

Growing Bright Futures...



Back Row, L to R: Ronnie Beard, Sandy Patton, Jayne Heath, Glen Ducote, Francis Robichaux, Dallas Hixson, Tara Cochran, Jonathan Peyton.

Front Row, L to R: Agnes Ashby, Lisa Neely (Board Treasurer), Cynthia Meeker, Blaine Hebert, Misty Antoon, Lynn Brewer, Jeff Draughon, Tammi Salazar, Todd Leleux, Lynn Wheelis, Spencer Martin (Not Pictured)

Seated: Doug Godard (Board Vice-President) & Robert Kinberger (Board President)

On behalf of the Board of Alexandria Country Day School, I would like to extend a great big “Thank You” for your support of our 2009-2010 Annual Drive. The Board is committed to being good stewards of the school’s resources, which is mainly derived from your tuition dollars. Under our current budget, 94 cents of each tuition dollar goes towards meeting teacher/staff salaries and benefits. It is through our major fundraisers, Bingo and The Fall Fair, that we are able to cover the additional expenses of operating the school. Our Annual Drive is necessary to provide our children and teachers with the best possible resources in the areas of technology and training, as well as, future capital improvements to our campus.

As we kick-off the 2010-2011 Drive, I hope that you will join me in making a meaningful, tax-deductible gift to this year’s Drive. As the father of two girls, Emma (5th grade) and Ali a recent Country Day graduate, I know firsthand that supporting ACDS is an investment in your children that will have tremendous returns both now and when they leave Country Day. It is through the generosity of our trustees, parents, alumni, grandparents, teachers, staff and many friends that the school continues to maintain high standards and the quality programs that make ACDS a place where we are “Growing Bright Futures”.

Robert H. Kinberger, CFP®
ACDS Board President

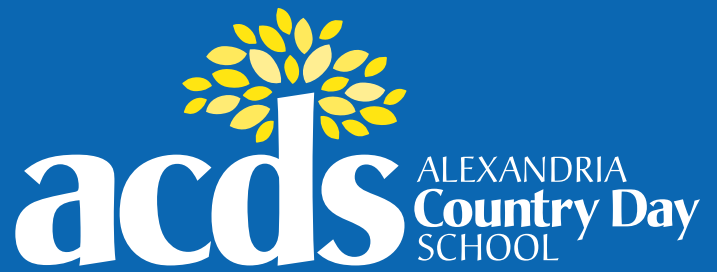
Thank You...



The Future at Country Day

The Alexandria Country Day School Board of Directors, in an effort to make our school the very best it can be, has begun the process of strategic planning. This endeavor will be undertaken using a combination of resources. Along with board members, several focus groups will be involved. These will include Country Day faculty and staff, parents, and older students. ACDS alumni, founders, former board members, and community leaders will be invited to participate as well. Since this will be our first strategic plan, a consultant has been hired to assist us. Mr. John Littleford, of Littleford and Associates, works throughout the world with independent schools. He will be here to meet and work with the focus groups on January 12 – 15, 2011.





From The Headmistress

As a new headmistress during the 2009-2010 school year, I quickly learned why Country Day has a well-deserved reputation for excellence. ACDS employs an approach that maximizes student potential through offerings in a curriculum filled with academic challenges, artistic and athletic opportunities. Through small class sizes that allow low student-to-teacher ratio, our students are encouraged to exercise intellectual curiosity, and they are inspired to achieve in all aspects of their lives. A stellar staff of degreed and dedicated educators set high expectations for themselves and for our students through personalized instruction that places student need first.

While I marvel at what I see at our fine school, I also realize the importance of continuously examining our focus and our programs. This is an exciting time at Country Day as we embark on Strategic Planning that will guide us to identify ways to strengthen what is currently in place and ways to embrace innovation that will take us to the next level of distinction. As we meet the challenges of 21st century education, we are increasing our commitment to professional development that is rigorous and relevant, and we are continuing to add state-of-the-art technology to impact student learning throughout the curriculum.



But Alexandria Country Day is not just a place of notable programs; it is also a place of engaging people. As is evident in our school's rich history, there is strong collaboration among staff, students, parents, board members and patrons; a strong link that results from teamwork. A positive learning environment that nurtures student growth is evident. It's an atmosphere that is difficult to explain but easy to experience.



Alexandria Country Day School

Past, Present, and Future

By Beth Arsenault, *Director of Development*

In my seven years as a parent here, I've often felt that I was a part of something greater than just the school where my children were receiving their education. Since I became a staff member, I have had the opportunity to discover more about the history of Country Day by studying files and looking at old photos and yearbooks. A more important source of this knowledge, and certainly the one I enjoy the most, is visiting with the founders, former board members, and alumni of ACDS. These include Mrs. Ruth Prince, Mrs. Lola Miller, Dr. Malcolm Denley, Dr. James White, and Dr. Al Mansour, all of whom took part in the production of our ACDS 40th Anniversary Commemorative DVD. Alumni Noel Fontane, Emily Silver Weeks, Kate Silver, and Michael Silver were participants as well. It was heartwarming to hear them speak so fondly of the years they spent working for and attending our school – of the impact it had on their children's lives and the difference it made in the lives and futures of the former students. Today, Alexandria Country Day School graduates are leaders in our schools, churches, businesses and in our community.

As I've learned more about our history, one idea remains constant. ACDS is something special – something out of the ordinary. There is nothing "easy" about being a Country Day student. It calls for hard work and perseverance but the rewards are evident.

Through high tech equipment and innovative teaching methods, our classrooms continue to become more interactive and inspiring. Mrs. Rials and our outstanding faculty are dedicated to ensuring a future of continued excellence at Country Day. They are exceedingly generous with their hard work, time, and talent. Of course, their spirit of giving does not stop in the classroom. We're proud to say Alexandria Country Day School had 100% participation among faculty and staff in our first ACDS Annual Fund Drive.

As we embark on a new era, the future here is full of opportunity and promise. There has never been a more exciting time to be a part of this dynamic institution!



us choose to educate our children at ACDS because it offers our children the best academic experience. All of us are busy. All of us have little time 'to spare'. All of us have something special to offer – ourselves.

In today's economy, money is hard to come by and even harder to keep. Time, however, is our most limited resource . . . and our most powerful. It is with Time that we make the greatest commitment to our children – we are saying, "You, my dear child, are important to me!" As a parent, your time and talent is welcomed and needed at ACDS. Please come, be involved. Volunteering at ACDS is a rewarding way to be involved with your children and their friends and their friends' parents. It is a great way to stay informed. We can greatly enhance our children's academic lives if every parent gives a bit of their time. Please keep in mind, when you sign up as a room parent or parent volunteer for copying or planning a party or event, that you have made a commitment on which teachers and children are relying. Volunteer and choose to improve the ACDS experience for your child.

Best wishes,
Cynthia Meeker
President, ACDS Parent Club

Parent Club:

Where every parent is a member.
Choose to be an active member!

Let me offer you a warm welcome to the ACDS Parent Club. Parent Club is the organization of all ACDS parents, where we come together to maximize our efforts in making a difference at our children's school. We are a diverse group of individuals. We come from many different backgrounds and professions. Most of us work outside the home; a few of us do not. Yet we share more common characteristics than differences: All of

“Coach Boniol honored by Louisiana First Lady”

Louisiana's First Lady, Supriya Jindal honors our own Coach Boniol with the First Lady Award. This award is given monthly to an outstanding individual who is making a positive difference in the lives of children in Louisiana. Coach Boniol has been teaching in Rapides Parish for 44 years with 7 of those years here at Alexandria Country Day School. Coach Boniol is shown with Mrs. Jindal (left) and his wife Linda (right).

Congratulations, Coach Boniol!





From The 2009-2010 Annual Fund Chairs

Last year, we embarked on Country Day's first Annual Fund Drive. Openheartedly, teachers, parents, grandparents and friends, alike, united in this effort to further enrich the education provided to our students and embrace the challenges of the 21st century classroom. Of course, each and every gift, regardless of size, mattered, and together, this powerful team raised \$129,000!

We would like to thank each and every one of our generous donors for helping make this fund drive possible. Because of you, the Fund Drive was a great success and directly benefitted the students of Country Day! The gifts to the fund drive helped fund cutting-edge technology, such as Promethean Boards in every classroom. It also helped fund training for teachers, which included training in Kagan Structures, an effective technique which advances academic achievement in students and produces an interactive classroom with more engaged children. The students of ACDS will benefit from the gifts to the Fund Drive for years to come.

Like most independent schools, tuition alone does not cover the cost of educating children in the 21st century classroom. Moreover, as our Headmistress Mrs. Rials has said, "Our mission to improve will never end," and the Annual Fund Drive will help in this worthy endeavor.

At Country Day, every gift is deeply appreciated and each dollar makes a difference. While our donor community is small right now, if we all join together, we are uniquely positioned to catapult students' education to the highest level and create vast future opportunities for the students of Country Day. Thank you for supporting our wonderful school in this important cause through the Annual Fund Drive.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Chris and Misty Antoon



Alexandria Country Day School Annual Report 2009-2010

Leadership Gifts

Visionaries (\$10,000 and above)

Randy and Paula Tarver

A very special thank you goes out to Country Day parents Randy and Paula Tarver. Their gift in the “Visionaries” category of the first ACDS Annual Fund Drive was designated to the purchase of three Promethean Boards. This was the first donation to the 2009-2010 Annual Fund Drive!

Benefactors (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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 Chris and Misty Antoon
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 Robert and Jennifer Kinberger
 Todd and Trish Leleux
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Sustainers (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

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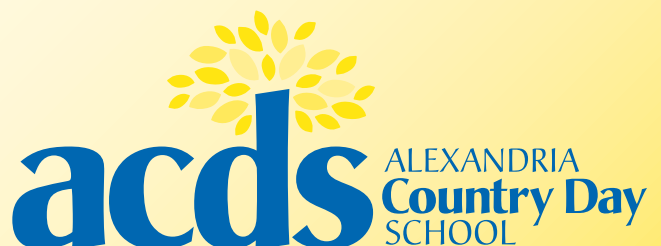
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In- Kind Gifts:

Thanks to Malcolm Burns for air conditioning services at our 40th Anniversary Celebrations

A very special thank you goes out to Bob and Pam Schroeder for the use of their lovely home for our 2009-2010 ACDS Patron Party.

A special thanks to our faculty for your generous support!



*A sincere thank you to our corporate donor -
 the Coughlin-Saunders Foundation.*



Giving Back to the Community and Beyond

Country Day students and their families have shown their generous spirit in many ways this year. Even before the school year began, faculty member Wendy Diaz del Valle, sponsor of the newly formed ACDS Junior Beta Club, began a collection of school supplies, backpacks, and clothing. This was a program begun by Louisiana First Lady Supriya Jindal to aid the families whose livelihoods were dependent upon the seafood industry in our state.

Although adversely affected by the oil spill, they were not receiving benefits from BP. Many items were collected, sorted and packed for shipping by the Junior Beta Club members. We would like to extend our appreciation to the local UPS Store for donating their shipping services to us and helping out with this worthwhile cause.

This year, we collected 3,408 phone books for recycling! A big thank you goes out to Country Day parent Aimee Vincent of ADS for her contribution to this endeavor and to the moms who loaded and delivered all of the books to be recycled.

Our Student Council held another "hat day" in the fall to benefit St Jude Children's Hospital. Students and staff contributed \$2.00 or more and had the privilege of wearing a hat to school. We collected and donated \$825.00!

The students, faculty, and staff of ACDS, in conjunction with the Susan G. Komen Race For the Cure, held in Alexandria in October, wore pink to school on October 15th and donated at least \$2.00 per person. We raised \$1,075.00 which was donated to the Komen Foundation.

On Saturday, December 4th, Country Day students Sarah Bollinger, Lindsay Bollinger, Zach Bollinger, Jacob Bollinger, Marta Bollinger, André Arsenault, and Isabella Arsenault volunteered their time to assist Neblett, Beard, and Arsenault with the collection of toys for "Toys for Tots".

We are now collecting toys and money for donation to CASA and winter outer wear for needy families in our area. Junior Beta, in conjunction with KALB, is collecting canned food for the Food Bank of Alexandria.

Country Day Connection

Quick Bites...

ACDS Shines in LaCue Student Video Contest

Country Day Students, under the sponsorship of ACDS computer teacher Carol Smith and with some assistance from our Librarian, Jan Reich, competed recently in the LaCue Student Video Contest. It was a collaborative effort which included the 8th grade computer students and Mrs. McKelvy's 2nd grade class. Tying for first place in the points division, their entry was entitled "Do Unto Otters". In a tie breaker, Country Day received the runner-up position. Kudos to Mrs. Smith, Mrs. McKelvy, and our creative students!

4-H Winners

ACDS 4-H Club members competed in the tractor driving competition held this Fall.

Will Hunter took first place in the elementary division and Zachary Smith was the first place winner in the junior high division. **Congratulations to both boys.**

Great Job 5th & 6th Grade Girls Basketball Team!

The girls won the Our Lady of Prompt Succor basketball tournament held on December 4th, 2010.

Congratulations ACDS Cheerleaders!

The Country Day Cheerleader Competition Squad competed in their first cheerleading competition this year at the Rapides Parish Fair where they placed fourth in the junior high division! This squad consists of twelve girls. We are very proud of their hard work and dedication in serving our school.

Way to go girls!

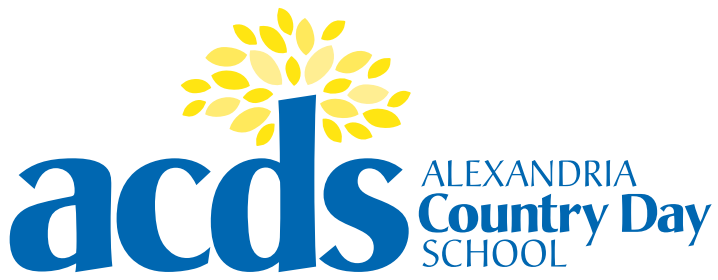
Muzzle Loader State Championship

Seventh grade ACDS student Austin Pace won the State Championship in the Muzzle Loader Competition. The event was held in August at Camp Grant Walker in Pollock.

Triathlon Association National Championship

André Arsenault, Country Day 5th grader, competed in the United States Triathlon Association National Championship in San Diego, California in August. He won first place in the 9-10 year old boy's division.





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