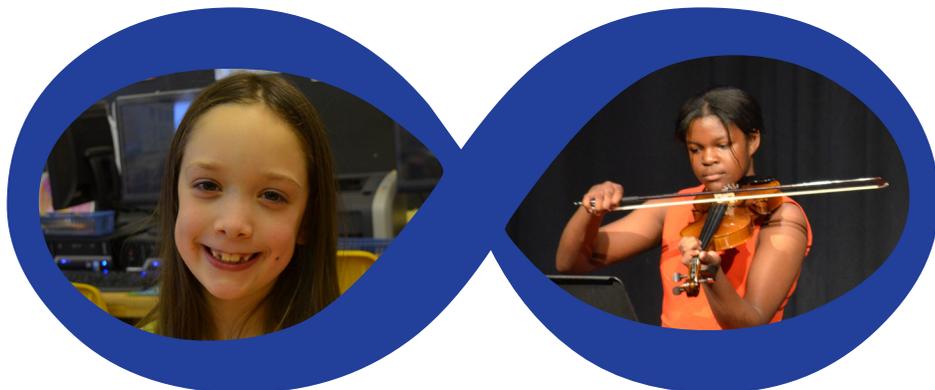


# INFINITY CHARTER SCHOOL



Challenge, Inspire,  
and Grow

**Learning for Life**





**INFINITY CHARTER SCHOOL'S MISSION IS TO INSPIRE, CHALLENGE, AND ENGAGE THE HEARTS, MINDS, AND SPIRITS OF GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA.**

# **WELCOME TO INFINITY CHARTER SCHOOL**

## **Here is what you need to know about us:**

- We are an independent K-8 school, part of the public school system.
- Our curriculum has been specifically designed to meet the needs of an otherwise under-served student population: academically and/or intellectually gifted children.
- These students account for 6-10% of the population and differ from typical students in terms of learning style, depth and complexity of understanding, and potential.
- This difference from the norm for their age group means that the education program for gifted students should be modified to meet their needs.
- We meet these needs by educating at the pace of each individual student and train our teachers to work with high-ability students.
- As part of the public school system, there is no cost to attend.
- ICS is inclusive to gifted students from all races, religions, and backgrounds.

## **Why what we do is so important:**

The public school system is equipped to provide only part-time gifted education, but these students are gifted all the time and require individualized learning. Without a specialized program, gifted children are not challenged, become bored or, worse, may be misdiagnosed with ADHD or as hyperactive. These exceptional kids have different thinking patterns, can be hypersensitive and socially awkward, and can easily become lost in a public school system that cannot provide the support needed for them to grow.

There are currently 120 students on the ICS waiting list because our existing building is at capacity, but we have a plan to build a facility that will not only accommodate these waiting children, but also vastly improve our learning environment and expand our ability to serve gifted students with physical handicaps.

Please take the time to review the next few pages and see how much your contribution would mean to these students with unique educational needs, now and well into the future.

Thank you,  
**Suzanne Gausman**  
Director/CEO

\*Statics above from the National Association of Gifted Children and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

The Infinity Charter School Capital Campaign is a project of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, fiscal sponsor. The official registration and financial information of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



## OUR FOCUS ON GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

The Pennsylvania Department of Education says a student who meets the definition of mentally gifted “needs specially designed instruction relating to academic standards and assessment. ‘Mentally gifted’: Outstanding intellectual and creative ability, the development of which requires specially designed programs or support services, or both, not ordinarily provided in the regular education program.” Gifted students are children with unique educational needs, and an individualized learning structure is imperative to their educational experience.

**Infinity Charter School has a program based on authentic and individualized instruction created specifically for the gifted learner. ICS creates self-motivated, empowered students who are able to advance at their own pace in an inclusive environment that allows these amazing children to be themselves and feel they belong. The unique program provided by ICS allows students’ talents to be fostered; they are challenged, and they are given the support needed to reach their full potentials.**

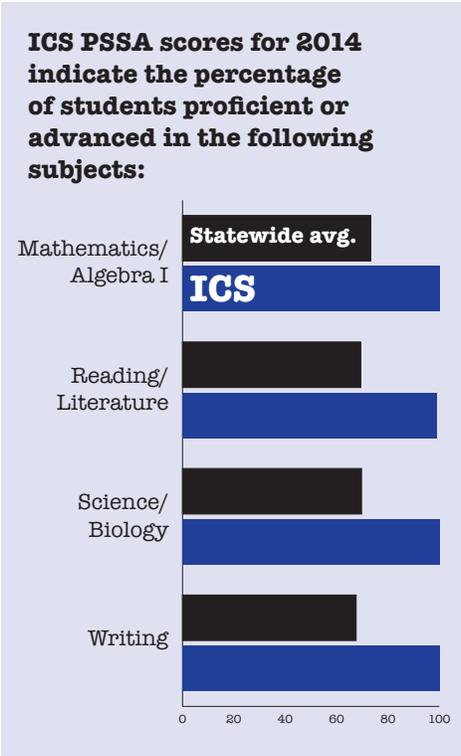
# OUR HISTORY AND AWARDS

Infinity was conceived by Nancy Hall and Doug Morrow. In the fall of 2000, Ms. Hall, Mr. Morrow and two Central Dauphin parents wrote a planning grant for Infinity and submitted it to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This grant was successful and helped fund the initial application process.

In January 2003, the Secretary of Education signed our charter, and Infinity Charter School began. Parents, students, and staff have continuously worked together to make the vision for this school a reality and, in so doing, created a caring, learning community that continues to grow.

### OUR CHARTER IS SECURE:

Infinity has had an excellent relationship with the Central Dauphin School, our chartering district. Since opening our doors, our charter has been renewed three times and is now secured until 2022.



### ICS RECEIVED THE 2012 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARD AS A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL. WE WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE FOR THIS AWARD AGAIN IN 2017.

“The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. The National Blue Ribbon School award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. The National Blue Ribbon School flag gracing an entry or flying overhead is a widely recognized symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.”

—The U.S. Department of Education



## OUR IMPACT

“When it was time for our son to start school, we were very concerned that the public school system’s program would be very boring for him. We started looking for a school that would move at his pace, challenge him, and that shared our commitment to a well-rounded education. We found that and more at Infinity. They are teaching our son how to learn, not how to memorize. His coursework is designed for him, at his level, and his talents are recognized and celebrated.”

—**Miranda Metz**

“(ICS is) a place where:

- A purchased curriculum is not forced upon the teaching staff and children.
- A foreign language being taught to children at even the youngest grade, which is when developing brains are most readily able to learn another language.
- Numerous field trips and guest speakers, so that the learning environment is direct application and not just studying a textbook of information already summarized for the audience.
- Each child having the opportunity to engage in learning activities at their own pace.

All without financing a private school price tag. These are just a few examples of why we applied to Infinity, and we are overjoyed to be here!”

—**Megan Mines-Hall**

“After seven wonderful years of the best schooling, our daughter skipped eighth grade, received a partial scholarship to an excellent private high school, and most recently, earned a perfect score of 2400 on the SATs as an 11th-grader. The teaching model used at Infinity Charter School was key to her development and current success. Thank you.”

—**Karl Hoffman**, Harrisburg

# OUR NEW FACILITY

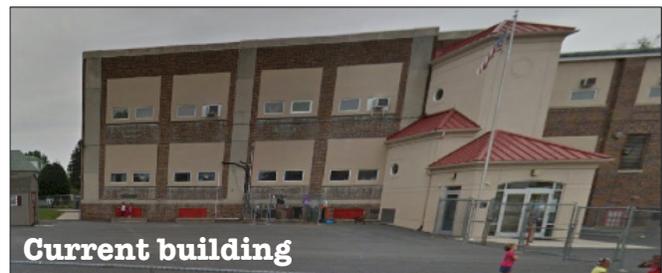
Rendering  
of proposed  
new building



## SPACE TO LEARN AND GROW

Our plans for the new facility include:

- Modern teaching technology in each classroom
- Computer lab
- Library
- Gymnasium
- Art and music space
- Classrooms for specialized topics
- Green space for experiential learning in environmental sciences and playing fields
- Administrative offices with storage space on school grounds
- Room to expand so that we can accommodate the waiting list of 120 students



**OUR BUILDING IS 80+ YEARS OLD, AND WE SHARE IT AND THE PLAYGROUND WITH A DAY CARE.**



### **SAFER LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

A new building will allow us to:

- Bring security systems up to standard requirements for school safety, which is not possible in our rented building
- Include an intercom system throughout the new building, which will replace our current walkie-talkies and facilitate better communication, especially in emergency situations
- Have an improved and cost/energy-efficient heating and cooling system
- Provide natural light with large, modern windows to create a much more comfortable learning space
- Provide a building and playground built to ADA standards so that students with disabilities will be able to easily navigate the facilities

### **SUSTAINABILITY**

- The new school will be built on a 6-acre plot in Lower Paxton Township just off Locust Lane, which the school has already purchased. There is no mortgage, the land and existing building are fully owned by ICS.
- Our Charter is already secured until 2022 and we have an excellent relationship with our charting district, leaving a clear path to future charter grants.
- With our current student body and existing waiting list, we will have state funds to safely support the school.

**A full financial report is available upon request.**



# FUTURE GROWTH

**\$8 MILLION** will allow us to construct a state-of-the-art, safe, three-story school surrounded by green space in a suburban setting.

<b>YEAR 1</b>	<b>PHASE I:</b> \$200,000 for groundbreaking <b>PHASE II:</b> \$400,000 to move in with \$250,000 in escrow for building maintenance
<b>YEAR 2</b>	<b>PHASE III:</b> \$3.8 million for 15 classrooms, renovations to existing structure
<b>YEAR 3</b>	<b>PHASE IV:</b> \$3.8 million for gymnasium, more classrooms, and rooms for special topics and instruction.

## I WILL JOIN INFINITY'S BUILDING OUR FUTURE FUND.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Learning for Life Gift of</b>	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$50,000	
<b>Challenge Gift of</b>	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$1,000	
<b>Inspire Gift of</b>	\$500	\$350	\$200	\$100	\$_____other
<b>Monthly Sustainability Gift of</b>	\$250	\$100	\$50	\$30	\$_____other

**Donations can be made online at [www.infinityschool.org](http://www.infinityschool.org) or mailed to:  
 Infinity Charter School, 51 Banks St. Suite #1, Harrisburg, PA 17103  
 Thank you for securing the future of these special students!**