



CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA

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November 19, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff of St. Andrew's, St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's Schools,

RE: St. Andrew's Regional High School Building Project – Next Steps

It has been quite some time since I provided an update on the final phase of the Catholic Schools Plan (CPS) – the renewal of St. Andrew's Regional High School.



Phase One of the high school project, which began in 2017, involved a seismic upgrade in the section of the building that was not torn down. *Phase Two*, the building of the new classroom wing, was completed in 2019. The *Third Phase* will be the completion of the Performing Arts Wing and Field. This a two-part phase as the Performing Arts Wing must be completed before work on the field can begin. Approvals were recently granted by the various diocesan boards and stakeholders to begin this next phase. If you have driven by the school lately you will notice construction began this month.

As Principal, Glen Palahicky, recently wrote:

This Performing Arts Wing, along with a better soccer field, has always been part of the vision of the Catholic Schools Plan but rising costs put things on pause. Given the time limits on permits, future increased building costs, and the real needs of our music, drama and athletic departments it makes sense to be building now. This is a wonderful sign of growth, hope and a time of trusting in community support and God's good blessings. I hope you are able to share in the joy of this good news!

In 2009, the initial estimate for the entire Catholic Schools Plan was \$20 million. Given the rising costs in a vibrant construction industry, the final stages of our CSP will only be possible if additional funds can be raised. The current building estimate for the Performing Arts Wing and the upgrade to the field is estimated to be \$5-5.5 million.

To assist in the fundraising for the Performing Arts Wing and Sports Field, Catherine Minvielle, our Director of Development for the Diocese is working closely with a team of dedicated volunteers. These volunteers were brought together to form the fundraising committee to raise \$5 – \$5.5 million. The campaign, titled *Building on Success*, has a plan in place, which includes, but not limited to, timelines, naming opportunities, giving policies, and payment pledge options. In late February 2020, committee members were ready to engage with prospective donors with the campaign, when the global COVID-19 pandemic hit. At present, the committee is working hard behind the scene on what is called the "silent fundraising phase". The more public phase will begin in 2021 and we look forward to sharing more on that with you in 2021; so stay tuned.

As many of you know, independent schools in BC do not receive funding for capital projects from the Ministry of Education. We are committed to raising the balance of funds needed to complete our Catholic Schools Plan. With generous support from the community, a completed Performing Arts Wing and Sports Field will

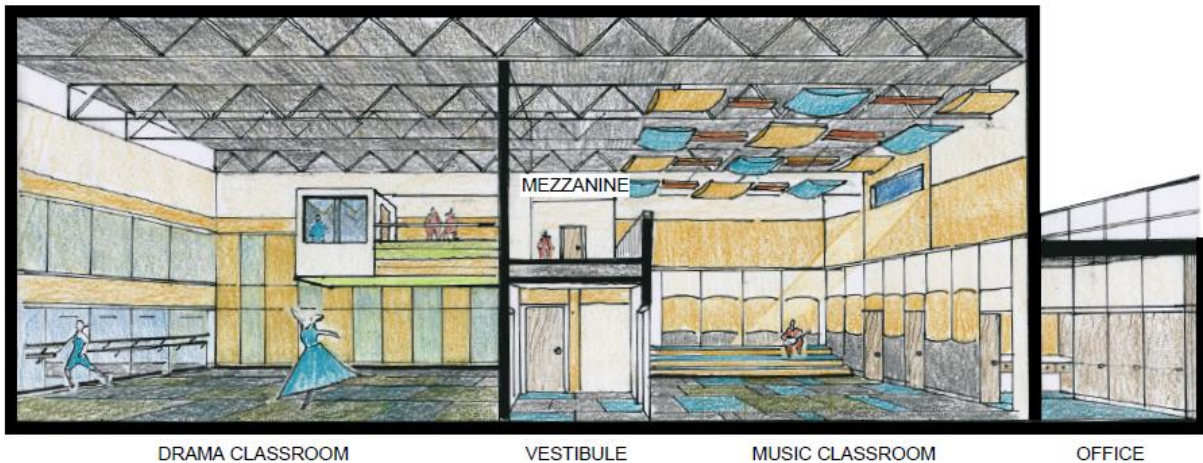
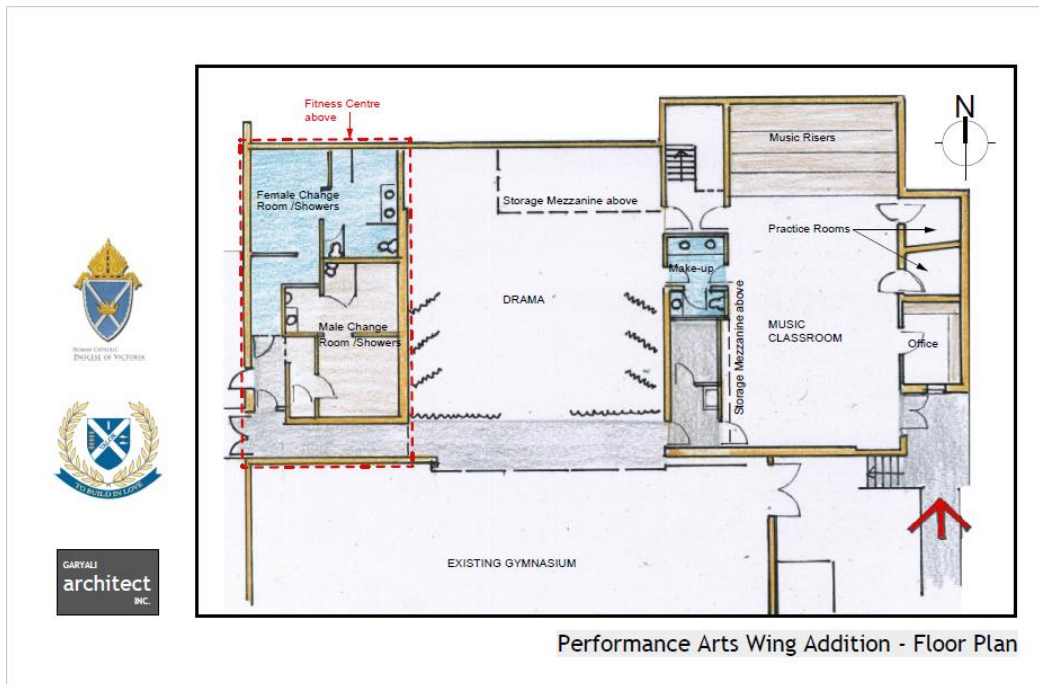
allow St. Andrew's to provide a modern educational environment that supports student success grounded in commitment to God, neighbor and self.

As we continue to navigate the pandemic, I pray that you all stay safe and healthy.

Together in hope,

Beverly A Pulyk

Beverly Pulyk
Superintendent of Island Catholic Schools



Performance Arts Wing Addition - Interior View



(Access to Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary)

Performance Arts Wing Addition - Site Plan