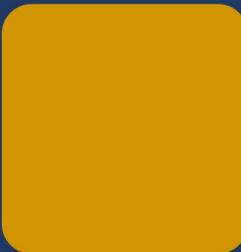


Park Place School Wishbook 2022



Inside...

- Our complete 2022 *Wishlist*
- The outfitting of a *SchoolUnique*
- A *Gracious Justice*
- Our *Vision and Values*
- And... *Why the groovy 1970's Look?*
- Partnering with Park Place School



Park Place School: a **SchoolUnique**

When we call ourselves a “school unique,” what are we talking about?

That is a great question!

We are a school serving a unique urban population.

We are about strengthening our students: academically, spiritually and as leaders in their community.

We are a school uniquely aimed at Norfolk’s future. When scriptures talk about “all of creation straining to see the children of God revealed” (Romans 8:22), we believe that our students are a conspicuous example of that.

We are a uniquely Christian School serving a student population who would not likely be able to attend a Christian School.

We are effective. Through small classes, a warm school community, systematic testing and response, access to community diagnostic and testing resources, great curricula, and gifted teachers, our students grow.

Our students are musicians. Did you know we have one violin for each of our students?

Our students are artists.

Our students experience mind-growing things: flying in small planes, canoeing, museums, and local university science projects to name a few.

Park Place School is a **SchoolUnique**: Our students are learners in the classroom, leaders in the community, and lights in the world!

Park Place School Wishbook 2022

Outfitting our SchoolUnique

Dear Friends,

Park Place School is in the midst of an exciting adventure! This month we moved from our home of five years with Beth El Congregation to our new location on Granby Street.

In this, we found that we needed to reconfigure the building *and* we needed to almost completely re-equip our school. We found that Beth El Congregation had supplied many of our needs (and we are grateful).

Fortunately, because of our student population, there was some government funding available, but most of our reconfiguring and re-equipping has been (and will be) because of your generous support.

So, we thought, "Let's just tell our partners what it takes to put a school like this together." We chose a Wishbook motif for fun, and we chose to use a 1970's theme because that is when our new building was built (1974). That was a long time ago and the building needs some updating!

And why support us? The answer is *mishpat* (a merciful justice), but more about that later!

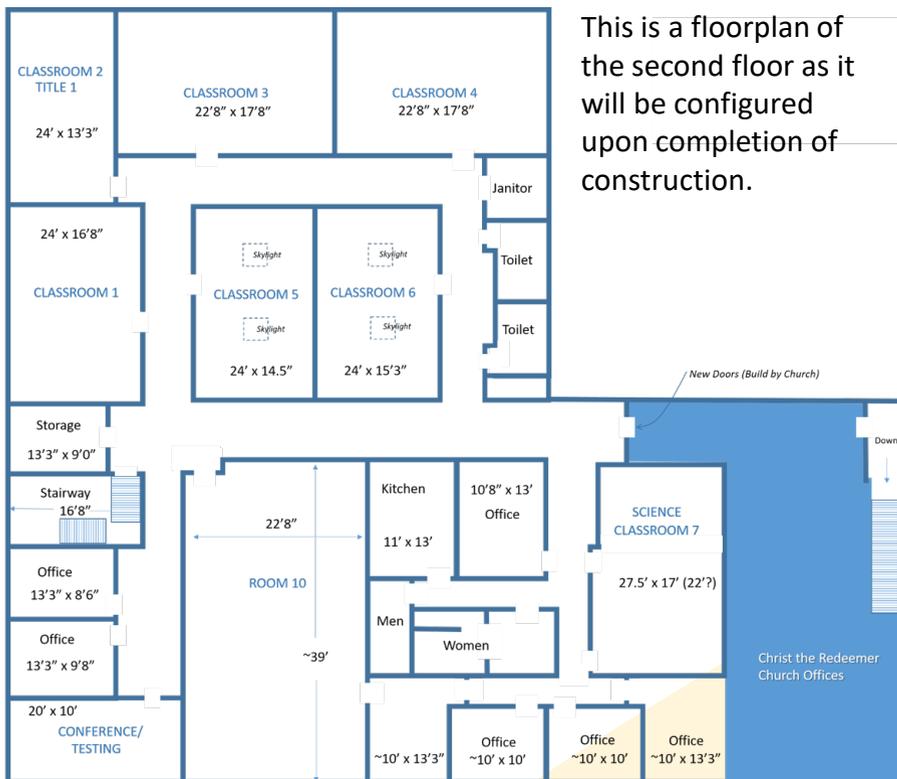
We love and need you folks!

The Park Place School Family



Our New Facility

Our new facility is located at 107 Seekel St. in Norfolk, VA. You may recognize it as Tabernacle Church of Norfolk's Discovery Center. We inhabit the second floor and share space with the Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church on the first floor.



This is a floorplan of the second floor as it will be configured upon completion of construction.

Would you like a tour? We would love to show you around. Construction is happening in earnest, so the place is a bit of a mess right now, but you can begin to see what it will look like.

Interested? Contact Don Robison at drobison@parkplaceschool.org



Finding Your Way...

Section	Page
How does this wishbook work?	3
Wishbook Items (Placed throughout this catalog)	
Our Park Place School Vision	9
A Generous Justice	13
Some Key Partners	15
Volunteer Projects List	16

How does this wishbook work?

This wishbook contains a few articles that describe our unique way of conducting school, it contains catalog-style descriptions of components of our school, a few articles about partners who are also non-profit (Like *Mercy Chefs* and the *The Academy of Music*), and opportunities for volunteerism with our school.

Basically, this book is founded on the age-old principle that “It is more blessed to give than receive.” Only... in a refreshing twist (for us), we are sharing what *we* would love to receive!

We hope you have fun with this, we have.

Thank you for your support!

We proceed from less-expensive to more-expensive

And we go from less-expensive to more expensive as you progress through the wishbook. The early entries are relatively inexpensive, and often are consumables. So, for example, we go from crayons at the beginning of the book, to a new gym near the end.

Our hope is that you find this an engaging way to explore some of the details of our school *unique*.

Outfitting our SchoolUnique



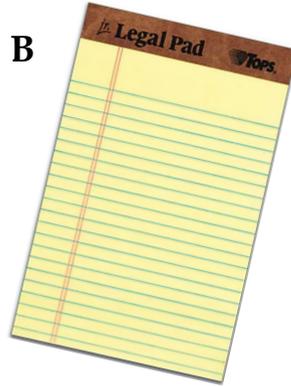
A

A. Crayons. Can you have too many crayons? Really? We don't think so either! These are 64 count Crayola Packs.

Each: \$16.81 (2 Pk) Need: 24 \$403

B. Writing Paper. From lined paper we use with our younger students, to legal pads for our older ones... we still use a lot of paper.

Each: \$4.89 Need: 250 \$1,224



B



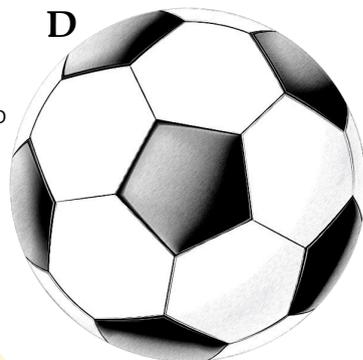
C

C. Pens. Our students learn to write with their Chromebooks, but they also use pens for writing.

Each: \$9.33 (36 Count Box) Need: 6 \$55.98

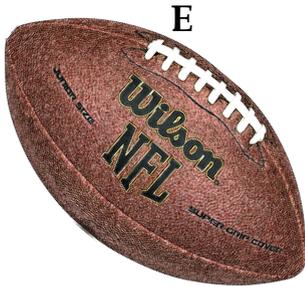
D. It's a new soccer ball! Have you ever thought about how many balls are needed to run a school with 90+ children? It's a lot!

Each: \$26 Need: 5 \$130



D

Park Place School Wishbook 2022



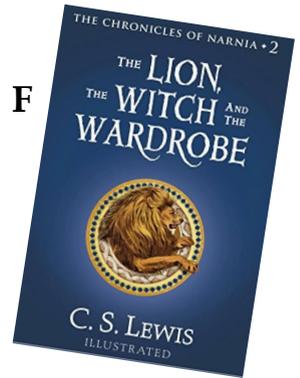
E

E. Footballs. No, we are not dreaming of a football team. But, our students love to play touch football.

Each: \$32 Need: 5 \$160

F. Children's Fiction. Reading stimulates the imagination, disciplines the mind, and enhances both grammar and vocabulary. We want to have a great library of books our students will find relevant and interesting.

Each: \$9.10 Need: 300 \$2,730



F



G. Textbooks. We need both digital and paper textbooks.

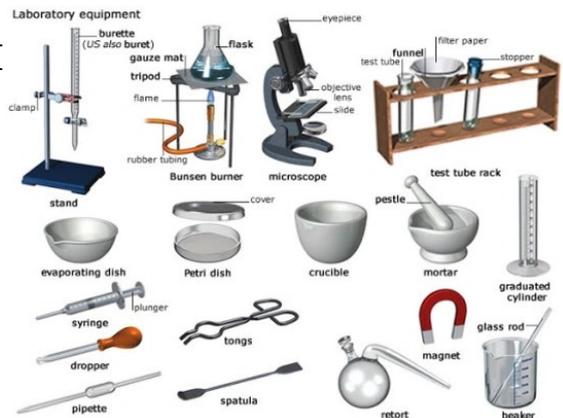
Avg Each: \$46 Need: 100 \$4,600 annually

G

H. Science Equipment! You know, you don't just "do" science, you need the proper equipment for it. Here we are outfitting a new lab.

Cost: \$853

H



Outfitting our SchoolUnique

A



A. Chairs. Yes, we are all about active learning. But, students still need to sit down. We are rehabbing 30+ wooden chairs, but we still needed to purchase these.

Each: \$58 Need: 65 \$3,770

B

B. Classroom Storage Cabinet. These metal cabinets hold everything it takes to do school.

Each: \$368 Need: 7 \$2,576



C



C. Student Tables. We rehabbed several wooden tables, but also need these octagonal tables. These allow students to 'make meaning together' and are more efficient for space.

Each: \$285 Need: 16 \$4,560

Park Place School Wishbook 2022

E



E. Hardware Firewall. This device protects our new wireless network at its origin.

Cost: \$1,150

F



F. Cat6 Network Cable. This cable allows us to wire our Wifi extension system, and connect teacher workstations on a secure wired network.

Cost: \$295

G. Wifi Mesh System. We will have a Wifi Mesh System with satellites in each of our dedicated learning spaces. These allow up to 100 devices to connect simultaneously.



Cost (Self-Installed): \$1,800

H



H. Security System. This will allow us to see who is visiting the building, and control access. It will also help us monitor activity in the various parts of the building.

Cost: \$1,250

Outfitting our SchoolUnique



A. Chromebook. Each year, we outfit a new cohort with Chromebooks. We also make a number available for home rental. The research is strong: When each student has a computer for home use, it significantly enhances the acquisition of computer skills.

Each: \$185 Need: 25 \$4,625

Student Experiential Learning

We provide varied experiential learning options. Last year our students went flying in a small plane (which most of the teachers have not done!), and they visited many sites of interest in Hampton Roads. (see Djonko-Moore, Leonard, & Holifield, 2017 for the value of experiential learning.)



B. Ropes Initiative Course. This would be part of our leadership curriculum.

Cost: \$5,500 annually

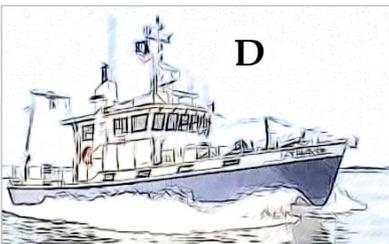
C. Outdoor Experiences. The idea here is to get our students out on horses and in canoes, hiking in the mountains and similar experiences.

Cost: \$6,700 annually



D. Science Field Trips. Here we would visit organizations like NASA or ODU and NSU or EVMS to witness environmental and/or biological phenomena.

Cost: \$900 annually



Living Our Vision

If God wildly blesses, our vision is that our students will be strengthened spiritually, academically and as leaders in our community. We say it this way: “Our students will be learners in the classroom, leaders in the community and lights in the world.”

Our students will be learners in the classroom, leaders in the community and lights in the world.

Learners in the Classroom

By this we mean we are committed to strengthening our children as learners engaged in core academic areas. The effects of strong academic performance are broad, leading to financial well-being, and even physical health! And, our world is waiting for our learners to come into their own, to be people who can effectively express their ideas, thoughts and prayers through speaking and writing, and who operate effectively in the sciences and in math.

Leaders in the Community

By this we mean our students will grow in wisdom and stature, and they will bring wisdom and experience to their community's challenges. First, they will do it by learning and becoming competent to speak and write effectively, they will become proficient in the sciences and in math. Then, they will learn to follow, participate on a team, and then act as effective servant leaders.

Lights in the World

By this we mean our students will represent Christ well to a world that is desperately in need, they will learn how to be Jesus' followers. *They will shine.* You don't have to look far to see the neediness of our world, of our communities. Our vision is that our students will be Christ-followers, people who follow hard after Jesus with the goal of becoming more like Him.

And when you think about it, isn't that just the sort of people we need solving the problems in our communities?

See more details at www.parkplaceschool.net

Outfitting our SchoolUnique

Unique Opportunities



A. Faculty Development. This includes both the development experiences we would conduct locally, but also tuition assistance for teacher licensing requirements.

Cost: \$12,000 annually

B. Creating a MakerSpace. Giving students the ability to ‘tinker’ is a valuable thing. This MakerSpace would have 3D Printers, Crafts Stations, Robotics equipment, and computer workstations.

Cost: \$14,800



C. Swimming Lessons. It would be great to get our students to a novice-level in swimming during their third-grade year.

Cost: \$800



Park Place School Wishbook 2022

Broadband Internet

D. Broadband Internet. One of our continuing challenges is providing strong internet to over 80 students with Chromebooks and another 12 faculty and staff.

Cost: \$4,200 annually

Transportation

E. Painting our Van. We were so blessed with a used van last year! This year, we need to paint the van and then re-brand it.

Cost: \$7,000



F. A New Van! Now that we have seen what we can do with a van, we would love another! These vehicles are perfect for experiential learning experiences and class-wide trips

Cost: Between \$26,000 and \$46,000



Outfitting our SchoolUnique

Building-Related Opportunities

A. Contributing to Our Building Fund. We would like to eventually provide stability to our school by owning the facility. This move last summer was our third since we were founded. We would love for our students and staff to be able to count on us being geo-stable from year-to-year.

Cost: Whatever you believe is best!

B. Solar Power and Alternatives. One of our most expensive recurring expenses is our utilities. Sometimes our AC or heating bills can approach \$2,000 a month. Here, we are proposing a range of ways to help:

- We have 23 thermostats in this building, we could install 23 networked smart thermostats.
- Solar power could do wonders for this building, but would be a significant up-front investment

Cost Range: \$8,000 - \$65,000



C. A New Metal Gym! Perhaps the weakest aspect of our new facility is that we do not have a gym on premises. We are working with partners to identify ways of meeting this need. You might have to buy us land first! [smile].

Cost for Land and Metal Gym: \$1.2 Million



A Generous Justice...

Don Robison, Development Director

In 1990 Chuck Swindoll published *The Grace Awakening* and that book recognized something that God was then doing in the church in the United States. After decades of losing the wonder and meaning of *grace* (though, thankfully, it was never completely lost), the Holy Spirit awakened us to the magnificence of it. We did, in fact, experience a Grace Awakening.

Grace... Amazing. Unlimited. Powerful. Life-giving. Generous. Beyond Price.

In my own life, that was a precious awakening.

Awakening to a Generous Justice...

If we once lost the fullness of the meaning of grace, I wonder if in our own day there is a growing awakening to justice as God intended it in passages like Micah 6:8? That passage may be familiar:

“And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

Micah 6:8b (NIV)

The Hebrew word for justice in that passage is *mishpat*.¹ It is a fascinating concept, not exactly analogous to our contemporary idea of justice. It literally means to ‘behave towards someone in accordance with their rights.’² With criminal behavior, the idea is similar to our concept of retributive justice and punishment.

But... and here is where it gets interesting to me... most of the time we see the word, *mishpat*, in the Old Testament, it is referring to people like widows, orphans and strangers in the land. Here the idea is that people who are created in the image of a magnificent God have inherent dignity and value. When they are defenseless or weak, their “due” is that we act to bring them up into the place of dignity for which they were created. Tim Keller calls this a “generous justice.”³

At Park Place School, we traffic in this *mishpat*, this *generous justice*, this *dignity strengthening*. Our mission is to strengthen students academically, spiritually, and as leaders in their community. We *get* to do this! Is that cool, or what?

¹ Thomas, R.L.(Ed.) & Wilkins, W.D.(Ed.). (1998). *New American Standard Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*. Anaheim, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

² Keller, T. (2010). *Generous Justice: How God’s grace makes us just*. New York, NY: Penguin Books. Page 3.

³ Keller, T. (2010). *Generous Justice: How God’s grace makes us just*. New York, NY: Penguin Books.

Outfitting our SchoolUnique

More Building-Related Opportunities...

A. Buy the Building We Inhabit. One great way for gifted givers to partner with us is to help us buy the building we inhabit—the Discovery Center. This could make a great school for the long-term. Interested in helping?

Cost: Approximately \$950,000



B. Here's the Biggest Idea: Buy A New Campus!

Audacious? Yes, we think so.

Let's say you are reading this, and the Lord has laid it on your heart to invest \$3.5 Million in our school. It isn't really that strange: We have an endowment of half that size. People have given richly to this work. And we are thankful. Pray.

Estimated Cost for a New Campus: \$3.5 Million

Picture it: 2.5 acres here in Norfolk, space to house kindergarten through 8th grade. Rooms tailored to our unique student body. Playing fields and a great (smallish) gymnasium. Unique therapy and tutoring spaces equipped for our specific student population.

Is such a dream worth it? We say it is. It is... a *generous* justice.

Pray with us!

Some Key Partners

Park Place School is blessed to partner with many people and organizations. And we are humble and thankful.

In some ways, we are an eco-system as much as we are a school. In our unique system of partnerships several non-profits come together to form what we all see as Park Place School.

Organizations that Serve Us...

The Academy of Music. Did you know that the *The Academy of Music* keeps 90 violins and some other instruments at our school? Every student has their own instrument.



They work with our students and we contribute only a fraction of their actual costs for doing it. They are a non-profit enterprise in their own right, and raise funds to support our amazing music instruction.

We love those folks and are so thankful for their service to our students!

Mercy Chefs. Our students eat phenomenal breakfasts and lunches prepared by *Mercy Chefs*. They say their mission is to “just go feed people” and they do it well! They are present in disaster relief, and they partner with organizations like ours.



What would we do without these wonderful people? Thank you!

We also count many area churches and synagogues as friends. Thank you for your support of our work of generous justice!

The Volunteer Project List

What wishlist from a school like ours would be complete without a list of volunteer projects? (I know, right?)

If you or your organization would like to pitch in with any of these projects, please contact Don Robison at drobison@parkplaceschool.org.

We will publish specific scheduled opportunities as they come up.

The Volunteer Project Wishlist for Summer 2022

Task	When Best Performed	Notes
Painting Classrooms after Construction	Prior to August 20	First Presbyterian of Norfolk Volunteers scheduled
Vacuum and Steam Clean Carpets	Prior to August 29	We will provide equipment
Sand, prime and paint front and rear doors	Prior to August 29	Blue (Looking for talented painters)
Sand, prime and paint restroom partitions	Prior to August 29	
Patch Seekel St. Drive and Seal it	Prior to August 29	
Assemble Classroom Tables	Prior to August 29	
Assist in Playground Development	Prior to August 29	
Steam Clean Office Chairs	Prior to August 26	
Sand and Refinish Wood Furniture	Prior to August 26	
Paint Seekel St. Curb Yellow	Prior to August 29	

Your Response...

How do you respond to all this?

We suggest: *prayerfully.*

We believe this is God's school. We have seen Him bless in so many ways. If we are listening to Him, then we believe He will supply our needs.

There are several ways to give or volunteer:

1. You can go online to our website and donate there.
www.parkplaceschool.net
1. You can drop a note to the school and enclose a check.
Our address is:
Park Place School
107 Seekel St.
Norfolk, VA 23505
3. Call us: 757-624-3473 and say you would like to help.
4. Send an email to Don Robison at
drobison@parkplaceschool.org and tell him what you would like to do.

Thank you for your support of Park Place School! We are excited about what our Lord is doing here. God bless you!

Park Place School
Wishbook
2022



Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

In addition to the one-time volunteer opportunities we described for getting the school ready for students, we have ongoing volunteer opportunities. Here are just a few:

1. **The Park Place School Prayer Team.** We would love to have folks praying for us on a daily basis. Interested? Contact Don Robison at drobison@parkplaceschool.org.
2. **Greeter.** Moving into this facility, we have a distinctive setup that dictates a new need. Visitors, parents and students who arrive after the beginning of school should be greeted at our front door, but our offices are actually upstairs. It would be great to have several volunteers serve as Greeters. You would stay in the downstairs foyer at a desk, and greet people as they arrive at the school. Interested? Contact Jennifer Whittington at jwhittington@parkplaceschool.org.
3. **Handy Person.** A facility of this magnitude requires nearly constant attention. We would like a pool of people that we can call on for minor maintenance problems that come up. Interested? Contact Don Robison at drobison@parkplaceschool.org.
4. **At-Large Volunteer.** And then there is that most-valuable of volunteers: the person who will do whatever is needed. If this is you, bless you! Contact Don Robison at drobison@parkplaceschool.org.

Park Place School
107 Seekel St.
Norfolk, VA 23505
Phone: 757-624-3473

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