



Our Greatest Gifts: A Capital Fund Campaign for Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ

A Joint Statement of Support, For Fully Funding *Our Greatest Gifts* Campaign, From the Boards of Sioux Falls Lutheran School, and Lutheran High School of Sioux Falls

We agree with Rev. Scott Sailer, President of the South Dakota District, LCMS, who wrote at the beginning of this campaign:

This is a Gospel project! And now is the time to move forward with “Our Greatest Gifts” Campaign!

Looking ahead to the completion of a new building for SFLS and, ultimately, for Lutheran High School of Sioux Falls, I foresee more children and families, more in our community and more in the world, impacted with the Savior’s love than we are able to impact now. What greater Gift can there be, when we share Our Greatest Gifts?”

Together, our boards are thankful to all of the first-year campaign donors and to the unanticipated generosity of Sanford Health of 30 acres of land, with a matching gift of up to 5 million dollars.

- Through the efforts of our donors, the campaign received \$2.6 million in pledges, including over \$1 million in cash during year one. In many ways, this commitment inspired Sanford Health to help advance the construction timetable. Sanford will match these previous pledges 1 to 1, bringing our campaign total to \$5.2 million so far.
- We now have this incredible opportunity, this unimagined potential: *If enough new funds can be raised, we can soon impact, as President Sailer predicted, more children, more families, more in our community and more in the world, with the Savior’s love.*
- Together, with a God that, working through us, does more than we can ask or imagine, (Eph. 3:20), we can realize a long-standing dream of caring for, serving, and educating children from birth through 12th grade on one campus, in Christ’s name and for His sake.¹

¹ The vision from the beginning, set forth in our pre-campaign *case statement*, was this: “a successful SFLS capital campaign could provide for future facility space for a comprehensive infant to 12th grade school.” The *OGG* campaign vision is “a personalized, high-quality, Christ-centered educational experience in an innovative environment that contains adequate space, inside and out,” in 3 phases:

Phase 1—purchase enough land to house a combined campus—Thirty acres was generously donated by Sanford Health. However, substantial platting, access, and utility costs remain.

Phase 2—expansion of early childhood programs and childcare, accommodation of K-8, plus enhanced facilities that included a high-school sized gymnasium, Chapel/Performing Arts Center—Because of the generosity of our donors, the SH gift of land and match of up to \$5 million, Phase 1 will be accomplished and Phase 2 will start—completion will require raising additional funds.

Phase 3—which includes accommodating high school classrooms, certainly now seems more attainable, sooner, with a united push for additional funds before construction costs rise.

We agree that this campaign, with this match, presents the best opportunity for our two Lutheran Schools to fulfill this Gospel mission—for the children, families, and community in the Sioux Falls/Tea/Harrisburg metro area—and now is the best time is to complete this project.

Together, we have three challenges: (1) Matching: Sanford will match the next \$1.2 million raised, 2 to 1, up to \$5 million. (2) Completing Phase 2: If we can raise more than \$1.2 million, to complete Phase 2, SFLS could occupy a new facility by the Fall of 2019, and LHSSF would have access to athletic fields, a high-school-sized gymnasium, a Chapel/Performing Arts Center, for worship, music, plays. (3) Commencing Phase 3: High School classrooms and administrative offices would give LHSSF a personal presence and identity on campus. We believe, we can best raise these funds together, now, before costs keep rising.²

We are resolute in moving forward, together, with these three funding challenges. Therefore, we, the Boards of Sioux Falls Lutheran and Lutheran High School of Sioux Falls, jointly, humbly, ask that you prayerfully consider a first, or a second, campaign gift that would help fulfill this once in a lifetime legacy—a vision fulfilling a Gospel mission of sharing Christ with the world.³

In Christ’s love, and for His sake,

Sioux Falls Lutheran School Board
Scott Peters, Chair
Clara Johnson, Faith
Scott Peters, Faith
Mary Ellen Heirigs, Lord of Life
Heidi Jerke, Lord of Life
Jay Prouty, Memorial
Tom Sohre, Memorial
Melissa Greenwaldt, Our Redeemer
Kent Harnisch, Resurrection
Al Schmuck, Resurrection

Lutheran High School of Sioux Falls Board
Carol Flaten - Chair
Rick Melius, Blessed Redeemer
Michelle Ternus, Blessed Redeemer
Jane Taylor, Faith
Greg Miller, Memorial
Bryan Eden, Our Redeemer
Vaughn Meyer, Our Redeemer
Laurie Ascher, Resurrection
Carol Flaten, Zion

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3: 20-21

*Can you envision a brand-new campus, serving children from birth through 12th grade—more children and families, in an expanded Gospel mission? Our great God sees it in His plan for our future. **Please be His hands and feet that help make this happen.***

² It is too early in the property “due diligence” and building design process to validly estimate construction costs. Increasingly, however, this picture will come into focus.
³ Together, *Our Greatest Gifts*, will make our dreams a reality. Please pray about the greatest gift you have ever given to Lutheran education and contact the school or one of your board members to make a faith-promise of your greatest gift. Meanwhile, campaign volunteers are making plans to re-boot our capital campaign in view of this exciting new opportunity.