

## Ryan Dobson Headlines Annual Banquet



Themed “Mission: Possible”, our Annual Banquet was held at the Marriott in early March. Donors enjoyed a delicious dinner, greetings from Board President Josh Davis, a creative introduction of the faculty to the Mission Impossible theme song, and remarks from Head of School, Mr. Dean Ridder. Senior KCRG anchor Bruce Aune emceed the evening. Nationally syndicated radio host and author Ryan Dobson addressed the attendees with wisdom and great humor! The banquet netted around \$62,000 for the Academy’s Annual Fund, which helps close the gap between what families pay in tuition and the actual cost of educating a child at Isaac Newton. Pictured above is Ryan Dobson, Darcy and Bruce Aune.



Dear Mr. Ridder,

Here are some of our ideas for a better school.

Love, your second graders!

- Have everyone bring their biggest stuffed animal to school all day
- I would like to have a picnic outside with Miss Smith’s Kindergarten class. Please help put it into Miss Smith’s schedule.
- An all school doll or stuffed animal party.
- I wish we could have a third recess because it helps me focus.
- Maybe we could have a pajama and movie party one day every year!
- The whole school could have a pool day.
- We could bring our pets.
- We could all bring a big stuffed friend.
- We could have a class pet.
- We could have a dog disco party in the gym.
- We could have the afternoon off and play with our pets.
- We could have a picnic party! I would like to learn more about what my friends like. We would need a longer lunch, though.
- It would be very fun to do all of our work outside and be outside all day! We would have to figure out where all of the students would go.

### Art Show “Wows” Attendees

Our Annual Fine Arts Show was held on May 23. It has become a much anticipated event. Guests were treated to piano background music provided by Isaac Newton students while they walked throughout the art gallery, which took up the entire Activity Center.

The juried art show awarded ribbons in the categories of first, second and third place finishers, and honorable mention, for Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Those masterpieces were displayed in the center of the room. Tables full of each grade’s art projects, plus many panels displaying artwork guided guests through beautiful art creations.

Under the direction of art teacher Mrs. Dana Rinkenberger, the art program has encouraged children to create and explore their inner artist, glorifying God with the color and textures He has given us to enjoy. Mrs. Rinkenberger is moving on to a new endeavor...opening her own Board and Brush franchise! She will be greatly missed.



Relationships is a newsletter for supporters of The Academy.

## Did You Know...

...when the school isn't using the Activity Center, many other churches, ministries and community organizations rent that space for activities? We've been the site for on-going basketball and volleyball camps, youth group gatherings, church events, and local college sports camps, to name a few. As stewards of a wonderful space that our community needs, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve other organizations by letting them use this incredible space!

...our pint-sized Patriots graduated Kindergarten on May 29th? The Kindergarteners will be joined by new students to the first grade program, so you guessed it...we will have two sections of first grade next year. Here we grow!



Mrs. Yount congratulates Benson on his graduation.

...we held a Promotion Ceremony for our 23 eighth graders on May 29th? Our eighth graders are going on to various schools; many are going into our high school program, others to high schools in the districts where they reside. Godspeed to all of our students as they go on to the next leg of their journey!

...the school held its spring concert at Antioch Christian Church in April, packing out the sanctuary and celebrating with an ice cream social afterwards? One of the most unique performances of the night was the sixth grade's deeply moving "black light hands drama", to "My Chains are Gone." Fortunately, someone captured it on their cell phone and it was put on our website...to date it has had over 3,700 views. You can view it here:

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/fws3\\_incaonline/180613102007-0500.mp4](https://s3.amazonaws.com/fws3_incaonline/180613102007-0500.mp4)

## STEM Program and Lab Moving Forward

This summer, we begin filling out our new STEM lab with equipment and furnishings! A team that includes Mr. Ridder, teachers and board members has been meeting this semester to plan for the addition of the STEM program at Isaac Newton.

Facilitated by a donor gift of \$92,000, the team is working on curriculum enhancement, training, equipment purchases, lab design and furnishings.

Larry Shonk, our secondary Science teacher, has already used the Vernier LabQuest system in classes.

"We used Vernier probe ware when students made predictive statements of how different colors absorb light. The temperature sensors were used to track and chart temperature change over time. They entered the collected data directly to their Chromebooks for each trial and then incorporated the graphs into their final lab reports."

The Science lab will also need a vent hood to the outside, a chemical and eye shower, and other upgrades to accommodate a chemistry program in the fall.

The bulk of the gift will be spent on the STEM program, as the Academy pulls together the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

"A visit to a STEM lab at a Christian school in the south this past winter helped me gain a clearer vision and become even more excited about our new lab," Technology Facilitator Kristi Nanke explained. "Almost daily, through emails and online technology page posts, I learn more about the limitless possibilities for integrating STEM lessons into existing curriculum. Just this morning, we were able to have a Grant Wood AEA representative share STEM resources with the faculty that will make this integration process a smooth one. I can't wait to see the lab and lessons in action next year. What a blessing to our school!"

By the fall, we will have photos to share with you in Relationships!



From Top: Kyla playing a violin solo; siblings Olivia and Lucas sing a worship song; Elliot wows the crowd with a piano solo.

ISAAC NEWTON TALENT SHOW 2018



Seventh grade students used new microscope cameras in a recent experiment on pond water. "Students collected samples of pond water near their homes," explained Science teacher, Mr. Larry Shonk. "They then monitored microscopic organisms over time and used the cameras to capture images of what they were seeing. The students then uploaded the pictures and merged them into their final lab reports."



8th grade is full of special adventures! In addition to the class trip to Minneapolis, the students went to a high ropes course outside of Cedar Rapids, which built their courage and trust.

## Scholars Campaign Update

In May, Isaac Newton Christian Academy received a \$187,000 gift to be used toward finishing out the Activity Center! This major gift puts us within reach of that goal.

The Activity Center is always a busy place, whether our students are using it for physical education classes, home practices and games, or whether a ministry, church or community organization is using it after hours!

According to ISHAA Rules, we can only have home games for high school sports if we provide locker rooms for both our students and visitors. Plans to finish the Activity Center include men's and women's locker rooms, a weight/conditioning room, and athletic director/coaches offices.

"We will also put in a mezzanine level above that area, providing room for two additional classrooms as well as more storage," explained Josh Davis, Board President. "We are working on the projected cost to complete the project, and we and will have a remaining fundraising target for next year."

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