



PITTSBURGH URBAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

DEAR FRIENDS,

As we take the time to reflect on 40 years of cultivating caring hearts and curious minds, we see how PUCS has taken steps to ensure our students are surrounded by Christ-like individuals who want to invest in their lives. PUCS teachers continue to write Biblically-rooted, integral curriculum. Blended together with the ingredients of small class sizes and a loving community of families, PUCS offers an effective education for a diverse student body.

Since my arrival as the new Executive Director, I have found that PUCS is a place where children are led to develop a unique worldview. It's the ideal environment to learn the truths of Jesus Christ during these very key, foundation-setting years. As the Scriptures teach us, we are to be in the world, but not of the world.

As we move into the next 40 years, we want to continue to promote what makes us unique while moving forward in faith, so that we can rise to become more of a resource to the greater East Pittsburgh community. In order for this to be authentic, we will need to listen to the residents and partner with other local community social service agencies.

The Lord has blessed PUCS over the last 40 years. Join us in praying with gratitude for His continued guidance as we look at our next 40 years, and as we strive to serve children, families and the community effectively.

Jonathan C. Ray, MSW

1981-2021: PUCS 40TH ANNIVERSARY



Kindergarten 1981

TEACHERS & STAFF	1
STUDENTS	5
CLASSES	1
BUDGET	~ \$10k
BOARD MEMBERS	5
FINANCIAL AID	~ \$2.5k

FACILITIES

Classroom at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Friendship



Kindergarten 2021

TEACHERS & STAFF	36
STUDENTS	158
CLASSES	10
BUDGET	\$1.4m
BOARD MEMBERS	10
FINANCIAL AID	\$402k

FACILITIES

2 buildings in Wilkinsburg, both owned by PUCS (no debt)

"Where is the next cadre of leaders going to come from? Are we at PUCS doing enough to deliberately raise up leaders who are going to take us into the future? It is up to us to give the next generation those opportunities to serve. What can we do to train up the next generation to take that mantle and move it into the future to reach a new generation for Christ and for the Kingdom of God?" - Jay Gilmer



A UNIQUE RECIPE FOR EDUCATION:

Telling the Story of PUCS through Bread,
this year's All-School Unit

"If you think about the process of making bread, it starts with the mixing together of the right ingredients. The yeast comes alive with other ingredients. And though it takes time to rise, the process of rising allows the dough to become what it's meant to be. Recipes are adjusted as needed, and depending on variables like temperature, the outcome isn't always the same. The baked loaves also look different from the dough and from all of those unique ingredients like flour, water, yeast, sugar...yet it is still true to those things."

- Christy Wauzzinski, Education Director and Founder

"PUCS laid the foundation of a servant's heart.
We are called to influence the different realms
of culture where God has placed us.
PUCS was that foundation for me."

- JOSH ABAJIAN, PUCS ALUM

"PUCS' approach to learning begins with the Creation account because it is a reminder that everything we encounter in a classroom can be like the burning bush that Moses encountered, revealing something of God to us."

- SEAN PURCELL,
FORMER PUCS
PARENT

Students & Alumni

PUCS Opens a Pre-K Counts Classroom

PUCS is excited to announce the addition of one more Pre-K class for the 2021-2022 school year, made possible through the PA Department of Education's Pre-K Counts program. PUCS will have 12 full-day and 6 half-day slots to serve eligible 3, 4 and 5 year old children.

Registration is now open for the Pre-K Counts class. To register, please contact Jonathan Ray at jonathan.ray@pucs.org or 412-244-1779 x100.



Suzie Salo teaches Pre-K students about mixing, kneading, and baking bread as part of the All-School Unit.

FOUNDERS -and- LEADERS



TOP: PUCS Founders, former Board Presidents, and current Board members gather for the 40th Anniversary Kickoff Breakfast.

BOTTOM: PUCS Board President Charity Wahrenberger with her dog Scout the "unofficial PUCS mascot."

PASTORS + CHURCHES
VOLUNTEERS
TUTORS

"My favorite experiment was the yeast experiment. I learned that salt does not activate yeast well, and apple juice activates yeast well. I guessed salt would activate it the best, but I was wrong. I had a lot of fun!"

- PUCS 1ST GRADER

"The creation unit is really important every year for all of the students to do because it shows God as the Creator of everything. There's nothing that was made that God didn't make." - MARCIA MERRYMAN, FIRST PUCS TEACHER

CURRICULUM

TOP: PUCS Alum and Pitt Junior Lucca Spence shares about Identity as a Child of God from 1 John at a special outdoor Chapel Service.

BOTTOM: The 8th graders, directed by Mrs. McCombs, play bell plates and sing "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing."



THE HOLY SPIRIT

"I'm excited to see how our community walks through our recovery from this pandemic, and how we help our surrounding community of Wilkinsburg do the same."
- CHARITY WAHRENBERGER, BOARD PRESIDENT

TEACHERS + STAFF



LEFT: PUCS Executive Director Jonathan Ray welcomes the guests at the 40th Anniversary Kickoff Breakfast.

RIGHT: Jonathan Ray offered a 3-day Basketball Camp for 4th-8th Grade where students learned basic skills and teamwork.

PARENTS



60 parent volunteers organized and ran PUCS Camp at Camp Ligonier & Conference Center.

PUCS Board of Directors

Charity Wahrenberger, Board President
Operations Consultant

David Stehouwer, Board Vice President
Teacher, Environmental Charter School;
Former PUCS Teacher, PUCS Parent

Katie Love, Secretary
Chatham Financial; PUCS Parent

Matthieu Croce
Founder/ President, 412mgmt LLC,
PUCS Parent

Jay Gilmer
Project Manager, City of Pittsburgh
Department of Public Safety and attorney;
Former PUCS parent

Nichole McQuaide
Director of Human Resources,
Heffren-Tillotson

Jim Stout
Principal Consultant at Luminous
Institute, PUCS Parent

Cynthia M. Wallace, EdD
Executive Pastor, Bible Center Church;
Executive Director, The Oasis Project

Randy Woods
Retired contractor, owner of rental properties
and innkeeper; Former PUCS parent and
current PUCS grandparent

Anita Woolley
Associate Professor, Carnegie Mellon
University; Former PUCS Parent



Look Who Popped Up at PUCS

We welcome our new staff members!



Gretchen Bolen
1st Grade Aide



Amanda Bublinec
Communications &
Development Coordinator



Nina Gettemy
K-8 Spanish Teacher



Brittany Hudzick
2nd/3rd Aide



Elsbeth Lindhiem
Pre-K Aide, PUCS Alum



Abby Norman
Pre-K Aide



Rachel Pinto-Martin
Spring Production Producer



Lawanda Pearson
2nd/3rd Aide



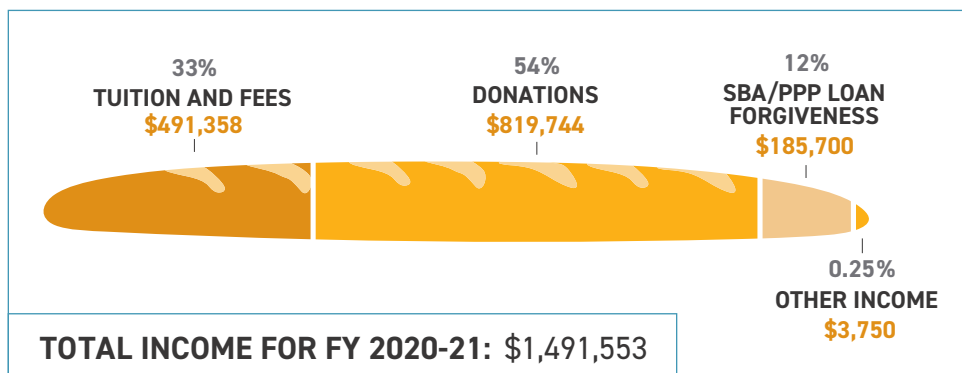
Tashea Rawlings
Pre-K Counts Teacher



Darrell Woodard
Middle School History Teacher

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

We celebrate God's provision!



GIVE \$40 FOR 40 YEARS



SUPPORT PUCS WITH A
ONE-TIME GIFT OF \$40
OR \$40/MONTH

Thank you for your many donations!

Restricted contributions funded the following projects:

SCHOLARSHIP

MUSIC PROGRAM

SANCTUARY LIGHTING/
SOUND/VISUAL

TRUST BASED RELATIONAL
INTERVENTION (TBRI)

TUTORING

ROBOTICS

CLASSROOM BOOKS THAT
ALLOW STUDENTS TO SEE
THEMSELVES

SEED FUNDING FOR KITCHEN
RENOVATIONS