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March 2009

Mission Statement

NCES partners with families and churches to provide a God-centered, discipleship-based school with academic excellence and a Biblical worldview, equipping students to serve and influence our world for Christ.



KINGDOM EDUCATION

Recent studies claim that only seven percent of born-again teenagers base moral decisions on biblical principals. Eighty three percent of teens said moral truth depends on circumstances.

As Christian parents it seems apparent that we must have firm resolve when it comes to the teaching and instruction of our children if they are to become moral and Godly adults. The verse in Deuteronomy Chapter 6 brings new meaning to the word **diligence** as it applies to educating our children based upon God's truth.

And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. *Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.* Deuteronomy 6: 5-9 (NLT) (*emphasis mine*)

Kingdom Education is a combined effort of parents, church leaders, and school leaders. The three groups must work together to teach Truth – God's Truth – to children with the goal of grounding them in God's Word and equipping them to serve Christ in all areas of society. As a partner with parents and churches, Northland Christian is committed to providing the third leg of **Kingdom Education** to all who choose to join us.

When Christian parents, churches and schools work together, parents will realize the truth of 3 John 4:4, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in Truth." (KJV)

Information for this article was adapted from Kingdom Education by Glen Schultz

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

- **Re-enrollment** – The K-12 enrollment is currently 210 students which includes both returning and new students. Typically, we receive the most inquiries and enrollment from new families during the summer months. Confirmation letters have been sent to all enrolled families. If you feel you should be enrolled but have not received a letter, please contact the [business office](#).
- **Recruitment** – Make sure your friends, family members and church know about NCES! With limited class sizes, it's important for interested families to act early. Our web site is a great resource, so please direct prospective families to www.northlandchristianed.com for details and downloadable forms.
- **KoAm** – One opportunity we continue to have is hosting KoAm students. It would be very helpful in planning if we could determine how many families would be willing to host a KoAm student next year. KoAm pays full tuition to the school for each student, provides spending money to the child and pays \$300 per month to the host family. Please contact [Mr. McCubbin](#) for more information if you are interested.

STAFFING UPDATE

Here is the list of returning staff members as of March 24, 2009.

Elementary staff:

Kindergarten.....Mrs. Cline
1st grade.....Mrs. Nichols
2nd grade.....Mrs. Bonar
3rd grade.....Mrs. Lowry
4th grade.....Mrs. Pollock
5th grade.....Mrs. Fountain
6th grade.....Mrs. Boyles

Secondary staff:

7-8 Science.....Mr. Davis
HS Science.....Mr. Borden
Bible.....Mr. Kallin
History.....Ms. Cockrill
English.....Mrs. Wolf
TBA.....Mr. Miller*

Electives and specials staff:

Art (K-12).....Mrs. Davis
PE (Elementary).....Mr. Davis
PE (Secondary).....Mrs. Tanner
Music (Elementary-vocal)....Mrs. Spiess
Secondary Spanish/Foods ...Mrs. Castilleja
5th-6th grade Spanish.....Mr. Kleoppel*

Support Staff:

Nurse/Senior advisor.....Mrs. Harner
Secretary.....Mrs. Applewhite
Accounting.....Mrs. Batten
Athletic Director.....Mrs. Tanner
Development Director.....Ms. Elliott
Principal.....Mr. Rice

**Employment dependent upon enrollment*

Watch for more information about a system-wide staff reception to honor and recognize Northland Christian teachers and staff.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

James, Chapter One, talks of facing trials, and the joy we discover when we trust God and seek his wisdom. Our budget deficit this year has certainly provided a great opportunity to face trials and test our perseverance and faith in God. During this important time, we are seeing *you* respond – in prayer, in action and in faith. Here is an update...

- **Currently**, the projected budget deficit for this school year is \$245,000. We will not know the exact amount until the end of the year due to variable costs like utilities, snow removal, staff sick time used and any uncollected tuition. While this amount may seem pretty large, it's only \$875 per K-12 student.
- **The encouraging news** is that the cash flow (which is much different than the budget) is looking better due to the mild winter and parents working hard to make their tuition payments. Thank you God for the mild winter, for healthy teachers who have not had to use their sick time and for providing parents the means and commitment to making tuition payments and additional contributions!
- **Additionally**, the upcoming fundraising events and activities are coming together very well. With God's guidance, parents and staff are rallying together to make these efforts successful. For the remainder of the school year (March-July), our fundraising/contribution goal is \$50,000 per month. See page 4 for more details on how to be an active participant in these efforts.

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. James 1:12 (NIV)

ACCREDITATION UPDATE

Mr. McCubbin and a team of staff members are making progress on accreditation. One key element is the development of curriculum guides for courses in every grade. Mr. McCubbin says the staff has done a tremendous job in completing the task. "It has required extra effort on the part of everyone, and I am proud of the teachers and thankful for their contributions," he said. Updates on accreditation will be included in a future issue of *In Focus*.

Join us in Prayer

Praise be to God,
who has not rejected my
prayer or withheld his love
from me! Psalm 66:22

Please pray that God would,
according to His will:

Bring new families and
students to reach our full
enrollment

Bless the Serve-a-thon
Provide wonderful weather
for the Golf Tournament
and Serve-a-thon projects

Provide applicants for the
open math and music
(secondary) and preschool
positions

Contact Us

Listed below are e-mail
addresses for contacting
NCES principals and board
members. *In most cases, the
principals are the primary
contact.*

Richard Rice, principal
(7th-12th):

richardr@northlandchristianed.com

Danny McCubbin,
principal (PK-6th):

dannym@northlandchristianed.com

Sandy Clements:

sandy@bobclements.com

John Elliott:

john@inside-info.com

Stephanie Knoche

knocheclan@juno.com

Scott Rowe:

the3rowes@yahoo.com

Jeannie Scarbrough:

jscar@scarbrough-intl.com

Elementary 816-464-0555

Secondary 816-243-1395

www.northlandchristianed.com

Coming Up

March 27
Ministry Day
Secondary

March 27
Applications for Parent
Advisory Team due

April 10 & 13
Easter Break –
No School

April 17
Early Bird Golf Registration
Deadline

April 18
Jr. High Track Meet

April 24
Early bird deadline for
discounted Summer Camp
enrollment

Mark Your Calendar

**Northland Christian
celebrates 14 graduating
seniors this year!**
**Graduation is May 16 at the
Rock of KC. We are very
thankful to the church for
their assistance in
coordinating the event.
Everyone is welcome to
attend!**

Check the Web Site

Check out the web site for
the following information
and more:

Girl's soccer game schedule

FAQ from the
re-enrollment meetings

Overview and application for
Parent Advisory Team
forming now for next year!

ANATOMY OF A DEFICIT

by John Elliott, board president

I was recently asked the question, "Why do we have a deficit?"

Great question! The deficit is not a surprise. Nationally, the tuition for Christian Education runs less than actual costs – often Christian schools are church subsidized. In our case, River of Life church once operated the school with an annual direct subsidy plus non cash support such as facilities. The idea that we, as an independent school, would need to raise additional funds was not unexpected – what was unexpected is our tightening economy and the fact that we have not raised as much as we thought we would. But, God is in the details and He is at work – next year our goal is to have a *zero budget deficit assuming we have 255 enrolled students*. By eliminating the current deficit and operating with a balanced budget, we will have the opportunity to plan for the future.

Here is a historical overview of the schools' financial operation since its inception.

Life Christian Academy (1978-2007)

- Ministry of the River of Life Church
- Received direct funding annually (\$2,000,000+ over 30-year history)
- Received indirect assistance of free facilities, support staff, repairs, utilities, etc.
- School fundraising still needed

Northland Christian High School (2006-2007)

- Independent-not a ministry of any church
- Paid rent of \$1500/mo included utilities
- Received some non-cash assistance
- \$40,000 budget deficit

Northland Christian Education 2007-current

- Independent-not a ministry of any church
- Pays rent for the secondary campus: \$4,000/mo includes utilities
- Pays rent for the elementary campus: \$9500/mo
- Pays utilities at the elementary campus
- Currently receives \$600/mo from one church: Outreach Christian Church, Smithville
- Receives some non-cash assistance
- \$250,000 budget deficit (07-08)
- \$350,000 projected budget deficit (08-09)

Bottom line... We are on our own to raise the money needed to operate this school. Our goal and prayer has been, and continues to be, to cover this deficit through decreased spending, increased enrollment and fundraising-not through major increases in tuition and fees. But accomplishing this requires the active participation of all of our families. We need all families to participate fully in the events coming up this spring!

Golf tournament

- Play on a team, organize a team and find companies to be sponsors.

Serve-a-thon

- Complete 12 flyers with the names and addresses of possible sponsors.

Summer Camp

- Enroll in and assist in spreading the word to families and friends at church who might have a need for summer day camp for their children.

Church and Business Outreach

- Provide an introduction to your church leadership and business contacts allowing us to share information with them about our school.

As a reminder – changes for the 2009-2010 school year have been made so that NCES does not continue to have a large annual operating deficit. Working together this year to provide financially for the school will allow us to start next year in an even better position.

Attitude of Christ

The Serve-a-thon theme is from Philippians 2. Join us as we pray that we would all understand what it means to have the attitude of Christ as we serve others.

Philippians 2:1-7

¹If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.

³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

⁴Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

⁵Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus ⁶who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Are you ready for some fun and fellowship all in the name of supporting our school? Make plans now to get involved in our upcoming golf tournament:

Where: Claycrest Golf Club (Liberty)

When: Saturday, May 9, 2009 - 10 am

Cost: \$90 per person until April 17 or \$100 per person after April 17

Even if you're not a golfer, consider promoting the tournament to your business contacts, friends and church family or working at the event. We also have sponsorship opportunities and several competitions that will keep the game interesting. Our goal is 30 teams so we would have the course all to ourselves. Check out the web site or contact [Kayla Elliott](#)

SERVE-A-THON 2009

The Serve-a-thon is an annual NCES fundraising event where all students seek sponsorships and participate in class projects of service to our community.

When:

Students, by grade or community, will serve one day during the week of May 4-8, 2009

Why:

- Students and staff are given the opportunity to model our Lord Jesus as we serve others in our community
- We build bridges with organizations / individuals in our community through this service
- Friends, relatives and businesses can support Christian education in the Northland while supporting ministry outreach

How:

- Sponsorship flyers and instructions will be sent home with students on March 23 & 24.
- All addressed and stamped flyers are to be returned back to the student's teacher or community leader no later than April 1

Goals:

To have 100% participation & raise \$50,000. If we receive an average of \$250 per student we will raise \$70,000—easily exceeding our goal!

Competitions:

Many fun competitions are planned! See the web site or the materials sent home for details.

Who can you address flyers to? Here are some ideas...

- Businesses you may visit on a regular basis including dentist, doctors, insurance agents, chiropractor, banker, eye doctor, orthodontist, vet, plumber, etc
- Church contacts: Pastors and church directory
- Family, friends and neighbors; Christmas card list

Check out the web site or contact [Kayla Elliott](#)

SUMMER CAMP

We invite all children 1st - 6th grade to join us for a Summer Camp experience!

Devotions, Bible studies, outside activities, academic involvement and good 'ol summer fun!

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday - Secondary Campus

June 1, 2009 - July 10, 2009; 9 am - 3:30 pm

We offer early drop-off after 7:30 am at no extra charge. After Hour Care available at \$15/week per child. Cost: \$70/week per child

NCES families who enroll in summer camp by April 24, 2009, will receive a 30% discount on summer camp enrollment fees. \$100/summer camp enrollment fee cap per family

Check out the web site or contact [Kayla Elliott](#)



Philippians 2:3-5