



29th Annual Metro Dinner and Auction March 30, Renaissance Hotel

Mark your calendars! The 29th annual Metro Dinner & Auction moves to Friday night, March 30, 2012 at the Renaissance Hotel at 71st and Highway 169. The Dinner & Auction is Metro's largest fundraising event of the year - generating over \$120,000 for teacher's compensation, benefits, bonuses, and special projects of the Parent Teacher Fellowship.

Auction items to look forward to include: a tropical getaway to Turks and Caicos, 4 tickets to Nickelback in a BOK suite, Orthodontic Treatment by Kirkpatrick and Lai, Family Tennis Membership to the Grand Health and Racquet Club, Cuchara, Colorado Escape, OU and OSU Sports Memorabilia, Park City Utah Resort, Lego Basket, 32 GB iPod touch and accessories basket, Taste of Tulsa Basket, Mario Cart with Nintendo DS Lite basket, American Girl Doll basket, Bumper to Bumper Basket (for your car), and hundreds more.

Great Auction Items

Tropical Getaway
Concerts
Orthodontics
Sports Memorabilia
Legos
iPod Touch
Valuable baskets
and much more!

ANNUAL APPEAL MEETS BUDGET GOAL OF \$130,000

Many Thanks!

We extend a sincere thank you to everyone who made a contribution to the Headmaster's Annual Appeal. We hope that you are blessed through your generosity. Metro Christian continues to thrive due to the generosity and support of our wonderful families. Because of your gifts of both money and time (through hours of volunteering), you enable Metro to surpass our goals and exceed expectations in nearly every area.

The Headmaster's Annual Appeal raised slightly more than the budget goal of \$130,000. We feel blessed to have made our goal and to have had such a big surge in participation at the end of the appeal. This appeal had the third highest level of family participation and the highest involvement since 2005!

The winners of the free tuition drawing on Tuesday, January 24th were: **Matt and Julie Morris, JoAnn Wilson and Tannie and JoAnn Olsen.** Congratulations!



Building & Grounds Committee members look over the initial work on the new facility. L-R: Brian Keeley, Ken Preaus, Scott Beliveau, Steve Holloway, Neil Erickson, & Alan Schmitz



SITE PROGRESS ON METRO'S NEW GYM-A-TERIA

The earth is moving at Metro Christian Academy! During the month of February, Flintco continues with excavation and sitework preparing for underground utilities, foundation footings, and the "gym-a-teria" building pad. Towards the end of March and beginning of April look for the skyline to transform at Metro Christian as the structural steel is scheduled for installation.

THE SEARCH FOR HEADMASTER



by **Matt Cain**,
Board Member and
Search Committee Chair

The process of identifying a new headmaster is going very well! The Search Firm, **SeresSmith**, has reported that we are on track with our plan for spring 2012. We've been fortunate to have such well qualified candidates. The search team is moving forward with their timeline to identify a new headmaster by early spring. The expectation is for the candidate to fulfill their current position and begin at Metro Christian in May/June timeframe. Thank you for your continued prayers during the search.

RICHARDSON ENJOYS LUNCH WITH BILLY SIMS

Metro Senior, **Colton Richardson**, applied and was selected to attend the Wendy's High School Heisman Award Luncheon with Billy Sims. Richardson plays both varsity basketball and golf and carries a 4.26 weighted grade point average. He attended the luncheon at the Greenwood Cultural Center with Coach Andrew Baker and Coach Rick Holmes. Attendees were selected based on athletics, academics and leadership qualities. In addition to Metro student athlete activities, Colton is an Eagle Scout and has been accepted to the University of Oklahoma and Baylor University.



EGG DROP (NOT THE SOUP) 2012

Using their knowledge of physics, **Mr. Jared McCoy's** high school students were asked to construct an apparatus to protect an egg dropped from the top rail of the home-side football stands. The materials they could use were: toothpicks and glue. Students were provided a Grade A Large egg from Mr. McCoy and it was placed in the apparatus the day of the drop. The egg had to be in contact with the toothpicks by design. The students got only one drop! A week after the drop, the students reported on their experience for their grades.



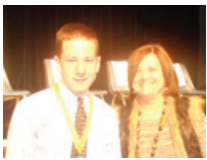
PORTFOLIO DAY

Seventeen AP and Pre AP Art students attended Art Portfolio Day in Oklahoma City January 13th. Representatives from 14 universities and art schools viewed student work and supplied information on applying to their school. Metro students also viewed the current show at the Oklahoma City Art Museum by Dale Chihuly and work at the Paseo Art District.

CONNOR SCHMITZ ALL-STATE MIXED CHORUS



Congratulations to **Connor Schmitz** for being selected to participate in the 2012 OMEA All State Mixed Chorus. He performed in the January 21st concert, which was held at the PAC Chapman Theatre and directed by Dr. Mark Sumner from the University of California - Berkeley. Connor, a senior at MCA, plans to continue his singing career on a collegiate level while majoring in electrical engineering.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BEE

Jack Foster, an 8th grade student at Metro Christian Academy, has won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee and a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the 24th annual National Geographic Bee. This year's Bee is sponsored by Google (visit www.Google.com/educators/geo).

Thousands of schools around the United States and in the five US territories participated. Jack will now take a written test to be eligible to compete in the Oklahoma Bee on March 30, 2012.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for state champions and teacher escorts to participate in the Bee National Championship rounds May 22nd - 24th, 2012 (Hosted by "Jeopardy!"'s Alex Trebek). The first place national winner will receive a \$25,000.00 college scholarship, a lifetime membership in the Society and a trip to the Galapagos Islands, courtesy of Lindblad Expeditions.

MATH IS A TEAM COMPETITION

On Saturday, February 4, 2012, ten middle school mathletes represented Metro Christian Academy at the Regional MathCounts Competition. All MCA students' scores were in the top 40% of the 137 mathletes attending the competition. The average

score for the Metro students was an awesome twelve points above the competition average.

A perfect Team Round score catapulted the Metro School team from third place overall to first place overall. This is the second year in a row that Metro has won the regional competition. The School Team, **Thatcher Chonka, Will Fossett, Cavan Gary, and Jacob Sullivan**, will defend Metro's 2011 state championship on March 31st in Tulsa. **Thatcher Chonka** repeated as the overall winner of the Regional Competition by achieving a perfect score in the Sprint and Target Rounds and then went on to defend his 1st place standing in the head to head Count Down Round. **Christian DeMaio, James Elias, Samuel Fang, Jack Foster, Elizabeth Irwin, and Nathan Mitchell** competed for Metro as individuals contributing to the exceptional overall results.



Other Middle School Math News

Middle school students recently participated in Round 1 of the OSSM Middle School math competition. **Joey Acker, Lauren Elias, James Elias,** and earned the honor to represent Metro Christian Academy at the state-wide competition to be held at OSSM on February 25, 2012.

METRO'S SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM WIN BIG IN 5A COMPETITIONS

"It's been a great year for the team!" according to Speech and Debate Coach Robby Davis. Our students have qualified for Regional Competition with their wins. The Regional Meet will be held March 30th and 31st. If Metro continues to do well, they will then go onto state competition April 12-14th.

Jenks High School January 13-14

CHAMPS LD DEBATE

Lily Heine- 2nd place

5A LD DEBATE

Cole McNeese- 1st place | Ben Delametter- 2nd place

5A ORIGINAL ORATORY

Lily Heine- 1st place

5A HUMEROUS DUET

Brooks Boaz/Ryan King- 1st place

5A DRAMATIC DUET

Brooks Boaz/Ryan King- 1st place

Broken Arrow High School

January 20-21

CHAMPS LD DEBATE

Brooks Boaz- 2nd place

Lily Heine- 4th place

CHAMPS HUMEROUS DUET

Brooks Boaz/Ryan King- 2nd place

CHAMPS DRAMATIC DUET

Brooks Boaz/Ryan King- 1st place

5A LD DEBATE

Euan Williams- 2nd place

Isaac Williams- 4th place

5A STANDARD ORATORY

Euan Williams- 2nd place

5A DOMESTIC EXTEMP

Lily Heine- 2nd place

Euan Williams- 3rd place



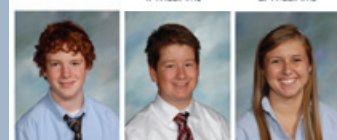
BOAZ

KING



I. WILLIAMS

E. WILLIAMS



DELAMETTER

MONEESE

HEINE



2012 Wax Museum

Wax Museum goes to show how learning American History can be fun! On February 2nd, 4th grade students dressed the part of a famous American (now deceased) and brought them to life by presenting a 3 minute speech on their individual biography to our many visitors. Charlie Chaffin was interviewed by KOTV Channel 6, for his meaningful portrayal of his hero, Andy Thomas.

Duke Testing



Based upon qualifying test scores, 4th & 5th grade students are eligible to participate in the Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP). This is a selective program that identifies students with high academic ability and supports them through recognition, engaging online enrichment tools, opportunities to interact with other students and helpful publications.

Eligible students must have scored at the 95th percentile or above on an acceptable subtest or total battery/composite of a grade-level standardized achievement, aptitude or mental ability test. At Metro, we use the results of the Stanford Achievement Tests from the previous year. For new students, we use other applicable test results.

Although it is an honor to be eligible, participation is not required. Students must be in the 4th or 5th grade to apply; however 4th grade participants do not need to reapply when they reach fifth grade. If your child receives notification of eligibility, remember that they are applying one year in advance and will not participate in the testing until February of 2013.

Curriculum Analysis

Our late start professional development days have been a productive time to focus on curriculum. Our current emphasis for teacher training is reading and writing. We are pleased to host a consultant trainer from Accelerated Reader. Our use of AR has been limited so we want to step up our efforts to fully utilize the program. We encourage and promote AR reading but the program has changed considerably since we first began. One of the main changes we are implementing is to de-emphasize AR points and focus on personalized goals based on STAR test results. The core of the AR program is guided independent reading with an emphasis on comprehension. Research shows that students gain the most when 20-30 minutes a day is devoted exclusively to reading practice. A study of 174,000 students in 32 countries revealed reading books is the single best predictor of academic achievement.

We are also providing teacher training in the Schaeffer Writing Method. This is a writing method being incorporated in the high school English courses, so we are taking advantage of the ability to begin with our 4th graders and develop comprehensive writing strategies from upper elementary through high school. The main advantage of a like-minded approach is to develop the vocabulary and terms associated with writing an essay. Of course as the children progress, the content and expectations become more challenging. The method includes the following parts to an essay: Introductory Paragraph, Thesis, Body Paragraph, Topic Sentence, Concrete Detail, Commentary, Chunk, Concluding Sentence, and Concluding Paragraph.

Box Tops Collections



We are planning a few changes to our Box Tops collections. We are transitioning from a class competition approach to a school wide cooperative collection. Students will continue turning in box tops to their homeroom teachers; however, all box tops will be combined for the entire elementary school.

This will eliminate individual class rewards and help communicate a more unified effort to help support Metro. Thank you for continuing to save and send in box tops.

MEET OUR LITTLE METRO MISSIONARY, JUDE JONES

It's not often that a P3 student makes the Patriot Press, but then again, how many P3 kids go on mission trips to Kenya with their families? Newly enrolled **Jude Jones** has been there and is going back again this July. His father, Dr. Kyle Jones and his mom, Vanessa, along with Jude's three siblings are part of World Medical Mission Team. World Medical Mission is part of Samaritan's Purse International (remember our shoeboxes at Christmas?). The mission was established in 1977 to assist general surgeons who wanted to volunteer for short term mission trips. Dr. Jones' work opens doors to the Gospel through quality healthcare.



SPENCER REED WINS DALLAS CUP

Freshman, Spencer Reed, brought home the gold from the Dallas Cup Gymnastics Meet last weekend at the Elite Level. Spencer will be competing in the Olympic Trial coming up at the end of March!

Spencer has been training for 3 years at Oklahoma Extreme Tumbling, under the current World Coach, Chauncy Haydon. Oklahoma Extreme Tumbling is also currently home to two World Champion athletes. Spencer has done gymnastics since he was 3, however, really became competitive in the last 3 years. His favorite event is the trampoline. He spends 10-15 hours/week training for tumbling and trampoline. The Elite Challenge (or the first of 3 Olympic trials) will be held March 30-April 2 at the Tulsa Convention Center. 2-3 athletes from his gym will be competing for a spot in the London Olympics.

SPIRIT!

After a grueling week of learning new dances, competing individually and as a squad, 3 of Metro's Pom Patriotettes were selected as "All American" at the



Universal Dance Association's Camp last summer. In addition to the title and recognition, these 3 girls were invited to perform in the London New Year's Day Parade. Pictured in front of London's Tower Bridge are Becky Brown, Maddie Jackson and Tina Miller. Thank you Patriotettes for representing Metro across the "big pond" so well!



Metro Cheerleaders recently went to National Competition in January and placed second in the competition to Ponca City.

CHEER TRYOUTS APPROACHING

March 5 - Metro Cheer & Pom Tryout Informational Meeting, 5:30 pm, with student & parent, in Auditorium.

March 26-29 - Metro Pom/Cheer Clinic & Tryouts, 3:00-5:00 pm, Pom in Small Gym, Cheer in Large Gym

LADY PATRIOTS BASKETBALL LOCKER ROOM COMPLETE!

Thanks Tami!

Metro Mom, Tami Smith, utilized her time and God-given talent to paint this outstanding mural in the Lady Patriot Locker Room. The locker room can be a drab place, but with Tami's artwork, the players have a bright and professional dressing area. The Locker room facelift has lifted the spirits of the players too! If you'd like a mural for your home or office, check out www.tsmithconsulting.com or contact Tami Smith at 918.948.2163.





Retro Metro 2002 Matthew Loerke

What is your favorite Metro Memory?

The two that really stick out were getting to be apart of the Praise and Worship Team, and playing Friday night football. I have to give credit to Mr. Blunt for helping set up this class. Getting to be a part of the Praise and Worship Team challenged my faith in Christ and continuously put me in check with my actions. Leaders were born out of this class and God used them to lead others closer to God. I think it is so cool that Metro has the freedom and talent to be able to have this class. And as far as Friday night football? Once it is over, it is over, there is no going back. Your last game eventually comes and then comes a new class to take your place. There is no worst feeling than knowing that you did not give it your all. This can apply to all aspects of your life: Your relationship with Christ, your wife or husband, children, high school, college. I promise that at some point in your life, you will look back at what you have experienced and ask the question, "what if I had done this differently?" It is easy to get stuck on the "what ifs" in our lives. The last ten years of my life has flown right by. If you focus on the "what ifs," then you will potentially miss what God has right in front of you. Each choice you make effects the next down the road. Had I not been a part of Metro, I could honestly tell you that I would not be where I am today. Each decision you make in life has the potential to change the course of your future, but if your choices are Christ focused, He will get you where he wants you, no matter the circumstances you are faced with. Metro gives you the tools, now all you have to do is learn how to use them.

Where did you go to college/work after graduation?

Shortly before graduation, I had signed to play football with KWU on nearly a full academic and athletic scholarship. Upon visiting Kansas Wesleyan to meet with the coaches, I began to have one of those feelings that you can't deny is God prompting you to not do something. I resigned my scholarship shortly after the visit and felt a great peace about it. I had no idea what I was going to do, and I did not know why God wanted me to follow this path. I just knew it was right. Literally, right before graduation the doors opened up for me to join a 1 year missions internship with Real Impact Missions (RIM) in Tulsa. We set up trips all over the world, volunteered with different agencies in Oklahoma, and was blessed to help lead in local churches. I also was blessed to travel to Peru for a month and Venezuela for 2 months in which I took part in Dramas, medical missions, helping in orphanages, and among many other things. It was not

until about 2 months into the internship that I knew why God was drawing me away from football. My families life was turned upside down and we literally lost everything over the next few months. God used RIM to pull me through this tough time and for me to draw closer to God. That next year I was blessed to get to attend a Bible college in South Carolina called Columbia International University. I was blessed with the opportunity to get to lead my Freshman class as their president as well as meeting my wife of now almost 8 years. I married my best friend after our first year of college. After much prayer, we decided to move back to Oklahoma to start our life. I worked as a Grounds Keeper for OU-Tulsa for a few years, while I attended school at TCC to become an EMT. I started working for EMSA as a Medic and was there for 3 years before moving on to working for one of the local hospitals. During this time we had a baby girl who is nearly 3, which made things all the more exciting. After about 4 years of not seeing my family, I decided it was time to move on and go back to school to work towards a new career.

What are you doing now?

Currently, I am the Lead Grounds Keeper for TCC's West campus, and taking a few more classes to finish an Associates Degree and then finishing my Undergrad at one of the local colleges. Due to a serious back injury in June of last year, many of my plans have been put on hold. After Thanksgiving, I was no longer able to work in my current position due to my injury. On January 20th, I had a very serious back surgery that has left my family and I completely relying on Gods provision, and putting our faith fully in Christ. Currently our future plans are on hold as we re-evaluate our life and look towards God as to what our next steps will be. I am facing a 3 to 6 month recovery period that will most likely lead to having to make some tough decisions. God has been good and there has not been a day that we have gone without in one way shape of form.

How did Metro prepare you for the future?

Metro taught me what it meant to truly follow Christ no matter the circumstances. Metro helped to build the foundation of faith that I currently stand for. Everyone always talks about living in "the bubble" at Metro, it is what you make of it. Life after Metro is not always easy. You are not always around Christian people while in college or in your careers. There will be some that leave Metro that will wonder off the path of Christ, and there will be others that stand on the fence. Metro taught me to stand up for my faith no matter what challenges or circumstances I have been faced with.

Do you still keep up with Metro friends?

I still keep up with Daniel Fieker, Brain Laughlin, Brett Dunham, Blaine Bacon, Amy Vaughan, Lili Sauter (Lili Dodd), Ashley Isaac (Ashley Davis), and my buddy Graham Radler.

Matthew Loerke's class will be having their 10 year reunion coming up!

For questions, please contact Heather Anderson Klein at 918.527.2692.



By Tim Cameron,
Headmaster

MEDIA MANIA

Obviously technology is changing the world in which we live. Our students are natives and, as adults, we are immigrants when it comes to understanding and using social media. Technology is quickly changing the state of education. Smart boards, graphing calculators, and net books are becoming the standard of practice. As educators we are running fast to catch up.

One area we are working on feverishly is a social media policy. As an organization we are addressing this vital area to set our staff up for success in our interactions with students and parents. We are creating and clarifying our policy and practices in regards to social media, email, cell phones, and the internet.

As vital as policy is, the use of technology in education is more urgent. We know that technology is changing the face of education. Smart boards enhance the delivery of information and capture the student's attention. Getting a student engaged in the classroom is every teacher's goal and technology does just that. Metro is a college preparatory school; one of the many things that means is that every student who is interested in any area of math of science will need to be a graphing calculator master when he/she completes high school. We have to make adjustments to the educational process at every level, elementary through high school. Accelerated Reader, which is one of the most popular elementary programs for reading comprehension, is now available on the web from home, no more only testing at the school site. Wow, are things changing.

The Kaiser Family Foundation commissioned a major national study entitled "Media in the Lives of 8-18 Year Olds". One of its major findings said, "Over the past five years, young people have increased the amount of time they spend consuming media by an hour and seventeen minutes daily from 6:12 to 7:38 - that's almost the amount of time most adults spend at work each day, except that young people use media seven days a week instead of five". How many of your students go to sleep listening to music via their iTunes on their phone?

We encourage you to jump into the middle of providing accountability for your student in managing the amount of time spent engaged in media and making sure content is enriching and appropriate. This next semester we will continue to research at which grade level we begin the use of net books and when to begin. It is a forgone conclusion we will begin the use of net books at some point; the first question is at what grade level and secondly, when we begin. Obviously, these are dramatic decisions for our school and community. We must commit all things to prayer and believe that the Lord will guide us and give us wisdom. Proverbs 2:6-7 "For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He stores up success for those who walk upright before Him."

Tim Cameron, Headmaster