

CHAMPION CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

A program of the Christian Family & Children's Center

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Dear Preschool Parents,

Being a parent is an amazing, but challenging experience. As children learn and grow, time seems to slip by faster than we realize. Each accomplishment and new skill is a moment of victory and celebration. Their joy is a blessing that enriches our lives.

As you begin to think about your son or daughter's formal education in Kindergarten and throughout high school, we would like to encourage you to think about and challenge several assumptions that are made regularly by parents. They are reasons why people do not attend Christian schools, and end up missing some of the most incredible partnerships that is available to them through CCS.

1. Public (Government) schools are the normal method of educating children.

Although about 9 out of 10 children currently attend public school, historically it has not been the norm in our culture. The current trend which advocates an education outside of who God is has not been the legacy of our country.

2. Good teachers who provide an education that is not based on who God is OK.

Good teachers are incredibly important to have in public schools. However, they cannot make up for Christ centered education or an educational system that is driven by values that are influenced by a post Christian culture.

3. My child will be different. I know others may have difficulty, but not mine because of our involvement in church, and our strong family.

The research is clear that students' experiences at school are critical for their later life. The goal is not that children survive a secular education. The goal is that they become students who have distinctly Christian world view and are able to think clearly about their faith and contribution in their community. That happens as a result of Christian education being a partner with parents.

4. I will start with the public school and then come to Christian education if it doesn't work out.

Sounds admirable. Research tells us that education during a child's formative years will determine how they think, what to expect, how friends are chosen. Many families talk about wanting something different, but circumstances often create barriers and make it difficult to change direction.

Don't let those assumptions happen to you. Do something different right from the start. If you have already been wondering about a change, take the necessary steps now. Chose an education that prepares students for the real world, the world where God is in charge, where friendships matter and can be counted on, where teachers love to teach, and where students chose to be.

We would like you to carefully consider what Champion Christian School has to offer. Often parents have perceptions about what Christian or private schools might be like which are not based on actual

facts. We are very excited about the opportunity to work alongside parents to ensure that each child will be growing and learning in a nurturing environment. Champion Christian school works diligently and intentionally to teach and equip our students the skills they will need to succeed in life. CCS is significantly different in our foundation and commitment to make sure that students not only learn about the world, but the truths and values that help them to live successful, purposeful, and meaningful lives in today's ever-changing culture. We believe that sharing God's truth and purpose is an essential part of the success that every parent wishes for their child to experience. The staff and faculty at CCS strive to model this as we work with our students each and every day.

In a rural community like ours, parents often send their children to public schools without considering all the options. Did you know that many college recruitment offices specifically look for students who come from Christian schools because of the high quality of academics and moral teachings? Did you know that over 95% of graduates from CCS attend college or higher education compared to area schools that are significantly lower at 70%?

We are encouraging every parent to be deliberate about the educational choices that are available for their children. We live in a country that is blessed with the opportunity for parents to choose. Your choice of schools will impact not only your later potential to make a change, but how you evaluate the education your child receives. Being intentional in choosing which school system your child attends is critical because parent expectations are often influenced which results in reducing the likelihood of transferring at a later date. Have you considered all the facts? The smaller classes, individual attention, commitment to high academic standards and a Christian worldview make CCS an excellent choice. Did you know that our achievement scores historically show that our students score in the upper third of their peers who have the same ability? We are dually accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

We have several programs that reduce tuition for those who desire a Christ-centered education for their children. We urge you to speak to our Financial Aid Director, Amanda Wingrove. The school has often helped families work through this concern and offered a financial package that fits their need. We also have opportunities for parents to work off tuition as part of the Maintenance Program. Although, we can't reduce that fact that a Christian education requires a commitment it can be something you can manage. Most parents would never allow money to keep their children from attending college, yet many choose to not consider an alternative for K-12 for that very reason.

We hope that you have attended our Kindergarten Readiness Workshops and Visit Days. If you missed either of those opportunities, we would be glad to set appointments to go over either of those options at your convenience! We are eager to speak to each of you and encourage questions. Please share this information with friends and family! We fully respect whatever decision that you make about your child's education. **Just remember, you can register for CCS at any time before school starts as long as there are openings, even if you have already pre-registered your child at another school.** Many former preschool families have told us that after looking back at their children's K-12 school experience wished that they would have sent them to Champion. We want to give you every opportunity to invest in something that we know will pay off not only later in this life, but for eternity!

It is our pleasure to serve you,

Belinda Lane, Elementary Principal

Enclosures: ACSI poster & CCS Brochures

If you are interested in finding out more about why we are so committed to Christian education, check out some interesting information on our website at www.champion.org/ccs/parent/resources.