

ANNUAL REPORT  
2019 - 2020

# SN Z O E L A R S





# LETTER FROM LEGACY'S HEAD OF SCHOOL



The 2019-20 school year saw God's continued faithfulness to His school, Legacy's commitment to deliver its mission in an excellent way no matter the circumstance, faculty and staff's dedication to providing top-notch academic and spiritual growth to their students even if that was through distance learning, and the strength of the Legacy community.

God knew COVID-19 was coming; Legacy didn't. Yet because of who Legacy and its staff are, and the training and steadfastness that faculty had, we were equipped to walk through this challenge. In the midst of significant change, the students were resilient and valiant. Even in the midst of some loss, the students and staff embraced innovation, community, and learning in new ways and grew in many areas that would not have been possible if we were in traditional face-to-face learning. I praise God and am thankful to our community for the success we saw in our season of remote learning.

There are so many other things to celebrate in 2019-20 that happened around COVID-19 such as the completion of the new education wing, the academic and spiritual growth in our students, Legacy's re-accreditation through ACIS, our continued student growth and financial stability, and the new learning opportunities and programs that were added last year.

No matter the situation, Legacy is committed to living out its mission of equipping the mind and discipling the heart of each student for Christ-like living. In the midst of a culture that continues to deny truth and advocate for manmade answers, Legacy is committed to stand firm on God's Word as the truth and to teach the Gospel and God's biblical ways as the ultimate answer.

I hope you enjoy seeing how God is at work in the lives of our students and our community in our 2019-20 Annual Report.

*Jake Mulvihill*

JAKE MULVIHILL | Head of School

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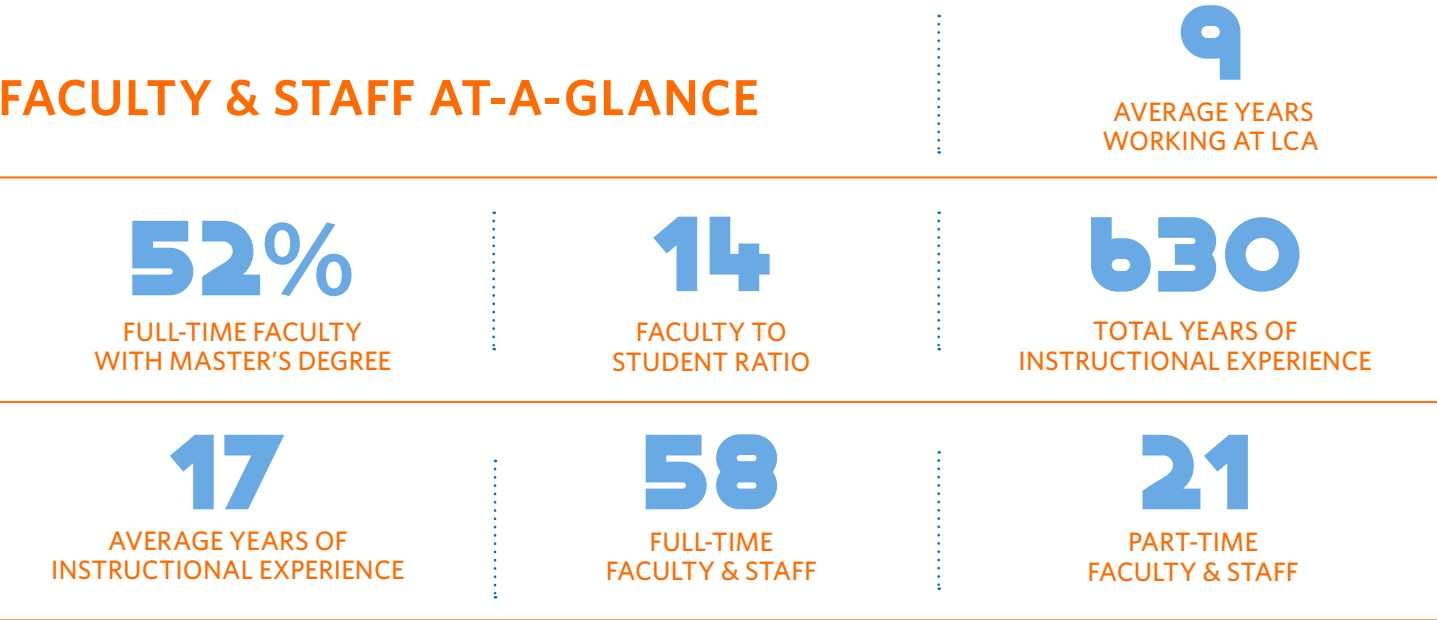


# LEGACY'S LEADERSHIP



FRONT L-R: MR. ROBERT LYNN ATKINSON, Executive Director of Operations | DR. SHAWN LOHSE, 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Principal | MRS. SARAH KLAWITER, Communications Director/Assistant Athletic Director  
BACK L-R: MR. JAKE MULVIHILL, Head of School | MRS. LYNDA DOMINO, Admissions Director/PreK Director | MR. NATHAN BELLEFEUILLE, Athletic Director | MRS. SUE HAPP, Advancement Director | MR. JOEL NYDAM, K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Principal | MR. TOM KEEFE, Student Life Director

## FACULTY & STAFF AT-A-GLANCE







## ENROLLMENT 2020-21

**632** STUDENTS

**75**  
PreK

**219**  
K-4<sup>th</sup> Grade

**172**  
5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**166**  
9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade



# GET TO KNOW LCA



## ADVANCEMENT 2019-20



**94**

MEMBERS OF THE INVESTMENT CIRCLE

(Legacy's leadership giving society)

Pray - Share - Give (\$1,000+)

**\$1.3**

MILLION - TOTAL GIVING

**256**

2019 MANE EVENT PARTICIPANTS



## FINE ARTS

**32**

PERFORMANCES  
Drama & Music Per Year

**12**

Band & Choir  
All-State Awards

**17**

Fine Arts  
Electives

**26**

Drama Spotlight  
Awards

## ACADEMICS

**137**

Different Colleges  
LCA Grads Have  
Attended

**57**

High School  
Courses  
Offered at LCA

**33**

College Credits  
Offered on  
Campus



## WHERE DO OUR GRADUATES GO?

**95%** College

**4%** Work, Missions,  
Junior Sports

**1%** Military



## AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

**18**  
K-4<sup>th</sup>

**21**  
5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**18**  
9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade

## COMMUNITY

**33**

Cities Represented

**124**

Churches Represented



## ATHLETICS

**70**

Conference  
Championships

**66**

All-State  
Awards

**27**

State Tournament  
Appearances

**4**

State  
Championships

**23**

HIGH SCHOOL  
SPORTS OFFERED  
7 Middle School



Legacy Christian Academy exists to equip the mind and disciple the heart of each student for Christ-like living.



Legacy Christian Academy fulfills its mission through focusing on our Core Values.

MISSION

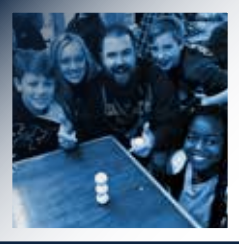
WE BELIEVE



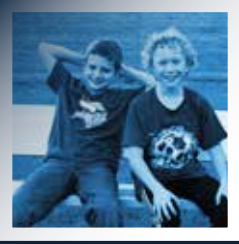
**CHRIST  
CENTERED**



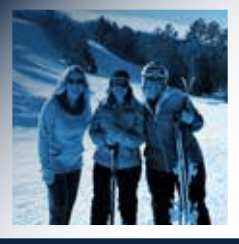
**ACADEMICALLY  
EXCELLENT**



**STUDENT  
FOCUSED**



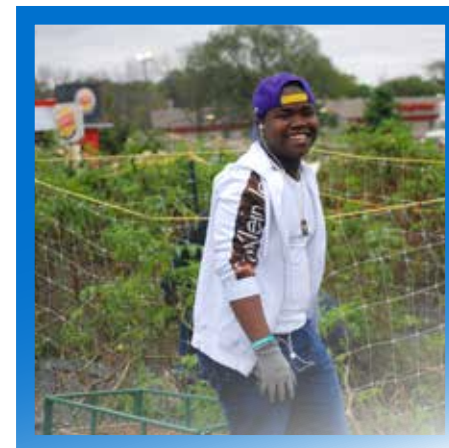
**STRONG  
RELATIONSHIPS**



**PARTNERING  
WITH PARENTS**



# CHRIST CENTERED



*Carlos harvesting for Loaves and Fishes.*

## NEW SERVICE DAY PARTNERSHIPS

At the end of our Spiritual Emphasis Week, our students had the opportunity to take the truths they had learned and apply them through various service sites. Service Day has traditionally been the hallmark experience of Spiritual Emphasis Week, and this year there was a desire to create more cohesion between Service Day and the mission of LCA through providing relational and interactive service opportunities for students in grades 7-12. To do so, LCA partnered with Youthworks with the goal of creating a bolstered Service Day experience for our students through connecting our school community to organizations doing good throughout the Twin Cities.

**7<sup>th</sup> graders »** packed health equipment that was delivered to Third World countries through Global Health Ministries

**8<sup>th</sup> graders »** spent the day at Redeemer Residence (a care facility) in Minneapolis.

**9<sup>th</sup> graders »** packed food with Sheridan Story

**10<sup>th</sup> graders »** helped harvest vegetables with Loaves and Fishes in Coon Rapids

**11<sup>th</sup> graders »** participated in the City Vision Tour

**12<sup>th</sup> graders »** served at the Salvation Army in Minneapolis

It was an unforgettable day, partnering with brothers and sisters in Christ, working together to be His hands and feet!

## BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW PARLIAMENT

As an all-day, final assessment in the Biblical Worldview course, teams of seniors compete in an interactive, parliamentary-style debate in which each team adopts a non-Christian worldview and speaks in that worldview's particular voice on a specific topic or current event. Then, the debate switches to critique those non-Christian worldviews and their respective positions from a biblical Christian worldview perspective. Students prepare for several weeks prior by reading primary and secondary sources of their adopted non-Christian worldview, carrying out intensive research on the debate topic, and preparing both pre-written statements and arguments to be used as needed. This assessment evaluates how "fluent" students' understanding of both the Christian worldview and their respective non-Christian worldview is, how developed their general skills are in gaining understanding of any worldview or topic, and how thoughtful they are in crafting an opinion or response to those worldviews and topics through the lens of a biblical Christian worldview once those things are properly understood.

There are two Worldview Parliaments during the course: one at the midpoint and one at the end. While students are usually quite anxious leading up to the first Parliament, by the day's end, they are excited for the second. This final assessment challenges students to think on their feet in real-time from a biblical worldview perspective about topics and events that all Christians must carefully consider and speak to.



"MR. MCGOWAN'S BIBLICAL

WORLDVIEW PARLIAMENT

CLASS WAS THE BEST COURSE

I'VE TAKEN. IT WAS VERY

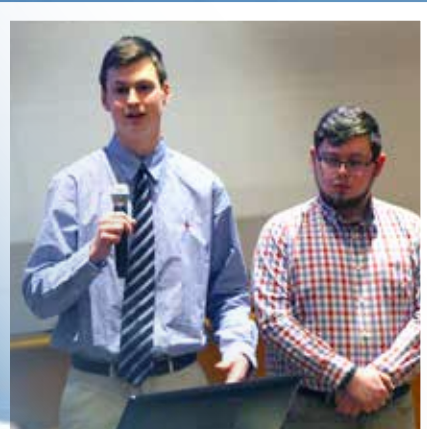
ENRICHING AND INTERACTIVE;

I FELT LIKE A SPONGE

SOAKING UP WATER."

*Addy, Class of 2021*





## MASKED READER

A popular annual event for the K-4<sup>th</sup> grade students occurs during February for the "I Love to Read Challenge." Decorations and special Friday fun days highlight the weekly challenges for students to read as many minutes as possible. This year the students were challenged to read over **90,000** minutes to see Mr. Nydam and Mr. Mulvihill complete a Polar Plunge in Crooked Lake.

The challenge this year included the Masked Reader. Patterned after the popular show, The Masked Singer, the amazing teachers put on their own Masked Reader story time for the elementary students.

In the end, the students read more than **110,000** minutes, guessed what teachers were which Masked Reader (see video), and saw Mr. Nydam and Mr. Mulvihill get drenched in the ice cold water.



"I THOUGHT IT WAS REALLY FUN THAT WE GOT TO GUESS WHICH TEACHER WAS BEHIND THE MASK AND CHANT FOR THEIR REVEAL LIKE THEY DO ON THE MASKED SINGER TV SHOW."

*Wyatt, Class of 2029*



JAKE/JOEL  
POLAR PLUNGE  
VIDEO



MASKED  
READER  
VIDEO

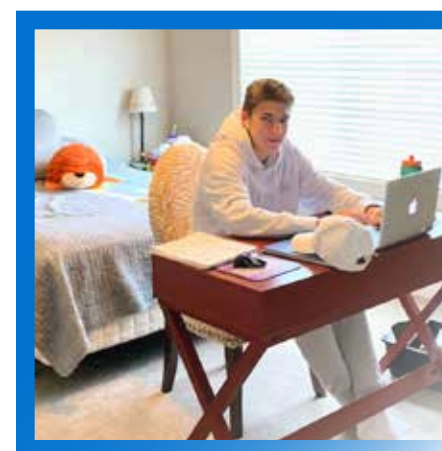
# ACADEMICALLY EXCELLENT

## GOING THE DISTANCE

Distance learning was a new experience for our community. COVID-19 brought Legacy students and teachers new opportunities to use technology and platforms for learning and growth.

The distance learning program was designed with our mission in mind. Students attended synchronous classes on Zoom, Monday-Thursday, interacting LIVE with their teachers and classmates. Students participated in group work, lectures, video projects, and even science labs, proving that learning together is valuable, and our students and teachers can create a dynamic learning environment anywhere and everywhere.

Fridays focused on community. We learn together, but we also share our lives together as a community at Legacy. Community Fridays entailed engaging chapel lessons for elementary with Mr. Keefe and Mr. Nydam, along with student-led worship and secondary staff interviews that gave students an inside look on their journey to a relationship with Christ. Other Friday events included fort building, science experiments at home, art afternoons, and cooking shows. Fridays were busy, but at Legacy, we take together, apart, seriously.



*Charlie set up for distance learning.*



# STUDENT FOCUSED



## DESIGN THINKING

We have all heard the statement that schools are working to prepare students for jobs that don't yet exist. As teachers and staff wrestled with that thought, we narrowed the focus down to the question of how do we help students be critical thinkers and problem solvers. What if there is a proven method to help teach students a process of thinking that can be applied to many situations. From that came the partnership with the company Incubate to Innovate.

Through great staff development opportunities, teachers began applying the Design Thinking process to many lessons as students were challenged to Imagine, Create, Collaborate and Connect. These keywords inspired teachers like Kim Zieroth (1<sup>st</sup> grade) to make STEM/Engineering bins for the students to build and design as they started their school day, Jaci Bock (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade math) to guide students in creating a Cube City project, and Josh Coleman (high school science) to facilitate a group of creators in making robotic inventions to accomplish a specific task.

We are excited to see the many continued benefits of the creativeness of each teacher to help students build upon their God-given gifts and talents as they continue to design!

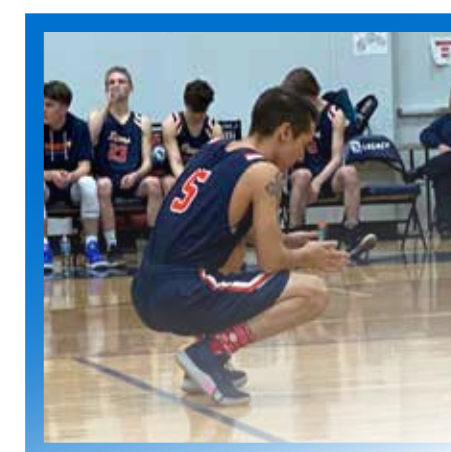


Cube City project



KNOCK/UNLOCK  
VIDEO

## BASKETBALL RISES ABOVE



Primeau leads through example.

The 2019-20 Legacy Boys Basketball team had a goal to "add to the bucket" every day and change the future of the boys basketball program. They did that and more by having a record breaking season and, with their first section championship appearance since 2004 on the calendar, were positioned to be Legacy's first ever state tournament boys basketball team. Their dreams, and those of hundreds of high school students, were cut short when the MSHSL suddenly cancelled all winter sports, including girls and boys post-season basketball due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Upon hearing this devastating news, Legacy's senior basketball players were the first to step in with encouraging words of faith in a steady stream of text messages to players. The boys learned first hand that their identity was not found in the game of basketball, but in Christ alone. Coach Bellefeuille shared, *"The way our seniors responded to this adversity showed the lessons we are teaching are resonating with our players. They knew that whether or not we won the game, we had already accomplished our mission of playing for Christ and for each other."*

"ENJOY EVERY MOMENT

BECAUSE GOD'S PLAN MAY

NOT BE THE PLAN WE WERE

HOPING FOR, BUT I WILL

CHERISH EVERY MOMENT

WE HAD TOGETHER."

*Carson, Class of 2020*



# STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

## CAPTURING KIDS HEARTS

*1 Thessalonians 2:8, "So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us."*

The beginning of August, all Legacy staff members were trained in the Capturing Kids' Hearts program. Staff became more unified in practice, and the outcome was a positively impacted school culture and climate. The program outlines a process staff can use to help build meaningful connections between staff and students, students and their peers, and between staff and families. The goal is to capture kids' hearts in order to capture their minds, as we share our lives together. Research shows that when students feel more connected and have strong relationships with their school and staff, they achieve higher academic success and are less likely to have behavioral concerns. Students thrive when they feel cared for and engaged.

Students were greeted at the door, used the beginning of the class to foster connection, created agreements for their classrooms, and used common hand signals, allowing our school to unify in expectations and accountability. We are excited to see our relationships grow deeper through this program as we continue implementation.



Creating community outside the classroom.



## PARADE ANYONE?

PreK graduation is always a special event. When COVID-19 threatened to take away our opportunity to celebrate, the PreK teachers got creative and a drive-through celebration parade plan was put into action.

Dressed in real caps and gowns and riding in decorated cars, families drove through stations where teachers handed out treats, blow-horns, and bubbles and decorated car windows. An Anoka County Sheriff Deputy, followed by Legacy's school bus, led the parade of decorated cars down Bunker Lake Blvd for a special stop at Anoka High School, where the Anoka Fire Department awaited their arrival with ladder extended.

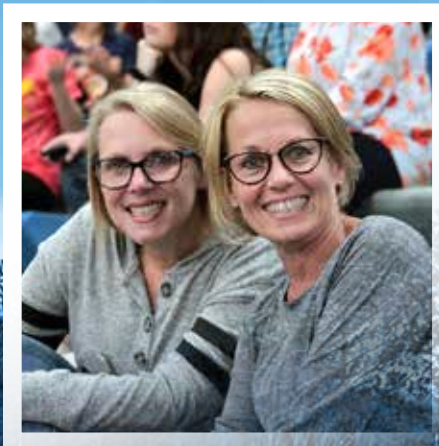
Donning fancy face coverings, our PreK Director, Head of School, and Elementary Principal all greeted and celebrated each young graduate throughout this fun event. Approximately 50 cars of PreK graduates participated in this unique celebration which sparked similar parking lot parades for 4<sup>th</sup> grade graduation and cap and gown pickup for the Class of 2020.

"DESPITE A VIRUS, IT  
WAS OUR HEARTS DESIRE  
TO REMIND EACH PRE-K  
GRADUATE OF HOW  
SPECIAL OUR TIME WAS  
WITH THEM."

Lynda Domino, PreK Director



# PARTNERING WITH PARENTS



## SAFETY & SECURITY AT SCHOOL: BEYOND PHYSICAL

On end-of-year surveys, parents continually share that safety and security is one of the top reasons they choose Legacy Christian Academy for their children. We often think of safety and security in terms of brick and mortar, locks and window coverings, alarms and communications, and we are investing in those areas each year. Enhancements were made and planned during the 2019-20 school year in partnership with the Department of Homeland Security, who ranked Legacy high in our security protocol. Those enhancements included a new check-in system for all visitors, better camera coverage outside of the building, a mass communication mobile application for staff, and a new paging system.

While all of those enhancements are important, we know that safety and security of students goes much deeper. The social and emotional environment that students learn in is just as important as their physical space. Parent Tracy Daum recently shared how their family's move to Legacy has dramatically changed their daughter for the better. From sad and lonely, feeling misunderstood and left out to embraced, challenged, and loved. Here is a snippet of her story:



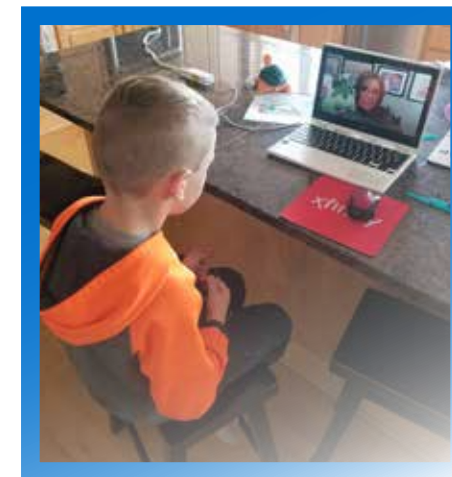
Elyse, Rilee & Olivia

*"Two years ago, Olivia was in a sad place. A life changing diagnosis of cold urticaria forced her to quit hockey which was her thing for as long as she could remember. She tried softball, but again was forced out due to her health. The friends she made in these activities moved on without her and anxiety set in. We knew as Olivia's parents it was time for a change, and God led us to Legacy. This step of faith has truly been a new start to life for Olivia! She has flourished in every aspect here, loves God fiercely and can share that with her FRIENDS and teammates! The community has embraced her just the way she is, and her friends have looked out for her, learned alongside her, and loved her unconditionally! They encouraged her to try volleyball and basketball which she has found to love just as much as hockey! We are so thankful for this school, her teammates, friends, and our community, but most of all...Him! The Lord knew exactly what her heart and body needed! Her faith has cured her anxiety and she has found peace and joy in her day."*

– Steve & Tracy Daum

## HIDDEN BLESSINGS AMIDST "CORONA SCHOOL"

*How one kindergarten teacher taught the whole family - By Dennis Zwirchitz*



Finnegan's virtual Bible lesson with Mrs. Henderson.

Have you ever experienced something so extravagant, so beautiful, you wish all your friends and family were there? Well, that is exactly what happened when Mrs. Henderson came into our home via Zoom everyday during distance learning to teach Bible to our son Finnigan. Mrs. Henderson did not let distance learning get in the way of communicating the love of Jesus to LCA's kindergarteners...and their families. You see, what Mrs. Henderson did not plan on when the 2019-20 school year began was by March she would be team-teaching with LCA's two other kindergarten teachers. Everyday Mrs. Henderson was coming into the homes of all 45 LCA kindergarteners via pre-recorded Bible lessons. Oh, how I wish you were there. So captivating! Her expository storytelling was unlike anything I had ever experienced before. So mesmerizing, both my wife and I found ourselves pausing our busy lives to be still, to watch and listen, to hear a story about Jesus. The inflection in her voice, the twinkle in her eye, her calm commanding presence, how she moved about the story narrating as she went, it was magical! You see, that was the hidden blessing, Finnigan never would have had Mrs. Henderson for Bible last year if there was no distance-learning. And I would have never had the opportunity to sit in Mrs. Henderson's class and experience the love, commitment, and dedication to excellence in equipping the mind and discipling the heart of my son if there was no quarantine. And for that I am grateful.



# MANE | MOMENTS

## 2019-2020



MINNESOTA CLASSIC  
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

1



2



3



4



17



18



19



20



21



22



COMMUNITY  
FRIDAYS

23



VIRTUAL  
SENIOR CHAPEL

24



25



26



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13



14



15



16

1. MCAA becomes Minnesota Classic Athletic Association.
2. Legacy Launches 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Chapel Leadership Program.
3. Mane Event raises over \$23,000 with over 330 participants.
4. Middle School STEM Club encourages students to improve teamwork/leadership skills and learn about the engineering design process in its first year at Legacy.
5. Legacy and Youthworks partner to provide service opportunities that are local, compelling, and authentic.
6. Middle School Boys Soccer Team claims NSPSL JV championship.
7. Volleyball named MCAA Conference Champions for the first time in 10 years.
8. Marine Veteran Peter Wojciechowski shares personal testimony for Veterans Day.
9. Legacy affirmed 15 students as new members to the National Honor Society and recognized additional 9 seniors previously inducted.
10. PreK and first grade students partnered to design, draw blueprints, and determine a materials list for building gingerbread men traps using Design Thinking methods.
11. Fifth graders jump into PreK construction unit and explain different aspects of a construction zone including: workers, tools, vehicles, and equipment.
12. Middle School music students nominated for honors band and choir.
13. Mrs. Albinson's 5<sup>th</sup> grade students find new success with Super Slime Sale.
14. Mrs. Niessen's class serves with heart during Random Acts of Crazy Kindness Week.
15. Homecoming 2020 brings the entire student body together for pep rally.
16. Legacy competes in inaugural Speech season.
17. Head of School and Elementary Principal take the Polar Plunge for I Love to Read Month.
18. Legacy has fun with Head of School's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.
19. Band and choir students hit the slopes after performing on their Michigan Tour.
20. Legacy Boys Basketball named Section 4A Co-Champions; breaking 6 team records.
21. Legacy goes the distance during COVID-19 remote learning spring.
22. Baseball players and parents honor Class of 2020 and spring athletes by flooding the baseball field with light during #BeTheLight movement.
23. Community Fridays keep us together while we're apart.
24. Seniors use humor to entertain for their virtual Senior Chapel.
25. Legacy celebrates end of unique school year with fantastic parking lot parades.
26. Legacy named Best Private School in Anoka County for the 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.



# BEYOND imagination

Our new Education Wing, spanning 33,000 square feet, will allow for the Legacy student body to grow to 720 students.



THE COMMONS provides the Legacy community a space in which to interact and connect relationally with one another on campus while providing flexible learning and meeting areas.



The INNOVATION LAB and BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER offer our students cutting edge spaces to make real world connections, explore career opportunities, and experience the practical application of life skills. Innovation classes were implemented in 2020-21 for 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade as well as a new Robotics program for the High School and Science and Engineering Club and a new Engineering class for the Middle School.



SCIENCE LABS are designed to promote an atmosphere of hands-on, experiential learning and scientific exploration. This addition allows us to add an Introduction to Healthcare Course at the secondary level and give 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade a dedicated Science Lab downstairs that includes water and gas.

The high ceilings and natural light in the dedicated ART ROOMS will inspire students to creatively experience and express God's world. There is space specifically set up for ceramics, including the glazing and firing process.



New LOCKER ROOMS and an expansive WEIGHT ROOM will serve to enhance our athletic and P.E. programs. An entire class or team can now work out together. These additions also allow for designated middle and high school Locker Rooms.



BAND AND MUSIC ROOMS are acoustically set up to enhance the PreK-12 music programs. We added a Music Production Studio and accompanying classes to train students how to produce and record music. These rooms opened up the school side Chapel to be dedicated space for the theatre program.



## STRATEGIC PLAN

*Moving forward  
in year four...*

- Introduce Legacy's K-12<sup>th</sup> grade leadership program that will help students learn how to influence others through Christ-like character, conviction, and self-sacrifice.
- Launch Legacy's discipleship program that entails life-on-life staff mentorship with opportunities for students to personally own and pass on one's faith.
- Implement a new Middle School and High School schedule designed to meet the specific needs and student outcomes at both levels.
- Expand our design thinking student learning opportunities that emphasize problem solving, creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, real world connections, and exploratory learning.



# CAMPAIGN GIVING update

Capital Campaign and Fill The House Campaign *through June 2020*

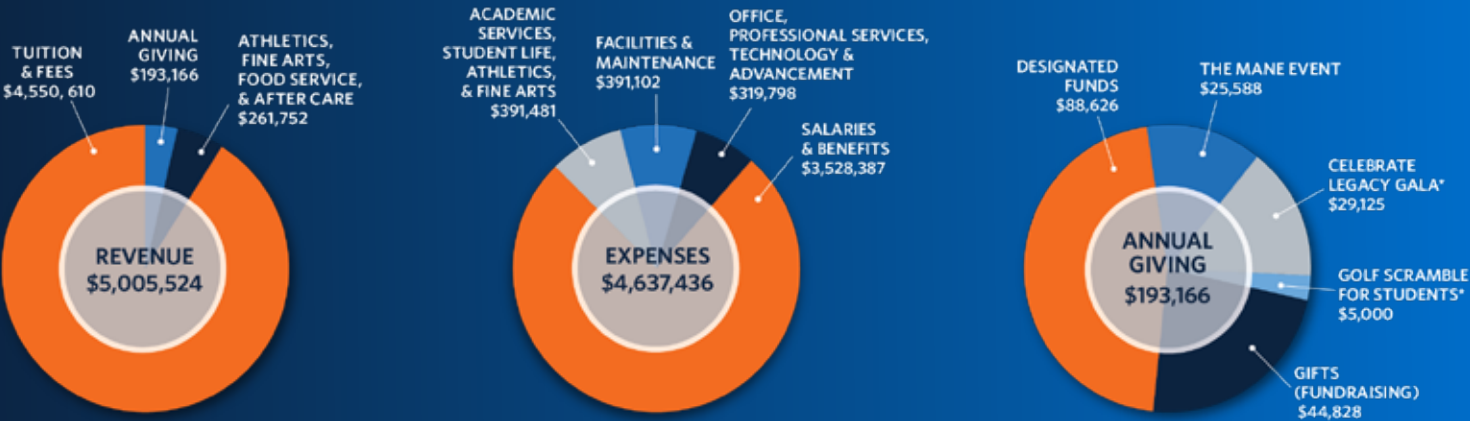
GIFTS COMMITTED **\$5,973,312**

GIFTS RECEIVED\* **\$4,853,564**

PLEDGES OUTSTANDING\*\* **\$1,190,634**

*\*Includes gifts above original pledge amounts. | \*\*To be completed by June 2021.*

## FINANCIAL recap 2019-2020



*\*Events canceled due to COVID-19. Gifts still received.*



Despite a challenging year, we still have much to celebrate! Gifts of time, influence, and resources have had a dramatic positive impact on our students! In a season when public gatherings were discouraged, we lost the opportunity to come together at significant fundraising events. Our Celebrate Legacy Gala was canceled, the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Scramble for Students was postponed, and many in our community faced financial uncertainty. Despite these hardships, God continued to bless Legacy’s finances through your generosity and support, raising over **\$1.3 MILLION** in Annual Fund Giving, Capital Campaign Giving, and designated gifts received.



We are grateful for the commitment of parents, grandparents, alumni, staff, and friends that is essential to helping Legacy thrive. When we join together, we make extraordinary things happen for our students. Every gift demonstrates a commitment to the importance of preparing our students to become biblically grounded, faithful servant leaders.

Let’s celebrate the incredible generosity that has impacted our current and future students this past year! We thank God for His faithfulness and blessings and for your investment in our mission!

May you get a sense of joy and pride that you are a part of a community that has given and continues to give so faithfully and generously.

If you have a gift to give or questions about giving at Legacy, please contact Advancement Director Sue Happ at 763.427.4595.

“We are grateful for the commitment of parents, grandparents, alumni, staff, and friends that is essential to helping Legacy thrive. When we join together, we make extraordinary things happen for our students.”



# SCHOOL BOARD insight



Jason Sharp  
Chairman of the Board  
(2014 to Present)



Jim Johnson  
(2014 to Present)



Ben Minks  
(2016 to Present)



Brian Bovee  
(2018 to Present)



Dennis Zwirchitz  
(2018 to Present)



Peggy Scott  
(2019 to Present)



Scott Colestock  
(2019 to Present)

Dear Legacy family,

There is no doubt that the 2019-20 school year had a challenging ending for all of us at Legacy Christian Academy. But the beauty of our mission and the reason for our existence reminds us that God is sovereign over all that is happening (Ephesians 1:11) and that we can have hope in the midst of the challenges that life brings us (John 16:33).

So, with that in mind, we the Board have escalated our commitment to invest in the mission of our school to equip the mind and disciple the heart of each student for Christ-like living. We believe that there has never been a time in history where the need to accomplish this mission has been more important to the well-being and purpose of our children and to our country.

We are so grateful for our amazing staff and administrators who are on the front lines of this battle and doing an incredible job amid incredibly challenging circumstances. The Board wants you to know that we are fighting this battle with you and we are here to support you in any way we can! We ask that our families join us in praying for the staff and administrators daily and to thank and encourage them whenever they have the chance to do so.

To our families, we want to thank you for choosing to make the sacrifices you do to send your children to Legacy. We want to assure you that our Leadership Team and staff are working their hardest to honor the investment you are making in your children and that each family is valued and important to our community as the body of Christ.

God is always working for our good (Romans 8:28) and it has been amazing for us as a Board to see that play out over the last year at Legacy. Thank you for allowing us the privilege to serve you in this way. We are honored to do so.

Brian Bovee | Vice-Chairman

"God is always working for our good and it has been amazing for us as a Board to see that play out over the last year at Legacy."



what it takes to  
be accredited

# ACSI

Following a nearly two-year process of reflection and self-analysis, Legacy Christian Academy received its recommendation for a five-year accreditation renewal on November 6, 2019. Under the leadership of Jake Mulvihill, Merry Kowalchuk, and Chris Davis, administrators, faculty, staff, parents, and students were all initially involved in a self study process. This two-year self study process culminated with a three-day on-site visit from November 3-6 by a team of educators and administrators from other Christian schools.

The visiting team, consisting of both Christian educators and administrators with a variety of expertise, is tasked with providing valuable feedback to the school. The visiting team's purpose is to:

- Validate the school's self study report
- Confirm that the school is being true to its mission
- Evaluate the school's level of compliance with quality accreditation standards
- Assess the school's continuous improvement process
- Commend the strengths of the school
- Provide valuable feedback through clear recommendations for improvement
- Make a recommendation for accreditation to the Commission on Accreditation

Following a review of the evidence presented, the visiting accreditation team affirmed Legacy's commitment to meeting or exceeding the eight standards established by ACSI to indicate highly functioning and robust Christian education. Following one

final review by the ACSI accreditation board, Legacy is now re-accredited through 2024.

As part of the process, Legacy was also able to retain its dual-accreditation status with Cognia (formerly AdvancEd). Being dually accredited by these two agencies indicates a school meets high standards of quality, and these standards have been verified by others.

Students who attend accredited schools find it easier to transfer from school to school, are recognized by colleges and universities (both inside and out of their home state), and often have access to a wider range of scholarships. Accreditation also signifies that a school has met institutional standards of quality and has verified its commitment to strategic, continuous, and systemic school improvement. The daily efforts of our faculty and staff to equip minds and disciple hearts is a significant contributing factor to achieving the high standards of excellence represented through the accreditation process.





# highlights

## JOHN KINGHORN '95 | Vice President Operations at Kinghorn Construction

We are so excited to bring you this alumni feature, which is a 100% original interview by Legacy student Torah Jones '27. In January 2020, Torah published this interview with Legacy Alumni and Kinghorn Construction VP of Operations, John Kinghorn '95 as part of her Kids News publication.

**TJ:** Tell us a little about your childhood. Where did you grow up and what did you do?

**JK:** I grew up in Coon Rapids. I went to Meadow Creek Christian School. We lived on the Mississippi River in Coon Rapids so I spent a lot of time in the river as my pool. We also had a farm in Rogers.

**TJ:** Did you dream of being a construction worker?

**JK:** Not a construction worker. When I was younger, I'd always kind of wanted to be an architect. And then, after high school, I got into the Trades and I liked working with my hands. That kind of evolved into learning the carpentry trade and then from there I got a degree in Construction Management.

**TJ:** What is the biggest building you've ever built?

**JK:** The biggest building that our team has built was a 24 million dollar FedEx facility in Rogers. There was over 300,000 square feet.

"When you know what you want to get out of something, you're motivated to pay attention and do well."

— John Kinghorn



**TJ:** What's your favorite room in Legacy's new addition?

**JK:** The innovation lab. You can build things and work on things and create. I think the band and art rooms upstairs are pretty cool as well.

**TJ:** If you had one choice, what would you add to the building?

**JK:** I suppose if I had one wish for the whole thing, I would wish it to be larger!

**TJ:** Do you have any advice for kids?

**JK:** Don't be afraid to go into the Trades. You can be very successful. When I got out of high school I had no idea what I wanted to do so I spent two winters out in Colorado being a ski bum working for a ski resort. I came back, worked for a residential construction company for a while until I figured out what I wanted to do. Once I figured it out, I started doing well in school.

## CORBEN LEO '17 |

Without the 1:1 laptop initiative at Legacy, Corben may have never discovered cybersecurity!

As a freshman, he used a school issued laptop, but quickly became frustrated by the restrictions that prevented students from installing productivity-killing applications and websites such as Youtube and gaming websites. He went to work figuring out a way to bypass the restrictions and became the administrator of his own laptop...from there the possibilities were endless. Upon discovering his untapped potential, Legacy administrators assigned him work hours with the Director of Technology in lieu of detention. This experience helped shape his heart and redirected his focus in a positive direction which led to his involvement

Owner: Lynx Security/Computer Coder/Ethical Hacker/Entrepreneur  
College Student: Dakota State University, Madison, SD

"After grinding on it for a month, I placed first and was invited to attend the grand opening of Tatooine, the Defense Digital Service and Army Cyber Command's new collaboration space in Augusta, Georgia. I spoke on a panel, did a Q&A in front of a few hundred people, and also got a pretty cool award." — Corben Leo



with HackerOne and the "Hack the Army 2.0" challenge. This five week challenge encouraged ethical hackers to find vulnerabilities in Army systems.



FOR THE SHORT STORY ON CORBEN'S JOURNEY TO ETHICAL HACKER scan this QR code and hear all about it in his own words in an interview with HackerOne.

# CLASS OF

How the class of 2020 described their class in one word...

committed  
blessed  
community  
amazing  
crazy  
fun  
friendships  
entertaining  
unforgettable  
tenacious  
adventurous  
surprising  
enriching  
family  
home



WATCH THE CLASS OF 2020 VIDEO!

37 graduates  
38% were "Originals" (attending K-12)  
44% were serving youth and missions  
5,700 hours serving or mentoring  
15 graduated with honors (GPA of 3.5+)  
12 National Honor Society members  
\$2.6 million offered in post-graduation scholarships  
363 college credits earned in onsite PSEO  
5 students that achieved an ACT score of 28 or higher  
3,000+ hours of distance learning screen time  
24 All Conference/All Conference Honorable Mention awards  
2 Conference Championships  
2 State Tournament appearances  
10 members involved in recognized productions/Hennepin Theatre Trust Award Winners





**LEGACY**  
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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## PROFILE OF A GRADUATE

Biblically grounded, disciples of Christ

Faithful and courageous, servant leaders

Intellectually prepared, accomplished learners

Morally disciplined, students of character

God-glorifying, Spirit-led worshippers

Our Profile of a Legacy Graduate explains our desired student outcomes and as a result impacts the way we teach our classes, invest in our students, and make decisions. Legacy recognizes that achieving these outcomes in the lives of LCA students is impossible without the commitment of the students and the help of the Holy Spirit. Legacy will partner with parents; create an academically excellent, Christ-centered environment; provide opportunities for growth; and plant the seeds for God to transform and work in the lives of our students.