



Westpark School

November 24, 2011

Dear Westpark School Families,

It is with great excitement and anticipation that we confirm Portage Alliance Church will be expanding, including a large addition to Westpark School!

FAQs

What does the WPS/PAC addition involve?

The renovation strategically solves many issues a shared facility like PAC/WPS encounters, here are some of the most important:

- An entirely new High School (including washrooms, lab, lobby / atrium)
- Increased security as students are able to remain separated from day to day events (blood donor clinics / funerals)
- Moving of our Middle Years students to a larger area (the current high school)
- Increased lobby space

What is the cost?

Contractors' estimates price the expansion at 3 million. PAC membership has voted to raise half (1.5) and borrow half (1.5). Currently, 900 thousand has been raised in contributions from the people of PAC.

When will construction begin?

It depends when half is raised. PAC is embarking on an intensive "Drive to 1.5" during Nov 2011-Jan 2012 to secure the additional 600 thousand. If this happens we will begin construction spring of 2012. In any case, we will begin the project when 1.5 million is secured.

The people of PAC have already raised 900 thousand. Why would Portage Alliance Church invest so heavily in the future of Westpark School?

Two reasons:

First, since PAC decided to start WPS in 1987, the commitment of the church has been to provide a quality, bible based education to the next generation of Christian leaders. The membership of PAC remains committed to that goal and aims to provide WPS with the resources and environment it requires to continue to grow in the future.

Second, since PAC/WPS share the facility, both benefit from the expansion. PAC receives more lobby space, atrium, new bathrooms, better parking access, and a youth room. The new facility also allows for some flexibility in our kids ministry spaces down the road.

The facility expansion fits into the future plans of both PAC and WPS.

Will my tuition payments increase because of the new building?

There are many factors which contribute to tuition levels: the level and availability of government grants, resource costs, capital expenses, enrolment, salaries, and inflation all play a part in setting tuition levels so we can't promise a tuition freeze, increase, or even a reduction although all three are possible. We are proud of the way we have managed these factors in the past and managed to keep tuition at a relatively consistent level. In keeping with our track record, the WPS board anticipates WPS facility expenses remaining near the level they are at and so do not anticipate any increase in tuition due solely to the new building. At any rate, WPS is committed to making our school a viable financial option for everyone who wants their student in WPS. If you know of someone for whom finances remain a barrier which keeps their children from attending WPS, let Mrs. Stoesz know and we will connect with them and work to make WPS accessible.

I don't attend Portage Alliance Church; can I still contribute financially to this project?

Absolutely. You can be a part of PAC's "Drive to 1.5" simply by requesting a pledge card at the WPS office, filling it out, and returning it by the end of Jan 2012. You can also make a donation to the project at any time. Talk to Mrs. Ferguson at the front desk, or talk to Mrs. Stoesz and they will steer you down the right path. All donations to the fundraising campaign are considered charitable donations by Revenue Canada.

Can I see pictures of the facility?

We will be displaying the architect's conceptual drawings in the WPS lobby throughout December and January. Come take a look!

I still have more questions, who do I talk to?

The WPS Board of Directors will be happy to meet with you at your convenience to address any questions you might have. Leave your name with Mrs. Ferguson at the front desk and you'll be contacted by one of the board members.

On behalf of the Westpark Board of Directors,



Nathan Weselake,
Chair