

Greetings from Parkview Christian Academy!

Having just returned from our ACSI teacher's convention, I am absolutely excited and more committed to the task and privilege of Christian education than ever before. As we were watching a video of an African Christian school, the role we are playing here at Parkview was made very clear when one man commented, *I see beyond my lifetime*. Our very existence is to invest in a future generation that will outlast most of us and in the kingdom of God that will last forever. The words still linger in my mind and the reality of being involved in something bigger than what we see right now with our eyes is both humbling and inspiring.

Part of our mission here at Parkview is to "Equip Students" and we are excited to offer various activities that help us reach that goal. Along with the ushering in of autumn, September at Parkview brought the start of our intramural sports program, the beginning of our 5th-8th grade Band practices, and the first meeting of our junior high Drama Club. In their long-standing tradition, our junior high had a great three-day September campout at Dickson Valley in Newark (which was a well-earned break after all the hard work they put into their monumental history projects). This past month, our first graders spent a fun day at Phillips Park Zoo, our 2nd/3rd graders visited Brookfield Zoo, and our kindergarten class had an amazing "apple experience" and was visited by a missionary to Uruguay. Naper Settlement awaits our 2nd through 5th graders in October and our kindergarteners will be visiting Red Oak Nature Center in North Aurora.

In the midst of difficult news about our nation's economy and general instability in the world, we are thankful for a God who is in control over everything. And with the understanding that all things are in His hands, we remain busy here at Parkview in carrying out our mission of *Equipping Students, Reaching our Community, Touching the World*. We're excited about developing our Sports and Fine Arts programs and are committed to excellence in these areas and everything to which we set our hands. On the horizon is our *Taste of Africa and Mongolia* missions emphasis. Every grade has taken on a particular missionary or mission field and will be doing something special on their behalf.

It was my privilege on Saturday October 4 to open the doors of Parkview Christian Academy to the older alumni of Yorkville High School. While it was officially the 60th reunion of the *Class of 1948*, I walked side by side with folks who attended school in our present building from over a broad range of years. One former alumnus graduated in 1935! [In fact, a photo of Adele (Perkins) Reynolds, now 91 years old, is posted on our website!] It was fun to see one of the men hesitate in front of the former principal's office and recount how he made so many trips into that room that he couldn't help uttering the words, "I didn't do it!" as he walked through the doorway. I learned which rooms used to belong to which grades, that the former "lunchroom" was the gymnasium bleachers, and that the only bathrooms used to be in the basement ("...So if you were upstairs when you 'had to go,' you had better move pretty fast!"). I enjoyed getting to see them and it was yet another reminder of an old adage, "*Only one life twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last.*"

Thank you for your part in the ministry being done here at Parkview. Please feel free to let me know your thoughts on how things are going at the school. Email me at japker@ParkviewChristian.net.

Mr. Jim Apker, Principal
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