

2019 IMPACT REPORT:

This Place
CHANGES
LIVES



**SEE WHAT GREAT LOVE
THE FATHER HAS LAVISHED ON US,
THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED
CHILDREN OF GOD!
AND THAT IS WHAT WE ARE!**

1 JOHN 3:1A - (NIV)



A Note from the Principal



The late Dr. Howard Hendricks, long time professor at Dallas Theological Seminary and pastor of Calvary Bible Church in Fort Worth, Texas, was attributed with coining the phrase referring to the nature and essence of Christian Education: “Changed Lives, Changing Lives.” This past year at Woodland, like never before in our school history do those words

ring true. In talking with staff, students, and parents the stories that resound are of transformation. The overwhelming sense that I get as I see, hear, and am part of the stories is that: “This Place Changes Lives!”

Therefore, it is only fitting that this annual report, intentionally retitled as the 2019 Impact Report would tell some of those stories. Rather than boring you with facts and figures, lists of accomplishments and sterile financial reports this report strives to invite you into those stories.

Perhaps you will see yourself or a similar story of a child or grandchild. As you enter into the stories of Woodland Christian High School, perhaps you will recall your own story of the past year or years past. We invite you to share those stories with us or with others. Don’t keep them to yourself. The stories of our school, like the rings of a tree, reflect and record the living transformations and growth of our school and the impact that we are having your family, community, and our world.

As you read this impact report, I hope your heart will be encouraged. I trust that you will celebrate with us both God’s goodness and the challenges that lay ahead. Journey with us as we outline the transformations in our students, faculty, facility, and future. I have faith that the best stories are yet to be written as we “equip our students for lives of Christian faith and service” because THIS PLACE CHANGES LIVES!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Van Pelt'.

John Van Pelt
Principal



*When action
meets compassion* **LIVES CHANGE**

Stories of change abound at Woodland. Like the leaves changing colour behind the school we get to witness the physical and emotional change that teen go through as they journey with us at Woodland. Whether it be for the full four years of study or just briefly, change happens.

In the words of one recent alumnus:

“By March of 2018, my family was at their wits’ end, and I was a wreck. An unfortunate cocktail of spiraling mental health and the resurgence of past traumas had left me crippled with anxiety and depression, to the extent that I would seldom be able to make it through a full day of school. I would miss weeks at a time because of it. I felt hopeless and un-moored. The breaking point for my family came after missing 3 consecutive weeks of school and a major panic attack that left me in a non-verbal state for hours. It became clear that immediate change was needed.

We attended Woodland’s open house on a family friend’s recommendation, and by the Thursday of the following week, I was officially



a student here. I was immediately struck by the care and compassion shown to me by teachers and students alike. The way in which learning was approached allowed me to dare to enjoy the subjects I had previously avoided. I found myself reaching toward my forgotten dreams once more. It was not easy in the year and a bit I was here; I still had to work to learn and improve, but it made me grow into a woman I can be proud of.

I have since graduated and celebrated my 18th birthday, neither of which being things I had thought possible when I first arrived. I am grateful for all the friends I made at Woodland, the lessons learned, and I am grateful for the hazy, hopeful future I see stretching out before me, a gift from the school far beyond words.”

Author wishes to remain anonymous but states: “Thank you for giving us the opportunity to “put our two cents in”, we as a family unit are so grateful for the work you do and the changes you have all made in our lives.”

Reflections from a current student Anna Fyfe (Grade 12) are echoed by others throughout the school. While circumstances differ, the sentiments and change are repeated.

“It seems quite crazy to think that four years ago, I was a timid little ninth grader stepping into the halls of Woodland for the first time with no idea of what was to come. My high-school experience has been a significant and formative time of my life.

At Woodland, I was allowed to join many different co-curricular activities that have positively impacted me and helped me to gain transferable skills. While participating in the Robotics team I have been able to grow both mentally and emotionally. I gained a lot of confidence after joining the team and being able to see my thoughts and opinions make a difference. I learned many skills that will be useful in my postsecondary adventures, such as project planning and management, as well as necessary people skills. Robotics has given me a chance to grow my leadership skills throughout high-school and has taught me, not without failure, how to manage a team and carry out tasks successfully. Woodland’s Robotics team has also taught me that it is okay to fail at something and it is more than okay to ask for help when completing a task. I have learned, and am still learning, about the importance and influence of having an active, supportive community around you. While on the team there were many times that I had to do something that I was scared to do or was discomfoting. I always knew, however, that I had my whole team at my back and that they would be there for me, regardless. Having a supportive com-



munity that shared my common interests and pushed me to develop my skills further was incomparable and played into how Woodland has changed me.

My high-school experience could not be complete without the constant support of all my teachers. While attending Woodland, I have been able to discover my passions through many different opportunities. Through encouragement from my teachers and their support, I was able to succeed in my classes and enjoy learning. Particularly through the music program (band, praise-team, shred, and choir), I have rediscovered my love and enjoyment of playing music. Woodland has also changed me by having a broader supportive community. I was able to find many different people who shared my interests and learn from them. It has been cool to see how God has used people at school in different ways, both in my life and others. My faith has developed much deeper from having been at Woodland. From having a Christian perspective in my classes, or playing music in band class, I have been able to see God work in many different ways. I have also been able to travel often with the school for either extracurricular trips, service trips, or class trips. This experience has given me a broader understanding of the world we live in and has allowed me to experience many different cultures. Overall, I will graduate this year as a very different person than the girl who first stepped into Woodland's halls that first day of high-school four years ago."

Anna Fyfe – Grade 12



**WE ALL, WITH UNVEILED FACES, ARE
LOOKING AS IN A MIRROR AT THE
GLORY OF THE LORD AND ARE BEING
TRANSFORMED INTO THE SAME IMAGE
FROM GLORY TO GLORY; THIS IS FROM
THE LORD WHO IS THE SPIRIT. 2 COR. 3:18 (HCSB)**

*Education is the
most powerful weapon which
you can use to*

CHANGE THE WORLD

- Nelson Mandela



Another story of change and the impact of Woodland Christian High School can be found in the musings of Syndey Vanderhoef who graduated this year. As part of our 40th graduating class at Woodland she shares this:

“While picking up my yearbook and alumnus T-shirt today, it was good to be back in the halls at Woodland to catch up with teachers and to let them know I am doing well at the University of Guelph. Their real interest in me and my studies brought home the fact that Woodland provided me not only with a strong academic platform for further learning, but many opportunities to grow as a person.”

The athletic programs at Woodland were a large part of my high school experience, and while I was spending most of my time in the gym, others were benefitting in other ways from the extensive programming at Woodland. I am so grateful to have had these opportunities. It is easy to focus simply on the new athletic skills I developed, but sports teams, class trips and student government all enriched the high school experience for me through closer relationships not just with students, teachers, and coaches but parents, grandparents and opponents.

Woodland also allowed meaningful friendships to develop with students across grades through the irreplaceable and sometimes surprising bonds that form during practices, wins, losses, locker room jokes and music, OFSAA tournaments, early morning meetings, etc. Although I am only halfway through the first semester at the University of Guelph, the additional professional and leadership skills I have picked up over the past four years have already helped make life in a sometimes scary, adult world less intimidating and more exciting.

Transitions are always tough. What I learned from the faith community at Woodland, however, is that God not only walks with us into the future but gives us the tools to support one another through the uncertainties of life to come. Woodland prepared me to face these changes now and in the future.

Sydney VanderHoef (Class of 2019)

What I saw was a student body which had bought into what Woodland Christian High School is all about. I saw teachers who love being a part of the ways that Christian minds develop through those formative High School years. I saw students who were loved for their uniqueness and even for the ways that they were annoying to one another. Woodland is changing lives for the better! It is changing lives for the betterment of the world! I have no doubt about that at all!! - Rob Duiker, 2019 Grad Speaker and member of the class of 1979





Transformations

One of the benefits of living in Ontario is the evidence of four distinct and diverse seasons. Every October the landscape begins to change and transform into an explosion of colour behind the school as the trees prepare for winter. The seasons of the academic year and life of a school also bring distinct transformations and changes to the landscapes of culture, physical environment, and programming.

Here are just some of the stories of the transformations that have taken place throughout the past year in the words of students, teachers, administration, and parents.



After School Late Busing

A major project and experiment this past year was the addition of the after school late busing. To service families whose young people were or wanted to participate in after school activities such as sports, robotics, and choir additional buses were added to shuttle students to various pickup points throughout our community. The reaction was overwhelmingly positive from both parents and students alike.

The direct benefits to the school community were evident immediately. There was a positive response from parents, including several who contributed financially to support this initiative in its pilot year. An increase in student participation in co-curricular activities, homework club, and a supportive fan base for our athletic program are evidence of the importance and benefits of this change at Woodland.



One of the major transformations or changes at the school this past year was the creation and merger of an Outdoor Classroom and the Memory Garden.

For many years there has been a tradition at Woodland. To honour friends and family members, former teachers and administrators, students who have passed on by planting a tree in the “Memorial Garden”. There are a number of trees that have been planted and they surrounded a garden that was largely forgotten and ignored by most of our

students except the Garden Club. The meaning and significance of such a place being lost in the overgrowth and weeds. But not anymore.

The Family and Friends of the Woodland Memorial Garden, in cooperation with staff and the gifts and support of others, have transformed the Memory Garden space into an outdoor classroom. A process that has lovingly and painstakingly taken place over the past 2 years.

The final phase of this project included the installation of a cement and armour stone seating area complete with stone wall and planted berm. The original garden area is now beautifully mulched and edged, and our fall construction technology class is currently building new seating for this space (see photos attached below). Teachers were able to start signing out this space to use for teaching and learning during the first week of classes this year. We are all very excited about the revitalization of this important space. Several hundred bulbs from the original memory garden were re-planted along the forest edge of our soccer field. They looked very beautiful this past spring and will continue to double and rebloom there for many years to come.

We are incredibly grateful to many community members who volunteered to help complete this project. Special thanks to Jeff Barten who was able to coordinate this project, and help us obtain a TD Friends of the Environment funding grant.

Special thanks also to James Koetsier, Mike Mohl, John Van Pelt, and the Barten Family who generously donated materials, equipment, expertise, and time to help make this garden transformation a reality. We would like to invite you to an official dedication (and ribbon-cutting) ceremony for our new outdoor classroom space.

Marjorie Sutherland, VP





Student Leadership

The 2018-2019 Student Government executive spent time restructuring the leadership and governance of the student body. As the school continues to grow the need to streamline tasks and support a diverse student community became evident. The student government, at their own initiative, assessed the situation and took steps to actively transform the student leadership of the school. While many of the titles of the student leadership teams remain the same, the identified tasks and areas of responsibility and activity changed.

The new structure provides more opportunity for student leadership, involvement and succession training. Community involvement, chapel organization and planning, and student awareness and engagement are a few areas intentionally being tackled by the Student Government and their successors.



F.A.S.T.

At this year's graduation the school was able to successfully graduate its first student from a new school program and initiative. The Focused Additional Skills Training (FAST) program was developed in cooperation and supervision of Ken Bailey (a SHSM and Co-op Education consultant). In addition to co-op education students participate in a variety of other certifications and qualifications that enhance their learning and school/work experience. At graduation Cody DeWeerd received recognition as the first student to graduate not only with the OSSD and Woodland Diploma but also the FAST Seal.



We are excited to be able to offer a SHSM (Specialist High Skills Major) equivalent program that provides a model for other Christian schools to adopt and follow. This is a program that we anticipate other students desiring and achieving for years to come.

There is no
POWER FOR CHANGE

*greater than
a community
discovering what it
cares about.*

Margaret J. Wheatly





*Let us remember:
One book, one pen,
one child, one teacher can*

CHANGE THE WORLD

Malala Yousafzai





Generosity Report

Not all stories are told with words. The numbers of the school also express God's blessing and the faithfulness of our support community. The school is in a good financial position and faithfully stewarded the revenues of the school. While there was a 3% deficit last year, cautious spending and previous surpluses allow us to remain optimistic for the future. A large portion of the deficit is a result of adding the after school late busing a beneficial new initiative started this year. Full financial reports are available upon request from the Business Office.



**TUITION
FEES: 89%**

**TUITION
ASSISTANCE
DONATIONS: 4%**



**DONATIONS,
FUNDRAISING AND
CHURCH SUPPORT: 4%**



**SALARIES &
BENEFITS: 65%**



**EDUCATIONAL
EXPENSES: 9%**

TRANSPORTATION: 13%



STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES (GENERAL FUND ACTUAL 2019)

REVENUES:

Tuition Fees	\$3,697,451
Tuition Assistance Donations	158,953
Donations	105,498
Rent	70,041
Fundraising	44,488
Church Support	31,031
Membership Fees	14,250
Grants from other Charities	6,585
Interest & Other	5,853
French Grant	3,780

Total Income	\$4,137,930
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EXPENSES:

Salaries & Benefits	\$2,766,915
Property	289,647
Administrative	201,588
Educational	390,671
Transportation	562,577
Interest on Long Term Debt	46,525

Total Expense	\$4,257,923
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(119, 993)

TOTAL 2019 ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	120,534
Tuition Receivable	219,569
Accounts Receivable	9,093
Due from Restricted Fund	700,679
Other (Government Remittances, Prepaid Expenses)	150,633

1,200,508

CAPITAL ASSETS

6,102,380

7,302,888

LIABILITIES

Bank Indebtedness	163,775
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	37,749
Prepaid Tuition Fees	59,031
Current Portion Long Term Debt	1,205,000
Due to General Fund	700,679

2,166,234

LONG TERM DEBT

1,071,320

3,237,554

FUND BALANCES

General Fund	819,419
Capital Fund	3,125,381
Tuition Assistance Fund	120,534

4,065,334

7,302,888

This Place Changes Lives

There is no neutral ground in educating students. All schools are based on a philosophy of life that promotes a particular set of values. Jesus said, “Come, follow me.” Six hours a day for fourteen years of life, children are guided and nurtured in school. Their lives are being changed and molded by teachers, course content, engaging assignments, field trips, cocurricular programs, and outside influences such as peers, parents, and problems. The question is not “if” they are being changed but by whom and according to what mold.

At Woodland Christian High School we strive to equip our students for lives of Christian faith and service. Stories abound from current parents and students, staff and alumni that we are making a significant impact



in the kingdom of God. As we face the future of our school we want to remain faithful stewards, advancing the cause of Christian education and developing student leaders committed to their relationship with Christ while engaging the world they live in.

The best stories are yet to be written. Moving forward as a school more changes are expected. Under the guidance and leadership of excellent board members and a solid administrative team we will continue to advance as a school and become all that God plans for us to be. The future is optimistic as we look toward further expansion, increased numeric growth and additional programs or courses of study being added and developed. As Philippians 1:6 echoes, “I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”





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Advancement/Development Director: Paul Branan
Board Chairperson: Mike Hayhoe

*Equipping our students
for lives of
Christian Faith and Service.*
