



ROAR

GLORIA DEO ACADEMY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

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7 2023 BUSINESS SPONSORS

Thank you to Gloria Deo Academy's 2023-2024 business sponsors!



NEW PROJECTS PAGE ADDED TO THE WEBSITE

Follow along as we begin adding the 30 completed and in-progress projects to the school website.



LIONS WIN CONSOLATION CHAMPIONSHIP

Congrats to the basketball team for winning the consolation championship at the Mansfield JV Tournament! The resiliency and determination to win got stronger every game and all of their hard work paid off in a big way in the consolation championship, when they played their best basketball of the season, proving they have potential to compete on a high level. We look forward to the rest of the season and having the support of the GDA community and fan base along the way! -Coach Davis



EVAN FINCHER PRESENTS AT THE 2023 BANQUET

GDA senior, Evan Fincher, delivered a speech on the significance of Christian education at the All in His Time Banquet. He expounded on the ideal qualities that GDA aims to instill in its students. Read Evan's full speech here: gloriadeoacademy.org/senior-delivers-banquet-speech/



GDA CHRISTMAS STORE TRADITION CONTINUES

Hundreds of little lions jumped on the polar express (school bus) and rode to the GDA Christmas Store! Heather Clark, Natalie Lane, Holly Peck, Haidi Edwards, supported by numerous parent volunteers created a wonderful Christmas experience for GDA students. Thank you to everyone who help students shop, wrapped gifts, and donated gift bags and tissue paper. We appreciate your time and effort!



The God of the Impossible

Walking with the Lord is always an adventure. Nineteen years ago, the Lord planted an idea to start a school that was unique to the Springfield area. A school where the parents are actively involved in their children's education. A school with high academic standards. A school that excels in multiple activities. Most importantly a school that points children to Christ.

Nineteen years ago, there is no way that I could have known the political climate that we currently find ourselves in as a society. There was no way to know how vital and necessary Christian and classical schools would be for the entire country. GDA helps meet the needs of families in Springfield, Nixa, Ozark, Branson, Joplin, and other surrounding communities.

When we look at the world, the problems seem overwhelming and too monumental for us to solve. We could run around anxiety ridden instead of turning to the Lord who holds all the answers in His hands. In our little area of the world, GDA has some challenges facing us, like space for students. This is minor for the Lord of the universe. Joshua 4:8-9 gives us the key to knowing how to look to the Lord and remind ourselves that He is the God of the impossible and miracles!

I want us to remember the God of the impossible. To remember all that the Lord has done throughout history. There are times that we look at our circumstances and get scared, start overthinking, and take our eyes off the One who holds all circumstances in His hands. When we think we are in an impossible situation, the Lord wants us to remember all that He has done and that He plans to work even when we cannot see.

- The Israelites crossed the Red Sea on dry ground
The God of the Impossible
- The Israelites crossed the Jordan River on dry ground
The God of the Impossible
- Gideon defeated the Midianites with 30 men
The God of the Impossible
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego survived the fiery furnace and did not smell like smoke.
The God of the Impossible
- George Washington was shot 7 times through his coat, but the bullets did not hit his body
The God of the Impossible
- GDA did not have a building or money to purchase the building. Two men bought the building and gave us time to raise the funds.
The God of the Impossible
- Currently we are out of space for the incoming 7th graders.
The God of the impossible has the answers.

We need everyone to pray for our campaign and to ask the Lord how to help. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills and provision is in His hands. Please join me in seeking the Lord's will for Gloria Deo Academy and asking for Him to provide for the rest of the campaign.

JOY DAVIS, FOUNDER & HEAD OF SCHOOL

And the people of Israel did just as Joshua commanded and took up twelve stones out of the midst of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the people of Israel, just as the Lord told Joshua. And they carried them over with them to the place where they lodged and laid them down there. And Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the covenant had stood; and they are there to this day.

Joshua 4:8-9

Development Update

CAMPAIGN PROGRESS CONTINUES!

2023 is coming to a close. Can you believe it? It seems like we just started the school year! As usual, God has been with us, every step of the way. It was one of those years when we were even more diligent in praying for our school and His will. Thank you to those of you who have been praying with us. We are blessed with so many families who know where to turn when things get hard.

We are also blessed for all of you that supported GDA with your time and resources. Thank you! We are grateful, and we are excited about the progress regarding Phase 3A of our building campaign, which is the addition of classrooms on the upper floor of the east building.

First, a quick update on Phase 2. The breezeway itself is almost done. The walls, siding, concrete ramp, and shaft for the elevator are complete. As soon as the roof is finished the electrical work will begin. After speaking with our general contractor and elevator company, we learned that the elevator may not be ready until Spring, but we are hoping the stairs will be installed this winter. In the meantime, the breezeway will soon be safe and open for travel between the buildings. We will keep you posted as things progress.

Our Annual Banquet took place on November 9. It was an amazing night! John Ashcroft shared his strong convictions about the state of our nation and how Christian education is imperative if we are to have any hope for our country. Evan Fincher, senior, and Luke Slater, alumnus, spoke of their gratitude for teachers and the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge and faith at GDA. Our first graders were amazing (and cute) and the performances by our speech and debate team (now in the top 2% in the nation) as well as choir, band and orchestra represented our school beautifully. We are so proud of our students!

In July of 2022, we began raising money for Phase 3A. Since this year's banquet on November 9, \$132,328 has been added to the building campaign fund, bringing the total to \$879,684! The estimate for Phase 3A is 1.5 million and is currently being value engineered. Please pray that we can find ways to lower the construction cost and that giving will continue so that we can begin construction by this summer.

Thank you to all the GDA supporters for all the ways you support our school. I hope that all of you have a very blessed Christmas!

Wendy Wright
Development Director



Photo credit: Haidi Edwards



Save the Date for
the 2024 Banquet

NOVEMBER 7, 7 PM
AT BASS PRO'S
WHITE RIVER
CONFERENCE
CENTER

Golden Campus

CONSTRUCTION

continues

History of the Golden Campus

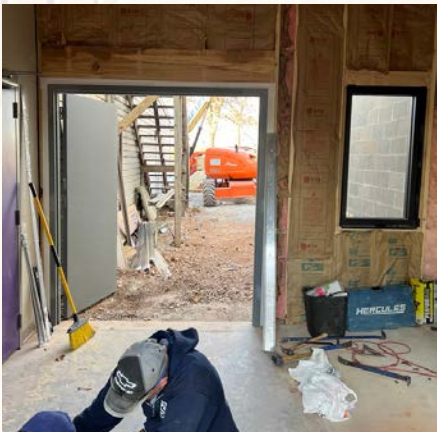
In the fall of 2019, it became clear we need a permanent home for Gloria Deo Academy. For three years we searched for a building without success. Then we found the location we thought was "the one." We stopped to pray and seek God's counsel. The property was purchased before we could make an offer. Through an orchestration only possible by God, we received a call from the new owners of the property. After hearing about the mission and the school's need for the building the new owners asked, "what if you lease the building while you raise funds? And when you're ready we'll sell it to you for the same price we paid." Almost every day, God does something that builds our faith and shows us the power of prayer. When the owners of the building said, "You could not have told me last week I would be buying a property to sell back at no profit, but we feel like this is what we should do." We rejoiced but we were not surprised. This is what we see happen when we trust and pray for God's will.

Construction Continues

Since the purchase of our miracle school building, exciting construction continues. The installation of the new roof for phase 2 stairs and the elevator in the breezeway is well underway. We aim to complete the breezeway before the students return from Christmas break, and the electrical installation for the elevator is currently in progress. The latest estimate we've received for the elevator installation is April 2024. The next significant aspect of the construction project is waiting for the new stairway to be delivered which is the next large piece of the construction project we are waiting on. We invite you to pray with us that the new stairs will be delivered in a timely manner. We appreciate your continued support as we make significant strides in the Golden Campus building construction.

Projects Completed

As we reflect on the faithfulness of God's provision and timing, we recount the numerous projects that GDA has had the blessing of completing in the last 19 years. We wanted to share some of our completed and current projects with you in a more regular way on the website. Visit our projects page and check back often to stay informed and celebrate with us: <https://gloriadeoacademy.org/projects/>.



WE AIM TO
COMPLETE
THE
BREEZEWAY
BEFORE THE
STUDENTS
RETURN
FROM
CHRISTMAS
BREAK



COMING SOON

**\$48,982.00
FUNDED**

**\$0
REMAINING**

SAFETY & SECURITY GLASS

GDA Receives Safety Grant

This fall Gloria Deo Academy received news of the school receiving a safety grant award. We thank those of you who participated in the Family Income Survey. The Family Income Survey enabled us to qualify for grants and discount programs provided to non-public schools throughout Missouri. Once again, thank you to our school family for your participation!

GDA has been awarded a Safety Grant worth \$99,980, which will be allocated across all our campuses, including Golden, River Stone, and Joplin. The grant will be used to enhance the safety of our schools, with the purchase of safety film for doors and windows, Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), and bleed kits, additional security cameras, and more!

Details of the Safety Grant

On June 30, 2023, Governor Mike Parson signed House Bill No. 2 for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY2024) which appropriated \$50 million in funding for a second round of School Safety Grants to support physical safety improvements in local education agencies (LEAs) and nonpublic schools (NPSs) across the state. These funds will be distributed through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's FY24 School Safety Grant Program.

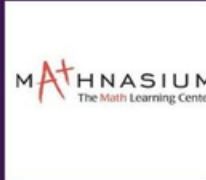
Safety Film to be Installed During Christmas Break

During Christmas break, the safety film is scheduled to be installed. We have received some of the additional items that the safety grant made us eligible for, such as additional security cameras, AED's and bleed kits. We are thankful for these safety improvements at GDA, and we will continue to provide updates when possible.

Blessings,
Alan Davis
Wendy Wright



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gloriadeoacademy.org/business-sponsors/*



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