

# TIMELINE OF PACKER'S RELATIONSHIP WITH NDONYO WASIN



## Fall 2007

- A committee comprised of Lower School teachers was charged with selecting an international service project. After learning about several organizations, the committee decided to forge a school partnership with the Ndonyo Wasin Primary School.



### **Spring 2008**

- Packer initiated its first philanthropic effort, "Run the World", an exercise based fundraiser. Inspired by the importance of walking in the Samburu culture, students "walked" to Kenya by calculating the amount of hours they exercised and translating the sum into miles and eventually into dollars. Two new classrooms with solar powering were constructed with the \$30,000 Lower School students raised.





### Spring 2009

- Art teacher Elizabeth Eagle lead 3rd and 4th grade students in a "portrait exchange." Students created watercolor paintings from photographs of their Kenyan pen pals.
- Rob Cousins, Elizabeth Eagle and Liz Titone, traveled to Kenya to participate in a blessing ceremony of the new classrooms. Additionally, Eagle and Titone worked with students to complete the "portrait exchange" initiated at Packer. Modifying the lesson to acknowledge the scarcity of water, the art teachers taught 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders to create portraits of their Brooklyn pals using color pencils and markers.
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Packer and at NWPS produced and exchanged videos chronicling daily life in both schools



### Summer 2009

- Rob Cousins returned to Ndonyo Wasin to work with teachers and collaborate with students on creating picture books about life as a student and as a Samburu.





### **Spring 2010**

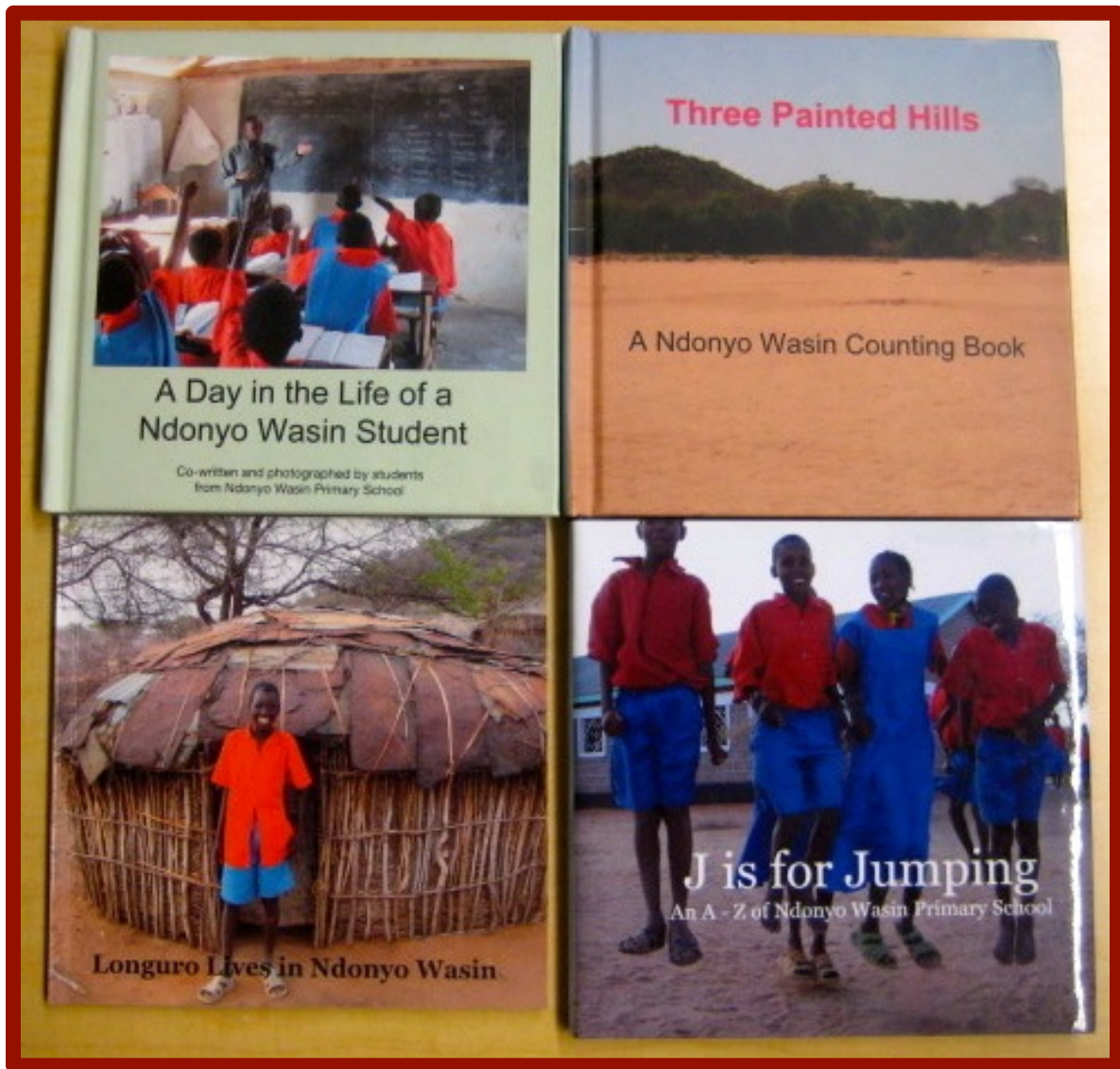
- With the \$25,000 Packer's Lower School students raised through a walk-a-thon around Prospect Park eleven new teachers were hired at NWPS.



## Summer 2010

- Andrea Kelly, Rains Paden and Rob Cousins traveled to Ndonyo Wasin to further develop Packer's relationship with NWPS's educators and students. Ms. Kelly and headmaster Paul Lepartingat worked to create meaningful strategies as administrators.
- Kelly, Paden and Cousins supported students in daily lessons and collaborated with the youngsters on developing new books such as a counting book in Kiswahili, Samburu and English to share with Packer students.





### Fall 2010

- Two additional photo books created by Ndonyo Wasin students and Rains Paden, *A Day in the Life of a Ndonyo Wasin Student* and *Three Painted Hills*, are introduced to Lower School classrooms.



### Spring 2011

- Samburu visitors Chief George Lemer keto, Lecit, Katelo and Lekarato, visited Packer as ambassadors of Ndonyo Wasin and SENET. The men shared traditional elements of their culture, such as chanting and dancing, with our students and engaged in Q&A sessions.
- Ninth grade partook in a moderated discussion with Chief George about the history of the Samburu and the challenges they face as a nomadic culture.





## Spring 2012

- Elizabeth Eagle, Liz Titone, and Middle School teachers Bessie Oster (health) and Michael Miller (art) traveled to Kenya to work with Ndonyo Wasin headmaster Paul Lepartingu and Thorn Tree Project/SENET manager Boniface Lesanjir on developing next steps for our partner school relationship.
- Eagle, Titone, Oster and Miller worked with students on remedial reading skills and in small focus groups.
- Lower School raised over \$30,000 in the third exercise-a-thon fundraiser to support Ndonyo Wasin Primary School and The Thorn Tree Project. The funds will be used to sponsor a handful of Ndonyo Wasin students poised for well-earned spots in secondary school and also to build additional housing for teachers at NWPS.



## Summer 2012

- Andrea Kelly, second grade teacher Kristen Barr and science teacher Maria Davis will embark on a journey to Ndonyo Wasin to work with students and teachers on fine tuning writing instruction and providing professional development focused on “hands on” inquiry based teaching and learning.





## Summer 2013

- Jansen Po, Maria Davis, Kristen Barr, Todd Johnson, Patrick Kieffer and Lynette Arthur traveled to Ndonyo Wasin to continue the professional pedagogical exchange and to nurture relationships created on previous visits while establishing new ones with Ndonyo Wasin Primary School (NWPS) faculty and students.
- Packer teachers taught lessons relevant to their disciplines to students and were observed by teachers.
- Johnson and Kieffer worked on establishing relationships with the NWPS teachers and students in order to advance the partnership to the Middle School.
- Eager to share how Packer aims to incorporate Samburu culture and the community of Ndonyo Wasin into the curriculum, Packer teachers presented our scope and sequence to the NWPS faculty