

# **2015 LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

(May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015)

**To:** Association Membership, Conference of Delegates, and Board of Control of Luther High School

**From:** Luther High School Campaign Committee  
Chairman: Greg Scriver, Jon Bilitz, Wade Hackbarth, Dave Liggett, Larry Lindesmith, Brad Schaper, Greg Schibbelhut, Daniel Scriver, Kevin Strangman, Steve Wrobel  
(Advisory: Don Fruit, Paul Wichmann, Pastor A.Schultz, Dan Kunz)

**Re:** Initial Financial/Campaign Committee Recommendations for Approval

## **I. Background**

At its February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting, the Conference of Delegates approved the Master Plan Steering Committee's motion to develop plans and cost estimates for a portion of Phase 1 of the Luther High School building project – A remodel of the auxiliary gymnasium locker rooms and bathrooms, and a new athletic shed. The approval also authorized the formation of a Finance Committee to research options for funding/financing all of the Phase 1 building and site projects at LHS, and to present those options at the May COD meeting.

The LHS joint Building/Finance Committee met on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to discuss its individual committee responsibilities and the importance to work closely together.

The Finance Committee (forthwith named Campaign Committee) elected Greg Scriver as Chairman at the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 meeting. The committee also reviewed the Master Plan and an update from the Building Committee.

At the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting, Cornerstone Stewardship Ministry made a presentation on how they, as a retained third party fund-raising expert, would conduct an Awareness and Readiness Study, and manage a Capital Campaign.

The committee met on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to discuss and formulate (*four*) recommendations to be submitted to the COD meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Don Fruit, Chairman of the Building Committee, attended and participated in the meeting.

## **II. Preamble**

### **A. Nehemiah – Let’s Rise Up and Build**

**God places challenges in our lives to give us opportunity to demonstrate His love for us and show love for Him. Nehemiah had that opportunity presented to him when he supervised the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. Nehemiah knew that God had “placed in his heart” the desire to serve him in this endeavor, and Nehemiah pointed the people to the Grace of God who would lead them to complete the task. Their response? “LET’S RISE UP AND BUILD!” Wow! What a response of faith! The same Grace of God has touched OUR hearts and OUR lives, and God has placed before us an opportunity to build something that will be a blessing to the students, congregations, and Him as we RISE UP AND BUILD at Luther High School.**

### **B. Historical –**

**Purposeful, prayerful planning; that is precisely what various committees and many Luther High association members have been endeavoring to do. Echoes of that planning date back to October 19, 1944, when a meeting was held at First Lutheran Church in LaCrosse to discuss the establishment of a Lutheran high school. God blessed that purposeful planning with the opening of Luther High School on September 8, 1957. Seven times since that September day the Lord has blessed members of the Luther High School Association in their prayerful, purposeful efforts to add building additions, In 2003-04, suggestions, recommendations and proposals in Luther High School’s accreditation long range goals included “consider moving up planning of three additional classrooms to allow room for classes with different interests” and “develop resources so that tech ed. programs can be incorporated into the curriculum and the provide a more suitable setting for the art department.” Recommendation from a self-study visitation team echoed a similar directive; “Create a plan to improve the appearance of the entrance of the school”. Since then, surveys of Luther High association members in 2009 and 2011 reflect that same interest in prayerful, purposeful planning to improve our building dedicated to Christ-centered education. May God continue to guide and bless those efforts.**

## **III. Recommendations and Requests**

**A. The Campaign Committee recommends the theme of the project to be based upon Nehemiah 2:18 – LET’S RISE UP AND BUILD! The committee will develop a marketing strategy around this Scriptural and unifying theme.**

**B. The Campaign Committee recommends that an Awareness and Readiness Study be conducted to evaluate the LHS building project, and to ascertain whether the school’s infrastructure will support a major capital campaign. And if so, to determine which type of capital campaign model would provide the best overall results. This would be conducted by a third party company such as, but not limited to, Cornerstone Stewardship Ministry. The Finance Committee requests permission to proceed with choosing a firm to conduct the study, and be authorized to spend up to \$15,000 from the current Building Fund.**

C. The Campaign Committee recognizes that a project of this size and scope has a great need for an individual (liaison) dedicated to relationship building and communicating with Association Congregations, individual members, Alumni, and various support groups of Luther High School. The Campaign Committee requests permission to develop a job responsibility description for this position, as well as the plan to fund this position.

D. Finally, the Campaign Committee recommends starting, completing, and paying for the following individual projects found in Phase 1 of the Building Project with funding for the projects taken from the current Building Fund. The Building Committee will submit detail plans and cost for the below projects.

- Athletic Shed \$ 80,000.00
- Locker Room and Bathrooms \$ 292,000.00

IV. Current Funding

A. \$1.872 million cash available

1. Building Fund - \$157,880
2. Chapel Fund - \$416,190
3. Kwik Trip Fund - \$1,298,529

It has been confirmed that funds are unrestricted and available to use in this project.

V. Summary

These recommendations will allow the project to get started and put a portion of the current gifts received to work. It will bring awareness and excitement to the Building Project as a whole. The Awareness and Readiness Study will affirm the interest and support level among the Association Congregations, individual members, Alumni, and support groups.

While the study is being conducted, the Campaign Committee will work on developing a marketing/communication campaign built around the theme *“LET’S RISE UP AND BUILD!”* Finally, the committee will work to create and define a job description for an individual that will serve as the liaison in this exciting project. The Campaign Committee will also develop a plan for funding the position.

VI. Closing

God promises to be with us always and to give us whatever we ask in His name, according to His good and gracious will. As we RISE UP AND BUILD, remember these words of promise from Ephesians 3:20-21: “Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”