

Warrior Express

Fall/Winter 2022-23



1997



2022



A Publication of Trinity Christian School

Superintendent's Perspective



Superintendent Dr. Matt Chavez

On behalf of my family, thank you for praying for me and my family when I was in the ICU with Lyme's Disease. What a baptism for me into West Virginia entomology!

The Word for the school year is Anointed from Psalm 23:5, "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." We trust that you have experienced the Lord's anointing in your life this past semester.

25 Years of Grace and Growth

Don't ever forget where God has brought you from.

Ann Knight, a Trinity High School founder

This year, we look back on 25 years of our school's history with gratitude for all the Lord has accomplished. In a recent retrospective Facebook post, a founding member of Trinity High School (THS), Ann Knight, reminded current Trinity Christian School (TCS) employees and families, "Don't ever forget where God has brought you from."

As Mrs. Knight intimated, the Lord has brought TCS a long way in a quarter of a century. At its inception in 1997, THS housed 52 students in three grades (7th-9th) in trailers on the campus of



The first campus on South Pierpont Rd.

the Pierpont Church of the Nazarene. In 2004, the school moved to its current location with the completion of phase one of the school building. Phase two was completed in 2005 to accommodate the merger of THS with Alliance Christian School to form TCS. With the merger, the student body expanded to include preschool and elementary grades. Today, TCS educates students from infancy through graduation.

Over 450 students have graduated from THS or TCS, and are now impacting their communities as parents and professionals in education, medicine, law, ministry, architecture, engineering, journalism, nonprofit work, military service, and more. The past 25 years have been marked by both victories and hardships, but God's faithfulness has been a constant through it all. We can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for the next 25 years!

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Mrs. Tenille Wyer, Infant Teacher in The WELL

Q & A with Tenille Wyer

Q: What do you like most about teaching in The WELL?

A: What I love the most about teaching in The WELL is that it's a humble way to honor God by loving and caring for the littlest of His children.

Q: How do you see your Christian faith intersecting with caring for little ones?

A: I love nurturing these babies and praying for them! I take it very seriously when Jesus says to "let the children come to me." We can be a vessel to show God's love and teach the children—even at an early age—that we all have sin and need a Savior, Jesus Christ.

Q: What unique ways are you able to nurture infants' faith in such early stages of their lives?

A: Reading, reading, reading! We frequently read Bible stories in Scripture. (And the people that are in The WELL see me with tears in my eyes.) I try to animate the stories and Scripture to show excitement and happiness. When the children move onto the next room, they will have pieces in their heart from the infant room. They will want to know more about Jesus.

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse and why?

A: One of my favorite Bible verses is Joshua 24:15, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." It reflects my love for God and obedience to Him, regardless of what the rest of the world is doing.

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

A: I love teaching at Trinity Christian because I love our

"family style" way. I love being able to talk about our Lord and Savior freely. Being Christlike is supported and encouraged. The parents, teachers, and staff are also kind and generous. It's a way to choose joy.

Q: What is a fun fact about yourself that might surprise our families?

A: A fun fact about me is that my family rescues pugs. We've fostered lots of animals (dogs, cats, rabbits, and lizards) over the years, but the pugs are our favorite.

Reaching New Heights in STEM

Since the beginning of the year, the school's STEM program has been reaching for the stars, literally.

On August 29, 2022, NASA's planned Artemis I mission inspired teachers and administrators to host a launch party. Although the launch was postponed, students still visited interactive stations for hands-on, space-related activities.

Later in the fall, the school received confirmation that Trinity Christian School (TCS) and the WV Space Grant Consortium were selected for a NASA mission. Starting in 2023, TCS and West Virginia University students will collaboratively design, develop, and operate high-altitude balloon systems to be used during the 2023 and 2024 solar eclipses. The team's systems will stream video of the solar eclipses to NASA websites in real-time and conduct individually-designed experiments from other teams across West Virginia.

TCS students will also partner with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the University of Michigan's College of Engineering on a radio science campaign with the Sun Radio Interferometer Space Experiment (SunRISE) which is due to launch in 2024.

Through these projects and more, our students are gaining real-life experience in STEM fields.



Students use laptops to fly drones at the Launch Party.



Mentors and their buddies pose after packing shoeboxes.

Students Pack 145 Shoeboxes

Secondary students partnered with younger “buddies” to pack 145 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, an outreach of Samaritan’s Purse. After collecting and organizing the donated items, the students worked together to fill the boxes for a fall service project.

“It was enjoyable to see the younger kids be so thrilled to assist, as they genuinely loved putting their own interests and careful thoughts into each box,” said junior Audrey Kurcaba. “We high schoolers can’t wait to do another activity mentoring other students in the future.”

Mentors and their buddies will work on another community service project in the spring.



Students carefully select items to fill each shoebox.

Carmelo Kniska Earns Academic Honors

Trinity Christian School junior Carmelo Kniska earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs this fall.

“We are blessed that Carmelo has earned this well-deserved recognition. We are very proud of him for his achievements in the classroom and on College Board assessments,” said Superintendent Dr. Matthew Chavez. “Carmelo is a joy to be around both on and off campus. He is one of the most motivated student-athletes I have ever had the privilege to know.”

New Marks Set by Fall Teams

The Warriors found success and growth this fall sports season, with several programs setting new marks.

The soccer team won its first sectional title in 14 years and advanced to the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference championship game for the second year in a row. Kyle Knight (Sr.) and Ben Lohmann (Jr.) were named A/AA 1st Team All-State by the West Virginia High School Soccer Coaches Association. Lohmann was also named the State Goalkeeper of the Year—the first time a TCS soccer player has earned the award. Additionally, head coach Dan Lohmann took top honors as the A/AA State Coach of the Year and the Regional Coach of the Year.

The high school cross country program broke new ground by sending the first girls team to the state meet where it finished in 3rd place. The ladies also won the 1A/2A OVAC title for the first time in school history. The middle school runners won the Mason-Dixon title.

The future looks bright for the high school football team with only 4 seniors graduating and a solid 8th grade class moving up. Senior football player Levi Teets is a leaving a legacy as the first TCS 1,000-yard rusher. Teets has aspirations of playing college ball next fall.

The middle and high school cheerleaders and mascot did a great job of building school spirit at games and pep rallies. The cheerleaders even marched alongside the band in two parades.

Comraderly on the middle and high school volleyball teams was strong and both teams continue to learn and grow in their skills. We are proud of the tenacity and enthusiasm they displayed this season.



Dan and Ben Lohmann were honored by the WVHSSCA.

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We are so grateful for the support of our 2022-23 Corporate Sponsors. If you're interested in Trinity Christian School corporate sponsorship, please reach out to Olivia Kelley at okelley@tcsww.org.

Superintendent (cont.)

Trinity Christian School seeks to glorify God through honoring Christ, inspiring excellence, and educating for life. We have done this by having inspirational and challenging messages in chapel, adding Advanced Placement (AP) classes along with a Veterinary Science elective, and teaching all subjects from a biblical perspective.

We are excited to see what the Lord has for Trinity Christian School in the near future. We are at full capacity in our WELL (preschool). In Elementary, our students worshiped the Lord with singing and sharing the Christmas story at the recent Christmas concert. In Middle School, we had a fine showing in the history fair. In High School, we will soon start the process to create a Security Operations Center where our students will be taught to monitor servers for cybersecurity threats. This will provide a great opportunity to educate for life.

We have officially begun our process to become an Association of Christian Schools International accredited school. Accreditation provides formal recognition by peers, both within the school and across the country.

We hope that you will see what we see every day up on this hill: "It's great to be a Trinity Christian Warrior."



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

Fall/Winter 2022-23

Feeling Thank-Fall!

This past October, Trinity Christian School held its sixth annual Fall Festival. The event welcomed community members and Trinity Christian families up to the school for a fun day of hayrides, inflatables, live worship music from the Trinity Christian Praise Team, craft vendors, food, face painting, a petting zoo, and even more! In addition to the event's sponsors, the event was made possible by a large number of wonderful staff, parents, students, and community volunteers. The weather was beautiful and sunny during the entirety of the event, and a total of \$5,000 was raised for the school!

When the Tuesday after Thanksgiving rolled around, Trinity Christian provided community supporters with the opportunity to support the school through Giving Tuesday. During this global day of giving, the school participated by holding a fundraiser for the TCS Tuition Assistance Fund on social media. Personal testimonies from Trinity Christian tuition assistance families were shared, and hearts were moved to give to the cause. Altogether, \$2,415 was raised for tuition assistance through Trinity Christian's Giving Tuesday efforts!



SUPPORT TRINITY CHRISTIAN'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

During Trinity Christian School's 2022 Homecoming, we hosted "Welcome Back, Warriors", an event honoring Warrior alumni while commemorating the 25th anniversary of the school.

Alumni and their guests were invited to attend the Homecoming football game for free, tour the facility, and meet up with other graduates in the Warrior Café, where they could enjoy light refreshments while perusing school memorabilia. Alumni in attendance represented classes ranging from the first graduating class of 2001 to the latest class of 2022. Making it extra special, a couple of the attending alumni now have their own little Warriors who are students at Trinity Christian School!



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