Established in 1907, Manhattan Christian School is an independent Christian school serving over 330 students in preschool – 12th grade in the greater Gallatin Valley. The gap between tuition and expense has been steadily increasing at MCS. Tuition now covers less than 75% of the operational costs, leaving us to raise over $500,000 per year. Fundraisers have proliferated and pressure is mounting.

**The goals of this project:**
- Analyze and evaluate current fundraising practices.
- Develop sustainable plans for raising additional revenue.
- Work toward closing the tuition-expense gap.

**School Culture**
- The foundation of a school is its mission. MCS renewed its Mission and Vision and added Portrait of a Graduate Statements.
- MCS committed to growing as a community of grace.

**Comprehensive Campaign**
- Designed to take on comprehensive focus (Annual Campaign / Tuition Assistance / Debt Reduction).
- Published Case Statement and conducted Leadership Phase.
- Organized an annual kickoff event involving administration, students and board.
- Focused on celebrating God’s faithfulness to MCS.

**Friends of MCS**
- Created a new organization (Friends of MCS) to bring all support organizations to the same table (began in April).
- Goal – oversee and evaluate all fundraising at MCS and develop a culture of service.

**Budget / Revenue**
- Completed the construction of an Early Learning Center (operational in May).
- Task Force is working on starting a Thrift Store.

God has blessed our “Rooted in Faithfulness, Growing in Grace” Comprehensive Campaign. To date we have received over **$495,000**. Previous annual campaigns peaked at $175,000.

A *word to the wise* – don’t choose a politician to speak at your campaign kickoff event.

A development office would be of immense value in conducting future campaigns.

The current economic climate has made taking steps toward financial sustainability more challenging.

**Looking Ahead:**
- Development Office
- Strategic Planning