



2020-2021 Annual Fund – Seed for Sowing Goal - \$200,000



Click here to make a donation to Providence Classical School:
<https://providenceclassicalschool.factsmgmtadmin.com/give>

Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion (2 Corinthians 9).

Why do we need donations above and beyond our tuition income?

Tuition Gap - Our tuition and fees are kept intentionally as low as possible and range between \$2000 and \$4000 lower per year than the average of the private school alternatives in Williamsburg. Historically, tuition only covers approximately 84% of our cost for educating students at PCS; the balance of the annual budget comes from donations and fundraisers. This year, in particular, the gap is significantly larger. Beyond this gap, PCS also provides financial assistance to approximately 30% of our students and their families because our board and generous donors have consistently prioritized making our school available to every family that wants to give their children the gift of a classical, Christian education.

Teacher Salaries - Unquestionably, our teachers are our greatest assets. We believe that we offer the best compensation package in Williamsburg for private Christian schools to attract and retain the best faculty. Nevertheless, our teachers sacrifice significantly higher salaries and benefits that would be available to them in the public school system to serve at PCS.

Covid-19 –It was and is our deep desire to take all reasonable measures so that we may continue to educate our students in the method we find unique, treasured, and essential. After extensive research, a set of COVID measures were adopted in order to re-open our campus for in-person learning in August. Those measures amounted to \$129,000 or \$639 per student. Because these costs were incurred after tuition was set, we are relying on your generous support to cover these costs and ensure PCS is able to continue meeting its mission.

Program Enhancements – We continue to enhance our programs to provide a first-rate classical, Christian education for our students. Along with the Drama and Spanish language offerings that were incorporated last year, we have added exciting new programs for this year as well. PCS opened a Preschool Junior Kindergarten to further our mission of educating the next generation to discern, articulate and live truth. PCS also started a Strings Program in which all kindergarten, first and second grade students are developing a love of music as they learn to play the violin.

As our partner in educating your children, we are asking you to consider helping to meet these needs by giving \$1,000 per child for each of your children at PCS. That's \$167 per child per month for the next 6 months if you'd prefer monthly installments. Whether more or less, we are truly grateful for any amount you choose to give. Our goal is 100% participation from PCS families.

Scriptures about seed, sowing, and harvest that have impacted our school:

The Bible often uses seed, sowing and harvest as allegory. These scriptures are encouraging to us and they continue to form the foundation of our Annual Fund ...**Seed for Sowing**. Let's look at their application for PCS.

The Mustard Seed - Seed can reference great faith, as in the case of a tiny mustard seed of faith making the impossible, possible (Matthew 17). That was certainly true for the founders of our school 19 years ago. They believed that God was calling them to open up a classical, Christian school in Williamsburg and they stepped out in faith to make it happen. They opened their doors with just 23 students and 17 families in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Their faith was great and God has “moved mountains” and performed miracles over the years to grow the school, including adding a Preschool Junior Kindergarten class this year.

Reaping a Harvest - The Bible reminds us that there are rewards for how and where we invest our time and talent (Galatians 6). Many have invested in PCS over the years, by enrolling their children, by applying their vocation through teaching and administrative work, by volunteering to serve, and by giving sacrificially of their finances. We are reaping the harvest of all the seeds that have been sown in the past, and we continue topping previous years’ enrollment numbers with our highest ever at 202 students, in a flourishing JK-12 school.

The Giver - Seed also represents God’s provision to his people. This fall, we are asking God to provide the school with additional resources through our loyal alumni, current and past parents, grandparents, faculty, and staff. We are seeking donations to: cover, foremost, Covid-19-related costs and costs that exceed tuition, and to invest in program enhancements.

IMPORTANT NEW IRS RULES FOR GIVING IN 2020

PHILANTHROPIC GIVING DEDUCTION FOR CASH CONTRIBUTIONS UP TO \$600 IN 2020: Section 2204 of the CARES Act encourages donors who do not itemize their deductions, but rather use the new standard deduction, to benefit from making a cash gift to a charitable organization. This adjustment is available for cash gifts and is limited to \$300 per taxpayer (\$600 for a married couple) and directly lowers your taxable income.

INCREASED DEDUCTION LIMITS FOR 2020 IF YOU ITEMIZE: Section 2205 of the CARES Act allows individual taxpayers who itemize their deductions to suspend the normal limit on deductions for contributions. This provision suspends the limit ordinarily set at 50-60% of adjusted gross income (AGI) and increases it up to 100%. This provision is very favorable to donors who have been considering a generous cash contribution since the deductibility is not curbed by percentage limitations. This increase only applies to gifts to public charities such as Providence Classical School, not to private family foundations or donor advised funds.

SUSPENDED REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS: Section 2203 of the CARES Act temporarily suspends the requirements for required minimum distributions (RMD) for the 2020 tax year. If you are of qualifying age (between 70.5-72 years old depending on your birth year), you can still take the RMD and make a gift from your IRA by transferring up to \$100,000 and exclude that amount from taxable income. Furthermore, since the gift does not count as income, it can reduce your annual income level, which may lower your Medicare premiums and decrease the amount of Social Security that is subject to tax. You benefit even if you do not itemize your deductions.

Please note that the CARES ACT PHILANTHROPIC GIVING BENEFITS only apply to gifts of cash.

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. (2 Corinthians 9)

