

## PRESBYTERIAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL VISION PLAN 2024





# Our Mission

The mission of Presbyterian Christian School is to provide a comprehensive college preparatory education distinguished by a Biblical worldview to equip students with the moral integrity, intellectual capacity, and social conscience to impact the world for Christ.



Dear PCS Family,

Why does PCS need a strategic plan? Why call it the PCS VISION? Our goal for this plan is to chart a course for the next three years. Focus groups with parents, teachers, students, alumni, board members, and administration helped provide a clearer picture of who we are and how the educational experience PCS currently provides is perceived. We appreciate everyone who participated in this process, and we are excited to share the results with our families. The areas of impact in this document are categorized into five visions: Spiritual, Teaching and Learning, Cultural, Facilities, and Governance and Advancement. The year-long planning process has been very beneficial to our team in helping determine the next steps for PCS. This study helped pinpoint areas of strength and highlight areas where we need to focus. Throughout this process, the mission of PCS has not changed, and God will always remain at the center of everything we do. What lies ahead? The next three years will include continued evaluation of current offerings in every area of our school, including academics, extra-curricular programs, and facilities. We look forward to partnering with you throughout this process. As always, thank you for choosing PCS. God Bless and Go Bobcats!

Jimmy Messer Head of School



Spiritual Vision

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen." 2 Peter 3:18

PCS will continue to provide a college preparatory education distinguished by a Biblical worldview by focusing on enhancing current programs while continuing to provide our students hands-on opportunities to impact the world for Christ.

### INITIATIVE 1

We will continue to teach the shorter catechism on the elementary campus with an emphasis on understanding who God is. On each campus, we will work to develop a more intentional curriculum that helps our students better understand the scriptures and their place in God's story by ensuring Bible curriculums align with the school's mission, values, and educational standards.

A. Assess our current curriculum on the preschool and elementary campuses. In addition to effectively teaching the shorter catechisms on the elementary campus, we will ensure that we are engaging our students on both campuses in meaningful and transformative learning experiences.

Facilitators: Ginny Graham, Scott Griffith Timeline: Spring 2025

B. Evaluate our current high school Bible curriculum to assess the effectiveness, relevance, and impact of our curriculum in meeting the spiritual and educational needs of our students.

Facilitators: Brandi Richardson, Matthew Wiggins, Scott Griffith Timeline: Fall 2026

#### INITIATIVE 2

We will transform our community service program with an emphasis on impacting the Pine Belt region. We will work to create servant leaders by providing hands-on experiences for our students.

A. Provide meaningful and impactful community service projects to foster a culture of service rooted in Christian values. Therefore, empowering our students to engage in service, volunteerism, and advocacy that reflect the principles of love, humility, and servant leadership exemplified by Christ.

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Fall 2024

B. Plan optional trips for students that are mission-minded and may incorporate a service component.

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Fall 2025

C. Focus on community service projects that provide hands-on activities for students, allowing opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Fall 2024

#### INITIATIVE 3

Enhance our student tribe program by focusing on fostering relationships — student-to-student and student-to-faculty.

A. Focus on providing training for faculty and staff that adequately prepares them to lead a Tribe.

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, April Messer Timeline: Fall 2024

B. Train students to effectively assist in leading their Tribe, while also helping them create community for all students.

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, Dallas Smith Timeline: Fall 2025

C. Enhance our Tribe curriculum and provide additional opportunities for each Tribe to participate in activities as a group.

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, Jenny Brock Timeline: Fall 2025

#### INITIATIVE 4

Provide a vibrant chapel program wherein students are eager to worship together while providing opportunities for student involvement and leadership.

A. Survey secondary students on our current chapel structure while also collecting input on the topics, speakers, and music for future chapels.

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2025

B. Choose age-appropriate, Bible-based topics and provide speakers to which our students can relate.

Facilitators: Laura Young, Ginny Graham/Gareth Bonner, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Fall 2024

C. Evaluate our use of students in Secondary Campus chapel settings, ensuring we provide appropriate opportunities for students to lead and to minister to their peers.

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2025



Teaching & Learning Vision

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Psalms 32:8

PCS will provide a comprehensive college preparatory education distinguished by a Biblical worldview. We will be the educational leader in the Pine Belt, graduating students who are equipped with the skills necessary to be the leaders of tomorrow.

BebcaTs

#### **INITIATIVE 1**

Examine and update all existing curricula in each subject area to ensure proper alignment as we prepare students for the next step in the educational process.



A. Prioritize professional development for teachers relative to evaluation of textbooks and other curricular resources. Explain the fundamentals of curriculum mapping and standards alignment.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Fall 2024

B. Identify the curriculum standards that will be adopted for the various subject areas.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Fall 2025

C. Begin implementation of the curriculum mapping process.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Fall 2025

D. Implement continuous process of curriculum review and revision.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Fall 2024

E. Update and change scope and sequence of courses when necessary.

- 1. New math curriculum adopted for grades K5-8 for 24-25 academic year.
- 2. New social studies curriculum for grades 1-6 for 24-25 academic year.

3.New Spanish program and curriculum for grades K5-6 for 24-25 academic year.

4. Researching new reading and ELA curriculum for grades K5-6 for 25-26 academic year.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Spring 2024

#### INITIATIVE 2

Continue to expand the instructional model to serve and support a wider range of learning differences, learning styles, and student interests.

A. Evaluate AP and Dual Credit programs, which offer opportunities for college credit and provide more rigorous coursework while also providing the opportunities our families desire.

Facilitators: Brandi Richardson, Keith Rice Timeline: Fall 2026

B. Enhance our student learning support program, ensuring we equip students with the skills needed to reach their God given potential.

- 1. Rename and restructure the current SAS program for the 24-25 academic year.
- 2. Add an additional dyslexia therapy certified instructor on the elementary campus for the 24-25 academic year.
- 3. Increase secondary campus support to two full-time staff members.
- 4. Remodel current SAS program facilities to better meet student needs.
- 5. Implement training for the use of assistive technology.

Facilitators: Rebekah Satcher, Anne Cameron, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Fall 2024

C. Provide a wider range of electives for secondary students, which will meet the needs and interest areas of our students.
1. Increase fine arts offerings on secondary campus

Facilitators: Brandi Richardson, Keith Rice Timeline: Fall 2026

#### INITIATIVE 3

Attract, develop, and retain quality Christian educators who are experts in their fields of study and who understand the importance of being a mentor to their students.

A. Provide professional development opportunities which help them grow as teachers of their subject area and as Christian educators.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Fall 2024

B. Develop an evaluation process that will provide teachers with feedback, which includes measurable goals for growth.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Fall 2025

C. Strive to compensate our staff at a competitive rate comparable to local public school systems.

1. Raised salaries 6% for classroom teachers for the 24-25 school year.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Board of Trustees Timeline: Fall 2026

D. Secure the best possible healthcare and retirement programs for our employees, ensuring they receive the benefits they deserve.

- 1. Entered into a partnership with Combined Benefits and the Cornett Group to ensure we have the most comprehensive insurance/ healthcare at the best rate available.
- 2. New partnership has provided more synergy in the execution of our insurance options and will offer additional supplemental policies to ensure our employees have the options they need and deserve at the best rate available.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Melody Duncan, Allison Smith Timeline: Fall 2024



THAD

Equip teachers with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively integrate technology use into classrooms and curricula, ensuring students have the experience and proficiency needed to excel.

A. Assess current knowledge and comfort level with regard to the use of instructional technology.

B. Provide targeted training to aid teachers in the utilization of technology in the classroom for all types of learners. Specific focus should be concentrated on instructional technology which encourages creation, content design, and problem solving for the twenty-first century learner.

C. Select age-appropriate software and applications for students to incorporate in the curriculum in preparation for the seamless use of universal design in technology.

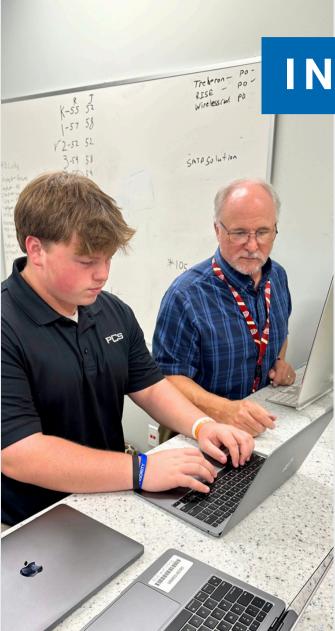
- 1. Added Freckle Math for grades K5-4
- 2. Added Membean Vocabulary for grades 6-8

Timeline: Spring 2024

3. Adding Yeti Academy STEM and coding robots to our current technology curriculum

4. Purchase additional accounts for access to IXL Math for grades 5-12

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Fall 2024



### INITIATIVE 5

## Evaluate all current course offerings.

A. Measure the effectiveness of all current curriculum changes made on our elementary and secondary campuses.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2025

B. Evaluate the current course offerings to ensure that they serve the needs of all students.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2027

C. Add elective courses to provide a wider variety of opportunities for real world practical experiences.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2027

D. Determine the effectiveness of test prep offerings and preparations.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2026

E. Measure the effectiveness of any new curriculum changes made on our elementary and secondary campuses.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2027

#### INITIATIVE 6

Review our elementary and secondary schedules to ensure they are organized to maximize the school day.



A. Revise our secondary and elementary schedules to optimize our school day's organization after analysis of facilities and instructional spaces available on campus.

- 1. Added a 7th period and extended elementary campus schedule by 10 minutes
- 2. Extended lunch for 9-12th students by re-working the transition times in the school day schedule

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Fall 2026



Cultural Vision

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

PCS will build a unified spiritual community focusing on respect, integrity, perseverance, and courage to do the right thing.

#### INITIATIVE 1

Provide opportunities for our students to grow as servant leaders and to build relationships.

A. Build a culture where students can feel comfortable and confident being self advocates.

Facilitators: Jenny Brock, Brandon Richardson Timeline: Spring 2027

B. Prioritize service in our culture, with community service projects becoming a part of who we are. Each student on our campus will have opportunities to serve as part of their educational process.

- 1. Host Pine Belt Special Olympics
- 2. Prioritize community service days

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2027

C. Explore more opportunities for our students to intentionally build relationships with various groups in the school community.

- 1.K5 Senior Buddies
- 2. Cross campus BETA club service projects

Facilitators: Gareth Bonner, April Messer, Brandon Richardson Timeline: Spring 2027



Beinc

Continue to provide opportunities for PCS families to experience community.

A. Continue to host events on campus and to explore additional opportunities for various stakeholder groups. (ex. Elementary Night at Football, Fall Festival, Grandparents Days, dances and faculty/staff get togethers).

Facilitators: Administrative team, PTO, and Booster Club Timeline: Spring 2027

#### INITIATIVE 3

Strive for excellence in all extra-curricular activities with a emphasis on developing the whole student.

A. Host events that include Biblical-based guidance for parents on current issues their students are facing.

Facilitator: Jenny Brock Timeline: Spring 2027

B. Ensure our educational travel is meeting the needs and desires of our families, with a component of missions where appropriate.

Facilitator: Gareth Bonner Timeline: Spring 2027

C. Evaluate our athletic program and offerings to ensure we are meeting the needs of our students and families, while continuing to prioritize our mission. Athletics are an integral component of the educational process and we desire to provide opportunities for the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual development of all athletes.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Drew Mattison Timeline: Spring 2027

D. Assess our performing arts program to ensure we are meeting the needs of our students and families, while continuing to prioritize our mission. These programs provide students with the opportunity to reach their God-given potential within the arts.

Facilitators: Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Spring 2027

E. Hire, evaluate, and retain mission appropriate staff in all extracurricular activities. Prioritize Christian educators who are knowledgeable and qualified to lead and sponsor while valuing development of the whole child.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Keith Rice Timeline: Spring 2027

# INITIATIVE 4

Prioritize student social and emotional well-being through fostering a culture of respect for self, others, and their community.



A. Provide educational opportunities which promote academic integrity, honesty, and respect.

Facilitators: Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2027

B. Improve the current counseling structure on secondary campus to ensure we are meeting the needs of students.

Facilitator: Jenny Brock Timeline: Spring 2025

C. Add access to counseling on a daily basis for elementary students.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Ginny Graham Timeline: Fall 2026

D. Support the social, emotional, and physical well being of our students by continuing to evaluate their academic and social demands.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Keith Rice, Brandi Richardson, Ginny Graham Timeline: Spring 2027

# ELEMENTARY

Facilities Vision Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain. Psalms 127:1

PCS will ensure we have the facilities to provide the best educational experience for our students, focusing on future needs and developing a management plan to ensure we are operating efficiently.

### INITIATIVE 1

PCS

Continue to evaluate the possibilities for a multi-purpose facility on the elementary campus. This new facility would positively impact academics, spiritual life, fine arts, and athletics.

A. Define which programs this facility would serve to meet the needs of elementary physical education, elementary fine arts, and secondary campus athletics.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Administrative Team Timeline: Spring 2025

B. Determine the optimal location on campus where the facility could be built.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Brandon Brown Timeline: Spring 2025

#### INITIATIVE 2

Evaluate the current high school cafetorium to determine the possibilities for expansion to fit the various needs of extracurricular programs and our dining experience.

A. Assess the current layout of the cafetorium and determine the space needed to adequately meet the needs of our programs. We will consider multi-functional space, seating capacity, stage requirements, storage options, kitchen space and audio-visual equipment.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Brandon Brown Timeline: Spring 2025

B. Identify short-term solutions to maximize current cafetorium space and equipment.

- 1. Purchased new seating solutions for dining.
- 2. Add fryers to the kitchen to improve food quality.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Brandon Brown Timeline: Fall 2024

C. Secure the services of architects, engineers, design professionals, and contractors to help create a comprehensive plan for expanding and remodeling the current cafetorium.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Brandon Brown Timeline: Spring 2025

### INITIATIVE 3

Develop a long-range plan for possible facility updates and improvements along with a preventative maintenance plan.

A. Conduct yearly campus plant evaluations to ensure we are maintaining our facilities and that all systems are working adequately.

Facilitator: Brandon Brown Timeline: Spring 2027

B. Prioritize campus repairs and updates based on urgency and impact on the overall safety and functionality of school facilities. Solicit feedback from teachers/staff and parents regarding specific concerns or areas needing attention.

1. Develop a master plan for addressing these needs.

Facilitator: Brandon Brown Timeline: Spring 2027

C. Develop a campus beautification plan with an emphasis on landscaping.

1. Form a campus beautification committee consisting of both parents and staff to assess our current landscaping and the maintenance of these areas.

2. Continue our efforts to provide outdoor seating areas which will create inviting spaces for students, staff and faculty while incorporating art, sculptures, or murals to add visible interest and promote creativity.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Brandon Brown Timeline: Spring 2027

D. Study our current traffic flows and parking for school events to ensure we are maximizing our current facilities and to consider possible additional parking or adjustments to current systems.

- 1. Extend the softball parking lot to provide additional parking on campus.
- 2. Provide safe access from the softball parking lot to the larger athletic areas via staircase.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Brandon Brown Timeline: Fall 2027

#### **INITIATIVE 4**

Review and update all current safety measures and procedures to continue our commitment to provide the safest campus possible during traditional school operations as well as co-curricular activities.

A. Conduct a comprehensive annual assessment of all safety procedures and personnel.

B. Continue to develop our crisis response plan that prepares the campus for all potential threats. Routinely conduct safety drills to ensure students and staff are familiar with emergency procedures and evacuation routes. Conduct ongoing professional development for staff to include safety response training.

- 1. Provided CPR training for all staff.
- 2. Safety and security personnel received training and certification for emergency response in schools.

Timeline: Spring 2024

C. Develop a collaborative working relationship with local first responders that includes routine patrols and partnerships for rapid response in case of emergencies.

1. Partnered with the Hattiesburg Emergency Operations Center to ensure PCS administration is abreast of all potential weather and disaster related incidents.

2. Developing a comprehensive system to monitor real-time, local threats to respond accordingly.

3. Conducting routine campus tours with local law enforcement agencies.

Timeline: Spring 2023

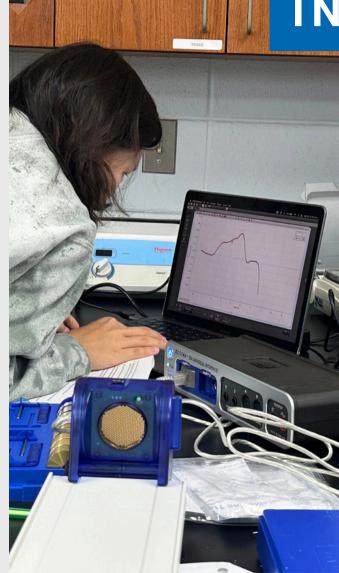
D. Create a culture of safety and situational awareness. This will include continued development of visitor protocols and understanding of the daily expectations for our students, staff and parents.

1. Invested in Crisis Go app to expedite on campus emergency response.

Facilitator: Brandon Brown Timeline: Spring 2027

#### INITIATIVE 5

Review all current technology infrastructure to ensure we can support all present and future educational needs while ensuring cybersecurity measures are adequate.



A. Contract with an IT service organization to conduct a full technology audit of our current system.

Facilitators: Kevin Sellers, Brandon Brown Timeline: Fall 2024

B. Assess our current personnel to ensure we are adequately staffed.
1. Adjusted current staff to allow for the IT Director to be available for IT needs all day.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Kevin Sellers Timeline: Fall 2024

C. Develop a financial plan which can meet the ever changing demands of technology including the need for training, updating of devices, and repairs and updates of systems.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Kevin Sellers Timeline: Spring 2026

## INITIATIVE 6

SUPERHERO CAPE

DESIGN CHALLENGE

Conduct a feasibility study to determine the potential impact an all-day K3 and K4 program located on the elementary campus could have on enrollment balanced with the cost.

A. Collect feedback to determine the need for all day preschool among our current families and of the greater Hattiesburg community.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Heather Tisdale, Ginny Graham, April Messer Timeline: Spring 2025

B. Meet with our teaching staff and other professionals to determine what the facility needs to include and our targeted number of preschool students.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Heather Tisdale, Ginny Graham, April Messer Timeline: Fall 2024

C. Begin a pilot K4 class on the elementary campus to test the interest in and viability of an all day preschool program.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Heather Tisdale, Ginny Graham, April Messer Timeline: Fall 2025

D. Secure an architect who can develop plans for a potential on campus facility or ways to utilize current facilities for preschool classes.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Brandon Brown, Heather Tisdale, Ginny Graham Timeline: Spring 2025

E. Develop a financial plan to finance a new facility or additions to our current facilities.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Heather Tisdale, Ginny Graham, April Messer Timeline: Fall 2025

#### INITIATIVE 7

Conduct a study of the current use of all facilities, including academics, fine arts, and athletics to ensure we are utilizing them in the most efficient and effective way possible.

A. Clearly define our goals for this study, such as improving learning environments, optimizing space, and enhancing current facilities.

B. Gather input from teachers, staff, students, and parents to understand needs and preferences.

C. Evaluate current facilities to identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement.

D. Develop optimal layouts for current facilities based on the feedback from our research.

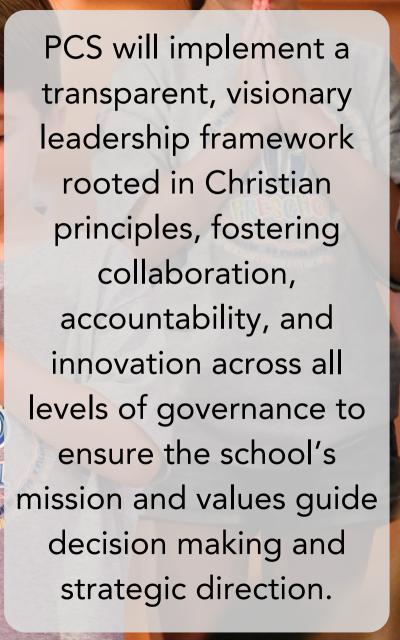
E. Examine the cost of the projects along with the feasibility. Study should include the cost of the potential changes and the availability of both short-term and long-term financing.

F. Develop a plan to address the concerns and needs discovered during our assessment.

Facilitators: Administrative Team Timeline: Spring 2027

Governance & Advancement Vision

CAnd let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9



#### INITIATIVE 1

Trustees will know their responsibilities, obligations, and accountability factors and how they function both individually and as a board.

A. Maintain a board committee of trustees who will handle the identification and nomination of potential members. They will ensure new members have gone through proper orientation. This group will also help facilitate board assessment and will help identify areas where professional development is needed.

B. Review the school's mission statement and ensure the mission is true and that it is protected.

C. Provide support for the Head of School and conduct a yearly evaluation of the head of school.

D. Participate in bi-annual board training and reflection to ensure proper function and accountability.

E. Review bylaws, including policies and procedures to consider board composition, terms of service, responsibilities, and expectations

F. Support and guide the Head of School in continual review and determination of the school's academic vision, marketing messages, strategic financial planning, optimal enrollment, programmatic offerings, and operational budget required to achieve our mission.

G. Support and guide the Head of School in the continual evaluation of school personnel, including the administrative team, to ensure that all student programs and services are sufficient to support school operations.

Facilitator: Board Chair Timeline: Spring 2027

#### INITIATIVE 2

Build financial support programs to support our goal of being the educational leader in the Pine Belt.



A. Work with the newly formed Advancement Committee to determine best practices to be put in place for PCS fundraising. This committee will help the Head of School coordinate all development activities, including the Vision Fund and capital campaigns, while also establishing and reviewing all guidelines and procedures for fundraising activities.

B. Continue the process of rebranding and restructuring the annual fund (Vision Fund) to improve understanding of annual giving and maximize participation.

C. Partner with a consulting group to administer a feasibility study to determine the optimal time for PCS to launch a capital campaign.

D. Evaluate how PCS communicates with and demonstrates appreciation for donors to cultivate long-standing relationships.

E. Educate stakeholders about the possibilities to give to the PCS Foundation through endowed gifts and planned giving.

F. Continue to build relationships within the community while identifying strategic partnerships.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Advancement Team, and Advancement Committee Timeline: Spring 2027

#### INITIATIVE 3

Continue to expand communication efforts to effectively convey information to all stakeholders.

A. Evaluate ongoing messaging to ensure information is adequately dispersed and effectively received.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, Hayley Taylor Timeline: Fall 2025

#### INITIATIVE 4

REES GY

Study recent enrollment trends to determine possible reasons for fluctuation in numbers and the optimal enrollment number for each campus. A. Survey both current and new families to determine the reasons they chose PCS and areas where they feel we can improve.

B. Determine the optimal enrollment for PCS. We will consider current and potential facilities in this study to ensure we can provide the experience our students deserve.

C. Assess our admin, teaching, and support staff to determine if we are adequately staffed in relation to our enrollment, to provide an educational experience representative of a first rate college preparatory independent school.

D. Evaluate our academic and extra-curricular programs to ensure we are staying up to date with our competition and providing the educational experience our families desire.

Facilitators: Jimmy Messer, April Messer, Keith Rice, Ginny Graham, Brandi Richardson Timeline: Spring 2027



# UNITED IN FAITH Pursuing Excellence