

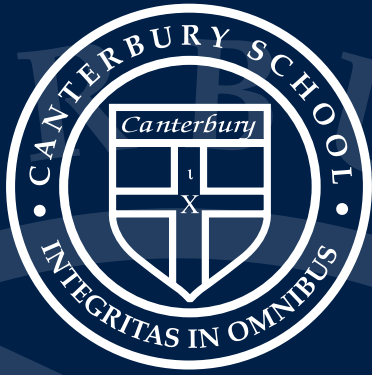


CANTERBURY SCHOOL

Strategic Plan 2022-2027



Honoring the Past
Building the Future



Honoring the Past **Building the Future**

For 45 years, Canterbury School has provided artists, athletes, and scholars in our community with a world class education that has prepared them to succeed in both college and life. From its earliest days, a Canterbury education emphasized the importance of intellectual, artistic, physical, and spiritual development. This formula, alongside an exceptional collection of faculty, continues to change the lives of our students and inculcate them with a life-long commitment to learning.

Guided by the Board of Trustees, Canterbury's strategic plan is a road map for growth and sustained excellence over the next five years. Under the leadership of David Jackson, Head of School, Canterbury is poised to honor the strong traditions of its past and build the aspirations of its future.

Our Mission

The mission of Canterbury School is to maximize the potential of young people by providing a challenging, enriching, and supportive learning environment in which students build the foundation for a life of purpose, passion, and meaning.



The Past as Prologue

from Head of School David Jackson & Board Chair Todd Jacobs

As we enter the 45th year of Canterbury's storied history, now is the time to look toward the future prosperity of our school. To that effect, the Board of Trustees has worked over the past twelve months to craft a new strategic plan for Canterbury. This work, undertaken in concert with the Head of School, has produced a bold strategic vision for the next five years. The plan provides a pathway for ensuring excellence for our artists, athletes, and scholars by supporting world class faculty, enhancing facilities in the arts, upgrading athletic programs, and working toward balance in student life. Furthermore, the strategic plan places significant emphasis on the financial viability of Canterbury, including mechanisms for enrollment and endowment growth. Finally, the plan will actively engage the strength of the community, both internally and externally, to bring us together as a school and to forge partnerships in the greater Fort Wayne area.

One significant factor in the development of our strategic priorities was a retrospective journey into the school's past history. Canterbury has a "special sauce" that is traced back to the school's founding. The committed nature of our volunteer core of parents, the focus of the students and teachers on robust learning at every level, an athletic program where all students can participate and thrive, a dynamic arts program that starts at the earliest years, and spiritual and character development through our chapel program all provide the recipe for a holistic and humanistic education. That very spirit of our past is reinforced in the future vision of this strategic plan.



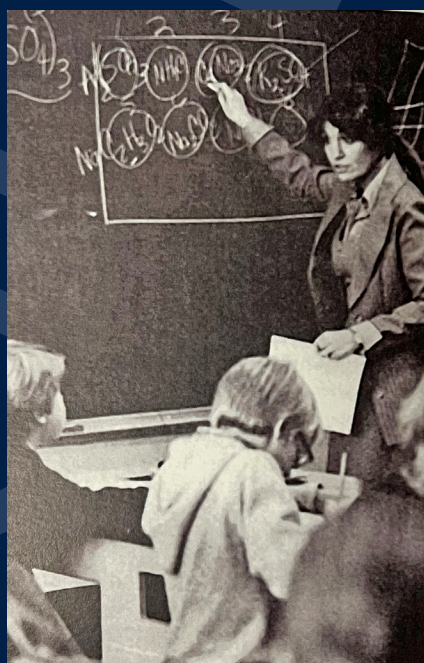
David Jackson
Head of School



Todd Jacobs
Chair, Canterbury Board
of Trustees

Honoring the past

The genesis of Canterbury School can be traced back to a board meeting of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic in the Fall of 1976. There, Anita Cast and Cory Randall had a preliminary conversation about the idea of forming a school. That conversation blossomed into many passionate discussions among the eventual founding families as to the possibilities of what the school could look like. An emphasis on strong academics, a true education in the fine arts, early exposure to the study of foreign language, and a character education program rooted in Christian principles were the key ingredients of Canterbury's founding and long-term success. When Mick Parrott drafted the first budget for Canterbury, the founding families knew they needed 49 students in the first year in order to make the school viable. When Canterbury opened its doors in Trinity Episcopal Church on September 8th, 1977 it was with 89 first year students.



CANTERBURY SCHOOL *Timeline*

1977	1980	1982	1983	1986	1987	1990	1994	1998	2001
Canterbury School K-6 grade opens at Trinity Episcopal	Move to Covington Road Campus	Jonathan Hancock becomes Headmaster	First Grade 9 Class to start Canterbury High School	Lower School and Middle School renovated	Smith Road High School campus opens	First 13-Year Club graduates from High School	Boys' Soccer appears in third straight Final Four	Boys' Soccer wins first State Championship	Chess Club places 1st in the nation



2003

Master plan for facilities and finances adopted

2006

"Legacy of Learning" Capital Campaign

2007

Construction projects finished on both campuses

2009

Canterbury named a Malone Foundation School

2010

Girls' Basketball wins third State Championship

2012

Girls' Soccer wins first State Championship

2015

First High School Fine Arts Recognition Evening

2017

Canterbury celebrates 40th Anniversary

2019

School receives ISACS accreditation

2020

David Jackson becomes Head of School

Building the future

The strategic plan provides a comprehensive vision for growing the excellence of Canterbury School over the next five years. The first goal of the plan is aimed at enhancing the opportunities for our artists, athletes, and scholars. First and foremost, the plan calls for supporting our teachers as the cornerstone of a life-changing education. At the heart of Canterbury's mission and success as a school lies the dynamism of our faculty. Goal 1 also calls for enhancing programming and facilities in both the arts and athletics. Canterbury has always been a school that educates the whole person, and support for both arts and athletics will help us to continue this tradition and attract students to our campus. Finally, Goal 1 charges us with the mandate to incorporate more balance and wellness in the lives of our students. As mental health challenges continue to increase among our nation's youth, it is imperative that we devise systems to help our students lead healthier, more balanced lives.

Goal 2 of the plan focuses on the financial sustainability of Canterbury. It sets the ambitious goal of nearly doubling our endowment over the next five years. Historically, schools that thrive have strong endowment support. Working to augment the size of the endowment is of paramount importance to the future success of Canterbury. Goal 2 also identifies one of the most important components of sustainability and prosperity in an independent school environment: enrollment. By recruiting and retaining mission appropriate students, Canterbury will continue to remain one of the best schools in the entire Midwest. The last piece of Goal 2 charges Canterbury to adequately plan for the upkeep of older facilities and the growth of new ones.

Goal 3 of the strategic plan emphasizes the importance of community. It includes the promotion of the things that Canterbury does well ("centers of excellence"), forging partnerships with organizations in the Fort Wayne area, and a directive to create a civic engagement program in the broader community. This goal will also curate an active plan to connect members of the Canterbury family, internally. As we emerge from the pandemic, it is more important than ever to restore the warm and connected community that has made Canterbury School so special over the years.

Goal 1: Ensuring Excellence and Opportunity for Every Artist, Athlete, and Scholar

- Support, empower, recruit, and retain world class educators and support staff who will augment the scholastic growth of our students
- Promote a culture of excellence in the arts across all divisions of the school by offering more exposure to the arts and enhancing our facilities
- Create a robust, developmentally supportive, inclusive, and competitive athletic program which celebrates both contribution and competition in all sports
- Devise a plan to increase balance and wellness in the lives of our students, particularly in respect to their academic, artistic, and athletic pursuits





Goal 2: Growing Canterbury's Future Prosperity and Financial Sustainability

- Grow the endowment to a size of two times our current operating budget
- Fortify enrollment by recruiting and retaining mission appropriate students
- Create financial mechanisms to support the maintenance and upkeep of excellent facilities

Goal 3: Building and Reinforcing the Strength of Canterbury's Community

- Identify, market, and promote Canterbury School's "Centers of Excellence" both internally and externally to the greater Fort Wayne community
- Emphasize relationship building for students, faculty, and staff through cross divisional experiences



- Create purposeful engagement in the Fort Wayne community by developing a strategic civic engagement program for both students and school partnerships
- Establish avenues to strategically solicit ways in which current, new, and past members of the Canterbury community are willing to contribute their time, talent and treasure
- Explore ways to create interaction and connection among all members of the Canterbury community

Strategic Planning Committee

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Goal 1

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Andy Hobbs
Alisa Stovall
Christine Russell
Julie Ervin
Dara Spearman
Vicki Grabowski
Nancy Stewart
David Habecker

Goal 2

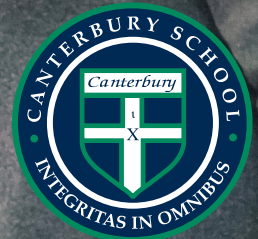
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