

Financial Steering Committee: Financial Snapshot

The Original Plan

When the Capital Project was launched in November 2008, the school announced a plan to spend a total of R 60 million in 3 phases. Unfortunately, the project launch coincided with the global credit crunch and the first quarter of the economic recession in South Africa. This limited the amount pledged from fund-raising to R 2,1 million. A total of R 20 million has already been spent over the last year.

The benefits to the school and to our children are self evident in the world class facilities encompassed in the new Knowledge Hub, IT Pod, remodeled high school classrooms and extensions to Molteno House.

The Next Step

The Project Steering Committee has outlined the school's capital requirements for 2010 in order to complete Phase One of the project.

St Cyprian's School has the following potential sources of funding to finance capital expenditure:

1. A sustainable surplus from annual operations
2. Income from fund raising
3. Conventional loan finance
4. Bequests and other ad hoc income
5. Capital levies charged annually

Although strict fiscal controls and strict financial management have generated a small operating surplus this year, the five year forecast suggests that this is unsustainable. Fundraising efforts and appeals for bequests will be intensified, but it is clear that the only reliable source of funding to service further loans will be the parent body and extended school community.

In addition to appeals to our Alumni, the plan is to increase the compulsory capital levy paid by parents to provide a predictable income stream. School Council has approved a proposal to increase the compulsory annual capital levy, which will ensure that the load will be spread in an affordable way and ensure that every stakeholder contributes. The levy, to be introduced in the 2nd term of 2010, will be structured such that the impact on parents will be variable and dependent upon the number of children at school, as well as their grades.

It is imperative that the school does not lose the momentum, energy and sense of purpose and achievement of this last year and that it continues with the development plans to complete Phase One. There is a particular urgency to have a covered space for our girls to use for Physical Education before the 2010 winter rains!

Over the last year, the evidence of what can be achieved through the determined and committed efforts of the school body is tangible. We look forward to sustaining the energy to deliver the completion of Phase One of the Project.

Howard Carter
FINCO Chairman



Knowledge Hub



Creating Future Leaders Project

Message from the Head of School

It started with a dream – a dream to enhance and extend our school to proudly take up its place as a centre of educational excellence in a new age.

The dream grew out of the goal of completing a sports centre. However, it soon became clear that the core infrastructure of the school, catering for the teaching and learning inherent to any academic institution, required work. Insufficient space and tired furniture and fittings seemed to drain energy from what should have been a dynamic learning environment.

And so the Knowledge Hub was created out of an historical old gymnasium, a uniquely modern Information Technology Centre was built in the quadrangle nearby – the two together forming a unique learning hub at the very heart of the school.

The allocation of the old library space to Art and Design has opened up the possibility of setting up a 'Centre of Creativity' at the school, and the refurbishment of the Science Block, together with the telescope that we are installing, opens the way for us to become a crucible of Science and Technology development.



The influence of architecture and interior space on attitude, performance and motivation can be clearly seen in the girls' reaction to new and improved spaces. Suddenly school is an exciting place to be, and the technology enhancement in the classrooms with the use of the Internet in core lessons speaks to an energizing delivery of the curriculum. A new front façade and increased office space at the Preparatory School gives this delightful section of our campus an identity and profile of its own!

Mr Andrew Flint, Chairman of the Steering Committee driving the development, has articulated the concept that the school needs to look complete at all times if we are to experience maximum benefit from what has already been achieved. We look forward to the completion of the Interim Phase and have every faith that the collective energy and contribution of the St Cyprian's School Community will be brought to meeting this goal.

Sue Redelinghuys: Head of School



Art & Design Centre

Creating Future Leaders Project Property Steering Committee

Update

How We Began

The Creating Future Leaders programme grew out of the Decennial Vision that created the School in the Woods, completed in 2002.

In 2008 the focus broadened to include a new Knowledge Hub and IT Centre, the upgrading of classrooms and a revised and extended master plan for the multi-purpose hall, redesigned as an Activity Centre and including a design for an indoor Aquatic Centre.

St Cyprian's School has not escaped the world economic downturn and this has meant that the short term strategy has been adapted to a phased approach with priority being given to the Knowledge Hub and the incremental upgrading of the teaching spaces.

What We Have Achieved

Our architect, Professor Jo Noero, has tackled the brief to accommodate a diverse set of needs within the sensitive historic Nootgedacht homestead and the neo-classic extensions by Herbert Baker, by producing a set of delightful child-friendly pavilions each with a form determined by its function that has added a vibrant and contemporary layer to the original school.

For several years the upgrading and extension of Molteno House classrooms in the Preparatory School had been deferred. Inspired by the obligation to preserve the adjacent trees, a new curvilinear double storey facade of offices was added on the Hayfield side of the building. Classrooms were extended on the opposite side, and the courtyard beyond has been transformed

with the introduction of an amphitheatre staircase connecting to the Chapel lawn.

The reception has been reconfigured with a small meeting room and the Chapel Walk once again gives direct access into the High School along a straight axis which connects with the new library. The glazed-in courtyard now houses conversation hubs for informal group learning.

St Cyprian's School now has its own Round (in the) Square IT Centre in the old tortoise courtyard. The provision of new flat screen work stations in this centre and the adjacent teachers' workroom puts St Cyprian's School in the forefront of contemporary education facilities.

The telescope housing structure has been completed and the telescope for the international "Girls in Science" Project is on its way.

Perhaps the greatest impact for the High School comes from the comprehensive refurbishment of 12 of the original classrooms in the heart of the school. New desks, chairs, cabinets and teachers' workstations have been supplemented with enhanced teaching aids including smart boards, white boards, data projectors and display panels.

A comprehensive services upgrade has taken place with the electrical rewiring, IT networks and air-conditioning. The grand old high



LO Centre

volume classrooms have been transformed for modern teaching with a finishing touch being the introduction of colourful super graphics to give each room a unique identity.

What Needs to be Done Next?

The work done so far responds directly to the needs of the modern curriculum and the academic programme to build a successful school community where each pupil can achieve her full potential.

Despite the more conservative economic model adopted, the need for incremental improvement has exceeded currently available funds. Academic requirements still needing to be addressed include the full upgrading of the science laboratories, the provision of facilities for Life Orientation teaching, including physical education and the completion of the planned relocation of Art and Design into the old Library.

All physical upgrades need to respond in the first instance to the teaching resources and timetable of the school. Taken together there are several smaller projects to be completed in the Pre-school, Preparatory School, High School and the present Common Facilities serving the whole school.

The next phase of work has been dubbed the Interim Phase of the Creating Future Leaders Project. The intention is to substantially deliver the following items during 2010 within a budget of about R12 million.

The list of projects for the Interim Phase includes:

- New Art and Design Studio in the old Library building
- New LO Centre/gym in a multi-purpose pavilion
- Full Science Laboratory upgrade and additional laboratory
- Relocated Consumer Studies Laboratory
- Teachers' staff room refurbishment
- Entrance, parking court and Hayfield upgrade

- Covering of Dining Room Courtyard and link between the old school and the Science Block, to create winter 'break' spaces for the students.

With the completion of the Interim Phase, the program to modernise the teaching facilities at St Cyprian's School to meet the demands of a contemporary world class education will have been substantially achieved.

The Vision for the Future

The realisation of the full Creating Future Leaders initiative will take St Cyprian's School beyond the goal of meeting present needs, to offering new opportunities to develop a winning culture based on the creation of added value facilities, possibly shared with the public and private sectors.

The anchor projects for the Creating Future Leaders initiative remain the Activity and Aquatic Centres. Planning approval for these has been obtained and value engineering assessments are in place to guide their implementation when the time is right to secure funding and partnering relationships.

Notwithstanding the challenges, the guiding principle that has been adopted by the School Council is to progress incrementally utilising the available funds in a way that allows the school to feel "complete at all times".

Andrew Flint: Chairman



Aquatic Centre