

Warrior Express

A Publication of Trinity Christian School

Superintendent's Perspective

Vision 2012 – Building a Heritage – Raising Lifelong Learners

Trinity Christian School's influence is felt throughout the world, as its graduates perform Christ-centered service with contributions to their professions, educational institutions, churches, and communities. This great Christian education heritage is a foundation that will allow the school to be a change agent in the world.

We aspire, through continued development and expansion, to see Trinity Christian School increase its reputation as an outstanding pre-school through twelfth grade Christian educational institution, maintaining its Christ-centered distinctive as students learn and implement their Christian faith into all aspects of life. We desire it to be a place where all students will be equipped to defend their faith, excel in future studies, and impact their community.

Trinity Christian School is a ministry where lives have been changed. Our graduates have gone on to college, served their country in the military, and gained professional employment. They are raising families and becoming leaders in their churches and communities. To God be the glory as His purpose is being accomplished in the lives of our students resulting in a positive influence on our community, our nation, and the world.

In His service,

Mr. Ken Howard

The Impact of Giving

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (ESV)

Giving from the heart: a value that, as parents, we cultivate and encourage within our children. Trinity Christian School cultivates a spirit of giving, as well. Little ones visit nursing homes, doling out smiles and songs. Older students work hard painting walls and clearing brush. Giving in service, giving of our talents - whether giving out of abundance or need - God loves a cheerful giver.

The beginning of the 2012-13 school year has been marked by giving. Our secondary students cheerfully worked during the first week of classes, with the middle school serving on the TCS campus and the high school helping the ministries of Chestnut Mountain Ranch and Calvary Chapel. Individual classroom initiatives have occurred on a continual basis, quietly creating opportunities for students to encourage and bless others, without fanfare, in accordance with Matthew 6:3 - *But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing.* (ESV)

The school has also been on the receiving end of countless magnanimous gifts, given freely, often anonymously. The administration, faculty, and staff, humbled, have watched the hand of God meeting needs through individuals who have devoted their time, their resources, and their hearts to the work of Trinity Christian School.

One recent contribution, the newly developed athletic field, replaced a hillside, unveiling panoramic views of the

surrounding West Virginia mountains.

The fresh grass crowns Phase I of the field construction, making way for Phase II, to include a bleacher grandstand and a field lighting system.

Further evidence of supporters' generosity, our elementary students now have classrooms equipped with interactive white boards and accompanying accessories. The photography class received two new cameras, multiplying students' productivity. And the science lab teems with new microscopes and a microscope digital camera.

Behind the scenes, volunteers have logged endless hours, helping on the grounds, in the classroom, chaperoning class trips, and overseeing fundraisers. These cheerfully given gifts have impacted the present students and those who have yet to walk the halls of Trinity Christian School.



A student peers into one of the new microscopes.



Ken, Sue, and Joelle Howard are welcome additions to the TCS family.

Welcome, Ken Howard and family

When Ken Howard agreed to accept the position of Superintendent of Trinity Christian School, it quickly became a family affair. Sue Howard, Ken's wife of 34 years, brings 16 years of teaching experience to her role as a high school English and Bible teacher. Their youngest child, Joelle, a TCS senior, is already an active member of the student body.

"The Howard family is very excited about serving the Trinity Christian School community," expressed Ken. "We have never felt kindness like everyone is showing to us here at TCS. Thank you to all those who have made us feel so welcome."

Q & A with

Lisa Howell, High School Math

Q: You graduated from a Christian college. How has that experience influenced the way you approach your classroom?

A: I am so glad I came from a Christian college because I have Biblical knowledge that I would not have had otherwise. I am able to interject my own lessons with the amazing, realistic facts that God has created a grand, mathematical world. The lack of knowledge in that fact is the only reason so many students aren't interested in math. Discovering just a fraction of those mathematical concepts, intertwined with Christian beliefs, is nothing short of awe-inspiring.

Q: What has been your most memorable moment, thus far, of your six years in teaching?

A: My most memorable moment was when a student in Richmond didn't have anyone else to share a terrifying story with. God led me to take a risk in a public school, when I offered my advice, which was to pray about it. He had never prayed before. It was a huge deal that he felt safe the next day and neither of us will ever forget it. Now he has a Bible to refer to, too!

Q: From coaching to camp counseling, your background

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includes extensive volunteer endeavors. What has motivated you to be involved in extra-curricular and community activities?

A: God. I believe there is a reason for each experience in life. Each one that seems too hard at times, I like to think it will teach me how to guide someone else later in life.



"There is no doubt this is where we are supposed to be. Trinity has been such a blessing already in my life. To God be the glory." - Lisa Howell

Faculty and Staff Initiative

Investment in Prayer and Study

As Superintendent, Mr. Howard has taken new steps to emphasize the spiritual development of the faculty and staff by having weekly scheduled times of corporate prayer, study, Bible reading, and worship. On Mondays, the elementary and secondary teachers meet separately for a time of devotions led by their respective principals. The entire faculty comes together for a book study on Tuesdays, once again breaking off by departments on Wednesday for a time of prayer focused on the student body. The teachers read and discuss select Bible passages in small groups on Thursday, while a time of corporate worship and praise caps off the week on Fridays.

When asked how the new measures have impacted the teachers' time together, Debbie Dennis, Chemistry teacher, remarked, "It has more meaning because it's more focused."

These efforts are another way that the administration of TCS seeks "to help accomplish God's purpose in the lives of students, teachers, staff, and parents as disciples of Jesus Christ, resulting in a positive influence on our community, our nation, and the world."

Secondary Initiative

TC Virtual Academy

Trinity Christian School continues to strengthen its position as a leader in the delivery of excellent Christian education by adding online courses to its curriculum this year.

“We see how online learning is transforming the landscape of education,” said Ken Howard, “so we want to make sure we leverage this proven delivery method as we strive to meet the needs of our students.”

The Virtual Academy currently has 23 students enrolled taking a combined total of 28 courses ranging from Apologetics to Game Design, Civics to Math. Additionally, some students are taking advantage of AP course offerings in Biology, US History, and Microeconomics among others.



A Virtual Academy student participates in an online class.

One student touted the benefits of taking an online class. “It’s beneficial, the way education is going, to get exposed to the cyber environment before heading to college,” she expressed. The online courses meet a variety of needs, which include expanding the current selection of electives, offering Dual Credit and additional Advanced Placement courses, providing opportunities for credit recovery, and offering courses to home school families.

Initially, the school will be focused on utilizing the courses to provide solutions to scheduling challenges and other special situations for currently enrolled high school students, with plans to offer the courses to middle school students, other ministries, and the homeschooling community by 2013.

Applying Math Concepts

Have you ever tried to comprehend the scale of the Exodus? What about trying to grasp what Jesus referred to when he spoke

of forgiving “seventy-seven times.” (Matthew 18:22 ESV)

Catherine Garner’s 6th and 7th grade math classes are exploring such matters as they work through thematic units, including Collections, Medical, Economics, and Nature. This approach is allowing students to see that math has practical and Biblical applications.

The first unit this year was Across America. 7th graders studied graphing by taking a map of the United States and creating a coordinate grid system with Lebanon, Kansas as the graph’s origin. The students developed their own scale, plotted cities, planned a business trip through those cities, calculated mileage, and determined gas costs.

While learning scientific notation, the students examined the population data from the recent census. This led to a discussion of the God-directed census that Moses took as he prepared to lead his people out of Egypt. Exodus 12:37 states that the Israelites numbered six hundred thousand men. From that information, the students estimated the number of women and children. They concluded that approximately two million people were leaving Egypt, which they then compared with the population of West Virginia.

Algebra students learned about the powers of numbers, such as 3 to the 5th power and 7 to the 3rd power. During this study, the students referred to Matthew 18:22, where Jesus was asked about the number of times that we should forgive our fellow man. He replied, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.” The students compared 77 times, to 70×7 which equals 490, and on to 7 to the 70th power. A wonderful discussion ensued.

Applying math to our daily lives is one of the challenges facing math teachers. By using a creative, thematic approach, middle school students are realizing that math is integral to life.



Seventh grade math students map out a hypothetical business trip.

Alumni News

Kristen Greene '08

As a WVU graduate with a BFA in Theatre, Kristin is lending her talents to the Trinity high school drama class. She is assisting Mr. Seth Campbell in guiding the students through the process of writing original short plays, as well as helping the students prepare for their performances for the fall coffeehouse.

Maggie Graham '09

Currently a senior in the School of Nursing at WVU, Maggie is due to graduate in May 2013. Her ultimate goal to become a Family Nurse Practitioner. As Co-President of the Student Nurses Association on campus, Maggie is involved in coordinating the organization's community service endeavors and fundraising efforts.

Emily Ngan '09

A Duke University senior majoring in Neuroscience, Emily is currently applying to medical schools. This summer she worked in the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center at WVU under the mentorship of Dr. Linda Vona-Davis, investigating the link between obesity and cancer progression.

Andrew Biundo '10

A biology major at WVU pursuing a minor in Spanish, Andrew is spending the fall semester studying at Universidad de Guanajuato in hopes of increasing his language skills and experiencing Latin American culture. Universidad de

Guanajuato is located in Guanajuato, Mexico, a smaller city in the mountains of central Mexico.

Jessica DeAngelis '11, Jocelyn Kinkade '11, and

Zach Stouffer '11, traveled with World Orphans (www.worldorphans.org) earlier this year to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, where they served the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children. While there, they visited a World Orphans partnered church that cares for children through home-based initiatives, volunteered at a couple of international adoption agencies, ministered to young girls who had been abused in the tent villages, and visited a large institutional orphanage.

Hayden Giuliani '11

Hayden, a sophomore at Waynesburg University, looks forward to continuing her basketball career, after seeing some playing time in her freshman year. She enjoyed her first year of college as an athletic training major.

Brianna Kerekes '12

If you happened to attend the first WVU game of the season between WVU and Marshall you may have seen a familiar face on the jumbotron. Brianna Kerekes, enrolled in the Pre-Occupational Therapy program, was introduced that day as a member of the WVU women's track team! Brianna is the first TCS graduate to become a Division I athlete.



TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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The TCS students led a time of prayer and praise for *See You at the Pole*.

Thank you to My Bank! First United Bank & Trust, for their ongoing support of Trinity Christian School.

Trinity Christian School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color national or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic or other school administered programs.