



GOLDEN TRIANGLE

January 2011

"Only let us live up to what we've already attained."

Philippians 3:16

Partnership is key to everything we do as a **college preparatory school** anchored in the truth and grace of **Jesus Christ**.

At a recent Admissions Open House, I noted that **healthy partnership requires** three things: trust, communication and unity or like-mindedness.

- **Trust** - knit together in the love of Jesus, we must earn your trust over time to be a strong partner with you. In every body, even the Body of Christ, there will be bumps and bruises. Yet, knowing we are here to serve your family as professional educators to the best of our ability should build the trust necessary for a longstanding, fruitful partnership.
- **Like-mindedness** - knit together in the love of Jesus, we must be on the same page in terms of faith and learning; we must be in pursuit of the same goals to be an effective partner. Our purpose is clear. We are, first and foremost, a school. We believe the most complete and rigorous education places God's Word and His Son at the center of all



learning. We are better scientists, artists, doctors, lawyers, tradesmen, bankers, entrepreneurs and athletes when we know the Designer of all life and service.

- **Communication** - knit together in the love of Jesus, we must know what each other is thinking (and doing) to maximize our partnership. We live in a communications tsunami. Every hour, we are flooded with messages to the point of near exasperation. Some true. Some not true. We must be discerning to check out the truth of the message. And, we must stay connected. If we lose connection, we lose our way.
 - Whether it be through classroom newsletters, RenWeb, our website, Facebook, Twitter, the Campus Connection, the Warrior Roundtable (blog), Warrior News, the Golden Triangle, we trust you are hearing what you need to hear from us.
 - If not, please let me know - face to face, phone, email, twitter (@drlrca). **I'm all ears.**

To begin 2011, my pastor illustrated Paul's admonition to "press forward" with a story about Christopher Columbus. Sailing the blue in 1492, his crew wondered where, exactly, they were heading. He replied, "Westward." Direction was everything. So it is with us. Where are we heading? "Forward and Christ-ward." Direction is everything. We are constantly in forward motion towards Him and towards your child's preparation for college and the disciplines of life - all the while in partnership with you and your local church congregation.

There's another aspect to this direction you should know.

This year I've been telling people: like a mature oak tree, our roots are deeper and our crown is higher. Grounded in our core values and sense of purpose, we can climb higher to see a grander vision. And, what is that vision? One word - **preeminence**. As He is the Preeminent One, we ought to reflect His glory in everything we do - preeminently. Be it academics, arts, athletics or avenues of service, let it be done preeminently.

I aspire to this with an attitude of **gratitude**.

Like Samuel, we say, "Look at what God has done for us!" Over Christmas break, I recounted the improvements we have made over the past three or four years. **At least 177 enhancements have lifted us up and lifted Him up.** As a springboard for praise and thanksgiving, an inventory of these tangible improvements is forthcoming.

Looking forward, the board of trust and I are in the middle of a planning season. We

are going to the Lord for discernment as we map out **leadership initiatives** to focus upon over the next three years. **The thrust is educational quality and biblical integrity.** That is why you are a Warrior - to receive a great K-12 education bathed in the truth of God's Word. I look forward to the occasion when I can share our accomplishments and goals with you in greater detail.

I can tell you now - we are not looking to grow bigger; we are not rushing the next building project. We are intent to fulfill our Christ-centered, educational mission with excellence to the glory of God. **We will do that by following His lead in hiring the right people and teaching the right things in the right way.**



Last semester I had the opportunity to address our PTF organization and respond to this year's frequently asked questions (FAQ).

- How big does LRCA intend to be? What class size should we expect for our children?
- What do you mean by the phrase, "selective admissions?" What are the school's criteria for admission? Do you ever miss something or get fooled?
- What does our tuition pay for? How much does the school rely on gift income?
- Does LRCA have a stance on bullying? Is it effective?
- Are LRCA students prepared for university? Academically? Spiritually?
- How are we working to improve educationally even more?
- How is Jesus manifest among us? What about students who do not know Christ yet? What about your students from Christian families who do not love Jesus yet?

In the **February Golden Triangle**, I will share my responses with you.

Until then, here are some quick, seasonal bullets about life at LRCA:

1. Once again, the Arkansas ACT Council presents LRCA with the 2010 College Readiness Award in recognition of our school "**having a significant increase in our**

composite score over the past five years while, at the same time, increasing or maintaining the number of students taking the ACT assessment." According to ACT, **"less than 4% of the high schools in Arkansas were able to accomplish what [we] have done!"** I count 17 schools on the award list. Four of the 17 are private schools. Two of the four private schools are in Little Rock: LRCA and Episcopal.

2. Hopefully, you heard the word about our showing in **5A Cross-Country**. Our boys are 5A State Champions and our girls are 5A State Runners-Up. Individually, our female Warrior, Randi Ferguson, is State Champion.
3. I-beams are in for **baseball and softball** scoreboards. Both fields are nearing completion for spring ball. Thanks to the gifts and time commitment of baseball team parents, our front porch along Highway 10 looks better than ever.
4. We have a **new running/walking course** around the perimeter of our campus for our teams and individual use. For a good prayer walk, start at the baseball field and follow the 360° path north.
5. **Thanks to PTF, over \$50,000 of new technology was added to our third, fourth and fifth grade classrooms** between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Twelve Promethean boards (a variety of "digital smartboard") were installed in twelve classrooms - four in grade 3, four in grade 4, four in grade 5. Teachers have spent hours in training, and the students use them every day. We will introduce them to middle school next year.
www.prometheanworld.com
6. Thanks to ALL who blessed the mission of LRCA with a year-end gift. Almost every physical enhancement to our campus and your child's educational experience comes from your generous stewardship of God's blessings. Thank you for including LRCA in your Kingdom stewardship. Your investment will pay eternal dividends through the Warrior impact of the next generation.
7. Noted Christian apologist and President of Kings College (NY), **Dinesh D'Souza is coming to LRCA to address our high school students and faculty**. D'Souza's grasp of politics, culture, truth and education is exceptional. This is yet another opportunity for our students to get muscled up for what's ahead in America and the world. The date is the morning of January 26th. Come and listen. High School Commons. Around 9 am.
8. **Have you prayed for your school today?**
 - a. Safety for the children
 - b. Open hearts and minds for learning
 - c. Families who are experiencing turmoil
 - d. Teachers and staff who serve you in the humility of the Lord
 - e. Wisdom for leadership.

9. We are able to absorb our two recent **snow days** by extending Grandparents' Day and the last day of school in May into the afternoon.
10. If you observe an item on campus that is in need of repair, stop and take a picture of it and forward it to our Director of Building and Grounds, Eric Schmidt. We call it "**click and fix.**" eric.schmidt@littlerockchristian.com
11. Follow me on Twitter @drlrca for a **Warrior daily vitamin.**
12. Do you sometimes wonder **why we do what we do?** How are we different than other schools? Scan the [Warrior Roundtable](http://www.lrcaroundtable.com) @ www.lrcaroundtable.com.
13. We have a **new mailing address:** 19010 Hwy 10, Little Rock, AR 72223.
We are no longer required to use a P.O. Box.

Finally, our "[Set Your Mind](#)" focus for January is **HONOR**. The Bible is clear: "**Honor everyone.**" (**I Peter 2:17**) We will honor you; you honor the school. We are all called to honor the Lord. When we do that, He honors us.

Plain and simple.

Now, hold your hands up in the shape of a triangle and PRAY that God will keep our partnership strong, effective and fruitful!



In His service, at your service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Gary B. Arnold". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gary B. Arnold
Your Head of School

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