

Warrior Express

Fall/Winter 2020-21



A Publication of Trinity Christian School

Superintendent's Perspective



Superintendent Ms. Stellato

Recently, we celebrated our 100th day of school. In this school year that is a truly remarkable feat.

To say that this year has been a tough one is an understatement. The challenges that 2020 brought to Trinity Christian School were like none we've ever experienced as a Christ-centered educational institution. But much like the time the Israelites spent in the wilderness, God always has a plan

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Inspiring a Generation of Thinkers

"The projects our students are working on are literally out of this world!"

Adjunct STEM teacher Marcus Fisher isn't exaggerating when he makes the statement that, "The projects our students are working on are literally out of this world." From rockets to robotics, Trinity STEM students are being equipped to solve problems on earth and in space.

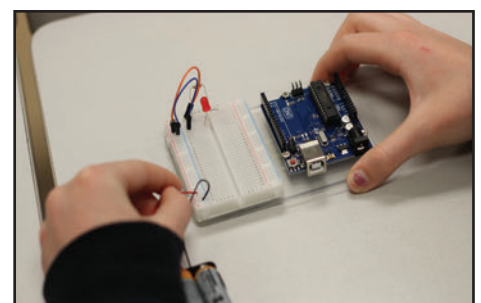
As Mr. Fisher says, "Our goals are to inspire our students to reach for greater heights in STEM-related fields and to prepare our students for life, work, and furthering their education."

At Trinity, students who are interested in STEM can progress through a pipeline which will eventually launch them into post-secondary studies or careers. Starting in elementary grades, students are introduced to coding through code.org and learn graphical programming to problem-solve.

In middle school, students have an opportunity to take a coding elective where they are introduced to computer science as a way to problem-solve. They also create a personal website using HTML and complete hands-on labs with electronics and circuit boards.

"Watching the students learn coding skills and then use those skills to create personalized projects reflecting their interests has been rewarding," said

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Secondary Social Studies teacher Jason White

Q & A with Jason White

Q: This is your first year at Trinity. How did you become a part of the Trinity family?

A: A friend heard of a job posting and thought it would fit me. I have been a coach of various sports for 8 years now and there were openings for both teaching and coaching. I think it is a dream scenario to teach and coach at the same school, so I applied. I thank God every day for presenting me with that opportunity.

Q: What do you enjoy most about being at Trinity?

A: I enjoy the positive atmosphere. The students are happy to be at Trinity and are excited to learn. My colleagues treat me very well and are encouraging. It all makes for a positive atmosphere that really makes me happy to show up at work each day.

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse?

A: Esther 4:14. The story of Esther is one of my favorites. God puts us in particular situations for particular reasons each day. It is up to us to make the most of those situations. I read this verse every day as a reminder of that.

Q: Outside of the school, what is your favorite activity?

A: I am a huge sports fan. Being a coach, I obviously enjoy coaching and watching film in my spare time. I also enjoy watching college and professional games, especially when my favorite professional sports team, the Miami Heat, is playing.

Q: What is your favorite part of teaching social studies?

A: My goal as a teacher is to prepare students for life after they have finished school. One recent example of this is the election. I want to make sure students understand all facets of political parties from an unbiased point of view so that they can make decisions for themselves. I feel that if I can teach students to think critically and make decisions for themselves, then I have succeeded.

Dream Kitchen

Homeowners aren't the only ones who dream of the perfect kitchen. Over the years, Trinity school leaders have prayed for and dreamt of a fully-equipped commercial kitchen with the end goal of preparing and serving hot lunches to our students and faculty.

Now, that dream is closer to becoming a reality.

In the summer of 2020, the Haught family donated their kitchen equipment to the school after closing their popular, local hot dog shop, Haught Diggity Dogz. It was an amazing gift!

However, the school's current kitchen would need to be renovated to accommodate the large, commercial-grade equipment. And after receiving estimates from several contractors, it became apparent that the project would require additional funds to be completed.

Then, right before the end of 2020, Superintendent Stellato was notified by a faithful friend of Trinity, Mr. Richard Snyder, that he was giving a \$50,000 donation towards the kitchen renovation.

It was another amazing gift, bringing us one step closer to seeing the fulfillment of the dream of a fully-equipped kitchen so that in-house prepared hot lunches can be offered to students!



Former owners of Haught Diggity Dogz, Judy Haught and son Scott, on the day they donated the kitchen equipment.



WELL-come Little Warriors

The newest additions to the Trinity family have quickly found their way into the hearts of the staff. The sweet and tiny students in the WELL—Warrior Early Learning Lab—are also making history as the first class of infants and toddlers at the school.

In August of 2020, the school opened an early education program to meet the needs of families looking for a Christ-centered and developmentally appropriate education for students as young as six weeks old. As Director of Early Education Kendra Sainato put it, “The WELL allows new children to join our Trinity Christian family sooner.”

The experienced and caring staff at the WELL gently guides each child through a full day of developmentally appropriate activities using a hands-on approach while meeting and exceeding milestones and standards. The WELL program also includes biblical integration and outdoor learning experiences.

“I believe we have a great team at the WELL that gives our children a solid foundation to their education and knowledge of the love of Jesus,” said Mrs. Sainato. “I know that our team pours a lot of love into our students on a daily basis.”



Inspiring Thinkers (cont.)

Carrie Breakey who teaches the coding elective. Class projects prepare them for the transition to high school and include robots, computer games, and rocket flights.

When students advance to high school, their skills become more refined. They develop their problem-solving abilities using Python programming language and delve further into electronics using Raspberry Pi and Arduino. They also learn robotics, cybersecurity, team development, and testing.

“Our students have the best lab to learn these skills in,” said Mr. Fisher. “The kids build extremely complex systems by the time they leave school.”

Students in the program have the opportunity to further expand their skills and build their résumé through summer internships in real-life work environments with various companies and government agencies.

Eighth-grader Brock Shuba, a student of Mr. Fisher, appreciates the advantages he’s receiving. “Not a lot of people get to take this type of course at such a young age,” said Shuba.

“It’s exciting to see our students grow in their problem-solving skills,” said Mrs. Breakey. “Students realize that finding and fixing mistakes are part of coding, and those are skills they can apply to their lives—to not give up, even when things are hard.”

Superintendent’s Perspective (cont.)

to bring His people through the struggles He allows in their lives and without a doubt, it’s always for His glory.

Not only is God faithful to bring us through difficult seasons, He often brings clarity in them. In all of our challenges, God has clearly protected our school family and provided for us in ways that we couldn’t even imagine were possible on March 13, 2020.

This unusual year has taught us to see that education can be reimaged and even improved when we dare to dream outside of the box! Above all else, this year has brought clarity in where our help comes from and that our strength really does come from our dependence and reliance on our Creator.

Truly, He has blessed us beyond our imagination so that we could continue in our mission to educate students for live, even in a pandemic!

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Trinity offers four levels of Corporate Sponsorship and various additional advertising options. If you're interested in Trinity sponsorship, please reach out to Olivia Kelley at okelley@tcsww.org.



TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

200 Trinity Way • Morgantown, WV 26505

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School Advancement Updates

Fall/Winter 2020-21

Family Fun at the Fall Photo Frenzy

For the past four years, Trinity has hosted the Fall Festival as its major fall fundraiser and community outreach event. In October 2020, Trinity introduced a new, family-friendly and safe alternative to its usual fall event—the Fall Photo Frenzy. During this photo scavenger hunt, teams followed a list of clues around Morgantown—snapping photos at each destination and submitting their photos through an app—for a chance to win awesome prizes. The first-time event was a wonderful success with twenty competing teams and a total of \$1,867.18 raised! Trinity is grateful to its Event Sponsor Auto Max, Corporate Sponsors, businesses that donated prizes and coupons, the Jenkins Family, and faculty volunteers who made the event possible.

Congratulations to the Fall Photo Frenzy Winners:

1st Place – Todd, Kelly, and Kate Dlugos (Team Name: DojoCat)

2nd Place – Luke, Andrea, and Porter Yost (Team Name: YostTeam)

3rd Place – Harper, Tiffany, Stephen, Kim, and Craig Williams (Team Name: Williams09)

Team Spirit Prize Winner – Bethany Byrne, Adelyn Tager, Landon Murdock, Ethan Tomlinson, Daniel Han, Simon Travis, and Ashley Murdock (Team Name: XC8GOAT)



Trinity student and member of the Third Place team, Harper Williams, poses with the Trinity Warrior during the Fall Photo Frenzy!

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☐ Yes, I would like to receive updates about the school's activities and advancement efforts.

God's Abundant Provision

"Now to Him who is able to do so much more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever."

This passage from Ephesians 3:20-21 sums up God's provision during the first half of the 2020-2021 school year. In a year filled with challenges posed by the pandemic, God has done more than our school community could imagine through new fundraising initiatives and faithful supporters. Not only are the annual fundraising efforts on track at the mid-point in the year, the school has received generous donations including \$10,000 from the Stover Foundation, anonymous stock donations, and over \$121,000 in gifts from Mr. Richard Snyder which are earmarked for specific projects.

As the two largest fundraisers of the year—the Hoop-A-Thon and the Spring Gala—are fast-approaching, there is a hopeful expectation that God will continue to provide abundantly for Trinity!

Alumni News

Turner Lawrence '20 recently completed his first semester at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Though challenged with a mix of on-line, hybrid and face-to-face classes, Turner completed the semester with a 3.46 GPA. He is majoring in Sports Management and was looking forward to his spring semester on campus.

Jaclyn Alderman '15 is in graduate school at the University of Minnesota. She is studying Applied Child and Adolescent Development. She is engaged to Cameron Blaquiére and will be married this year.

Kellen Alderman '18 is a junior at Clemson University studying Business Management and Biology. He was accepted into the Honors College and has consistently made the Dean's List.

Kathryn (Katie) Robinson '11 has become one of the newest and youngest GEICO insurance office owners in the country. Katie is a GEICO Field Representative (GFR) and opened her office in Johnson City, Tennessee, located near the East Tennessee State University campus. Katie has also joined the local Chamber of Commerce, Rotary and Junior League clubs.

Kris Warner '09 and Maggie (Graham) Warner '09 - Kris is a Captain and is serving at Edwards Air Force Base in California. He graduated from Test Pilot School at Edwards in 2019. Maggie earned her Master's in Nursing Education from Liberty University in 2016. Maggie currently is caring for their family. Kris and Maggie have three children. Kris, III (known as Trip) age 4, AnnMarie age 2 and Seneca who joined the family November 4, 2020. They have been active in the on base church and are part of the Edwards homeschooling cooperative.



Kris and Maggie Warner family

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