

Annual Report

2021-22

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A year in review

The 2021/22 school year was marked by the ongoing changes and challenges of COVID-19. You may have forgotten our school's closure in the early weeks of September 2021 because we thankfully experienced increasing levels of normalcy as the year progressed. We are grateful that sports teams were able to compete, drama and music performances could take place, field trips could happen, and larger gatherings could take place including welcoming parents back to a full-house for our Easter chapel.

Our thematic focus for 2021/22 was learning to be order-discoverers. Order is found in patterns, symmetry, numbers, nature, DNA, physics, laws of nature, sustaining the universe, and much more. Our world displays God's character of integrity and His unchanging, constant nature. Nature possesses a precise, intricate order, and there is nothing random about creation or our lives.

What a great reassurance that even in the midst of challenges, our God is a God of order and control. Our theme verse came from Colossians 1:16, "For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him."

Reflecting on the 2021/22 school year, we can see that our vision of providing innovative Christian education in a mission-minded community where every student thrives was at the forefront of our minds. Here are just a few moments to remind us how we lived it out:

- A quick pivot to home-learning in early September for all students to support ongoing learning that was

- mindful of the different health situations in each home
- Chapel continued to be livestreamed for our elementary and high school families
- Launch of our middle school chapels to focus on the unique needs and interests of Gr. 6-8 students
- Field trips to various locations
- Participation in sports tournaments including our first ever trip to the Senior Boys Volleyball Provincials
- Drama production of *Newsies* at Theatre in the Country with many sold out shows

Our educational leadership team continued to refine our educational goals and the launch of our Grade 6-8 middle school program was a resounding success. We also engaged our teaching staff to update our reporting procedures to better reflect the progress of learning and to keep parents informed on an ongoing basis by using MyBlueprint K-8 and Google Classroom.

We continue to plan for our ongoing enrolment increases and are blessed by amazing staff that join our team each year. Indeed, God provides for our needs.

The work of Maple Ridge Christian School is important kingdom work, and we - the Board, administration, teachers, and support staff - appreciate your ongoing prayers.

May the shalom of God be with you,



Quentin Flokstra
Lead Principal

Why are we here?



Core Values

Maple Ridge Christian School is:

1. Christ Centered

We are rooted in the Christian faith and the Bible. We are committed to operating and teaching with a biblical world and life view.

2. Forward Thinking

We pursue excellence and innovation in education. We are committed to preparing our students for today and for the future.

3. Community Building

We practice community by cultivating relationships in love and grace from kindergarten to Grade 12.

4. Disciple Focused

We see the whole student—heart, soul, mind, and strength. We are committed to nurturing our students, so they can discern their God-given purpose.

Mission and Core Purpose

Equip, train, and inspire students to lead a life worthy of their calling to transform the world for the glory of God.

To bring glory to God by providing innovative Christian education in a mission-minded community where every student thrives.

Strategic Priorities

Guided by our mission and core purpose and aligned with our core values, we will develop and fulfil our goals under the following priority areas:

1. Education and Learning
2. Facilities and Finances
3. Building Community
4. Programs

Who is our board?



Left to right: Jonathan Robbins (Director); Jesse Bodner (Director); Andrea Davies (Director); Alyson Westra (Director); Kevin Sowerby (Secretary); Quentin Flokstra (Director); Nate Searle (President/Chair); Bob Barclay (Director); Alm Casey (Director); Adam Crowston (Vice President); Karen Volcz (Director)

These board members have been hard at work advancing the mission, vision, and policies of our school. As well as their core work as a board team, individual board members also have the following committees and task forces on the go:

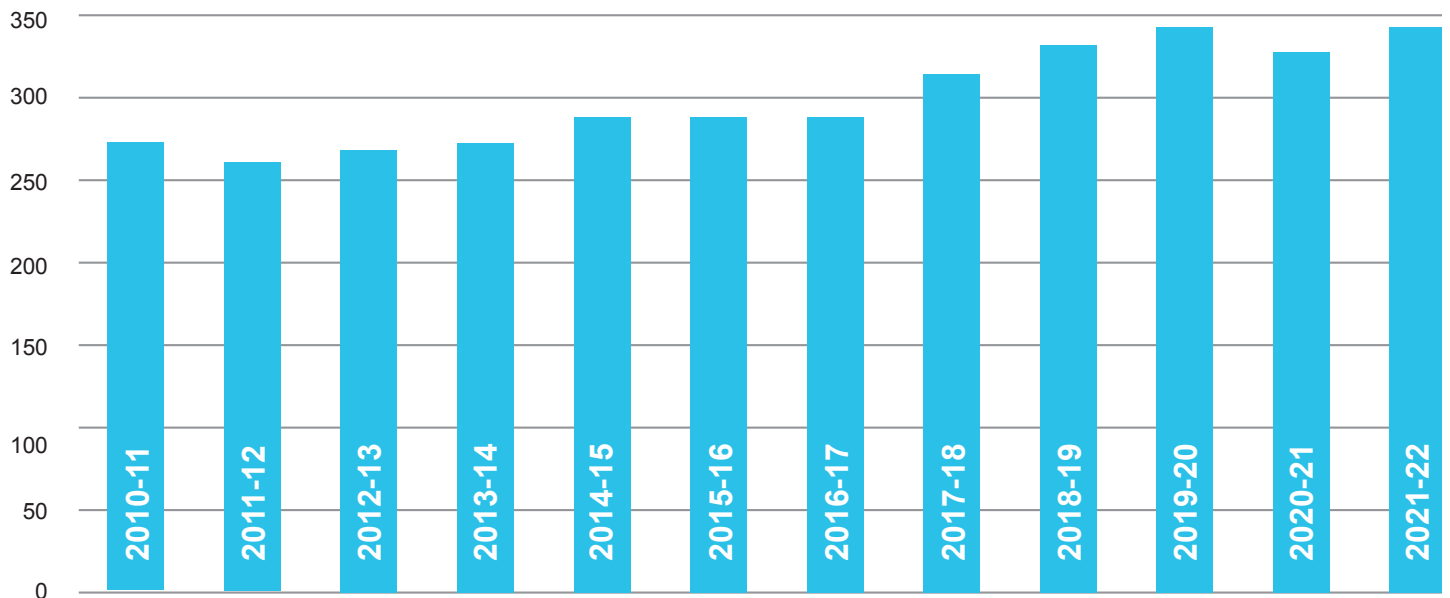
- Governance and Strategic Planning Committee
- Finance Committee
- Nominations and Board Development Committee
- Capital Project Task Force

Student growth

After a slight enrolment dip due to some families choosing to unregister in favour of home-learning during the pandemic, the 2021-22 school year saw our student population rebound with continued growth going forward.



Enrolment 2010/11 - 2021/22



344 students
registered for the 2021-22
school year

34
applications
already received for the 40 spaces
available in kindergarten 2023-24



A glowing report

You will be happy to hear that our school was given top marks during an external inspection in early November.

Every six years, the Ministry of Education sends a team to MRCS (as they do with all independent schools) to thoroughly scrutinize our policies, curriculum, in-class teaching, and to gather feedback from staff, parents, and students. This process is a top-to-bottom analysis of the education we provide at Maple Ridge Christian School.

When the audit was complete, it was reported that we have a “quality education that includes love, care, and concern,” as well as these commendations:

- a school body that is living out our expressed mission statement and core competencies
- a warm, inviting, sense of community that felt like family

- a diverse population where each student knows they are valued
- passionate teachers and support staff who are really invested and doing great work
- curriculum and teaching methods that extend past what is required by the Ministry of Education





- students who are quite happy and feel good about being here
- creative use of limited physical space
- extremely high levels of staff retention
- an excellent student support program that can serve many diverse needs
- an innovative library learning commons program that is a true K-12 hub

Moving forward, our school was given two primary areas to address:

- 1.increased staffing levels to meet the increased demand our school is experiencing
- 2.a completed building project to provide the physical

space we require for our current students and to also meet future demand

We praise Jesus that the commendations in this audit accurately reflected the values and day-to-day experience of being a part of Maple Ridge Christian School. We also heartily agree with the indicated areas to address and appreciate the external confirmation that more staff and space are non-negotiables for the health and future of our school.

With the building plans passed and the loan in place, just a few more donations will mean we can put shovels in the ground and start the construction for those needed spaces.

These are our stories

There is a reason why your family and nearly 200 other families are at Maple Ridge Christian School. There is also a reason why even more families wish to be here than we currently have space for.

A heartbeat exists at Maple Ridge Christian School that goes well beyond a typical school experience. Here are some of our stories:

I was inspired

Every single one of my teachers inspired me to become a teacher. They not only taught me, but challenged the way I viewed the world in order to develop my beliefs.

MRCS has also provided me with many opportunities to work with younger grades, specifically as a Teacher's Assistant in Kindergarten.

The teachers at MRCS have set an example for how I want to be as a future elementary teacher.

– Alumni student (2007-2020)

We found acceptance

One of my children has Tourette's Syndrome. When he transferred into Maple Ridge Christian School for Grade 3, I assumed that the other students would understandably point out or be curious about his physical and vocal tics. With each day that passed, I waited for the inevitable story of how he felt like the odd-one-out in the class.

He is now in Grade 9 and that day has never arrived. His MRCS classmates immediately accepted my son for exactly who he is and have grown up with him without giving a second thought or comment about his condition.

He has also found the most amazing support in his teachers and the school's youth care worker. I can't imagine my son having such an inclusive and positive experience anywhere else. Maple Ridge Christian School has nurtured my son in the best way while showing him Christ's love and acceptance in action.

–Current middle and high school parent



My son was saved

How do I explain in a nutshell, the awesomeness of Maple Ridge Christian School? How do I describe how God used MRCS to keep my son here on earth and still alive? I have kept my daughter, who is now in Grade 12, at MRCS because of my son's experience here.

Noah was the kid that needed people to believe in him, before he could believe in himself. He was also the kid that even if you told him that the stove was hot, he would need to touch it for himself...and then touch it again with his second hand, just to be sure. I firmly believe and know the outcome of where my son is today wouldn't have been the same had he not had the support, prayer and encouragement from the faculty at MRCS.

Noah entered MRCS in Grade 9. He had found himself caught up in substance abuse and addiction at an

early age of 14, when he was only in Grade 8. These were the most stressful and darkest years for our family. He still had many struggles even after joining the MRCS community but always tried to DO better and BE better. He would try, and then he would fail, he would try harder, then fail again. But the difference at MRCS was that his support teachers saw that he was trying. They would tell him they believed in him, they would pray for him. They would encourage him. And that is exactly what he needed.

He made mistakes throughout his 4-year journey at MRCS, but the teachers never wrote him off. They worked with him each and every single day, and met him where he was at. Today Noah is addiction free, living for God and he is happy. I will never, ever forget the kindness, forgiveness, patience, and the living examples of Jesus exemplified in the staff at MRCS.

—Current high school parent



We have peace

I was working in public education before becoming a mother. My husband and I assumed our kids would also be educated in public schools, but after we heard about Maple Ridge Christian School and looked into its programs, we were excited to send our children here.

We realized that not only would our kids get a strong academic education, but they would also pray with teachers and classmates, learn from the Word, and be challenged to see the world from a Godly viewpoint. We were sold!

There is peace in knowing that the Christian principles in which we believe and trust are being taught at home, in church AND at school!

—Current elementary, middle, and high school parent



I was loved

All my years at MRCS showed me what a difference a smile or encouraging word can make. I was constantly supported, loved, and respected at MRCS.

Spreading love and kindness is something we are all capable of and it's how we spread God's joy.

—Alumni student (2007-2020)

We are in community

MRCS provides a warm and nurturing environment which has allowed our children to grow tremendously.

We are comforted to know that the values and teaching are grounded in the Word of God. The teachers are considerate, caring and a pleasure to work with.

Our family has found an incredible, supportive community in this school!

—Current elementary parent





My life was changed

Maple Ridge Christian School was and always will be a family for me. I attended MRCS from Grade 10 to Grade 12, and it was definitely one of the most life-changing journeys in my life.

At MRCS, I learned more about myself, my identity, and my purpose in this world. The experiences I had there constantly remind me that I made the right choice by choosing to study at MRCS.

– Alumni international student (2016-2019)

I learned about God

I want others to know what I know about God. I think everyone should have the chance to get to know Him. At Maple Ridge Christian School, I learned what God has done for us and how to share that with others.

–Alumni student (2017-2022)

I had fun

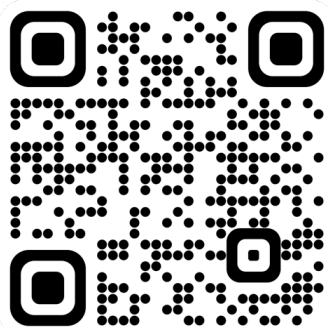
I remember a few great class projects from my time at MRCS that really brought the learning to life.

One project was in kindergarten with Mrs. Newbigging where we transformed the entire classroom into a beehive and had the most amazing entrance we had to duck through at the front door. I remember feeling like I was transforming into a worker bee every time I “flew” through the door!

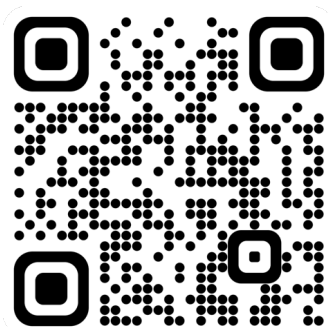
–Alumna, 1987-1994



What is your family's MRCS story?
Let us know here:



Do you have an alumni story?
Let us know here:



Making room for more stories

Every family that we welcome into our community starts a new story that the Lord is writing through Maple Ridge Christian School. Each child's account includes triumphs and challenges that are experienced in a community where students are celebrated and known by their classmates, teachers, and their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

In order to welcome more children into the narrative of what God is doing at Maple Ridge Christian School, we need to make more room. Our new classroom and gym extension project is the key to opening up more spaces and growing the future of our school.

Here are the steps that we have taken to make these new spaces a reality:

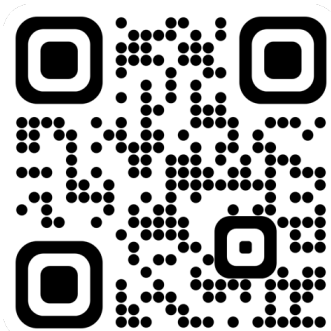
- Established a Capital Project Task Force in 2019
- Hired Station One Architects (SOA) in 2019
- Signed on with Fictorie Construction Management in 2019
- Worked closely with SOA and Fictorie to create design plans from 2019-2021
- Secured a CRC Extension Fund loan in 2020
- Submitted design plans for City approval in 2021
- Received City approval and subsequent building permit in 2022
- Fictorie tendered out bids in 2022 (costs came back higher than expected)
- Secured a larger RBC loan (to replace CRC loan) in 2022

Here are the steps that we are on the verge of taking:

- Fictorie to re-tender out the bids (expected to come back with lower costs this time)
- Fictorie to set up construction site (by the end of 2022)
- Fictorie to proceed with construction (from 2023-2024)

The constant challenge for this project has always come down to the funding. We continue to seek donations and on November 29 (Giving Tuesday) we aim to raise \$50,000 in one day! Half of this funding has been provided in the form of a \$25,000 matching donation from the Baric Foundation. Will you help us find the remaining \$25,000?

Find out more at mrcs.ca/givingtuesday or scan:



Congratulations class of '22!



Our goal for each MRCS graduate is that s/he:

- Is a dedicated Christ follower who honours the Lord with a sincere heart
- Is rooted in Scripture and biblically literate
- Is a confident leader knowing his/her own strengths and God-given giftedness
- Has a strong academic foundation and is prepared for whatever path s/he chooses to take
- Has had the opportunity to explore athletics and the arts and develop an appreciation for active and creative interests
- Looks to serve in whatever community s/he finds him/herself in
- Promotes justice and wisely uses his/her influence
- Seeks and proclaims truth in all areas of life

The Grad Class of 2022 rose to meet every challenge, especially those over the last two years. These students showed resilience, perseverance, endurance, and deep hope.

We were glad that many of our usual graduation celebrations (grad breakfast, grad trip, and grad banquet) were reinstated, allowing these grads to fully celebrate this milestone.

We trust that the bonds that they forged at Maple Ridge Christian School will resonate throughout their lifetimes. And it is our prayer that the faith foundation that was formed here will continue to grow and become stronger with each passing year onwards.

Financial stewardship

Income Statement

Rounded to the nearest thousand

| | 2022 | 2021 | Change |
|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| Revenue - Operations | | | |
| Operating Revenue | 4,258,000 | 3,929,000 | 8% |
| Fundraising and Donations | 324,000 | 173,000 | 87% |
| Total Operating Revenue | 4,582,000 | 4,102,000 | 12% |
| Expenditures - Operations | | | |
| Instructional | 3,144,000 | 2,895,000 | -9% |
| Operating | 407,000 | 506,000 | 20% |
| Administrative | 398,000 | 370,000 | -8% |
| Total Operating Expenses | 3,949,000 | 3,771,000 | -5% |
| Surplus from Operations | 633,000 | 331,000 | 91% |
| Other Income (Interest) | 7,000 | 5,000 | 40% |
| Surplus for Year | 640,000 | 336,000 | 90% |
| Capital Budget | 710,000 | 156,000 | 554,000 |

- Net surplus for the year was \$640,000
- Surplus increased 90% from last year due to increased donations, adding a new kindergarten class, and increase in student body
- The capital budget increased because of rolling out the building project





Balance Sheet

Rounded to the nearest thousand

| | 2022 | 2021 | Change |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| Assets | | | |
| Cash | 2,628,000 | 2,700,000 | -3% |
| AR | 52,000 | 23,000 | 126% |
| Prepaid Expenses | 30,000 | 22,000 | 36% |
| Capital assets | 2,830,000 | 2,220,000 | 27% |
| Total Assets | 5,540,000 | 4,965,000 | 12% |
| Liabilities | | | |
| AP | 224,000 | 270,000 | 17% |
| Government Remittances | 89,000 | 143,000 | 38% |
| Prepaid Tuition | 422,000 | 366,000 | -15% |
| Deferred Contributions | 31,000 | 52,000 | 40% |
| Total Liabilities | 766,000 | 831,000 | -8% |
| Net Assets | 4,774,000 | 4,134,000 | 15% |

- Assets increased 12% from last year due to the year’s surplus and the start of the capital building project
- Overall liabilities decreased except for Prepaid Tuition which increased due to more expected students in the 2022-23 school year
- Net assets increased 15% from last year as we continue to save for the building project

