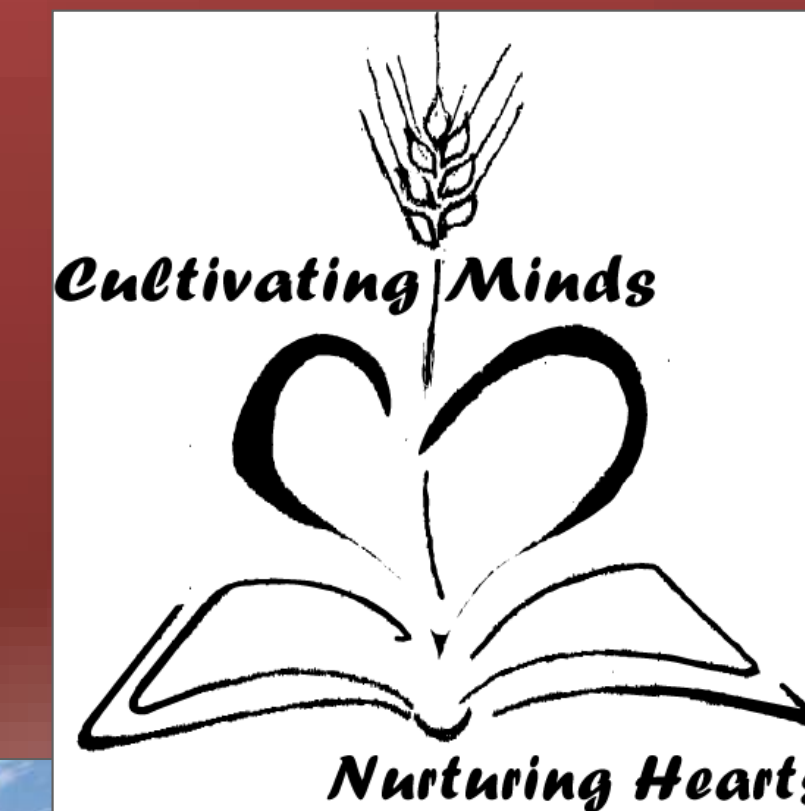




Manhattan Christian School

Manhattan, MT

Thomas J. Kamp, Superintendent



Project Summary

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.

Project Results

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.



What We Have Learned

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

