

## **History of Beebe Christian School (2002 – Present) 2017**

Dennis and Keiko Breese started teaching at Beebe Christian School in August of 2002 and have continued up to the present. Keiko Nagasawa Breese has been a full time teacher at Beebe for the past 15 years, and Dennis Breese has been a part-time teacher since 2006. Keiko teaches the lower grades (grades K- 4), and Dennis teaches the upper grade class (grades 5-8).

In August of 2006 the school added a full-time Kindergarten class which became part of the lower grade class. In August of 2008 we added a Pre-K Program. Tammie Solt and Kristine Harelson helped out in the Pre-K program at the beginning. In August of 2011, Ketty Tejada became a Pre-K and Kindergarten teacher, and she taught those classes from 2011-2014.

Our pastors have been actively involved in our school program. In August 2003 Pastor Paul Eagan became the new pastor and did the weekly worship class and started teaching PE at the school in 2005. In March 2014, Pastor Daniel Birai became the new pastor and has been doing a weekly worship with the students as well as teaching PE.

Our school has been blessed with a lot of volunteer teacher's aides and teachers from our church. Some church members, such as Wanda Dupper and Ed Baker devoted themselves to helping out at our school and were volunteer teacher's aide at the school for a long time. Linda Lancaster has been a volunteer teacher's aide for the past seven years. Muriel Indermuehle has been helping out at our school for the past four years. We also had some parents actively helping out at our school. Jeremy Maycroft, Tara Hargrove, and Josephine Shaw taught PE, and Amy Indermuehle taught some of the upper grade classes, Tammie Solt and Josephine Shaw taught Art. Some other church members and parents have been helping out at the school, too.

This school year, Linda Lancaster, Giny McConathy, Tim England, Muriel Indermuehle, Jade Osbourne, and Erli Molina are volunteer teacher's aides. We are so thankful and blessed that our school has had a lot of dedicated, caring volunteers for the past 15 years.

In May of 2006 we had a school accreditation and received a "6 year with one report." In May of 2012, we had a school accreditation again, and our school received the highest accreditation, a "6 year clear." Our school was the first elementary school (not academy) in the Rocky Mountain Conference to get a "6 year clear" for the school accreditation. Some of the reasons we got it was because of the active participation of the pastors, church members, and parents in daily school activities, and great support from the church and the School Board, and a high level of satisfaction from the parents.

### ***Updates and Processes of Building the New School and Church***

In July of 2015, two or three parties were interested in buying our school due to the building of the new CSU Stadium across the street from our school. CSU and other developers were looking for properties to build more student housing. Suddenly, our school property became very valuable.

The plans for building a new school came about in September or October of 2015 when it was decided to sell our school. We started looking for property for the new school and church. Over

the next two months we discussed different floor plans that would meet our needs and that would also be comparable to or greater than the square footage of our old school (14,000 to 18,000 square feet). The school would have four classrooms, a gymnasium, kitchen, Fellowship Hall, office, and library/conference room with a total enrolment of no more than 40 to 50 students in Pre-K through grade 8.

In January of 2016, we decided to sell our church and move forward with a two phase project which would include both the school and a church (approximately 28,000 total square feet.) Under Phase I we would first build the school and then add the church during Phase II, which would have occurred within a year after completion of the school.

Beebe Christian School, which was located at 821 West Lake St., was sold to a developer from Wisconsin in June of 2016 to build an apartment complex for CSU students. We purchased a new property on the corner of Timberline Rd. and Nancy Gray Ave. in Fort Collins in June of 2016.

In August of 2016, Beebe Christian School began meeting in the basement of the Fort Collins SDA Church and will continue to hold classes there until the new school and church building are finished on Timberline Rd.

In August of 2016, we learned that any building going up during Phase I would have to be located on the corner of Timberline Rd. and Nancy Gray or Nancy Gray Ave. and Joseph Allen Dr. Neither location seemed to be appealing to us for the school, so in September, we decided to combine both school and church into a Phase I project.

However, due to construction costs, property limitations on building design, and the expansion of the detention pond, we had to reduce square footage to about 26,000 square feet. The current design now reflects those changes. It has become a multi-purpose design which allows the school and church to share several rooms.

On May 13, 2017 we had a Ground Breaking Ceremony since we were anticipating to get our building permit in the middle of June, however, the City continues to review all of the documentation required prior to receiving the building permit. It was a long and arduous process with a few, lengthy time setbacks along the way. The City's requirements were exacting and extensive, and they were not inclined to move quickly. It took 7- 8 weeks longer than the time frame that they originally gave us and that we had expected.

Finally, we received our building permit on August 4, 2017. Hopefully we will move into the new building at the beginning of March just before the Spring Break.

We had a buyer for the church, but the deal fell through, so we are still looking for a buyer.