

Newton's News— March 17, 2010



The Cost of Christian Education

Open enrollment at INCA began last month. Over the next few months the board of directors will carefully monitor the return of enrollment contracts by our INCA families as well as families new to our school. The sooner the contracts are returned, the sooner the board is able to finalize hiring plans for next year. We understand that for many families the affordability of a Christian education is the major issue in determining whether to enroll. We also see the financial sacrifices that families make to send their children to INCA. We commend our families for placing a high value on the spiritual development of their children. We believe that you are following the Biblical mandate of Deuteronomy 6 - *These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.* The three key institutions that shape your children are the home, the church, and the school. Children are served best when all three institutions point them in the same direction.

If finances are an issue for your family at this time, we ask that you consider the STO scholarship program and INCA scholarships before you make your enrollment decision. I would also remind you of the tuition deduction on your state taxes and the transportation reimbursement for Cedar Rapids school district families. I would be happy to talk with you about how these programs work. We remain committed to not losing a single INCA family due to affordability issues. As a practical matter, I urge all our families to evaluate their media expenses - cable TV, internet, cell phones, etc. Many families are now spending \$300 to \$500 per month for these services. Paring these expenses can free up large amounts of money for tuition. Your family will also be richly rewarded with fewer worldly distractions and more family time. Pray about this passage of scripture (Matthew 6:19-21) - *19Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

Mark Kline

President, LCEA Board of Directors

Technology Grants

Many thanks to Intermec for recently approving two technology grants! These grants will provide funding for additional LCD projectors (to use with interactive whiteboards), as well as some document readers! Intermec has truly helped the Academy outfit classrooms for the 21st Century! Our thanks to Intermec employees Mrs. Mindi Gascho (Dave Gascho's wife!) and to Mr. Bob Traeger (alumni parent) for sponsoring these grants.

Calendar

MARCH

19 Chapel-Pastor Dave King,
Pastor Oakland Church of the
Nazarene
22-26 Spring Break:No school;
Office closed
31 SWAT for Kdg.-8th Graders

APRIL

2 Good Friday: No School
5 Snow Make-up Day
6 PSO Meeting-6:30 Lounge
9 Annual banquet featuring Josh
McDowell
10 Parenting Seminar with Josh McDowell

“But thanks be to God!
He gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus
Christ.” I Cor. 15:57 NIV

25 Cent Meal

It only costs a quarter to provide a meal for a hungry person through Kids Against Hunger! Encourage your kids to bring in quarters for their classroom jar. (Of course, all currency is welcome!)

Registered for Banquet?

Are you registered for the banquet yet? It is Friday, April 9th. If you have not yet been asked to sit at someone's table, give the office a call and we will reserve your spot! Josh McDowell is coming! We are expecting a large turnout so make your reservation today!

“The 411 on Parenting: How to Positively Influence your Children and Grandchildren!”

This fantastic three part seminar by Josh McDowell is on Saturday night, April 10th, at 6:15 PM at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. There are many volunteer opportunities available. Please contact Terese Dummermuth at terese.dummermuth@gmail.com and find a place to plug in!

SWAT UPDATE!



Final plans are being put into place regarding our SWAT day on Wednesday, March 31st. Keeping in mind that there is no school next week, we need to finish up the details! There are three things you can do to help:

- * Encourage your kids to bring in their quarters! We would like to raise a minimum of \$500 for the Kids Against Hunger meals. We've already raised nearly \$350! Can we do it by Friday? Yes, we can!!!
- * Volunteer to help the day of SWAT. We need parents for the walk-a-thon, parents for driving and supervising for the projects. Please call Val Jonker, 390-5813, if you can lend a hand.
- * Pray for this special day! Pray that the students serve diligently and enthusiastically! Pray that the walk-a-thon goes smoothly, and that the students working on onsite projects here at INCA have a great time encouraging each other.
- * Have your child bring in the assigned item for the community care packages.
(See list from last week.)
- * If your family did not participate in the fundraising mailing, would you consider a contribution to SWAT? Please make your check to Isaac Newton Christian Academy, and put it in an envelope marked "SWAT contribution" and send to the office.

STO Update – Important Notice!

Applying for an STO scholarship is a TWO STEP process! You can get started on the first step now; the second step needs to wait until the State Legislature votes on any changes to the STO program.

First step: fill out an online application with FFNA, at www.FFNA1.com. If you believe you will qualify for an STO scholarship, go online and fill out the FFNA form. FFNA is a Christian organization that confidentially processes your financial information to help our scholarship committee with the award process. You will need to have your completed income taxes for 2009 in order to fill out the application. The Department of Health and Human Services has not yet released the poverty guidelines for this year, however, to get a pretty good feel as to whether you might qualify, refer to last year's guidelines. If your family income last year was less than three times the poverty level, you may well qualify.

Last year's poverty levels:

<i>Persons in Family Unit</i>	<i>Household Income</i>
2	\$43,710
3	\$54,930
4	\$66,150
5	\$77,370
6	\$88,590
7	\$99,810
8	\$111,030
For each additional, add	\$11,220

Second step: apply for a Heart of Iowa STO scholarship. That is the part of the process that we are still waiting to begin. The State Legislature will vote by the end of March on any changes to the STO program. We will get that information out just as soon as we have it. Please pray that the Legislature does not change anything about the STO! If you have not yet contacted your elected officials on this important piece of legislation, please follow the link to <https://ssl.capwiz.com/iowaadvocates/issues/alert/?alertid=14802231>.

We encourage you to register your child for the 2010-2011 school year now. We can't hold a spot for your child while you wait to see if you receive STO funding.