

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ENGAGE

ORANGE CITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

How much has our campaign raised to date?

God is good and has blessed our efforts to date. But there is much work that remains. Our ENGAGE Capital Campaign has raised \$4.6 million, of which \$3.3 million has been received. We truly have been blessed by the support from so many – and are thankful.

How much do we need to raise to break ground? For the total project?

To break ground, we must have \$8 million in pledges and dollars collected. This will ensure we are well on our way to securing our obligation for all the construction work needed. Overall, our final goal is to raise \$11 million. This amount will complete Project 23 for our school campus. This threshold was brought forth by the board and voted on by the society.

Why are we relaunching the campaign effort?

We have made tremendous progress with our campaign, but we still have a ways to go to cross the finish line. As we have been working to raise funds, the cost for our projects continues to rise. We are relaunching our campaign to inspire new vitality and to work to achieve our goals in a much shorter period. This will help alleviate the rising cost factor that is currently impacting construction projects.



How long will this campaign effort take to complete?

The active phase of this campaign will take us through the beginning of March 2026. During this time, we will engage our entire school community, foundations, businesses, and other avenues to earn their support for our project. From there, we will have a three-year redemption period for the pledges we have obtained.

What are the final plans for our school to complete Project 23?

After completing Project 23, our school will have five added classrooms, collaborative space, renovated and expanded counseling/resource rooms, a gym, and a science lab for our students. We will also give the existing gym a remodel to extend its usefulness to our students and create sorely needed multi-purpose space. These updates will ensure we can meet additional enrollment and services that our students, school, and community need.

I give my time and effort to our fundraising efforts such as doing silage piles; can I just count that toward this effort?

We greatly appreciate everyone's support for making silage piles for our local dairy farms. However, this campaign seeks extraordinary support. We rely on your ongoing support to fund the school's operations – this effort to finish the campaign requires support that is beyond what you might already be giving and doing for our school. *Please know that we are grateful.*

Doesn't tuition cover what we are trying to accomplish?

No. Tuition helps cover our day-to-day expenses, such as salaries, general maintenance, and utilities. A capital campaign is needed to meet the funding needs of the renovation and expansion projects that are long overdue for our school. Tuition rates are determined by the board each year.





Will we be hiring a new development director at the school?

Our current plan is to work with Fellowship Development during this stage of our campaign. As we progress through the campaign, we will evaluate our needs to bring on an additional staff member in the development role.

What is a capital campaign?

A capital campaign is a school-wide effort designed to raise funds for a project that our regular fundraising channels cannot support. Donors fulfill commitments by making a gift either immediately paid in full or over a pledge period – in this case, three years. Throughout the campaign, school leadership and campaign volunteers will work to educate and inform our community on the campaign and its progress, while also encouraging support.

Why emphasize pledges?

Pledges allow donors to consider giving more than is possible through “one-time” gifts. Any commitment is easier to make if we know we can do it over time. We buy homes and cars and make so many other commitments this way. Pledge-type giving allows us to truly consider giving at the highest level.

Why is each donor asked to complete a pledge form?

A donor is asked to complete a pledge form so that the gift may be appropriately recorded and acknowledged by Orange City Christian School. Donors are asked to sign a pledge card to indicate that they have agreed to the terms of the gift indicated on the card. Pledges allow the school to have a better understanding of money and gifts which will come in over the next several years.

Is my pledge legally binding? Will it be confidential?

No, a pledge is a gift, one you consider to be meaningful to you. All we ask is that you do your best and advise us of any financial changes that will impact your pledge. All pledges will be kept as confidential as possible. Only the people responsible for maintaining campaign records and ongoing school finances will have knowledge of your pledge.



When would the school like payments to begin?

We encourage supporters to consider a 10 percent down payment with their pledge to provide help now and then begin making their payments within three months of their pledge. Bottom line, though, the decision is up to you, the donor.

Can I be flexible with payments?

Yes. Some people may need to delay the start of their pledge by a month or two. There is flexibility in the payment of the pledge, i.e., weekly, monthly, or annually. You also have flexibility in your payments. For example, you can make pledge payments during the first year that are larger, so your payments in the second and third years are lower. Options are indicated on the pledge card and should be clearly marked by the donor.

How can I give a gift to the campaign?

There are many ways to contribute, including:

- Gifts made by cash, check, or credit card
- Gifts of securities
- Donor-advised funds
- IRA distributions or RMDs
- Estate gifts
- Corporate matching gifts

Is my campaign gift tax deductible?

Gifts to the campaign are fully tax deductible. Donors with specific questions regarding tax deductibility should contact their financial adviser.

What happens if I am unable to fulfill my pledge?

Simply let the school office know. Your pledge, for example, can be temporarily put on hold until you are better able to make payments.

