

# IN THE LOOP

The Bi-Annual Newsletter for Unity Supporters designed to keep you, "In the Loop!"

JUNE - 2011

## UNITY WRAPS UP THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

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What an amazing year! God has blessed Unity with a new building, great staff, fantastic students and the opportunity to shine in the community.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL, MR. PETER BULTHUIS



#### Visioning for the Future

Let me first put into context what I'm about to share. The Israelites had been taken into captivity to Babylon. They had been taken from their homes and all things familiar, to a foreign land. But God told them something very strange about their time in Babylon. Let me read from Jeremiah 29: 4 – 7:

<sup>4</sup> *This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: <sup>5</sup> "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>6</sup> Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. <sup>7</sup> Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."*

Strange that the Lord would say that: seek for the prosperity of everyone and everything there. Don't hide away.

Historically, the OACS Christian High Schools in Ontario were built on the edges of cities: Hamilton, Smithville, Belleville, King's Collegiate, Durham in Bowmanville, Woodland in Kitchener/Waterloo, even Unity in its middle years. The actual cities that gave them their street address, were quite far away from the location of the school building. That simple fact has had a profound impact of the type and amount of service that the school community could offer.

However much each school wanted to serve the community, each school would quite clearly need to drive there. And SERVICE, present and future, is a large part of what each of these school communities have been and are all about. Several of these schools have these statements as foundations to their existence:

"EDUCATING TEENS FOR SERVICE IN THE LIGHT OF GOD'S WORD"

Continued Page 7...

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **UNITY FAMILY BBQ AND DEDICATION** - Thursday, Sept. 1 at 6:00 pm  
Come and join us for a great time of fellowship and a time of prayer as we lay the coming year at the feet of our Lord and ask His blessings for an outstanding year in 2011-2012.
- **September 6 - First Day of Classes**
- **September 24 - Golf Tournament**

# What is most important at Unity?

This school is a nurturing educational community which equips all students to boldly seek and proclaim God’s truth as they explore his creation.

## Unity provides:

- An Ontario Secondary School Diploma (access to Canadian and US Universities)
- Rigorous and excellent programs in the Arts, Social Studies, English, Mathematics and all the Sciences
- Faith and Learning, and Bible courses
- Committed teachers, certified to teach by the Ontario College of Teachers
- A focused Senior Project
- Many service opportunities
- Small class sizes

## What does Unity mean to our Staff?

Unity Christian High is a place where teachers help students to become successful, and to accept their calling to be Kingdom workers. When you join our learning community, you will be taught to be a strong, mature student ready for life. **Mr. Peter Bulthuis, Principal**



Opportunities to explore our culture and worldview in the surrounding community.



Opportunities to learn in small classes.

Unity Christian High School is a great place to be! I love being a teacher. I love getting to sing and make music with students, helping them learn about events in history and have them work through why and how those things happened, chatting with them in a guidance appointment, and laughing with them as our entire school bands together to put on a dramatic production. I think Unity is a safe place where students can try many different things, and along the way, grow as a child of God and learn a bit more about their place in Christ’s Kingdom. **Miss Kim Furtney, Teacher**



Unity Christian High is a place where we can marvel at the intricacies of creation and gain a deeper understanding of the Creator. **Mrs. Laurie Van-Campen, Teacher**



From English to the Arts, from Geography to Mathematics from Physics to History, all courses exceed Ontario Ministry of Education requirements. In all programs, students grow in wisdom, knowledge and faith. Courses are designed so that graduates are prepared for success in colleges, universities and work settings.

**Gifted Christian teachers engage students in a purposeful, joyful atmosphere, providing a comprehensive program which educates and involves the whole student. The teachers are each exceptional. They have been chosen for their mastery of their craft, their passion to help students learn, and their love of Jesus Christ.**



Unity Christian High School is a safe place where students are encouraged through life's many challenges by their teachers, but also by each other. Being a small school, I have the opportunity to witness a unique bond among our students. Everyone seems to know each other person; no one is lost or unnoticed. It's not just we teachers who care... it's everyone.



**Mrs. Crystal Holmes, Teacher**

Unity Christian High is a very special place. We partner with parents and churches to raise young men and women in the ways of the Lord. We learn how to view ourselves, each other and the world through a set of lenses prescribed by God. Together we become confident and excited to live in the world, knowing that we bring a message of hope and truth in what we think, do and say.



**Mrs. Maria Bulhuis, Teacher**

Unity is home to students from Alliston, Barrie, Bradford, Everett, Orillia, Oro, Severn Bridge, and everywhere in between.

In a world that increasingly turns a blind eye to God and his sovereignty, Unity Christian High School stands as a beacon of truth, firmly planted on the rock of Jesus Christ. What I like about teaching at Unity is that I can be real with the kids about my own faith and have conversations with them about what God is doing in both their lives and mine. I also deeply appreciate working alongside colleagues who see teaching as a calling from God, not just a job, and who value each and every student as a unique individual. All of the staff at Unity work together to help each student achieve their personal best, both academically and spiritually. It is a true blessing for me to see God working so actively at Unity, and it is always exciting to see what He has planned for us next! I am truly thankful to be able to work and serve here.

**Ms. Kelly Moncrief, Teacher**





# Congratulations to our



Lenie Alberts



Curtis Baker

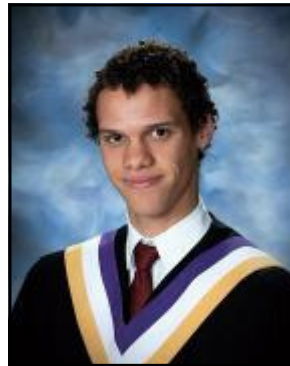


Jacob Borgdorff



Amanda Ens

Our graduates are compassionate and wise men and women; they are bold witnesses of the gospel; they are knowledgeable, effective and competent thinkers. They are men and women who are able and willing to serve Christ and their communities; they are men and women ready and able to be successful. They are and will always be part of Unity Christian High School.



Judah Garland



Lindsay Gilbert



Kaitlyn Goldsworthy



Alison Heale



Bradley Huitema



Hannah Meijers

100% of our graduates that applied to a post secondary institution were accepted

# Graduating Class of 2011



Lisa Paulenko



Jordan Reinders



Lucas Triemstra

## Graduate Testimonials:

“The teachers have challenged us to think deeper about the world and about our relationship with Christ. We have been taught not to take the world as-is, but to question what it gives us and to be what we want to see in it. Because of Unity and the teachers, I have grown personally, intellectually, physically, and spiritually.” LG

“The teachers at Unity have been amazing, giving one-on-one help and a listening ear when I need it. The teachers make sure that we understand our work and I am extremely grateful. Unity has helped shape who I am. The people, teachers, and warm atmosphere that Unity provide have been examples of what I should be and what I can strive to become” LP

“Unity is more than just a school, it is a home where you can grow spiritually, physically, and mentally. It is the place I feel most comfortable with who I am.” JR

“Unity has been a safe a comfortable place for me. The teachers have been supportive and helpful” AH



Tommy Perrett



Kelly Roberts-Dodd



Sierra Van Arragon



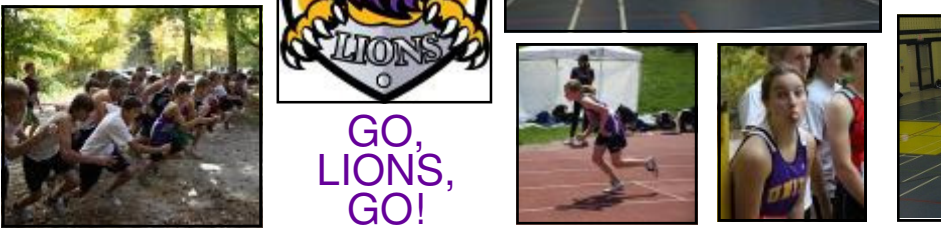
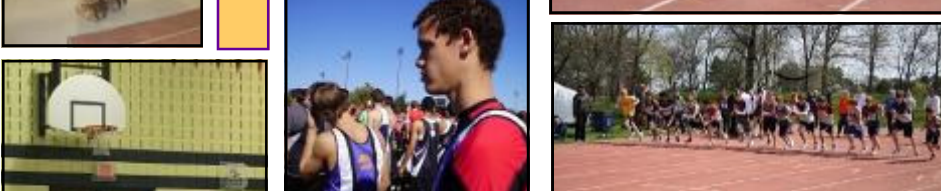
Victoria Veenstra

The Board and Staff wish the Graduating class of 2011 God’s richest blessings as they move on in His kingdom.

## Parent Testimonial:

For the past eight years, Unity has played a central role in the story of our lives. To describe the impact it has had on our family would be impossible in a line or two. Let’s just say that we look back with thanksgiving and gratitude for the years as parents and we look forward to the new stage of our relationship with Unity: non-parent members! Unity is established, our children have been honoured, God’s favour on Unity is well-received and our prayers and support of Unity will continue. Thank you, everyone. To God be the glory! Jeff and Phyllis Alberts

# UNITY ATHLETICS



GO,  
LIONS,  
GO!

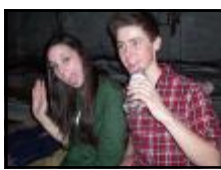
## Interschool Sports

Unity competes in several leagues including OFSAA, OCSSAA, and SCCHA. Many of our athletes compete at the provincial championships in;

- Cross Country Running
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Badminton
- Track and Field



# UNITY'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP



Assemblies and Chapel

Grade 12 Council

Grade 12 Class



## Student Leadership Opportunities



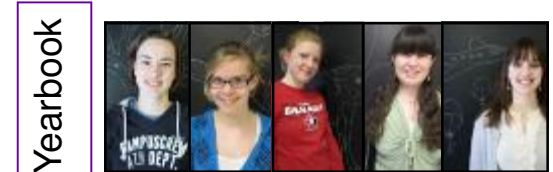
Student Council



Athletic Council



Music Council



Yearbook

### Principal's Message Continued...

#### "LEARNING IS FOR SERVICE"

"Unity Christian High School exists to give God glory in the field of education by cultivating the gifts of all students, equipping them to see and serve Christ in His world in purposeful Christian living."

God has put us here in Allandale, in Barrie. We have moved from the periphery to the heart of the city. We have been bequeathed a grand old building, which we have labouriously and wonderfully brought up to meet the needs of our 21<sup>st</sup> century students. This building has been and is one of the remaining architectural jewels in Barrie's crown.

Being a jewel is a grand calling, but being a multi-faceted jewel is a much grander calling. The Israelites in Babylon were jewels; they undoubtedly shone brightly. Yet, they were more than jewels. For example, Daniel and his friends turned the eating traditions of the king's court upside-down with their unorthodox diet; Daniel led King Darius to see and seek the great God of Israel. Israel in captivity put its mark on Babylon.

I am not going to suggest that Barrie can be readily equated with Babylon, notwithstanding the sculpture on the south shore of the bay. However, I am going to suggest God has put us in Allandale, Barrie for a number of purposes. Unity has already been active here, and told the community that we want to be and are part of this place. Since the beginning of our residence here, we have hosted the monthly meetings of the Allandale Neighbourhood Association, and the bi-monthly meetings of the Allandale Historical Railroad Association. We have hosted an afternoon performance of THE PINK PANTHER STRIKES AGAIN; we cleaned Allandale roads and Shear Park (much to the delight of many residents); we collected scrap metal in the community (many residents saw the notice on the Allandale.ca website); we have hung art in the local Allandale art gallery; we have removed the fences front and back.

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# Drama :

Unity presents a professional student theatre production each spring which involves 80% of our student body and performs for over 800 audience members. Unity also offers a Drama course to Grades 10 and 11.



Students take part in the play as actors, sound, light, backstage, makeup, costume, and set building.



Unity students performed for five packed houses receiving outstanding applause and appreciation for another great Unity production.



The Pink Panther hit downtown Barrie leaving promotional footprints on all the major streets.

## Senior Project:

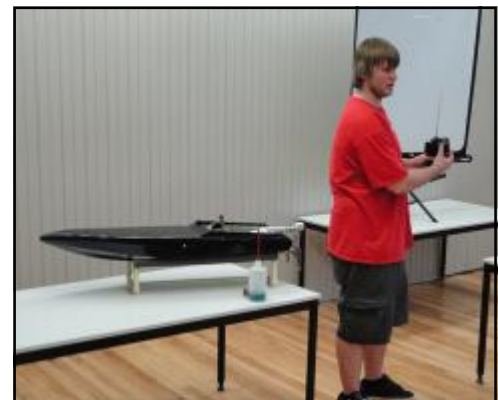
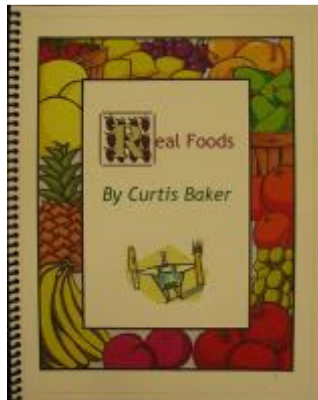
### A Capstone Course in Grade 12

Through the first three years of high school, students at Unity have had the opportunity to learn new skills and new information; they have been able to learn more about God's power and rule on earth and in their lives; they have been encouraged and directed. Then, when they reach Grade 12, they take a course called "Senior Project", a capstone of their high school career. Throughout the length of the year, students in this course work towards completing a major paper, keeping a portfolio, creating a large project, and preparing and giving a presentation to an audience.

SENIOR PROJECT is designed to allow students to demonstrate their capabilities for research, creative thinking, rigorous analysis, and clear written and oral communication. Near the beginning of the school year, the students will have chosen their own topic for the year's work. These topics range from photography to auto mechanics, from writing a cookbook to hosting a coffee house. Wrapped around that choice of topic, is their thinking about and coming to grips with: So what does Scripture say about this cultural artifact in 2011? What does God want me to do here?

This year, at the end of May/beginning of June, each of our grade 12 students presented the results of their labour to audiences of +20 people. A large stretch, to be sure. And they each had to come to some legitimate conclusion about "how shall we now live?" The final outcomes were inspiring. These young people are ready to continue to impact the world for Christ.

Peter Bulthuis (Principal/Teacher)



Grade 12 students published books including novels, short stories, cook books, poetry, and photography. They made cakes, built a boat and spent many hours researching their chosen topics.



## Music

Unity offers an outstanding Choir and Band program at every grade level.



One of my favourite courses at Unity is the Grade 9 Music Appreciation course. Because students who come to Unity in Grade 9 have varied music education backgrounds, this class is designed to be a survey course of music to allow all students to get to participate in music, whether they are brand new to music, or they have an extensive music background. The course is arranged so that on Mondays, students learn music theory, on Tuesdays, they learn vocal music and sing as a choir, on Wednesdays, they learn music history, on Thursdays, they learn instrumental music and rehearse as a concert band, and on Fridays we have a wrap-up class. My goal is that even if students don't love every aspect of music, they will find, hopefully, at least one area that they really enjoy, and have a better appreciation for the others. While music is fun and very enjoyable, we also learn that music is work and takes discipline, like any other art or craft. In addition to these aspects of music, students also get to participate in two school concerts (Christmas and Spring), the Ontario Christian School Choir Festival (with approximately 450 other Christian high school students), STOMP rhythm projects and various other performance tasks. A highlight of the year for me with this year's Grade 9 Music Appreciation class was having them sing with the Unity choir to form a mini-mass choir for our Spring Arts Festival on May 19<sup>th</sup>. There were 50 students singing together in 4 and 5 part harmony, and while the sound of their voices filling the room was so beautiful and harmonious, the looks on their faces were almost more special for me – especially when I watched students who would barely open their mouths to sing at the beginning of the year, and now they were spot on with pitch and rhythm, giving glory to God, and loving every minute of it. Psalm 100 says "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." We do our best to fulfill this command in all areas of music at Unity, and this class is no exception. I am very proud of all music students at Unity; they are blessed with many gifts and talents and it is my privilege to get to work with them everyday. - Kim Furtney (Teacher)



### Principal's Message Continued...

And I believe this is just the start of a great relationship with this community as we seek for its peace and prosperity through service. There are so many activities we can do to assist here, both as legitimate extensions of our courses, and simple extensions of our purpose, and our location. These activities come out of the philosophy of community service, positive relationships and active work. But more than that, even. Students want relevance, want to make a difference, want varying learning opportunities. It seems to me that active partnerships in and with Allandale and Barrie responds to many elements of this Christian educational institution. And none of these activities should take anything away from our prime mission:

*Gifted Christian teachers will engage students in a purposeful, joyful atmosphere, providing a comprehensive program which educates and involves the whole student.*

Mr. Peter Bulthuis

**Technology Education** - Unity offers a Construction Design Tech. Ed. program at the grade nine and ten levels.



**Art** - Unity offers a fantastic art program at the grade nine and ten levels and is looking to expand the program to the senior grades in the near future.

**Grade 9/10 Art** is an elective course at Unity; offered second semester for grades 9 and 10 students. Our students learn about Art History and the elements of art, study techniques for drawing and painting, and complete various works of art. This semester our focus was primarily on drawing and painting. Students completed portraits, watercolour paintings, abstract acrylic paintings, and several other drawings. They also were able to sculpt masks. It was exciting to see students improve their skills and also get to try out new things. As with all courses taught at Unity, God is the centre of all we do. Students at Unity are taught to acknowledge their artistic ability as a gift from the Lord, and are encouraged to use their giftedness to make artwork that glorifies the Master Creator. One highlight of the year was when our guest lecturer, Evelyn VanderLinde (local artist), led the class through a workshop on prophetic art. Students were taught how art can be used as a form of worship, and were able to generate works of art that reflected their own personal connection to the Holy Spirit. God has richly blessed our Art program this year, and we are excited to see how He will continue to grow our students next year. - Kelly Moncrief

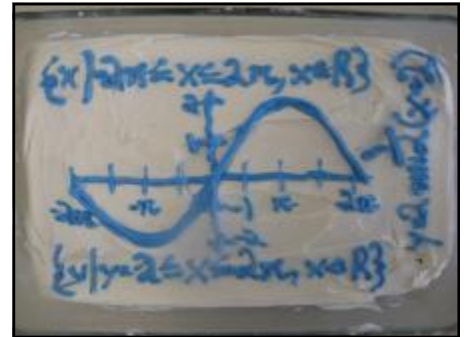


## Math

Unity offers all the Math Course options for both College and University bound students



Edible Math is fun!



There is order and logic in mathematical theories; these theories help to describe creation. We recognize that these mathematical theories have their foundation in God, because He created and sustains an orderly universe. Psalm 19: “The heavens tell the glory of God, and the skies announce what His hands have made. Day after day they tell the story, night after night they tell it again.” The other day, a student was working hard to understand the new concept of the day and said out loud – “Who thinks this stuff up anyway?” Simply put: God did, before man even existed – and man has spent all of history discovering, interpreting, and explaining all that God has created – we are still not finished. What a blessing that there is still so much more to learn and that we never need to be bored and that we will never know it all – Praise God.

In the classroom students learn math and relate it to everyday life. It is interesting that when students apply to colleges, universities and work, there are few prerequisites – always English and usually mathematics. Mathematics is a universal language – it is the same all over the world. Math is not a creation of man but a tool to help us understand the wonder of God’s creation – orderliness, logic and balance. We can glorify God with our knowledge of mathematics. M J Bulthuis

## Serving our Community

Unity takes several opportunities to help out within the school and its local Allandale community.



Unity Students lend a helping hand by “Pitching-In” to clean up the school property as well as the surrounding streets and local parks. Students also helped with setting up our Library shelving and painting our downstairs hallway. It is great to see the heart of a servant flow out from our students as they serve others in the community.



## Science

Unity offers Biology, Chemistry and Physics at both College and University levels



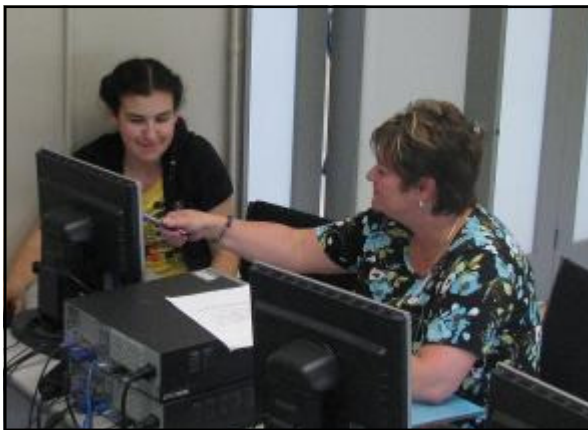
Grade 11 Biology students dissect a pig in order to understand the intricacies of God's creation hands on.



When I think back and reflect on this year in the science department, I can see many ways in which God has blessed the students through the exploration of His creation. Grade nine and ten science was full of activity. We investigated both the very large and the very small by building models of the solar system, the greenhouse effect and the atmosphere, and the tiniest of molecules. The senior biology class considered the connection between structure and function through in-depth study into metabolic processes, molecular genetics and physiology, including a brain dissection. In senior chemistry classes, students were actively exploring matter and energy changes. They were involved in inquiry lab activities and the building of organic substances such as esters and soap. Overall, we have learned much this year and continue to marvel at the beauty and complexity of our Father's world. Mrs. Laurie VanCampen (Teacher)

## Thank you, Mrs. Debbie Roberts-Dodd

Debbie has been on Unity's staff for two years, the first in a volunteer position, and this current year as paid staff. In her role as Educational Assistant, she has had a tremendous impact on those students at Unity who find the academic setting particularly difficult.



Debbie has exhibited firm patience in encouraging students, helping them to uncover methods to be successful in their studies. She has worked in partnership with classroom teachers to assist students to complete their tasks well. She has consistently looked upon difficulties as challenges, and has the wonderful gift of passing that perspective to her students. Debbie has been a wonderful member of our team, and we are convinced that God will continue to use her gifts in His kingdom.



We wish Debbie God's blessing as she moves on to new endeavors and thank her for her time here at Unity.

## Another Unity Testimonial:

### Edina McDonald, Parent of two Unity Alumni ('07, '09)

"At Unity, the entire staff focus was centered on the well-being of our children. The small class sizes, the God-centered family feel of the school, and the amazing staff, meant that every child's individuality and specific learning needs could be focused on."

**We are on the web!**

[www.unitychristianhigh.ca](http://www.unitychristianhigh.ca)

**UNITY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL**

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At **UNITY Christian High School**, the passion is to work from the big picture. The school is based on the infallible Word of God. Everything at UNITY is founded on this.

**Statement of Purpose:**

*Unity Christian High School exists to give God glory in the field of education by cultivating the gifts of all students, equipping them to see and serve Christ in His world in purposeful Christian living.*

**VISION: What UNITY is:**

*Unity Christian High School is a nurturing educational community, which equips all students to boldly seek and proclaim God's truth as they explore His creation, and guides them toward realization of their calling to participate in Christ's kingdom.*

**MISSION: How UNITY will fulfill its vision:**

*Gifted Christian teachers will engage students in a purposeful, joyful atmosphere, providing a comprehensive program which educates and involves the whole student.*

**THEME OF THE YEAR:**

**Refresh, Renew, Refine : Romans 12:2**

**" HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS ,  
AND IN HIM ALL THINGS HOLD  
TOGETHER " COLOSSIANS 1 : 17**

## Farewell Mr. Vanderboor

### Thank You for Your Years of Service to Unity!

Mike has been with us at Unity since 2007. His first year was as a classroom teacher and Athletic Director; then in 2008, the Vice Principal position was added to his responsibilities and he has shaped that position. In his role as classroom teacher, he has taught many courses, some inside of his academic training and expertise, and some which he made part of his expertise. He was amenable to teach any course, and he taught them with outstanding ability.



As Athletic Director, Mike had to organize, plan, and implement a growing and successful athletic program. He increased Unity's athletic profile in Simcoe County, and among the OACS high schools. He gave guidance, direction and support to staff and athletes to the point where the school has sent students to OFSSA. He created an "Athletic Council", through which athletic activities at the school could be implemented well (also through which several highly successful Pancake Suppers brought income into the athletic program). He updated Unity's athletic apparel, helping to develop a new sports logo, and making the new line of clothing extremely desirable.

As vice principal, Mike's work has been invaluable and outstanding. To highlight a few: he revamped the INNER LOOP and the IN THE LOOP to be both aesthetically pleasing, and extremely informative; he coordinated the work of the Promotion and Development Committee; he took care of many internal school logistics; he was of great assistance as a member of the leadership team in designing, planning and implementing programs, policies, and fresh ideas.



In short, Mike has left an indelible imprint on the school. We thank God for Mike's tenure at our school, and pray that God will continue to use Mike's gifts in His kingdom.

Mike and his family will be moving to Port Perry, ON, where he will take on the Administration position at Scugog Christian School.



Your prayers, gifts and support are always appreciated. To make a tax-deductible donation to Unity, please contact our office at 792-6195.

Thank you for being a supporter of Unity Christian High School in Barrie, ON.