

Warrior Express

Spring/Summer 2022



A Publication of Trinity Christian School

Superintendent's Perspective



Superintendent Dr. Matt Chavez

Thank you, Jesus for protecting, blessing, and helping us to finish another school year! We thank Jesus for protecting us on our daily commute. We thank Him for showering us with blessings such as a National Merit Scholar winner, perfect scores on standardized tests, a State Champion in WV Social Studies, first time trips to the playoffs and state tournament, a cross country regional championship, an OVAC soccer championship, a girls basketball sectional championship, and so much more!

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Grace and Gratitude: We Are Mortgage-Free!

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory...

Ephesians 3:20-21a ESV

The early leaders of Trinity High School (THS) had a big vision when they broke ground on the current facility—to prepare and equip students to accomplish their God-given purpose. Soon after the new facility was operational, THS merged with Alliance Christian School to form Trinity Christian School, and an elementary wing was added to the building.

With this big dream came some big challenges, including a bankruptcy from which the school emerged—by God's grace and provision—with a no-interest mortgage loan. It was a beauty-from-ashes answer to many prayers, enabling the school to not only survive, but continue to grow. The founders' original dream has expanded to include an infant and early education program, as well as a summer camp.

Since 2016, board members, staff, families, and other donors have come alongside the school to pay down the mortgage through a campaign called the Mortgage Elimination Challenge. Large and small, one-time and recurrent gifts were combined to chip away and reduce the mortgage.

Although the goal seemed out of reach at times, **God's grace and provision has been constant.** We are so humbled and excited to announce that, as of this spring, **Trinity Christian School is operating debt-free!**

This is an exciting season for the school! Thank you to all who have contributed their prayers and finances over the years to help reach this landmark. Please join us in praying for God's wisdom as we make plans for the future of Trinity Christian School.



Mrs. Worley's students make observations in science.

Q & A with Mindy Worley

Q: What do you like most about teaching FOSS/science?

A: I love that FOSS connects science with a child's innate curiosity. Every investigation we do starts out with one simple question. Then, we get to jump into hands-on investigations and try to answer that question through scientific methods. Sometimes our predictions are right and sometimes they are wrong, but we're always learning along the way!

Q: How do you see your Christian faith intersecting with the study of science?

A: I am fascinated and humbled by how our universe was perfectly created. God thought of everything down to the very last detail. A lot of people think that you cannot believe in what science says and still believe in God and the teachings of the Bible. However, I believe that science does a great job of laying out God's blueprints and designs for things that we would otherwise not see.

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse and why?

A: I have many favorites, but one I find myself thinking about a lot these days is Mark 12:30-31:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is: love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other command greater than these."

It's a strong reminder to put God first in all things and others second (before ourselves).

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

A: The whole staff at Trinity has truly been so supportive and wonderful during my time here. I could not ask for a better work family.

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

A: I've lived in four different states throughout my life: Georgia, Arkansas, Michigan, and West Virginia.

First Place Winner at State Fair

Thomas Dinkel took first place in the State Social Studies Fair for middle school in the Political Science category. In his project, Thomas raised the question of whether or not there should be term limits for politicians. Through research and examples, he concluded that term limits would help to ensure an honest political system.

While Thomas has been interested in American History for a while, he has become increasingly intrigued with our political system and how our nation works. The state social studies fair gave him an opportunity to draw attention to the issue of term limits.

"I deeply encourage people my age to participate and to take the social studies fair and social studies in general seriously," said Dinkel. "I also would encourage people of any age to get involved with those who represent us. 'We the People' are the driver; the government is the car, and we decide where it should go, and by what route, and how fast."

While it remains to be seen if Thomas' name appears on a ballot someday, it is encouraging to see one of our students so engaged in our country's history and concerned about its future.



Thomas Dinkel shows winning project board at state fair.



2022 Valedictorian Gabe Turak receives diploma from Superintendent Dr. Chavez.

Class Awarded Over \$1.2 Million

Before the 19 students of the Trinity Christian Class of 2022 received their diplomas at the 22nd annual commencement ceremony on May 27, they had been awarded \$1.2 million in scholarships. The diverse graduating class included aspiring engineers, scientists, a worship leader, a mathematician, tradespeople, a serviceman, and more. Among the class's academic accomplishments, Taylor Bricker was named a National Merit Finalist and Jabez Chavez achieved a perfect math score on his PSAT. These young men and women have left their mark at TCS! We pray for them to serve Christ with boldness as they pursue His path for their lives.



Fourth-grader Ali Deal sells t-shirts at Market Day.

Fourth-Grade Market Day

From tie-dyed shirts to spinning ferris wheels, a variety of handmade goods could be found at Market Day, an economics-based project completed by TCS fourth-graders. After students were given start-up “money,” they had to create a business plan and market their product in preparation for the event. On Market Day, they sold their crafts to other students and staff members using “fourth-grade cash.” They learned to calculate their profit to finalize the project.

Spring Season Success

The school expanded its spring sports offerings for 2022, adding boys tennis and bringing back high school softball after a hiatus of several years.

Senior Jabez Chavez set the bar high for the new tennis program by making school history as the first player to qualify for the state tournament. Under the guidance of first-year coach, Justin Stephens, Jabez advanced to the quarter-final round to make him the top eighth player in the state.

Middle school softball coach Colony Hopkins agreed to also head the high school program to ensure it would be offered this year. The high school Lady Warriors experienced challenges that come with a restart. “It was a tough season,” said Coach Colony, “but the girls improved dramatically, and I’m confident with each year we will improve.”

“Dramatic improvement” is a good way to describe the middle school softball team’s second season as well. After a record of 2-7 in 2021, they finished 8-2 this year.



Track team state qualifiers pose before traveling.

Inclement weather caused numerous cancellations for the baseball team, making it difficult to build momentum. But the team, under new coach Wes Hopkins, managed to have two OVAC All-Conference selections in seniors Josiah Sheffstall and Evan Rice. Sheffstall and Coach Wes were also selected to represent West Virginia in the OVAC All-Star game.

The middle and high school track programs were met with continued success as many athletes set new personal and school records. The middle school girls and boys placed second and third respectively at the Mason-Dixon Championship. The high school team was well-represented at the OVAC Championship and sent 20 athletes to the state track meet where 14 athletes achieved All-State honors.

**We thank the following 2021-22
Corporate Sponsors for their support:**

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Superintendent (cont.)

The biggest “wins” came everyday; the Word of God was magnified, taught during each subject, and chapels were Spirit-led. Many of the lessons that were instilled into our children’s hearts were unseen, yet, when the Lord’s Word is spoken, It does not return to Him empty but accomplishes much. “So shall My Word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but It shall accomplish what I please.” (Is. 55:11) This promise was fulfilled this year at Trinity Christian!

And then, in one of the coolest miracles I have seen in ministry, many of you came together to invest in Trinity Christian and you paid off a multi-million-dollar mortgage! This is rare in ministry, but then again, our school has some of the best people supporting Christian education. We were able to witness the elimination of a mortgage, and now we are debt-free! The majority of the former mortgage payment will go to teacher retention including much needed step-increases. The blessings are not stopping, and we are so grateful!

The theme for the 2022-23 school year is *Anointed*. We sense that the Lord wants to do an amazing work at Trinity Christian, and we wait with anticipation and pray for His anointing.

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

Thank you to our Partners in Education: Citynet, First United Bank & Trust, and Pikewood Creative.

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.

School Advancement Updates

Spring/Summer 2022

Faithful Partner: The Stover Foundation

Since 2013, Trinity Christian has received generous support through prayer, encouragement, and financial gifts from The Stover Foundation. The foundation was founded by Mr. W. Robert Stover and states as its mission, "to bear witness to the singular saving lordship of Jesus Christ through ministries of evangelism, education and compassion." We are grateful for the role The Stover Foundation has played in helping Trinity Christian School grow and stay true to its mission over the past nine years!

Old and New Traditions: The Hoop-A-Thon and Spring Gala!

Thanks to the support of the school community, we raised over \$17,000 during the 2022 Trinity Christian School Hoop-A-Thon! The Hoop-A-Thon is a time-honored tradition, so it was especially meaningful to resume a schoolwide event after two years of adapting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, the student team of Josh Jorge, Levi Teets, Ethan Jorge, and Kyle Knight beat the coaches to win the Hoop-A-Thon Cup in a nail-biter finale!

Our Spring Gala had a new twist for 2022: Guests had the option of participating in a friendly competition by choosing a table theme, then decorating their table and dressing according to the theme. The table hosts outdid themselves by choosing a variety of creative and fun themes for a fun night of fellowship. Proceeds topped \$22,000 to benefit Tuition Assistance! We can't wait to see what themes our guests come up with in 2023!



Students could hula-hoop or shoot hoops to help raise funds for the school at the Hoop-A-Thon.

The team of (L to R) Josh Jorge, Levi Teets, Ethan Jorge, and Kyle Knight won the Hoop-A-Thon Cup!



The Yost Hearing table (L) won top prize at the Spring Gala: A Night of Transformation.

George McLaughlin (R) was honored as the 2022 TCS Champion at the Gala.



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.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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

Alumni News

Isaiah Anderson '21 is a student at Fairmont State University majoring in Information Technology/Business Management and minoring in Graphic Design.

Daniel Boyles '14 graduated from West Virginia University in 2019 and works as a Civil Engineer with Potesta & Associates, Inc. in Charleston, WV.

Justin Braun '21 completed basic training and AIT at Fort Benning, GA. He now serves on the Presidential Salute Battery at Fort Myer, VA.



Justin Braun

Eric Cummins '15 & Elena Dugan '14 are engaged and planning their 2023 wedding.

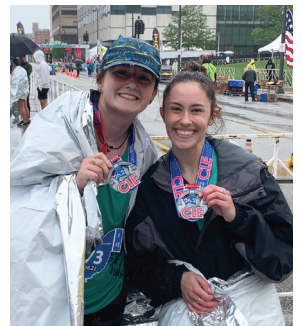
Makenzie Hill '14 is a foreign national processing specialist for the federal government in addition to owning her own photography business, "Makenzie Hill Photography". Makenzie and her three-year-old son Brycen have a Great Dane named Oden and six chickens. She is thankful for the solid friendships she made at Trinity Christian School.



Cam Kellar

Cam Kellar '18 is a senior at West Virginia University where he is pursuing a degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering with a Minor in Sustainable Design. He also interns at Potesta & Associates, Inc. Cam co-captains the WVU Competitive Climbing Team and serves as an athletic ambassador for a Christian sport clothing line called Three Nails. Follow Cam's adventures at Almost Heaven Climbing Co. on YouTube.

Olivia Kelley '15 and Catherine Rondy '15 completed the Cleveland Marathon this May. This was Catherine's second marathon and Olivia's first. Both began their running journeys on the TCS middle school cross country team in 2008.



Catherine Rondy (L) and Olivia Kelley (R)

Hannah Keyser '16 will begin studies toward a Doctor of Nursing Practice in nurse anesthesia at WVU this fall after spending the last two years in the cardiovascular intensive care unit at Ruby Memorial Hospital.

Turner J. Lawrence '20 is a rising junior at Western Michigan University where he majors in Sports Management and minors in Event Coordination. This summer, Turner will intern with the Kalamazoo Growlers baseball team.

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