

A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR TPCA'S FUTURE

Providing the Tools for a Transforming Education

(Presented to the school family on October 12, 2004)

The question that drives strategic planning

After 28 years, what should Traders Point Christian Academy do to assure a strong education for every student far into the future?

TPCA's mission is

To challenge and educate students within the framework of a Biblical worldview while leading them to a personal faith and transformed life in Jesus Christ.

The strategic planning process

- Was charged to plot a three to five year course that would lead TPCA into a strong and stable service to students, parents, and the community.
- Was built on the accreditation self-study completed in the fall of 2002.
- Involved dozens of parents and church leaders in the SWOT process.
- Studied the school's present and future.
- Resulted in 11 initiatives grouped in 4 target areas of the school's operation.

Target area #1: To glorify God

That our faculty, students, and parents are recognized for living out the biblical values of Christian love, leadership, servanthood, and generosity in school, church, and community.

Initiatives:

- To enhance leadership development & selfless service among students
- To increase student involvement in ministry opportunities
- To meet & exceed accreditation recommendations & requirements

What has been accomplished:

- All students are involved in supporting children around the world through giving
- Christian service is now required for middle school students & has been increased for all students
- State accreditation has been renewed & national accreditation requirements are being addressed

Target area #2: To instruct students

That our programs and facilities enable students to reach the best possible performance within a strong academic atmosphere.

Initiatives:

- To maintain high academic standards.
- To enhance science instruction for all age groups
- To design facilities that provide the best possible learning environment
- To investigate the addition of a high school to complete the educational program

What has been accomplished

- Academic effectiveness is reviewed annually with specific review being given to science in 2004-05
- Options for moving to a free-standing building have been considered & a feasibility study completed of the current Lafayette Road site
- A feasibility study regarding starting a high school has been launched

Target area #3: To steward resources

That our management of resources create a stable operational environment through good stewardship of time and finances.

Initiatives:

- To improve fiscal planning & management for long term stability
- To enhance fundraising efforts to fund new facilities & specific programs
- To implement an improved marketing plan for increased visibility
- To attract & retain students as the foundation for future growth

What has been accomplished:

- The first deposits have been made into a long term stability fund
- A Director of Development has been hired
- The school's marketing efforts have been enhanced & increased
- Enrollment in middle school has reached record levels

Target area #4: To develop staff

That our faculty and staff be drawn to and retained by a commitment to educational excellence, positive Christian environment, continuing education, and competitive compensation.

Initiatives:

- To provide TPCA staff with an improved wage & benefits package
- To expand professional growth through continuing educational opportunities
- To enhance instruction with better resources & tools

What has been accomplished:

- The first steps in improving staff compensation have been taken
- Grants have funded a collaborative relationship with Indiana Wesleyan University for professional development
- Planning & funding have been increased for educational resources & tools

The next big questions

What kind of facilities will it take for our students to reach the best possible performance in a strong academic atmosphere?

What we have done to answer that question

- We had the current Lafayette Road facility thoroughly studied for long term adaptability – in other words, could it be used for as a school building for up to 10 years?
- We asked if the Lafayette Road building was truly adequate as an educational facility, even after modifications – in other words, should we put money into the old TPCC building for use as a school?
- We compared the information we received from these studies to the cost of a new free-standing school building – in other words, is it best for us to stay at Lafayette Road or move to a new site?

The school board's conclusions at the end of this study

1. Based on TPCA's strategic plan, the school should have its own building at the new TPCC site (this assumes that early childhood will be contained in the new TPCC building).
2. Based on TPCA's academic goals, the school should build a facility that supports effective education.
3. Based on TPCA's desire to relocate as soon as possible, the school should begin a capital campaign within the next year.

4. Based on TPCA's desire to add programs (such as high school), any new building should be constructed so that it can be easily expanded.

What is the status of these plans

1. The church has finalized the purchase of 90 acres at Indianapolis Blvd. and State Road 334 and has agreed to make room for the school at that site.
2. The school board has established a Build Team which coordinated the feasibility study and will lead into the next steps of planning.
3. The school has a designated building fund in place with a balance of \$88,651.
4. School leadership will soon seek input and identify the requirements that are needed in a facility to house the school.
5. An architect will be hired to design a building that meets these requirements.
6. The school's new Development Team will start designing a capital campaign that can meet this challenge.

What will it take to complete this plan?

- Generosity – There are many who will help us reach the financial goals.
- Advocacy – There are many who will share TPCA's story with others.
- Prayer – There are many who will pray daily for God's help with these goals.

How can you help?

- Please pray!
- Consider sharing your talents on the various teams that will be involved.
- Consider hosting "TPCA Family Gatherings" this coming winter.
- Begin thinking of ways you can help the school realize the goal of building a new facility.