



**MANHATTAN
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

Connections

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

Matthew 28:18

NOVEMBER 2024

ISSUE 3

VOLUME 25

End-of-Year Fundraising Campaign & Building on our Blessings Kick Off

Joel Westa, Head of School

As the end of the year approaches, I wanted to take the opportunity to encourage you to plan to include MCS in your end of year giving plans. The MCS Board continues to emphasize keeping tuition affordable, and to do that, we must supplement our income through giving. The MCS Foundation provides funds each year to help offset tuition costs. The Thrift Store generously donates a large sum each year to support the school, and the Friends Organization, who manages all fundraising events in the school, also provides funds through the various events they manage, whether it be Harvest Festival, Tulip Mania and Dutch Supper, or the Elementary Fun Run. Concessions raises money so that we don't have to charge athletic fees to pay for uniforms, coaches, referees, and other expenses usually charged at other schools. Your volunteering in all of these events helps us maximize those resources. We are one big team making this all happen.

I spoke with an administrator at a Christian school in Colorado this week and just for fun, I looked at their tuition and it was upwards of \$16,000. Schools in other high-cost areas charge upwards of \$20,000! We strive to keep tuition as affordable as we can because we do not want cost to be the determining factor when choosing MCS for your student. To accomplish that, we must supplement income through fundraising.

We have some opportunities approaching to help us fulfill this desire for manageable tuition. First, we are also gearing up for our annual Campaign Dinner on November 19th. Dr Erik Hoekstra, President of Dordt University will be joining us as our guest speaker, and we will have a wonderful meal, beautiful entertainment from our kids, and a dessert auction as well. Our goal at this event is twofold this year. We have set a target to raise \$120,000 for our end-of-year goal, supporting operating costs at the school.

Secondly, we are kicking off fundraising efforts for our "Building on our Blessings" construction campaign for the new Middle School and Elementary School wing.
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Follow Us on Socials

The MCS Foundation

Why We Love Working at MCS:

I get to see teachers use the gifts God has given them to teach and lead students. The school's Christ-like community creates a space where students truly flourish.

R O T A R Y

student of the month

Please join us in congratulating October's Rotary Student of the Month, Piper Davis. Piper was chosen by her teachers because she is known to display high character, leadership, and community mindedness both at and away from school.



**Meet Manhattan Christian Senior,
Piper Davis.**

How long have you been at MCS?

I have been here since seventh grade. I attended Pass Creek from Kindergarten through sixth grade.

What extracurriculars are involved with?

I am in FFA and 4-H.

What awards have you won during your time in those extracurriculars?

In FFA, I got the position of the Reporter; I have also gotten several belt buckles through 4-H.

What have some of your favorite classes and teachers been while at MCS?

Throughout my high school career, my favorite class has been Ag Science because I am interested in that field.

What are some of your best non-academic memories?

I make new memories every day here at MCS!

What goal have you set for yourself during your senior year?

For my senior year, I want to keep my grades up the whole year and finish out my high school years strong.

What are you working on for your Senior Project?

My senior project is creating a scholarship for the kids going on the Europe trip. My fundraiser is creating a drawing for 1/2 a beef.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan to attend Semester at Sea, come back to MSU, and then become a flight attendant.

End-of-Year Fundraising & Kick Off Cont.

By now, you should have received an invitation in the mail, which included a return envelope for the Annual Campaign, as well as a pledge form for Building on Our Blessings. Please RSVP for the event if you haven't already, and prayerfully consider how you can support the school in meeting the \$120,000 year end goal and send that gift in the provided envelope into the school.

Then, prayerfully consider how you can support the long-term future of the school through a pledge and gift to begin (and ultimately finish) our building project. We'd ask you to carefully consider supporting this very necessary project!

Lastly, I'd like to remind you of the Montana Education Donations program, of which MCS is a Student Sponsorship Organization. Each year, the State of Montana sets aside 5 million dollars of tax credits for people and businesses to donate to private schools and in return, receive a tax credit for that amount on their Montana State taxes. The window for donations opens again on January 1st and closes when the \$5 million dollar limit has been reached. Last year we received \$167,000 from this effort, and the stipulation is that 90% of the funds raised must go to scholarships. If you would like to give your tax dollars to support the school, please contact me and I will further explain the program. Essentially, you are giving the school what you would normally give the state, and you receive a dollar for dollar credit off your tax bill. There are some limitations and some rules, but I'm happy to talk with you about them, and would encourage you to speak to your financial planner/accountant about this as well.

Thank you for your generosity towards the school. For 117 years families have been sacrificing to make this school a reality and to keep it affordable for all who would like to attend. Please help us continue to make that a reality!

Year Two: Eagles Football Team Reaches the Playoffs

Layne Glaus, Athletic Director

The boys had a great season; they went 7-0 in the regular season and took home the Southern C regular season championship trophy. In the program's first-ever playoff game, the Eagles lost in a physical, competitive game to Scobey (16-24). The program did an incredible job of welcoming the community as part of their program while keeping the focus on glorifying the Lord through the game!



senior project SPOTLIGHTS

Shaphan Hubner

You can currently find a table near the MCS Coffee Shop with more information about partnering with me and and Operation Christmas Child to bless a child around the world this Christmas. You can pick up a shoebox there to pack with toys and essentials and return it back to school during collection week: November 18-22. You can also Adopt a Shoebox (help ship the boxes), Disciple a Child (evangelism books that go with the boxes), and give a copy of God's Word (Bibles for the kids!). Donate by going to samaritanspurse.org/our-ministry/gift-catalog/. Questions or more information? Email shubner2025@manhattanchristian.org.



Jack Scott

I helped lead a Stop The Bleed Class, and it went extremely well! The majority of the senior class and Mrs. Walhof all learned many new skills that can better equip them to save a life. We also had tons of fun and were able to enjoy pizza together. This was just one step closer in bettering our world when it comes to helping people with unexpected life threatening bleeding.



Sam Veltkamp

For my senior project, I want to help the high school body improve their worship during chapel. To do this, I am learning how to play the guitar and will take over part of the worship leading aspects.

New Notes: The Happenings of the Music Department

Jackie Van Dam, Elementary Music Teacher

What do you think of when you think of Christmas? In Elementary Music Class we have been talking about all parts of the Christmas story: the people, the places, animals, angels, babies, family, even presents! As we have started to learn our Christmas songs we can't help but remember the true present: Jesus coming to earth as a baby, for US!

The Elementary Christmas Concert will showcase just that. We will listen to poems, Scriptures, and songs that lead and point us back to the true meaning of Christmas. Join us at the MEC on December 17 at 6pm for the Elementary (Kindergarten - 5th grade) Christmas Program: "When I Think of Christmas".

Anna Brewer, Band and Choir Director

"Pink and purple, yellow and red, indigo and emerald, in spirals overhead. Dancing in the darkness, lighting up the night. What a beautiful sight, northern lights!" The sixth-grade choir started the school year off learning "Northern Lights" by Andy Beck. With such vivid lyrics, it was only fitting to take the music to art class, too! Mrs. Brewer and Mrs. Swanson paired up to help the students not only create what they were singing, but also experiencing firsthand in the Montana sky. With the use of chalk, Mrs. Swanson taught the students blurring and blending techniques to replicate the northern lights. The students enjoyed creating their own colorful displays of the northern lights.



Christmas programs are also fast approaching, and students are busy working on their music. "Good News, Great Joy!" performed by the middle school and high school music department will be Tuesday, December 10 at 7 PM. As Jackie mentioned, the elementary school program "When I Think of Christmas" will be Tuesday, December 17 at 6pm. Mark your calendars for two wonderful evenings filled with festive music!

The month of November has also been filled with fruit and Butter Braid sales for the music department. Thank you so much to our loving community for your support of our musicians. We hope you enjoy your fruit and Butter Braids during this holiday season!

Rodeo Success for the MCS Bolich Boys

Each year, in conjunction with the annual NILE Pro Rodeo held at the Metra in Billings, the top two ranked high school athletes in each of their respective events get invited to the NILE High School Showcase. It's an exciting opportunity, as it is the first time that high school athletes get to compete alongside top pro rodeo competitors. On October 12, Blaise Bolich, a Junior here at MCS, was invited to compete in the Tie Down Roping at the High School Showcase after wrapping up the fall season sitting in second place in the Montana High School Rodeo Association. Each high school contestant's run at the NILE High School Showcase is an exhibition run with the pro rodeo competitors as they are technically not old enough to compete at the professional level yet. Blaise and his horse Power made an outstanding run of 9.6 seconds in the Tie Down Roping. Blaise was awarded a beautiful buckle for the win! The Montana High School Rodeo spring season will kick off again in March with the state finals being held in Kalispell in June and Nationals being held in Rock Springs, Wyoming in July.



The last weekend of October was the conclusion of the 2024 Northern Rodeo Association season with the finals being held in Kalispell. Brooks Bolich, a Freshman at MCS, capped off a great year by placing in both rounds and winning second in the average at the finals. Brooks won the year end title for Junior Breakaway Roping, winning a beautiful belt buckle and his first trophy saddle! Bentz Bolich, a 7th grader at MCS, also had a great season. He placed in the first round of the finals and finished the year as the Reserve Champion in the Junior Breakaway Roping for the 2024 season. The boys were also very excited that their special horse Annie was voted the "Junior Breakaway Roping Horse of the Year" by their fellow competitors!



Nov-Dec Coffee Shop Artist: Holland Triemstra

Stop by the coffee shop now to see hand-made paper crafts by MCS sixth grade student, Holland Triemstra!

Want to WIN 12 FREE Drinks at the Coffee Shop?



Help Us Give the Coffee Shop a Name!

Scan the QR code to submit your idea! The Stewardship Committee is excited to hear your ideas; we will pick five to put to a public vote! Winner will be announced after Christmas Break to kick off the New Year!



Pictures from Expedition Yellowstone 2024



Upcoming Breaks to Note:

Thanksgiving Break will be Monday-Friday, November 25-29 and Christmas Break will be Friday, December 20 (half day) through Friday, January 3, 2025. Our offices will also be closed during this time.

Manhattan Christian H.S Basketball: 24-25

7-Dec	vs. Manhattan	CB,JVB,JVG,VB,VG	1/2:30/2:30/4/5:30
13-Dec	vs. Manhattan Bank Tip-Off	VB,VG, JVG, JVB	TBD
14-Dec	vs. Manhattan Bank Tip-Off	VB,VG, JVG, JVB	TBD
16-Dec	@ Gardiner	JVG,JVB,VG,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
3-Jan	@ White Sulphur Springs	JVG,JVB,VG,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
4-Jan	vs. Shields Valley	JVG,JVB,VG,VB	1/2:30/4/5:30
4-Jan	vs. Heritage	C	1
7-Jan	@ Heritage	CB,JVG,JVB	4/5:30/7
10-Jan	@ West Yellowstone	JVG,JVB,VG,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
14-Jan	vs Twin Bridges	JVG,JVB,VG,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
18-Jan	@ Jefferson	JVB,JVG,CB,VG,VB	1/2:30/2:30/4/5:30
21-Jan	vs GVHS	CB,JVG,JVB	4/5:30/7
23-Jan	@ Sheridan	JVB,VB	4/5:30
24-Jan	vs Townsend	CB,JVG,JVB,VG,VB	2:30/2:30/4/5:30/7
30-Jan	@ Manhattan	CB,JVG,JVB,VG,VB	2:30/2:30/4/5:30/7
31-Jan	vs Gardiner	JVB,JVG,VB,VG	2:30/4/5:30/7
4-Feb	@ Three Forks	CB,JVG, JVB, VG, VB	3/3/4:30/6/7:30
7-Feb	vs White Sulphur Springs	JVB,JVG,VB,VG	2:30/4/5:30/7
8-Feb	@ Shields Valley	JVB,JVG,VB,VG	1/2:30/4/5:30
11-Feb	@ Twin Bridges	JVG,VG	4/5:30
14-Feb	vs Jefferson (senior night)	CB,JVG,JVB,VB,VG	2:30/2:30/4/5:30/7
15-Feb	vs Three Forks	CB,JVB,VB	3/4:30/6
FEB. 20-22nd		DISTRICT 12C TOURNAMENT-Churchill (MEC)	
FEB. 26th-March 1st		WESTERN C DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT-Butte Civic Center	
MARCH 12th-15th		STATE C TOURNAMENT Butte Civic Center	

Always check our social media for game changes/updates.

HS Basketball Schedules

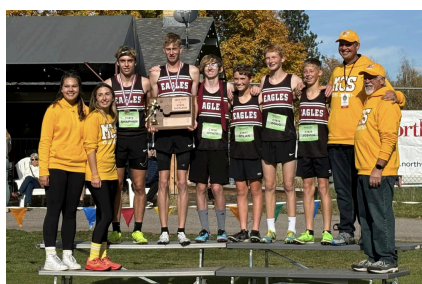
The ELC is Hiring!

The Early Learning Center is still looking to hire part-time and full-time caregivers.

Read a more complete job posting on our website under employment or email Sarah Fisher at sfisher@manhattanchristian.org if you or someone you know is interested!

APPLY NOW

Run for One, Run as One: MCS Cross Country Girls and Boys Place 3rd at State Meet



Nate Te Slaa, Head Cross Country Coach

This year was a great year for Manhattan Christian Cross Country. We had an amazing team. Our theme this year was "Run for One, run as One" from 1 Corinthians 1:10. Our team has kids from 5th grade all the way to Seniors, and we represented 2 different schools. We could have been divided, but we gelled well as a team. As the body of Christ it is not always so easy to put yourself out there for every one to see. Our runners invited all the runners in their respective races to come out and pray with us before the State races. It was a blessing to see so many people join in prayer. They showed unity throughout the cross country community.

Our girls team had two returners from last year: Lydia Visser and Nora Hope. We added Eliza Kimm, who went out for the first time this year. Bria and Harper Ohs transferred in from Harrison High School, and Emma Bos joined us from Petra Academy. Even with all these new people on the team, they quickly all came together to encourage each other and support each other in a difficult sport. We ended up with a third place trophy this year when we expected to get fourth. It came down to the tie breaker and we had a higher fourth place finisher than the other team. Bria Ohs also took home a 13th place finish to earn an All-State selection.

The boys team had mostly returning runners this year. Cavan Visser, Shaphan Hubner, Joshua Kimm, Wyatt Miller, and Dylan Poirier. These men ran hard all year long, and encouraged the younger kids to do their best. We ended up getting 3rd this year. Cavan Visser took second place and Shaphan Hubner took sixth place earning an All-State selections. These two men have been running with me since 5th grade. It was exciting to see how they finished so well.

I am also so thankful for our manager, Haley Sander. The coaches would have been lost without her this year. We had her doing so many thankless jobs, and running all over the course to get times. She would do everything with a smile, and was a true servant to us all.

Finally I would like to recognize John Scheffer affectionately known as "Scheff". He has been my mentor and friend for so many years. He started coaching five years before I was born and has been a fixture at Manhattan Christian Cross Country for 14 years. It was John who convinced me to first try coaching cross country. John keeps saying he is going to retire, but then he sees the middle school kids and how hard they work, and their love for running, and he decides to keep coming out. As you read in his piece last month, this is his 50th year of coaching, and we are so glad he is a part of our team.

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Help us share OUR STORY!








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-  Manhattan Christian Cross Country Teams
-  Manhattan Christian Eagles Volleyball
-  Manhattan Christian Lady Eagles Basketball Team
-  Manhattan Christian Eagles Boys Basketball
-  Manhattan Christian Eagles Track & Field
-  Manhattan Christian Eagles Golf



@manhattanchristianeagles on Instagram

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The Manhattan Christian Network on Spotify



Manhattan Christian School Foundation

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I wish to join the MCSF in the category listed below.

- ☐ \$100 Maintaining Level
- ☐ \$500 Sustaining Level
- ☐ \$1,000 Embracing Level

Name _____
Address _____
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Manhattan Christian School Foundation

Our mission is to lower tuition!

The Gift That Costs "Little" to Give *Charitable Deferred Payment Gift Annuity*

Pat and Stephanie: Ages 49/50

5% Stretch-Out Deferred Payment Gift Annuity

Cash-Funded \$10,000 DPGA commencing ages 88/87

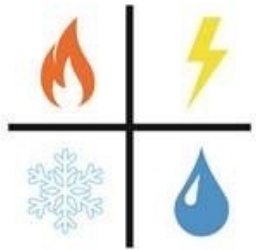
Federal Tax Savings (24% x \$5.906 federal deduction)	\$1,417
State Tax Credit (40% of federal deduction)	\$3,937
TOTAL TAX SAVINGS:	\$5,354

"Cost of creating a \$10,000 MCSF Endowment" **\$4,646**

*The actual federal deduction of \$9,843 must be reduced by the \$3,937 METC claimed.

Become a member today by filling out the form to the left or visiting our webpage at Manhattanchristian.org/support-mcs/mcs-foundation.

Contact Ron Hoekema at (406) 581-1460 with any questions or for more information.



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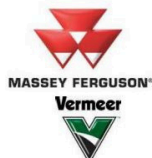
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