

CROSSROADS SCHOOL

3184 College Lane

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Co-Directors

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Dear Friend of Crossroads,

This is the first of what we hope will be many newsletters to our Friends from the staff and students of Crossroads School. We shall publish regular newsletters four times a year and other special editions when there is worthy news to disseminate.

Up to this point, the greatest hurdle which Crossroads has had to jump is finding a suitable building for the school. A good deal of our time has been spent on this tricky matter over the past several months. Our original choice for a site was found unacceptable to the building inspectors of the city of St. Louis. Negotiations for our second choice were stalemated for weeks because of the difficulties in dealing with an absentee landlord. We have now settled on locating the school in the LaCledde Town Community Center (Peacock Alley). We felt all along that the space in this building would be suitable for our needs this year, but we were looking for other space where we could expand. We are still looking for such space, but in the meantime we are delighted to be working in the Community Center next year.

Our enrollment is currently thirty-four students. This is two-thirds of the way towards our goal of fifty students. We feel that we have a strong student body, and their test scores have averaged out quite a bit higher than a control group tested in a South St. Louis school. A good deal of our families learned about Crossroads from the mass mailings which we sent to selected census tracts. We shall most likely use one more mass mailing in order to recruit the additional fifteen or so students which we desire. We shall also use additional recruiting techniques including a booth at Fair St. Louis in Forest Park over the weekend of June 14-16. The present geographic breakdown of our student body is as follows:

LaCledde Town Area.....9	Bevo.....1
University City.....6	Skinker-DeBallivere.1
Northwest St. Louis.....5	Webster Groves.....1
Central West End.....2	Ellisville.....1
South Grand.....2	Olivette.....1
Compton Hts./Flora Pl.....2	Bridgeton.....1
St. Louis Hills.....2	

Our staff is complete and we feel very confident that we have a faculty which is well versed in subject matter and capable of motivating and understanding adolescents. The directors of the school have spent a good deal of the past

year developing curriculum units and surveying various materials available for junior high school students. Three of the teachers also took a trip to Indianapolis in April to observe some of their unique programs in their junior high schools. Although curriculum development is always an on-going process, we are confident that we presently have a very solid basis for our program.

The directors of the school also researched the laws governing accreditation of non-public schools and found that Crossroads may operate a 9th grade as well as 7th and 8th grades. Therefore, we are also accepting applications for 9th grade next year.

We want to offer our thanks to our lawyer, Mr. James Eidelman, who successfully guided us through the maze of legal technicalities in securing both our state and federal not-for-profit status. All contributions to Crossroads are now tax deductible.

In the next several days, we shall be mailing a solicitation letter to residents of some of the high rise buildings in the central corridor of the city of St. Louis (Mansion House, Lindell Towers, 801 Skinker, etc.). The focus of the letter is to appeal to the urban concern of these residents. We chose the residents of these buildings because most of them are in upper income brackets but do not have the expenses of children living at home. Census data shows that many of them hold professional jobs in the city of St. Louis. In our next newsletter, we shall report the success of this mailing.

We plan in future newsletters to not just present news from the directors and teachers of the school, but also worthy work by the students. We shall include both creative work and investigative findings which may be of interest to the general public.

If you have any questions or comments about Crossroads, please do not hesitate to write us at 3184 College Lane, St. Louis, Mo. 63103, or call us at 531-5960.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur Lieber
Carol Lieber
Co-Directors