

Pitt Academy

Annual Report 2014

Pitt Academy Mission Statement

History

Pitt Academy, formerly Ursuline Pitt School, was founded by Monsignor Felix Newton Pitt in 1949 to provide education and training for children who were unable to profit from the traditional methods of regular classroom instruction, because of learning problems.

His innovative ideas included special help in reading, writing, and math in resource-type rooms; assistance for the classroom teachers in dealing with children with special needs; and the opportunity for children with special needs to succeed in the school environment.

For over 60 years, in our little school, the core mission of Monsignor Pitt has thrived and adapted. The world has changed around us and we have changed with it, but the need for a safe, secure and loving individualized education for special needs children is as critical today as it was in 1949.

Mission

Pitt Academy is a fully accredited, independent school with a non-denominational enrollment policy, serving students with learning differences in a gradeless elementary through secondary setting. We believe in individualized instruction and a low student/teacher ratio. Our students are accepted for who they are and we modify the curriculum to meet the individual needs of the child.

At Pitt, we expect a lot more from our students and we provide an environment in which they can succeed. Pitt provides a secure space for special needs children to realize their full potential, be independent and productive members of society. We are a community of learners supported by caring and dedicated teachers, administrators, staff, parents and resource people who strive to make “community” not simply a concept to be taught, but a reality to be lived and experienced daily.

Philosophy

Pitt Academy seeks to:

- Provide specialized educational instruction to maximize each student’s potential.
- Help each student develop confidence, self-esteem and appropriate social behaviors.
- Train hearts and minds.
- Prepare each student to become independent through life skills instruction.
- Expect more from children, despite their challenges.
- Provide a safe and nurturing school environment.

Core Beliefs

At Pitt Academy, we believe that our students can:

- Be responsible for their own actions and behaviors.
- Be positive in attitude and effort.
- Be respectful of each other's individual differences and worth.
- Be positive role models.
- Be independent.
- Be respected, listened to and heard.

2013-2014 Program Highlights

- **Grants** – Pitt Academy would like to sincerely thank each of the organizations that contributed to our mission over the past school year. The following organizations provided grant funding to Pitt Academy:
 - Allegra Printing
 - Catholic Education Foundation
 - Cralle Foundation
 - Crusade For Children
 - Fund For The Arts
 - Blue Apple Players
 - Half Price Books
 - Independent Pilots Association
 - Kosair Charities
- **Therapies** – For the second consecutive year Pitt Academy continued to strengthen our partnership with Associates in Pediatrics Therapy to provide a range of therapies for the families at Pitt Academy. Through this partnership, Pitt Academy and Associates in Pediatric Therapy have been able to help many Pitt Academy families obtain a range of needed services through the Michele P. Waiver program and other funding sources. In addition several of the Pitt Academy Staff continue to work outside of school with students through serving as certified Community Supported Living workers. In the coming year we hope to continue these efforts and further broaden both the range of service options open to families and to provide an information resource for the families to obtain access to programs and services for their children with special needs.
- **Public Relations** - The Board is pleased to announce that this past year marked the filming, production, and airing of our first ever commercial that ran for a total of four weeks. In addition a long form of the production is used on the school's website. The Board believes that a critical component of our Public Relations and Public Information outreach must be to maintain a complete, updated and efficient media presence. The Board has continued expanding its community outreach program, through informational booths in local art and community fairs. Personal contact, talking about the Mission of Pitt Academy and getting contact information continues to be a major goal for the future.
- **Donor Database** - The GiftWorks donor software has been put to use over the past year to create, refine and update our donor lists and other databases. It has been vital to Pitt Academy in the creation of mass mailers and other direct outreach. The Board believes that the Pitt Academy message must be brought to the community on a consistent, regular basis in order to have its greatest effect.
- **Capital Campaign** - The Board has officially launched *Help Us Grow Their Future, A Capital Campaign for Pitt Academy*. This provides an exciting opportunity to help Pitt Academy build a permanent new home, where children with special needs and learning differences can continue to reach their full academic, creative and social potential. The campaign was launched in January of 2014 and pledges are currently being accepted.

Governance

Board of Directors

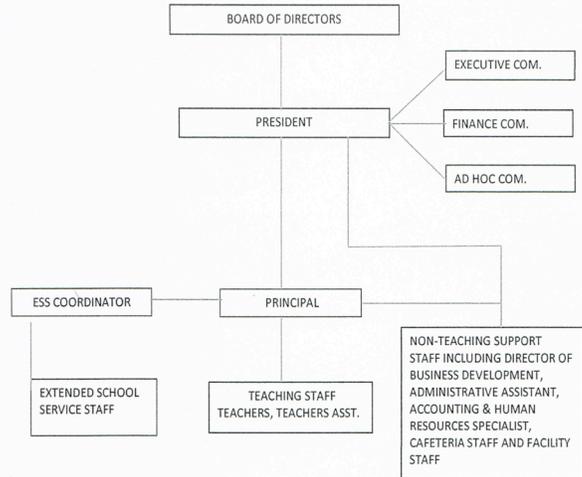
Executive Officers:

Steve DeGaris, President
Kevin Massey, Vice President
Kim Massey, Treasurer
Linda Hare, Secretary

Members:

Harriet Blankenship
Carolyn Douglas
Raegan Hardin
Diana Polsgrove
John Singler
Michael Walls
Laura Wathen
Mary Lipscomb
Terry Popson

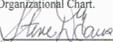
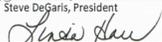
PITT ACADEMY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



1. The Principal has sole management and hire and fire authority over all the teaching staff.
2. The Board of Directors has sole management and hire and fire authority over the Principal.
3. The Board of Directors has sole hire and fire authority over the non-teaching support staff.
4. The Board of Directors President and the Principal share management authority over the non-teaching support staff. If there is a disagreement between the Board President and the Principal concerning management of the non-teaching support staff, the Board of Directors shall decide the issue.

CERTIFICATE OF ACTION

It is hereby certified that the foregoing are the duly elected and qualified President and Secretary of The Parent-Teachers Organization for Mentally Handicapped Children, Inc., d.b.a. "Pitt Academy" and that on the 18 day of April, 2014, at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the corporation, motion was made to repeal and replace the Bylaws of the corporation and approve this Organizational Chart.


Steve DeGaris, President

Linda Hare, Secretary

Finances

Through the year, the finances of the school remained stable, with some growth. The school's fiscal year runs from July 1st through June 30th.

The unaudited totals for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 are as follows:

Revenue Summary

Tuition & Fees	\$ 448,706.00
Bingo (net after \$973,063.00 operational expenses)	\$ 99,242.00
Grants and Donations	\$ 54,524.00
Other Events (net after \$61,274.00 expenses)	\$ 28,695.00
Cafeteria	\$ 15,345.00
Misc./Interest	\$ 4,396.00
Total Revenues:	\$ 650,908.00

Expense Summary

School Staff Salaries/Benefits/Payroll Taxes	\$ 427,068.00
All Other Operational Expenses	\$ 197,525.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 624,593.00
Balance for year:	\$ 26,315.00
Net of all assets beginning of year:	\$ 198,481.00
Net of all assets end of year:	\$ 224,796.00

As for the current school year, through 10 months of the school year (through May 31st, 2014), the school is showing a profit within those ten months of \$100,929.- The bright spot in the school budget continues to be bingo, which is substantially above projections. Participation in bingo by our Pitt families remains critical for keeping tuition costs stable. The school's other major fundraisers, golf scramble and the barbeque, both were profitable again this year and will meet budget projections. The budget for the upcoming year has been adopted by the Board and is based on total attendance of 54 students, consistent with last year's attendance. The Board is looking forward to growing our capital campaign fund, in addition to dedicating funds for future contingencies and/or eventually purchase of a school site.