

Thrift store

As you may be aware, the Board has been researching the potential of opening an 'upscale' thrift store as a significant source of funding, community outreach and volunteerism for CCS. After conducting market research (to include extensive discussions with other school-affiliated thrift stores), hosting open-house discussions in both Edina and Blaine and much prayer, the Board has decided to pursue a phased approach allowing for further research and decision points as we develop the idea in a low risk fashion, as well as offer opportunities for each CCS family to support the vision. The phases include:

Phase I: Solicit donations and raise thrift store funds by selling appropriate items online.

Phase II: Further explore a thrift store location, coordinate volunteer efforts and expand donation collection.

Phase III: Open thrift store, depending on outcomes from Phases I & II.

We are launching Phase I and we have secured temporary warehouse space in St. Anthony, where we will sort, price and store donations and determine which items should be sold online to raise funds for a potential full launch. Of course, we are reliant on our community to make this a reality and ask for your support in the following ways:

1. **Donations:** We will be collecting donations over the coming weeks to build inventory and sell appropriate items online. Volunteers will be on-campus and at our warehouse to collect your items and provide you a tax-deductible receipt during the following times:

Large or high volume donations (i.e. car load!) should be taken directly to the warehouse in St. Anthony (2812 Anthony Lane South- loading dock is in the back of the building) on **Saturday morning, March 13 or any Saturday morning in April.** Please contact Beth Heaton (Edina - bkheaton@earthlink.net), Christine Weiss (Edina - tcweiss@comcast.net) or Chessa Beukelman (Blaine - Fbeuk@comcast.net) to make an appointment to drop off the donation at the warehouse.

Smaller or low volume donations can be dropped off according to the schedule below:

- **Saturdays 10 a.m. – Noon: March 13th and each Saturday in April** at the Blaine K-8 and Edina K-5 campuses.
- **Wednesdays 8:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m:**
March 17, April 14, 28 Edina K - 5 and Blaine K - 8
April 7, 21 Edina 6 - 8 and CCHS
- **Convenience bins.** Bins will be placed in each of our four campus buildings, where you can drop off small items at your convenience.

This is a great opportunity for you to do your spring cleaning and donate your gently used items to a great cause - our kids! And, of course, tell all of your relatives, friends, neighbors and/or work colleagues! Please see below for list of desired items as well as those we cannot accept. Again, we are opening an 'upscale' thrift, targeting items that are in good to great shape. When in doubt, simply donate any questionable items and we will sort accordingly!

Donation collection starts this Saturday!

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2. **Volunteers:** Of course, Phase I cannot be successful without your help. We are, thus, looking for volunteers for the following roles:

- *Receivers* - provide on-site help in receiving donations
- *Sorters* - sort donations at warehouse
- *Pricers* - provide pricing expertise for online as well as eventual thrift store sales (people who frequent thrift stores would be perfect for these roles!)
- *Transporters* - help with in-home item pick-up as well as transporting donations from schools to warehouse
- *Vehicle* coordinator- coordinate/identify utility vehicle(s) for donation or use
- *Online sellers* - sell selected items on craigslist in order to generate funding for thrift store needs
- *Equipment coordinator* - coordinate acquisition of bins, shelving, pallets, dollies, etc for our warehouse. Or, if you simply know of someone who may consider donating such equipment, please let us know.

To volunteer your time, please contact Christine Weiss (tcweiss@comcast.net), Beth Heaton (bkheaton@earthlink.net) or Chessa Beukelman (Blaine - Fbeuk@comcast.net).

Should you have any other questions or concerns, please contact the following Board members: Ben Sommersness (bensommerness@yahoo.com) and/or Keith TerHaar (keith@calvinchristian.org).

You will be receiving more communications in the near future and, on behalf of the Board, thank you for you generous contributions and time.

In Him, The Board

Example donation items ('gently used') accepted:

- Clothing and shoes
- Linens (bed, bath, table, etc)
- Furniture
- Small appliances in working order
- Miscellaneous household items
- Safe toys (non-painted)
- Sporting goods
- Home and seasonal decor
- Books
- Garage items (tools, gardening equipment, etc)
- Antiques and specialty items
- Jewelry
- Miscellaneous entertainment (e.g. DVDs, video games)

Items not accepted:

- Stained or torn clothing (or anything Packer related!)
- Car seats, playpens, or other child-safety items
- Painted toys
- Toys with small parts
- Water beds
- Console televisions
- Aged computers and peripheral items
- Broken or defective electronics