

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 24, 2024 FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact: Carmen Anello canello@topekacollegiate.org (785) 228-0490

Topeka Collegiate Celebrates Successful \$7.5 Million Sustain Campaign and Unveils New "Center for Curiosity, Awe, and Wonder"

TOPEKA, KS - Topeka Collegiate is excited to announce the successful completion of its \$7.3 million Sustain Campaign, provided by over 300 donors, which allowed the school to build a new facility to replace the four mobile trailers previously used for twenty-eight years. The latest addition, named "The Center for Curiosity, Awe, and Wonder," opened on Monday, April 23, and serves as a beacon of academic excellence to students and educators alike.

The new building boasts four middle school classrooms, collaborative spaces, music, and art classrooms. Replacing outdated trailers with these modern learning spaces is a major victory for the school. The original school building underwent extensive renovation as well, including the installation of new windows, a brand new HVAC system, new roofing, a new campus-wide security system, and a safe, contemporary front entry. Moreover, The Center provides students with a secure shelter during severe weather conditions.

The opening of "The Center for Curiosity, Awe, and Wonder" was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, beginning with eighth-grade students leading the community in the school song. The ribbon was ceremonially cut by the 8th-grade class and five teachers who collectively have nearly 150 years of teaching at the school. Susan and Kent Garlinghouse and their family named the new center, recognizing the school's commitment to inspiring and preparing every student for a successful future.

Topeka Collegiate looks forward to celebrating this milestone with the broader community during its upcoming Spring event, "Evening on Eveningside," on Saturday, April 27.

"We're thrilled to open this new facility and provide our students with the best possible learning environment that fosters critical thinking, curiosity, and creativity," said Dr.Lyn Rantz, Head of School at Topeka Collegiate. "This accomplishment could not have been possible without the generous support of our community. Thank you to all those who made this dream a reality. We are committed to rejecting mediocrity for our students' experience."

Of the \$7.3 M raised in gifts and pledges, \$845,000 was dedicated to the School's Endowment and the remainder to campus renovation and building construction.

To learn more about Topeka Collegiate and its exciting developments, visit their website at <u>www.topekacollegiate.org</u>. Tickets for the upcoming Evening on Eveningside event are available through the website.