

# Warrior Express

Fall/Winter 2021-22



A Publication of Trinity Christian School

## Superintendent's Perspective



Superintendent Dr. Matt Chavez

Trinity Christian School is one that seeks to glorify God through honoring Christ, inspiring excellence, and educating for life.

We have done this from as early as the infant room in the WELL where our teachers read God's Word to the infants while they hold them in their arms. Some of the biggest heartwarming moments for me are seeing our pre-K teachers reading Bible stories to our little ones, our elementary teachers sharing the truths of Scripture to our young ones, and our middle and high

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## Educating for Life, Right from the Start

*"When they leave The WELL, these children will associate God and Jesus with love, respect, and adoration."*

Two years ago, The Warrior Early Learning Lab, known as The WELL, was only a dream. On August 31, 2021, The WELL staff celebrated the first anniversary of the early education center. With the addition of The WELL, little ones can attend Trinity Christian from infancy through graduation.

"We provide a safe, stimulating, and God-honoring environment to prepare the littlest of hearts and minds for lifelong learning," explained Tenille Wyer who teaches in the infant room.

In other words, The WELL's mission aligns with the school's mission to "educate for life." But what does that look like in a WELL classroom?

"Our program integrates the Bible into play-based learning paired with developmentally appropriate lessons and curriculum," said Brandi Young, Director of Early Education. She

notes that every classroom has a Bible curriculum that is used daily and that K2 through K4 students have a weekly chapel that includes worship, prayer, and a Bible story.

For example, K2 teacher Hailie Fisher recently taught her class about Jonah. While learning about whales and blubber, the students stuck their hands in vegetable shortening to simulate what touching blubber might feel like.

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Preschoolers sing and dance in Chapel.



Art Teacher Nettie Pollock

## Q & A with Nettie Pollock

**Q: What do you like most about teaching art?**

**A:** Some of the many things I love about teaching art are:

- Those “wow” moments when students realize they can do things they didn’t think they could do.
- When students understand as image-bearers of God they have the ability to be creative.
- When students find the satisfaction of making something—even if they think they make a mistake in the process—with God’s help they can turn it into a better work than with what they started.

**Q: What challenges does teaching students from preschool through high school pose as an educator and how have you found that rewarding?**

**A:** Teaching art K4 through high school definitely has its challenges, but the rewards outweigh them. It is such a blessing to see students grow from preschool through high school (not just developmentally but also spiritually), as I see the input of their parents, teachers, and churches in developing such dedicated students at Trinity Christian.

**Q: What is your favorite Bible verse and why?**

**A:** My go-to Bible verse is Proverbs 3:5-6: “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your path straight.”

My mother wrote that verse in my first Bible even before I knew what it meant. I have clung to that verse many times throughout my life and continue even today.

**Q: What do you like most about teaching at Trinity?**

**A:** The thing I cherish most about working at Trinity is the freedom to teach art where Christ is the center. My greatest prayer is that our students, no matter what area of study they are in, recognize the sovereignty of God.

**Q: Can you share a fun fact about yourself that might surprise your students?**

**A:** Something students may not know about me is that my high school offered field hockey and lacrosse, and I played on our women’s lacrosse team. Yes, there was a time I could run fast!

## Fall Sports Teams Make History

Warrior athletic teams kicked off the school year with a history-making fall sports season.

The boys soccer team (which included 3 girls) won the OVAC Championship for the first time in school history. Head Coach Dan Lohmann, named West Virginia Coach of the Year by the United Soccer Coaches Association in the Private/Parochial category, said, “Being able to win the OVAC championship was a significant achievement for our soccer program. The moment the game went final and we won the title is something I won’t ever forget.”

When reflecting on the season, Coach Lohmann focused on the intangibles and the future of the program. “But beyond that title, the team took a significant step forward in building a solid foundation that goes well beyond wins and losses. This team was filled with great kids, and it was an honor to be able to coach them this season.”

The varsity football team also added a page to the school’s history book when the team made the first round of the West Virginia High School Playoffs after defeating Madonna. It was a great experience for the young team.

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Soccer Team Wins OVAC Championship





Taylor Bricker is a 2022 National Merit Scholarship Finalist.

## Seniors are Shining

Graduation is still a few months away, but several seniors have received noteworthy recognition as they prepare for the next step after high school.

Senior Taylor Bricker has the distinction of being named a finalist in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship competition. Taylor will graduate from Trinity Christian with 27 college credits through the WVU High School Access program.

Fellow senior Jabez Chavez joins Taylor in being recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program. Jabez was named a 2022 Commended Scholar. Jabez is planning to major in aerospace engineering at either Azusa Pacific University or Biola University.

After completing an intensive application process, senior Daphne Tennant has been accepted into the Honors Program at Bethany College. Daphne, who broadcasts the school's daily announcements as the Voice of Trinity, was also awarded the Honors Award Scholarship for Bethany College. The scholarship is valued at \$25,000 per year for up to four years.

Gabe Turak, a senior member of the OVAC title-winning Warrior soccer team, took post-season honors as the 2021 OVAC 1A-3A Player of the Year. He was the first athlete in school history to receive the recognition. Gabe will focus on academics when he starts college at WVU in the fall of 2022 as he pursues a double major in electrical engineering and math.

## Fall Sports (cont.)

Varsity Head Coach Christopher Simpson has been with the team since the program was restarted in the fall of 2019. "I was blessed to be there from the beginning three years ago. I coached from the box in the first victory against Mapletown, and I was blessed to be the head coach for our first playoff appearance," said Simpson.

Despite a number of setbacks, God's faithfulness has been evident. Simpson said, "We faced obstacles over the past 3 years that would shut down many programs and yet, through every moment, we have built back stronger and more resilient." He added, "It's been an honor coaching such great young athletes at such an amazing institution dedicated to our faith in Jesus Christ."

Among those young athletes are five students who appeared on both the football and soccer rosters. Jaylon Hill, Kyle Knight, Carmelo Kniska, Ben Lohmann, and Josiah Sheffstall juggled the challenges of playing dual sports in the same season.

The boys cross country team rounded out the school's historic fall season by recording the first race team win, the first Regional Championship title, and the first state meet appearance for the boys.

Coach John Barnett said, "It was an unforgettable season for high school cross country. The boys and girls teams worked so hard, and I am really proud of them. We have so many positives to take away from this year."

With the return of five girls and five boys for the 2022 season, the future is bright for Trinity cross country!

## Educating for Life (cont.)

Instilling a love for God and for learning is central to the ministry at The WELL.

"We love these children like they are our own," said Mrs. Wyer. "When they leave The WELL, these children will associate God and Jesus with love, respect, and adoration. They will be guided and prepared for their K-12 education in the most joyous ways."

Mrs. Young added, "We are beyond thankful for the Lord's provision for this program. We've had 14 new friends join our program since the start of the school year, with interested families reaching out weekly. As we grow in numbers and continue to strive for an even higher quality program, we look forward to what the Lord will do in the years to come."

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## **Superintendent (cont.)**

school teachers speaking the truth of the Word to our students in every subject. I have long said, "Every class is a Bible class because God created it all."

We are happy with the progress of our educational efforts this year, and we look for future improvements in pedagogy, curriculum where necessary, and in spiritual formation in every area. We are beginning to ask ourselves, "Where is Jesus in (this)?" The "this" is the area that we act, teach, and coach. Where is Jesus in our performing arts? Where is Jesus in our band? Where is Jesus in our sports? We strive to honor Christ in all we do, and we have made strides toward that this year.

Looking forward, we anticipate beginning the accreditation process within the next year, paying off our mortgage this year, and starting improvements within the building. We invite you to join us on this journey of faith, for this school was built upon the faith of so many that came before us.

When you join us on this journey of faith, we believe you will say with us, "It's great to be a Trinity Christian Warrior."

## **Corporate Sponsorships**

We are so thankful for all of our 2021-22 Corporate Sponsors, first-time and continued sponsors alike! Their support helps us accomplish Trinity's mission of educating students for life. If you're interested in Trinity Christian School 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 2021-22

## Favorite Fall Events Are Back!

This fall, we had much to be thankful for! TCS was able to resume two of its most beloved fall gatherings—Homecoming and the Fall Festival--and continued with its annual Giving Tuesday fundraiser. During the Warrior Homecoming football game, we were able to host an Alumni hospitality lounge in Trinity's Warrior Cafe. Alumni stopped by throughout the evening to warm up with a hot drink, snacks, and get a free Warrior Alumni mug. Trinity's fifth annual Fall Festival was held a few weeks later. Families and others from the community were glad to see the return of this event and enjoyed the hayrides, face painting, vendors, bounce houses and more--Trinity raised a little over \$3,815 from the event! Lastly, thanks to the generosity of many Trinity supporters and a matching gift from former Trinity grandparents, Chuck and Shirley Baily, a total of \$5,450 was raised for the Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund during Giving Tuesday. None of these incredible events and fundraisers would have been possible without the grace of God or the time and contributions of many within the TCS community. We look forward to seeing how God will continue to go before us and provide for Trinity's spring events and fundraising initiatives.

In addition to our fundraisers, we received many generous donations during the first half of the year, including a \$44,050 grant from the Richard G. and Barbara A. Snyder Foundation, a \$9,450 grant from the Richard G. Snyder Endowment for the Arts, and \$77,000 in anonymous gifts. These gifts, along with many others, will help us to fulfill our mission to "Educate for Life!"



The Fall Festival featured hayrides, inflatables, carnival games, and so much more!



We loved welcoming our alumni back for Homecoming 2021.



## SUPPORT TRINITY'S TUITION ASSISTANCE FUND

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of a financial gift to advance Trinity Christian School's mission and vision. Please complete **all** of the information below and on the back of this tear-off, so we may properly recognize your gift. Once detached, please mail or return to Trinity Christian School, attn. School Advancement Office at 200 Trinity Way, Morgantown, WV 26505.

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



# Alumni News

**Elizabeth Satterfield '16** graduated summa cum laude from West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Arts in history in 2019. A member of the Bucklew Scholar class of 2016, she was also a 2021 finalist for the Mountaineer of Distinction. Elizabeth graduated in December of 2021 with dual masters in Public History and Public Administration. In January of 2022, Elizabeth started working as Curator and Director of Education at Arthurdale Heritage, Inc.



Elizabeth Satterfield

**Claire (Kelly) Kisamore '17** earned her undergraduate degree in immunology and medical microbiology from West Virginia University in May of 2021. Claire had a busy summer in 2021. She married Caleb Kisamore in July. In August, Claire was one of six WVU doctoral students selected to be a Ruby Fellow. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in the accelerated program for immunology in microbial pathogenesis.



Jack Satterfield

**Emily Saurborn '18** graduated Summa Cum Laude with Honors in Exercise Physiology from West Virginia University in December of 2021. She plans to attend the Joan C. Edward's School of Medicine at Marshall University, class of 2026.

**Jack Satterfield '19**, a Trinity honor graduate, is working as a commercial plumber and fly fishing guide in Wyoming.

**Reagan Sharp '19** has been accepted to the WVU School of Medicine Class of 2026. Reagan will graduate as a junior from Davis & Elkins College in May 2022 with a degree in Exercise Science and a minor in Chemistry.

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