Something nice happened to Grover today at school. Grover just told me a story about lunch. He said, “Austin Daugherty (12th grade linebacker, basketball player, and shot putter) called my name at lunch today. I went over and said ‘yeah’, and he said, ‘want some of my oreos?’” If you see Austin, could you give him a pat on the back from Grover’s mom? What a great young man! This is one of my favorite things about Park. Big kids and little kids together.

Sent from Greta B., mom of Grover B.

As a parent of a first grader at Park Christian School, we want to express our appreciation for one of the many things we have observed at PCS. We love the way the older students are integrated into the younger classrooms. A senior, Hunter Nickel, is a student helper in our son, Stuart’s, class. It is a highlight of Stuart’s day each time “Mr. Nickel” joins them. Stuart looks up to him so much. It means a lot to our son to have an older student take the time to notice and pay attention to him and the rest of his class. Kids can never have too many positive influences and role models.

Looking to the future, this is something that we very much look forward to our children doing some day when they are the upper classmen. We feel it is an excellent way to challenge the older students by having them get to know and be involved with the younger generations. We also feel it is a great way to encourage the older students to live out their faith and what they are being taught each day, because they know that little eyes are always watching them.

We are thankful for Hunter and all the other student helpers for taking the time to impact the younger children for Christ. In our opinion, this is just one of the many things that sets PCS apart. Sincerely, Tony and Alissa Nelson

Equipping students to think biblically, live wisely and serve faithfully for over 30 years.
Speech

Mrs. Striker, PCS Speech Coach, was named the MN Sub-Section 8A Speech Coach of 2014 and tied for Section 8A Coach of the Year.

Sub Section Speech results:
Emily Tsen--1st place in Extemporaneous Reading
Sarah Herlihy—2nd place in Original Oratory
Katy St. John —2nd place for Storytelling
Kaylen Quanbeck—4th place in Prose
Jerad Nelson— Alternate in Humor

Section Speech results:
Emily Tsen--1st place, qualifying for State Speech in Extemporaneous Reading
Sarah Herlihy—6th place in Original Oratory
Katy St. John--1st alternate to State Speech in Storytelling
Kaylen Quanbeck--advanced to Section competition in Prose

State Speech results:
Emily Tsen--5th place in Class A Extemporaneous Reading
Katy St. John got to observe as an alternate in Storytelling.

Congratulations Speech team for a successful season!

Knowledge Bowl Team Advances to State

One of the Park Christian Knowledge Bowl teams placed 1st in the Sub-Section meet, advancing to Sections, and placed 2nd at the Section meet, advancing to the State Meet: **Sam Quanbeck, Michael Richards, Samuel Skarphol, and Cole Satrom**.

Thank for a great season **Mr. Moran** and the PCS Knowledge Bowl teams.

Mathletes

Six eight-member teams from PCS participated in the annual regional tri-college competition. One of the high school teams, comprised of Jared Motschenbacher, Josiah Quanbeck, Kaylen Quanbeck, Katherine Riendeau, Seth Heinen, Adrianna Kallis, Jordan Kerr, and Dan Thompson placed 2nd in the small school division. Placing in the top ten with their high individual scores: **Jordan** (5th), **Jared** (8th), and **Adrianna** (10th).

One of the junior high school teams placed 4th in the small school division: **Christian Elmer**, **Molly Metzger**, **Josh Schmeiss**, **Tommy Stueland**, **Brock Aamodt**, **Jonah Jelinski**, **Anna Skarphol**, and **Jacob Thompson**.

The math track meet competition is a wonderful learning experience for our students. They are given the opportunity to demonstrate their mathematical knowledge. We are very proud of the students who represented Park Christian School.
Students on the move

**MSHSL Section Music Festival Results**

The PCS High School Band and Choir members performed very well at the MSHSL Section Solo and Ensemble contest. **Fifteen of seventeen vocal numbers and five of ten instrumental numbers** received Superior ratings, earning qualification to the State level adjudication May 3rd at M State, Fergus Falls.

The PCS High School Band and High School Choir ensembles both additionally received a State Star rating at the large group contest. This is the highest rating groups can achieve! Congrats!

The Band and Choir are directed by Mr. Chris Schuster.

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**Ten PCS Students Participated in the MN State Science Fair**

Here are their impressive results:

- **American Chemical Society Award:** Honorable Mention *(Recognizes outstanding chemistry projects.)*
  - Nicole Jasperse
  - Chloe Drummond

- **Beckman Coulter Award:** 2nd Place in Science *(Recognizes projects that display potential for improving patient health and quality of life. ($50))*
  - Nicole Jasperse

- **SAS Data Analysis and Visualization Award:** *(Recognizes one high school student effectively uses data visualization to effectively describe a problem.)*
  - Adrianna Kallis

- **Seagate Emerging Scientist Award:** *(Recognizes excellent scientific research conducted by students competing for the first time.)*
  - Cameron Knoll

- **Broadcom MASTERS Award:** *(Recognizes the top 10% of all middle school projects)*
  - Cameron Knoll

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**Bronze Medals**

- Noah Bechtold
- Chloe Drummond
- Nicole Jasperse
- Olivia Wagendorf

**Silver Medal**

- Cameron Knoll

Congratulations students and Mrs. Rankin and Mrs. Schnabel!
PCS Banquet and Auctions, 2014

546 guests attended the PCS Banquet and Auctions March 29th at the Fargo Ramada Plaza Suites.

Thank you to the banquet chair, Jill Waslaski, and Auction Chairs, Janelle Steinberg and Stacy Nelson for serving excellently, with joy!

The auctions brought in over $39,000 and the table offering is nearing $50,000.

Thank you to each one of you for attending, sponsoring tables, donating auction items, bidding on auction items, inviting friends, participating in, praying for, and helping out with this year’s night of celebration!

Plan on coming next year: Saturday, April 11, 2015, at the Ramada. Be praying about who you can invite!
What do you get when you mix twenty 4th graders, twenty three 5th graders, a coach bus, and an all-expense 2 day trip to the MN Science Museum in Minneapolis? GREAT memories, new friendships, lots of hands on science exploration, giggles, funny stories, desire to become a scientist, t-shirts that glow in the dark, and badges for free admission to the MN Science Museum for the rest of 2014! That’s a tiny taste of what our 4th and 5th graders enjoyed.

Mr. Nellermoe applied for a grant and PCS was one of eighteen schools chosen for this fabulous all-expense paid trip.

A few highlights from students in Mrs. Militzer’s class:

**Emma Erkenbrack** – the stairs that played notes when you stepped on them and the lab and microscopes – they got to actually see cells, under the microscope, from the inside of their mouths.

**Sophia Beach** – The Omni Theatre presentation of Dinosaurs Alive and the pizza party with all eighteen schools that won the trip.

**Carter Englund** – The Optical Illusion movie and the High Powered Camera exhibit.

**Gabe Rudd** – The Tornado Exhibit, the Bike Chain exhibit, and the Tidal Wave interactive exhibit.

**All** – making memories with their classmates! Definitely a highlight! Ask a 4th or 5th grader what their favorite part of the trip was. But be ready to listen for a while! They had a full 2 days!
20 Year Legacy at Park Christian

We started sending our kids to Park Christian School when our oldest child, Robynn, began kindergarten in 1993 and will graduate our last child, Amy, this year, 2014. All three of our kids, Robynn, Ryan, and Amy attended PCS from kindergarten to graduation.

A Pre-school teacher made this statement to us; “if we are thinking about Christian education do it now when she is younger and the impact will be there for a lifetime.” We both felt a deep desire to make sure our kids knew the truth about God. Park Christian School helped us instill in our kids a love for God and helped show them how to live for Him every day.

Today Robynn is teaching Science to junior and senior high students in a Christian School in the Twin Cities and is a Children’s leader in BSF (Bible Study Fellowship).

Ryan continues to have a passion for telling people about Jesus and is in seminary at Bethel University.

Both Robynn and Ryan are married to people who love and serve God.

Amy is graduating this spring and heading to Florida to attend Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and dive. We pray she is a light for Jesus on this campus.

Lois and Mark Anfinrud

The Reimches were new to PCS in 2013-14. Unsolicited, they sent us the following reflections from this past year.

We are so blessed to have our girls at PCS! The environment, the focus on Jesus in everything, and how welcomed our family has been since day one has been amazing.

Mady said early in her transition.. “Mom it feels like I get to go to summer camp every single day. I love it”! She still says it feels like summer camp!! What an amazing feeling as a parent, for a sixth grade transfer student to have such a great transition that she feels like she is going to Bible camp, which she loves.

Her commitment to her learning, her relationships with others, her independence in learning, and the growth in her, has been life changing.

Jenna (3rd grade) is more hesitant to jump into things, and I knew it would take time for her to feel like it was her new home. She has a September birthday and I knew she was settled in when late fall she said, “next year I am inviting my PCS friends to my birthday”!

Travis and I love the support we feel from the teachers; their focus is on Jesus and they teach the values that we want to instill in our kids. They compliment what we are teaching at home.

The amount and detail of communication is amazing! From you, weekly emails from the office, updates from Chris Nellermoe, and direct from teachers, is beyond anything we ever experienced before PCS days.

It’s been an amazing journey and we continue to spread our love of PCS to others when given an opportunity!

Thank you for all you do. We love it! Jamie and Travis Reimche
Over 20 years and 4 children – a tale of a PCS Legacy

from Jerry and Tracie Overmoe

All four of our children have gone to Park for kindergarten – 12th grade. Elizabeth started in 92 or 93. Christina, our 4th, will graduate this year.

We were invited to a Park Banquet by a cousin’s husband. Our children were just little at the time and we had not even thought about where they would attend school.

There were days when we were not sure how we could afford the tuition, especially when I had some health struggles and could not work, but God would confirm over and over again through His provision that this is where our children should attend school. I remember one time when things were especially tight financially we called the school and told them we could not afford the tuition that year. There was a private donor that donated to help our children attend.

I am awestruck by His faithfulness. I have come close to tears at Back to School nights, so amazed that my kids could attend this school.

I cannot explain the total impact Park Christian School has had on our children. I can only imagine where they would be today if they had not attended Park Christian. I have ventured to think that way at times, and I am afraid that the path some of them may have chosen may not have been an easy one. They have thanked me for the more “protected life” growing up because eventually we are all exposed to all the world “has to offer” and it is nice to know there is a better way to live.

I remember when one of my children was in kindergarten and I came to class early to bring him or her in for class. I saw the teacher going around the room and pausing at each chair. She was praying for each child before they arrived that day.

The coaches and office staff have had a great impact on our children. Christina’s cheer coaches have been a mom’s dream for mentors in their child’s life. And when she is having a bad day, she can just go in the office and know that it is a safe place to vent and be loved. That has been very important to her.

My heart is so full as I write this. This will be a hard goodbye as we leave Park with our last graduating this year. I will always feel a part of the Park family. We have put our roots down here, invested in prayer and are so excited for the future of this school. Park is a light in a dark world.

Elizabeth is almost done with her PHD in Biochemistry and wants to go into Neuroscience research. She is currently doing research on bladder cancer. Melissa is an RN at Sanford home health pediatrics and Joe is going to be graduating this year from MSUM with honors in Criminal justice and minor in Psychology/Sociology. Christina has been accepted at UND for Mass Communications in the fall.

This winter, a stereo system, PA, and speakers were installed in the PCS Commons. So, now we can play Life 97.9 in the Commons all day long. I hope you have been in the school and been able to hear it and enjoy it.

At a recent Kindergarten round up, one of the moms literally stopped in her tracks and just got big tears in her eyes. She said, “I just can’t believe that my child would get to listen to uplifting Christian music at school!”
Chris Schuster

Chris Schuster is in his first year of teaching at PCS. He teaches High School Choir, High School Band, Jr. High Band, 6th Grade Band, 5th Grade Band, Jazz Band, and PCS Singers. Mr. Schuster has a Music Education degree from NDSU.

Tell me a little bit about your family:
I come from a family of 6. We are fortunate to all still live in the FM area!

What do you love most about teaching?
I love the opportunities that teaching provides to enable students academically, but even more than that, I enjoy the chance to equip and empower students to live a “no compromise” life of authenticity and devotion to God that makes a mark on their world.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I enjoy songwriting, playing basketball, and recording music. I also enjoy laughing with my siblings until we are either on the floor, or in tears.

Tell your story: What does Park Christian School mean to you?
The spiritual environment that is encouraged and created by the staff, teachers, and students at Park Christian School is unlike any other school (or even Christian school for that matter) that I have ever been in. I grew up personally knowing a handful of students from Park Christian, and I was always impressed with their knowledge of God’s Word, and their heart for worship.

The best part about following Jesus is....
the fruits of His Holy Spirit, the community of those who share our faith, and the intimacy with Christ experienced daily through worship, prayer, and a life of love.

Volleyball Coach Staffing Changes

Chrystal Deringer has accepted the head volleyball coaching position at PCS for the 2014-2015 school year. Julie Faul, head coach from 2012-2014, requested to step down as she works to pursue her master’s degree. Ms. Faul will continue to serve as the assistant/JV coach this year. Alicia Greening remains on staff as the assistant/C squad coach.

Chrystal competed as a Student-Athlete at NDSU from 1994-1997. She officiated at the HS & college level from 1997-2001 and again at the HS level from 2005-2009. Mrs. Deringer was the Assistant Coach at Fargo North the 1999-2000 season and the Head Coach the 2000-2001 season. She has coached a number of JO Volleyball teams ranging in age from 12’s to 18’s and is currently coaching the PCS 14’s JO team.

New to PCS – Jazz Band and String Ensemble

Two new music ensembles have been formed at Park Christian: A Jazz band, meeting at 7:00 am Tuesday mornings, and a String Ensemble, meeting at 6:30 am on Wednesdays. The jazz band performed at the Solo and Ensemble Concert, and the String Ensemble performed in the foyer for the Banquet and Auctions. We look forward to hearing more from these two groups.
May: For our final month of the school year our counseling focus will be on self-awareness and self-care. It will be a message for both the students and the adults! We’ll talk about the importance of knowing yourself and taking care of yourself so that you can carry out the task of loving and serving others like God has called you to do. We’ll think about knowing what we can handle and what we need help with, being aware of what our strengths and weaknesses are, knowing what tempts us and what encourages us, and how to set boundaries to keep from burning out. I encourage you to have intentional conversations with your child/ren about these topics!

Kindergarten Assessments

PCS requires assessments for all incoming Kindergarten students. Assessments are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, May 22 and 23, from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, at the school. Please contact Teresa in Admissions if you have questions about your child or a friend’s child attending PCS for Kindergarten. If you have enrolled in K but haven’t signed up for an assessment, please call 218-236-0500.

Jump Rope For Heart

Twelve Park Christian students participated in a JUMP ROPE FOR HEART and HOOPS FOR HEART– A-THON to raise money for the American Heart Association. Cooper Kvien and David Witt were the top money earners for this activity earning $300 and $200 respectively. The total amount raised for the American Heart Association was $955. The other participants who participated in Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart were Josie Fevig, Jenna Reimche, Alex Rivard, Elise Johnson, Brooklyn Johnson, Caleb Lizakowski, Natalie Bergeron, Caden Aakre, and Nehemiah Hankel.

Thanks to....

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 5th – 9th
A huge thanks to all the parents who are donating food and paper supplies to show our teachers that we appreciate them! Within a day or two of sending out a request sign up form, most items were filled! Thanks Jen Lee for setting up the request form and to Paula Harms for making the cards for each staff member and teacher!

Spring Banquet
Thanks to all who helped with this years’ Silent and Live Auctions at the Spring Banquet. A tremendous amount of work goes into the preparation and completion of the auctions and that wouldn’t not have happened without the guidance of Stacy Nelson and Janelle Steinberg and their crew. What a great evening to celebrate Park Christian School and raise money to help support our teachers and their needs for our children!

Don’t forget the date and your gently used items...
Friday, May 30th is our 2nd Annual Rummage Sale from 7am – 4:30pm. We will send out more information in the weekly updates so please make sure you are looking for times you can bring in your items to the school.

Yearbooks

Yearbook order forms were sent home with your student the week of April 28th. Order your yearbook today! K-6 yearbooks: $25 / 7-12 yearbooks: $45. Yearbooks are delivered at the start of the next school year. Order forms are due by Monday, May 19th.
Save the Date

Sale at the Falcons’ Nest
10% off of all regular priced items in the store through the month of May! We’ve also added several items to our clearance section.

Come check out the Falcons’ Nest on Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30-8:00 a.m. and 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

BIBLE PRACTICUM
Information Meetings:
Bible Practicum is a requirement for all PCS graduates.
It is highly recommended that the student and at least one parent/guardian attend ONE meeting. If you have any questions or concerns about Bible Practicum or the Bible Practicum Information meetings, please contact Mr. Larson: mlarson@parkchristianschool.org.

Wednesday, May 7, 7:20-7:50 am in Room 310
Wednesday, May 14, 3:15-3:45 pm in Room 310

State Athletic Tournaments
Boys and Girls State Track, June 6-7, Hamline
Boys and Girls State Golf, June 10-11, Pebble Creek
Baseball, May 29-31, Mandan
Softball, May 29-31, Minot
Girls Tennis, May 22-24, Bismarck
Girls Soccer, May 29-31, Grand Forks

Registration information can be found at www.parkchristianschool.org.

Camps are for grades entering and all are held at PCS.

Girls’ Basketball Camp;
2nd – 6th grades, June 3, 17; July 1, 15, 29, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Girls’ Volleyball Camp;
3rd-12th grades, June 10-12, time tba.

Boys’ Basketball Camp;
3rd -6th grades, June 23-27, 10:30-3:00 M-TH, 9:00-11:00 F

Boys’ Basketball Camp;
7th -9th grades, June 23-26, 8:00 -10:00 am

Football Camp;
9th -12th grades,
July 14-17, 5:30-8:00 pm

Football Camp;
4th -8th grades, July 17, 3:30-5:30 pm

PCS Strength, Agility, and Speed Training Program;
8th-12th grades,
June 2-August 8.

FCA Volleyball Camp;
7th-12th grades, June 16 – 17, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (7th - 8th Grades)/1:00pm - 4:00pm (9th - 12 Grades).
Registration information can be found at http://www.fcand.org/fca-volleyball-camp
May PCS Calendar

Moms In Prayer – meets every Wednesday school is in session, 2:00 pm in the conference room.
Thursday, 5/1
• Skateland, 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Friday, 5/2
• 1st grades Promised Land Plays, 10:00 am (Mrs. Grinder) and 1:30 pm (Mrs. Spaulding), Fine Arts room
Monday-Friday, 5/5-5/9
• Teacher Appreciation Week
Wednesday, 5/7
• Shakey Wednesday
Monday, 5/12
• 5th grade track meet at MSUM. Parents welcome.
Tuesday, 5/13
• 4th grade track meet at MSUM. Parents welcome.
• Parent Association meeting, 1:45 pm in library. Free childcare.
Wednesday, 5/14
• 4th/5th/6th grades track meet @ tbd. Parents welcome
Thursday, 5/15
• Make up day for MSUM elementary track meets if needed.
Wednesday, 5/21
• Shakey Wednesday
• K last day
Tuesday, 5/27
• Last day of school. Happy summer!

Spring Concerts

Students will receive their certificates during these evening performances.
Monday, 5/5
• Senior High Choir and Band Concert, 7:00 pm, PCS gym
Tuesday, 5/13
• Beginning/6th/Jr. High Bands and Choir Concert, 6:30 pm, PCS gym

Year-end Special Events

All events held in the PCS Gym
Wednesday, 5/14
• Senior High Awards, 1:30 pm
Tuesday, 5/20
• K Graduation, 7:00 pm
Wednesday, 5/21
• Baccalaureate, 5:00 pm
High School Choir performs
Thursday, 5/22
• 4th-6th Elem. Awards, 8:15 am
• 1st-3rd Elem. Awards, 9:30 am
• Jr. High Awards, 1:00 pm
Sunday, 5/25
• High School Commencement, 2:00 pm, High School Band and Choir perform

Finals Schedule

Students in grades 7-12 will be participating in finals on the last three days of school (May 22, 23, 27). Watch for a finals schedule and permission slip to come home with your student towards the middle of May. PCS seniors will complete all finals prior to graduation on May 25.

The 2014-15 one page school calendar is now available at www.parkchristianschool.org under calendars/year at a glance.
Staffing. This is the time of year when next year’s staff gets secured. Who does God want on the team? How many students will attend next year? What can the budget handle? What if more students come? What if less students come? What teachers and staff are going to leave? Well, a few of those questions have been answered.

Who is leaving? Mr. Moran (part time social studies and Bible) has decided to pursue a career in the ministry. Mrs. Reiswig (part time elementary music) has decided this chapter of her life has come to a close. Both have served so well and have blessed many students and families. Football head coach Dan Kowalski decided to step down and will be replaced by Mr. Tim Kerr. Miss Julie Faul decided to transition from head volleyball coach to assistant. Mrs. Chrystal Deringer will be the new head volleyball coach.

New positions. Park Christian School is seeking to add a Vice-Principal. They will focus on the academic, staffing, disciplinary, and culture needs of grades 7-12. Mr. Nellermoe will remain as the overall principal and will be able to give increased attention to K-6. Additional 1st grade and 4th grade teachers will be added to allow room for growth in those grades. An additional kindergarten teacher may be needed if a few more students enroll over the next few months. Praise the Lord for these additions!

With these added sections in elementary comes the need for additional elementary classrooms. Please pray for the optimum solution to be found.

Another major agenda item that continues to garner attention is the eventual relocation. For updates please check out www.pcsvision2020.com.

Please continue to pray for the students, families, staff, and prospective families of Park Christian School! Please also pray for our Member Churches: 1st Assembly of God, Bethel, Metropolitan Baptist, River Valley Assembly of God, Salem, and Triumph.