

CFS AIMS TO GO GREEN – BIG TIME!

SOLAR GRANT APPLICATION IS APPROVED

CFS, The School at Church Farm is pleased to learn from State Senator Andy Dinniman (Dist. 19) and State Representative Duane Milne (Dist. 167) that its grant application to the Commonwealth of PA's alternative energy investment program for a potential solar farm at CFS has been approved.

The grant is for \$1.19 million and is one of the largest grants to be made by the state this year. According to Head of School Ned Sherrill, "This is great news for CFS and gives a ringing endorsement to our plans to be a greener, leaner school – certainly as far as environmental impact is concerned. We are doing the right thing at the right time and I am very excited for our community, especially the boys, as we look to the future and our educational imperative to teach sustainability and make an institutional commitment to it. Anyone connected to CFS or familiar with its longstanding history of environmental stewardship should be pleased and heartened to know of our continuing dedication to mission. "

The potential savings to the school is targeted to be about 15-30% off its annual electric bill, a figure that seems destined to only escalate as deregulation comes to the area in January 2011. More than financial savings though, according to Sherrill, the school's electricity needs will be produced with significantly less reliance on fossil fuels and their carbon emissions. "We can only begin to solve the greater issues the next generation will face by doing our part here and now," said Sherrill.

Church Farm is presently engaged in an effort to raise the remainder of the approximately \$5M it will take to build a 4.5 acre facility capable of producing just over one mega-watt of electricity. West Whiteland Township approvals will also be required before construction begins, yet Mr. Sherrill expects this process to go well, "We live in a township committed to the environment and desirous of being a leader in green initiatives like ours. CFS looks forward to partnering with West Whiteland authorities on this and future projects which should only further cement the valued relationship we have held with our neighbors since 1918."

CFS is part of PA's expanding commitment to advancing clean, solar energy with the investment of \$18 million in 37 projects in 16 counties. Department of Community and Economic Development Secretary Austin Burke said, "These new projects are creating jobs while helping to make the development and deployment of solar technology more affordable. Ultimately, this means substantial energy savings for families, businesses, schools and municipalities that use clean, renewable technologies."