school leadership to track progress, identify goals and strive for milestones of excellence.
- Develop and implement individualized support to help each school
- Recognize schools as they meet milestones of excellence.

CLEF is partnering with GraceWorks Ministries to administer parental feedback surveys. The information gathered in these surveys will be used by school leaders to identify strengths and opportunities for improvement and create goals around these observations.

"I am thrilled that CLEF and Concordia University Chicago are working together to provide relevant and insightful instruction for our Lutheran schools."
CLEF Principal

Thank You to Our Pathways Partners

The Pathways to Excellence program is made possible through the very generous support of Dean and Rosemarie Buntrock and the CLEF Board of Directors. This leadership training program for CLEF principals and teachers is designed to build the school management, classroom management and leadership skills necessary to foster and maintain sustainable, high-quality Lutheran education environments. Special thanks to our Community Partners Concordia University and Davidoff Strategy for their ongoing help with this initiative. We thank our supporters and partners for helping our teachers and principals on the Pathway to Excellence!

"The Pathways to Excellence for Teachers program illustrates how to incorporate writing into cross-curricular areas. The CAPS plan is well thought out and gives guidance for expectations." CLEF Teacher

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAM



CLEF PARTNERS SUPPORT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Community Partners assist CLEF in carrying out its mission. Sponsorship of a cause, such as CLEF, allies a company with its customers, employees and the communities in which it does business. The spirit of the Community Partners Program is to build mutually beneficial and rewarding relationships.

The trend in sponsorship leans toward creating long-term integrated strategic alliances. Support Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation while adding value to your company's marketing and brand-building efforts.

How you can partner with us:

Program Dollars

Working capital to support CLEF's programs.

In-Kind Resources

Budget-relieving products and services needed to run specific programs and/or operations.

Marketing & Advertising Support

Blue-chip advertising opportunities for CLEF to share its mission and programs, thereby enabling CLEF to increase visibility and donations.

Liaisons

Commitment to provide introductions to potential partners, vendors and colleagues who may become additional sponsors and/or supporters.



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

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Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF)

LCEF is a financial organization that empowers ministry, serving Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) partners around the world. Through dollars invested by more than 50,000 individuals, congregations, schools, organizations and businesses, LCEF assists ministries with customized loans and support services that help leaders respond to growth and community needs. LCEF also offers loans to rostered church workers—those dedicated servants on the front lines of ministry. For more information, call 800-843-5233 or visit <https://lcef.org/>.



LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO

Lutheran High School Association of Greater Chicago

Lutheran High School Association of Greater Chicago is a group dedicated to providing financial support to Lutheran high schools, mainly by developing endowments to promote school sustainability. The organization recently provided matching funds for a scholarship grant to Walther Christian Academy!

AWARDS & HONORS



PRINCIPAL COMELLA GOES TO WASHINGTON

Pilgrim Lutheran School Principal Chris Comella traveled to Washington D.C. to receive the National Association of Elementary School Principals' 2018

National Distinguished Principal award. The ceremony was hosted by the U.S. State Department. The National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) recognizes and celebrates elementary and middle-level principals who set high standards for instruction, student achievement, character, and climate for the students, families, and staff in their learning communities. Congratulations to Chris on this much-deserved recognition!

PILGRIM PRE-SCHOOL MOVES TO HEAD OF CLASS!

2018 Chicago's Best Pre-School: Pilgrim Lutheran School received good news from the Chicago Awards Program that Pilgrim Pre-K is Chicago's Best for 2018. The 2018 Chicago Award Program is determined by information gathered both internally by the Chicago Award Program and data provided by third parties.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

On September 26, 2018 the Holy Family School community celebrated the 10th anniversary of their current facility. Students took a few minutes outside to sing "Happy Birthday," blow bubbles, and commemorate the occasion with cupcakes. A video telling the Holy Family story was shown to all students for this special event.



CHRISTMAS CARD CONTEST DESIGNS SPREAD JOY!

We want to share a **big** thank you to our CLEF students for participating in our 4th annual Christmas card design contest. We received more than 50 entries showcasing students' original artwork symbolizing what the Christmas season means to them.

We received so many inspiring and joyful submissions that we decided to share many of these entries on our social media sites in December. The entries not only showcased the artistic talent of our students but also shared how wonderful it is that students are learning life-long lessons in a Christ-centered environment.

We want to congratulate the following students whose card designs were selected as the top three winning entries:



Sebastian Ruano, St. John's Lutheran School, winner of \$250 scholarship and \$50 VISA giftcard. Sebastian's card was mailed to CLEF supporters and friends. He also received 20 cards to send to family and friends.



Brianna Benestad, Grace English Lutheran School, winner of \$50 VISA giftcard.



Isabella Viray, Good Shepherd Christian Academy, winner of \$50 VISA giftcard.

2018 NETWORKING CONFERENCE: MINDSET FOR GROWTH

More than 160 teachers, principals, pastors, and school staff members participated in the day's events at CLEF's 2018 Networking Conference. With the theme "Mindset for Growth," the value of a growth mindset was explored throughout the conference. Pastor Leslie Hunter and Holy Family School students kicked the morning off with high-energy devotions, getting participants off their feet! Keynote speaker Jornea Erwin, Head of Educator Innovation for Flipgrid, shared her growth mindset philosophy and how it has helped her succeed as an innovative technology educator. The day continued with breakout sessions facilitated by Concordia University coaches and a "Mindset for Wellness" presentation put on by CLEF Nurse Patricia Braun. Special thanks to Walther Christian Academy and Facilities Director Jim Urban for hosting and the many contributions from the CLEF community that helped make the day a success. Most notably, thank you to all of the educators who came ready to stretch their minds, learn and grow!



I HAVE A **GROWTH**
MINDSET.
I AM IN CHARGE OF HOW SMART I AM BECAUSE
I CAN **GROW** MY **BRAIN**
LIKE A MUSCLE BY LEARNING HARD THINGS.
I CAN ACHIEVE
ANYTHING
WITH **EFFORT** AND
RIGHT STRATEGIES.
AND EVEN IF I FAIL OR MAKE A MISTAKE
IT IS A **GREAT** THING, BECAUSE
I CAN **LEARN** FROM THEM AND
I GET BETTER!

SUPERHERO EDUCATORS!



HOW TO UNLEASH THE POWERS OF SUPERHERO EDUCATORS

"We need many superheroes. An army of superheroes is necessary to battle low expectations, crushing poverty, lack of student engagement, and student apathy, even despair. Reviewing these statistics may leave anyone feeling hopeless and even depressed. However, the great news is that outstanding educators break through the chaos to transform students' lives. We call these brilliant performers superhero educators."

-excerpt from "Superhero Educator: How to Teach with Superior Skills and Success"

CLEF consultant Dr. Steve Gerner has seen a lot change in education since he began teaching in the early 1990s. However, the inherent qualities of a great educator have stayed the same. Dr. Gerner and fellow Concordia University Wisconsin professor Eugene Pitchford III wanted to share what they have witnessed over the years – highlighting the key characteristics of high performing educators. The result: "Superhero Educator," a book written for incoming teachers, veterans and administrators alike. CLEF Programs Coordinator and former high school educator Megan Smith was able to connect with Dr. Gerner and gain insight into his writing process.

Q: The format is clear and easy to follow. I enjoyed how you opened each chapter with a thematic vignette about a well-known fictional superhero. How did you come up with this concept of connecting a superhero to every chapter?

A: Well, we didn't have it right away. We knew we wanted to highlight teacher quality. High-performing teachers equal high-performing schools. As we broke it down, we realized these high-performing teachers have a lot in common with superheroes. Just like superheroes, teachers fight through expectations to get positive outcomes. They are not going to be successful every time, but they keep moving forward.

Q: The book can appeal to teachers at both private and public schools. Are there certain components that you see being more prevalent in the Lutheran school setting?

A: "Superhero Educator" was written for all teachers, but there are distinctions in school options. In Lutheran schools, we see a clarity in calling. The "why do you teach" is clearly in focus. Lutheran teachers know the end game – heaven is their home because of Jesus, so confidently they share this message and guide students to their calling and purpose. As superhero educators, they do not say, "this is not my job" or "I do not get paid for this," but rather go above and beyond the classroom. They have no choice. It is their calling.

Q: How can administrators encourage the growth of superhero qualities in the teachers? How would you advise teachers dealing with challenging school culture to keep on shining with their superhero gifts?

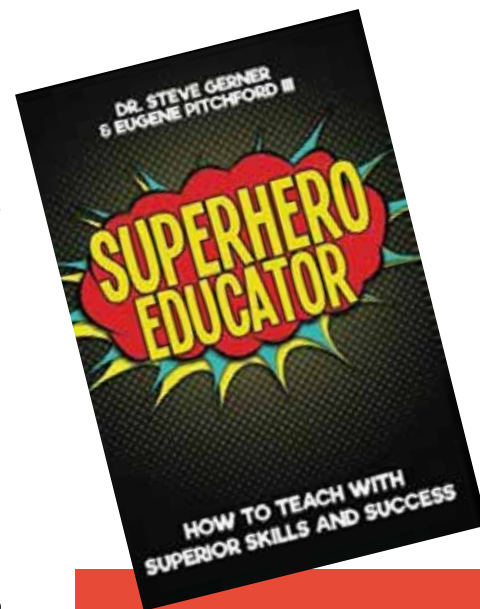
A: Administrators should consider what superhero qualities, skill sets, they are getting in the hiring process. Administration also must provide their teachers the opportunity to grow. Teachers want to grow professionally. There also should be a level of autonomy to have space to grow and try new, innovative practices, and plenty of opportunities for professional development

Q: Chapter Four is about risk taking. How would you advise teachers to overcome the fear of "rocking the boat?"

A: This question is on the minds of many teachers. Without risk taking, we may find ourselves in a stage of silence – we are unhappy with decisions, but we remain quiet, even unattached. Or we argue due to our frustration with events. Risk taking allows you to avoid being silent or frustrated and focus on the students. If you are a classroom teacher, take a professional risk in your classroom that increases student achievement. If you are a principal, take a professional risk that improves teacher instruction.

Q: Anything else you would like to add about the book?

A: I hope "Superhero Educator" can give a boost of energy and direction to teachers because at times the profession can feel lonely and isolating. Outstanding, superhero educators really can break through the chaos to transform students' lives. Superhero Educator is being used in many schools, with many teachers.



Superhero Educator Professional Development Review

"Dr. Gerner presented a positive and meaningful session. It was an encouraging experience because he supported what we already know as educators and pointed us toward new ideas and higher vistas to make us Superhero Educators! He shared personal anecdotal stories and strategies from his own experience as well as data derived from research and best practices. All in all, this professional development experience was memorable and helpful."

—Gloria Dei Principal Virginia Terrell

How to Order

"Superhero Educator" is available for purchase at amazon.com:
<https://amzn.to/2OAL0Wz>



We're Branching Out!

**CHICAGOLAND LUTHERAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
2019 SCHOLARSHIP GALA | SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019**

Join us at the stunning Morton Arboretum in Lisle



6:00 p.m. Cocktails & Appetizers
7:30 p.m. Dinner

Our theme represents the integrated growth in programs and partnerships
CLEF has initiated in recent years.

FEATURING: Dinner • Dancing • Silent & Live Auctions

MAGNIFICENT VIEWS!

Enjoy the gala festivities from the Ginkgo Room with glass walls providing sweeping views
of the Arboretum's lake and gardens!

WHO BENEFITS!

All proceeds go toward student scholarships. Enjoy a fun night out and make a difference
in the lives of students.

COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSION!

Spend the day at Morton Arboretum, as admission is complimentary for all
Gala attendees on the day of the event.

Watch for registration details in an upcoming CLEF email and/or mailed invitations.

CLEF SCHOOL PROFILE

SPREADING CHRIST THROUGHOUT THE CITY



● Let the School Bell Ring: St. Paul's Early Childhood Center

From the minute St. Paul Lutheran Church's Early Childhood Center re-opened its doors in August 2018 it has been re-energized with a new vision and mission to create an amazing place for young students to grow and learn.

Fun, hands-on exploration and an engaging environment give Pre-K3-Grade

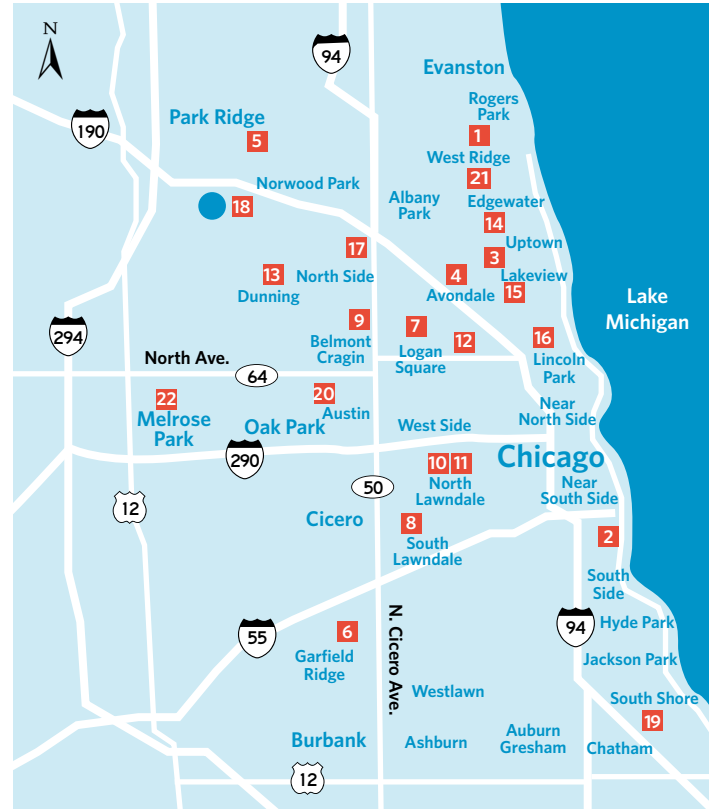
2 students attending this center the tools they need to develop a lifelong love of learning. Students are taught to ask questions and work together to find the answers. Plus, the early childhood center boasts enrichment rooms such as an Art Studio and STEM Lab to give students a hands-on learning experience.

"St. Paul's Early Childhood Center truly offers excellence in early childhood education," says Susan Raap, St. Paul's school board president. "Our school is proud to be the only school in Chicago that provides a focus on early childhood education serving students from Pre-K3 through 2nd grade. Our inspired approach to education through project-based learning is research based and prepares students for academic, personal and career success."

The school hosted a Grand Opening celebration on September 18. Alderman Anthony Napolitano of the 41st ward, school leaders, parents, students, Concordia University Chicago and CLEF joined the ribbon-cutting and bell ringing ceremony.

Working in partnership with Concordia's Center for Literacy and CLEF, St. Paul's Early Childhood Center promotes project-based learning and is integrated within the academic content areas of math, science, language, art and music. When students collaborate with others, they develop strong social, emotional and spiritual skills.

Located at 5650 N. Canfield Ave., the center is within minutes of the I-90 (Kennedy expressway) making pick up/drop off easy for parents commuting downtown or living in the Norwood Park, Edison Park or Park Ridge communities. Plus, half and full-day (2,3,4,5 days) options are available.



CLEF PRESCHOOLS AND GRADE SCHOOLS

- 1 **Bethesda International Academy**, 6803 N. Campbell Ave.
- 2 **Christ the King Lutheran School**, 3701 S. Lake Park Ave.
- 3 **Concordia Place**, 3855 N. Seeley Ave.
- 4 **Concordia Place**, 3300 N. Whipple St.
- 5 **Edison Park Lutheran Preschool**, 6626 N. Oliphant Ave.
- 6 **Gloria Dei Lutheran School**, 5259 S. Major Ave.
- 7 **Good Shepherd Christian Academy**, 3740 W. Belden Ave.
- 8 **Grace Christian Academy**, 4106 W. 28th St.
- 9 **Grace English Lutheran School**, 2725 N. Laramie Ave.
- 10 **Holy Family School**, 3415 W. Arthington St.
- 11 **Little Learners Academy**, 3415 W. Arthington St.
- 12 **Lutheran Day Nursery**, 1802 N. Fairfield Ave.
- 13 **Our Saviour Lutheran School**, 7151 W. Cornelia Ave.
- 14 **Pilgrim Lutheran School**, 4300 N. Winchester Ave.
- 15 **Saint Luke Academy**, 1500 W. Belmont Ave.
- 16 **St. James Lutheran School**, 2101 N. Fremont St.
- 17 **St. John's Lutheran School**, 4939 W. Montrose Ave.
- 18 **St. Paul Early Childhood Center**, 5650 N. Canfield Ave.
- 19 **St. Paul Lutheran School**, 7621 S. Dorchester Ave.
- 20 **St. Paul Lutheran School**, 846 N. Menard Ave.
- 21 **St. Philip Lutheran School**, 2500 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.

SERVING GRADES 6-12

- 22 **Walther Christian Academy**, 900 Chicago Ave, Melrose Park

● **Featured School**

NEWS AND NOTES



CHRIST THE KING STUDENT FEATURED IN NID MAGAZINE

Zayd is a fourth grader with an incredible story. Early in 2018, he experienced extreme family difficulties. Through the love of his great-grandmother and the supportive community of Christ the King Lutheran

School and Church, Zayd has thrived. Christ the King worked to ensure his education went uninterrupted, and began planning systems of financial support. Hearing his story also prompted students at Stirred to Love partner school St. John's Lombard to take action and help. A group of eighth-grade girls at St. John's organized a jump-a-thon and got their entire school to participate. The event raised \$4,000 to help Zayd remain a student at Christ the King! On June 10, Zayd was baptized by Reverend John Brazeal at Christ the King church. You can read the entire NID magazine article about Zayd at <http://bit.ly/CLEFCTK>

CONGRATS TO MATHSCI BOWL CHAMPIONS!

On November 5, Walther Christian Academy in Melrose Park took 1st place in the MathSci Bowl hosted by Concordia University Chicago. The MathSci Bowl is a fast-paced question and answer invitational tournament focused on mathematics and the sciences. Teams in this year's tournament included Lake Country Lutheran (Hartland, WI), Lutheran School Association (Decatur), Lutheran High School (Rockford), Martin Luther (Greendale, WI), Northeastern Wisconsin (Green Bay, WI), Walther Christian Academy (Melrose Park), Westlake Christian Academy (Grayslake), and Wheaton Academy (Wheaton).

Walther's team coached by faculty member Marcia Eberhard includes seniors Anthony Fasso, Jordan Holliday, and Raffaele Serpico and juniors Emily Giannotta, Ashley Hermansen, Isabella Santos and Nicholas Winkelman.



INVEST IN KIDS WITH EMPOWER ILLINOIS

As we start the new year, we want to remind you to help support CLEF student scholarships. Now entering its second year, the Invest in Kids Tax Credit Scholarship Program provides students with access to scholarships that can cover up to 100% of tuition and fees. Supporters donate through a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) and receive a state income tax credit equal to 75% of their donation. Demand for scholarships has been strong, far outpacing available funds. Over 48,000 students state-wide applied for scholarships, but funding has been secured for only 4,135 of them. Please consider a gift to Empower Illinois, our partner SGO, designated for CLEF scholarships. A \$5,000 donation could fund a year of Lutheran education for a student from a low-income family at a net cost of \$1,250 to the donor. Gifts in any amount are welcome and will be combined with other gifts to bless a child with the life-changing gift of a Christ centered education. This is an amazing opportunity to support Lutheran education and significantly reduce your state income tax bill at the same time. Given recent changes to federal tax law, an Illinois income tax credit may bring far more benefits than a federal charitable deduction. To learn more visit bit.ly/CLEF-SGOInfo



IT'S A BOY!

CLEF's Instructional Technology Coordinator Rachel Swanson and her husband Doug welcomed Solomon to their family in late November. Mom, Dad, baby and big brother Isaiah are doing great!

STUDENTS SERVE THE COMMUNITY!

St. Paul Lutheran School-Dorchester and Walther Christian Academy students learned a valuable lesson in community service. They packed food for Feed My Starving Children to help feed children in poverty stricken countries. Plus, Walther students collected food for the Proviso Food Pantry prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.





MEET MIKE WELCH: TEACHER, COACH & ENERGETIC LEADER!

A lunch meeting more than 17 years ago with one of CLEF's founding board members, Bill Mattes, created an opportunity for Mike Welch to learn more about the foundation's

mission and purpose. It all started as a meeting to thank CLEF for providing a matching grant to St. James Lutheran School for the remodeling of their entranceway. Thankfully, this lunch was more than a good meal, as it marked Mike's entry onto CLEF's Board of Directors.

As Mike remembers, "It was the first step St. James took in revitalizing their school, and it energized people and renewed their support for the school. We wanted to thank CLEF for the grant, so Bill and I met for lunch. And the rest is history."

At the time of their first meeting, Mike was a member of the St. James School Board and his two children were students at the school. Today he and his wife Sara's children are grown, and Mike is retired after spending 23 years as a vice president in the Law Department at Quaker Oats. Besides an active family life, Mike teaches at Loyola University's Quinlan School of Business and serves on CLEF's board as Treasurer. He is an enthusiastic coach in CLEF's Pathways to Excellence program and is committed to providing quality Lutheran education through CLEF.

What is your role as treasurer of CLEF's Board? CLEF has grown significantly over the past five years and we need to ensure that CLEF has a financial system in place that allows us to closely track the inflow and outflow of cash. Equally important is that our donors' contributions are used in a responsible and transparent manner. Working closely with Monica Wetak, our Business and Finance Manager and Janet Klotz, our Executive Director, helps ensure that CLEF's fiscal health is robust and sustainable. CLEF is fortunate to have an experienced financial and accounting manager like Monica, as she makes the budgeting and ongoing monitoring of CLEF's overall financial position understandable as well as professional.

What do you do as a Pathways to Excellence coach? The Pathways program is an innovative leadership program for all CLEF school principals. Each principal has drafted a strategic plan for their school based on their key leadership objectives. A major part of the Pathways program is classroom instruction at Concordia University Chicago that is designed to provide the principals with concepts and tools to enable them to implement their strategic plan among all stakeholders in their community. As a coach I function as a bridge between a principal's classroom sessions and the practical implementation of those lessons in meeting the needs of their specific school environment and culture. Each coaching session is a one-on-one enhanced learning experience that relates directly to

their school. We believe that there is a 1:1 correlation between a principal's leadership and strategic thinking skills and the sustainability of the school. The Pathways to Excellence Program provides our principals with the critical tools needed for their schools to grow and improve.

What inspires you about our Lutheran schools? I am inspired and uplifted that our schools have a solid record of providing a safe, Christ-centered learning environment that offers our children a high-quality education. At the same time we also provide them with the social and emotional intelligence skills necessary for their academic success and for the transition to a high school of their choice. We want to make this opportunity available to as many children and families as possible.

What is your hope for our Lutheran schools? My hope is that our schools will continue to find ways to not only thrive but survive as a vibrant and focal part of their neighborhoods. It is CLEF's mission to partner with each school so that it can provide Christ's love and message within a framework of a quality education. We know that our schools are a beacon in their communities and CLEF wants to do everything we can to make sure that beacon shines even brighter. We want interested parents to see our schools as a great place for their children's development of their cognitive, emotional, and spiritual skills. We position our schools to be academically superior and competitive with other schools in the area.

What brings you joy about working with CLEF? My greatest joy is helping our Lutheran schools provide a quality Christ-centered education in all kinds of diverse neighborhoods. I am truly amazed by the dedication and concern that our principals, teachers, and staff daily demonstrate to our students and their families as a living testament to Christ's love and concern for all people. Their level of commitment and achievement is phenomenal. All people have a need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, and I am honored and blessed to be a part of CLEF's mission that does just that.



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DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Please email clef@clefchicago.org to be added to our electronic communications list.

SAVE THE DATES!

SCHOLARSHIP GALA
Saturday, April 13, 2019
Morton Arboretum

TEACHER RECOGNITION DINNER
Thursday, May 9, 2019
River Forest Country Club

