COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

COMMITMENT
TO CHARACTER
COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN
A Note From David Pinson, Headmaster

Thank you for taking some time to learn about Community Christian School and our plans for the future. These are exciting times for us.

Have you ever considered being a part of a Christian school that is focused on Faith, Honor and Calling? Our community, nation and world desperately need the philosophy and values that CCS instills in the hearts and lives of our students. You can help sow these seeds.

Forty years ago, Dr. Hal and Mrs. Marilyn Schendel founded a Christian school to serve 20 students. By 1995, Community Christian School had become an independent, covenantal school, governed by a board of parents. Now, by the grace of God, CCS has gained a reputation as a school that offers a strong spiritual formation program along with challenging academics and activities to 313 students.

Today, we stand as a school dedicated to building godly character in the children who will be our future leaders. Our leadership program is unique among local schools, teaching children to follow, serve and lead – with integrity, responsibility, confidence and wise decision-making.

To accomplish our goals and to fulfill our mission we are embarking on an initiative to strengthen core programs and enhance our facilities. The challenges presented to our students to be leaders are great and we are committed to preparing them for the future. With the blessings of God we will be successful!

David Pinson
Headmaster
Uniquely Serving Our Community for 40 Years

Although there are choices for Christian education in and around Tallahassee, Community Christian School is known as an interdenominational school with a strong commitment to academic excellence, leadership development, and spiritual formation.

Founded in 1977, we seek to provide students from Pre-K to 12th grade with a comprehensive learning environment that enables them to reach their full spiritual and educational potential.

Carefully designed to include small classes, a comprehensive curriculum, challenging and interesting activities, and a highly trained and dedicated faculty, the school has experienced a steady growth over the last 30 years. Today, CCS is known as a school with a true “community feel,” a high level of parent volunteer involvement and close relationships among the families and school personnel.

Our mission is to train up young visionary leaders who are thoroughly equipped to answer the call of God whenever it comes, wherever it leads, and whatever it costs by developing renewed and skillful minds, strong hands to serve, and burning hearts for Jesus.

We are grateful for the way CCS has helped us reinforce Biblical principles that we teach at home, while at the same time giving our children a first class education. Teaching our children to think critically along with a Biblical worldview is a rarity in this day and age, however, CCS excels at doing just that!

-Emmett and Heather Reed
CCS Leadership Program

*Everybody leads somebody, if only himself.*

The CCS Leadership Program exists to instill and establish faith, character, foundational skills and fortitude to complete any mission, anywhere. Students learn principles of godly, real world leadership, then hone skills in outdoor environments and missions trips. Staff, parents and community volunteers are all involved in environments teaching students to survive, lead and minister to others – those we know and those we don’t. The capstone of the program is Vision Quest, a weekend in which students seek what God has for them as they leave high school and go out into the world.

Program outcomes include courage, wisdom, justice and charity – anchored in an ethical and moral life – to equip CCS students to become the leaders our world so desperately needs. Looking back, students and families say the program is powerful, poignant and impacts the rest of their lives.

With established success in developing leaders in high school, the CCS Leadership Program is now expanding to develop younger students – teaching elementary students to follow, and middle school students to serve. Developing leadership character from a young age benefits the students, families and our community as a whole.

Over 10 years, CCS student leaders have volunteered:

- **7,100 hours** serving local nonprofits such as A Women’s Pregnancy Center, Boys Town, Chelsea House, Ronald McDonald House, Maclay Gardens, Second Harvest of the Big Bend, and others.
- **2,400 hours** serving out-of-town nonprofits during “Winter Expeditions” in Jacksonville, Orlando, and Miami, as well as Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and North Carolina.
- **12 weeklong mission trips** serving in Guatemala, Panama, the Navajo Nation in Arizona, Tennessee, Georgia, and New York State.

To increase the scope and impact of the program from 50 to over 300 students each year, plans for the future include:

- A dedicated K-12 Program Administrator, tasked with school-wide program integration, teacher training, event/mission planning and curriculum development.
- A fully equipped Leadership Program trailer, for storage and transportation of survival materials used in training excursions. —ACHIEVED
- Large wooded acreage within 90 minutes of the school. A single school-owned location for outdoor training increases flexibility for leadership student training excursions, while offering easier security planning and self-sustaining income through timber harvesting.
Leadership Axioms

Actions have consequences
Challenge builds strength, and strength comes from the Lord
Commitment drives everything
Develop the situation
Do the hard but the right thing
Finish the mission
Great Leaders know when to follow
Improvise, adapt and overcome
“No excuse, sir (or) ma’am”
Progress, not perfection
Smart failure brings success
Take the blame and give away the praise

God bless you in your efforts to serve local families through Christian education.

I am proud of the Godly character and leadership development you seek to instill in your students. Our world needs such young people among its citizens.

– Words from a letter by Lt. Gen. Lawrence F. Snowden, USMC Ret. (1921-2017), pictured with his personal piano that he donated to support Community Christian School. Students and teachers will enjoy this special gift in our new Elementary Music Classroom, to be built with funds raised in the Commitment to Character Campaign.
Educational Services for Students with Autism and Learning Challenges

CCS maintains an academically rigorous environment while having a heart for those with physical and developmental challenges. We believe that every child is uniquely designed and created by God and that children learn in different ways.

Using a model of inclusion into the classroom, students enrolled in Educational Services learn from trained and devoted staff who provide personal and encouraging support to students and their families. All students and staff benefit by being involved in one another’s education.

Serving children on the autistic spectrum, the COMPASS program works with FSU’s Center for Autism and Related Disabilities to provide cutting edge educational services for a growing population. Implemented as a pilot program in 2015, countless COMPASS inquiries reveal a growing need in Tallahassee, requiring more staff, resources and training.

To increase services to qualified children while supporting CCS’ academically rigorous environment, plans for the future include:

- A repurposing of existing classroom space, to provide a dedicated resource area for students needing individual services during the course of the school day.
- A dedicated Educational Services teacher/clinician at the elementary school level, to identify and serve students at the ages when special services needs emerge.
- Curriculum and training resources for both Educational Services and K-12 CCS teachers who serve children with special educational needs.

Many will come to CCS seeking a great education…
many will leave changed by the power of God.
Commitment to Character

**CCS Athletics Program**

*We encourage athletes to view their abilities as gifts from God and to seek out ways in which they can minister to others through sport participation.*

CCS students train and compete in a variety of sports: Soccer, Basketball, Golf, Swimming, Track, Cross Country, Golf, Volleyball and Sand Volleyball. Our athletes are expected to pursue excellence with character and integrity, competing in a way that is honoring to God, our school, our teammates and our community.

CCS has been a good steward of financial resources, and it is time to invest in three key aspects of our athletics to better equip the school for current and new students:

- Enclosing the Sports Pavilion into a new Athletics Complex, allowing year-round play and the ability to host district competitions. The facility will attract new families while retaining some who otherwise may have moved to other schools for such resources. — SEE INSERT
- A full-time Athletic Director to manage and grow a more competitive athletics program.
- Completing the CCS Sand Volleyball Courts, with lighting, bleachers, water and concessions. — ACHIEVED
CCS Creative Arts Program and LeTour!

Dance, theater, visual arts and music combine at CCS to give students the best in creative arts instruction and a conduit to share joy, entertainment, and faith with our community.

Already known in Tallahassee for quality plays and musicals, last year CCS embarked on a new outreach journey with LeTour! This unique multi-arts ensemble strives for a faithful depiction of the broken realities of our time, juxtaposed with graceful reminders of the faith, hope and love that is available through Jesus Christ.

Dedicated to travel and outreach, LeTour! considers non-Christian audiences in repertoire selections and performance venues.

To increase local, statewide, regional and national outreach and recognition, plans for the future include:

- A fully equipped touring trailer, for storage and transportation of costumes, instruments, and lighting and sound equipment needed for quality productions.
- Specialized music and drama “coaches” at the middle and upper elementary levels. Earlier creative arts development increases the impact and quality outreach of LeTour! and of high school performances offered in Tallahassee.
- Enclosing the Primary Building porch into a dedicated Elementary Music Classroom. Music classes currently use the auditorium on a reservation basis.
- Dedicated support in technology and marketing, to create a far-reaching and professional presence in the arts community – within and beyond Tallahassee.

The performing and visual arts, rightly conceived and practiced, can have an incredible Kingdom impact on an increasingly chaotic and aimless culture.
Academics and Administration

At Community Christian School, we believe in a thorough and rigorous liberal arts education that shapes and trains the mind, the body, the heart and the spirit.

CCS believes the best academic education guides students from being dependent learners to becoming independent learners – capable of teaching themselves – then on to interdependent learners – capable of learning and working with others in the 21st century global community.

Over 40% of CCS faculty have advanced degrees. CCS students experience high academic achievement, with college test scores and graduation rates among the highest in Tallahassee. Our graduates include a National Merit Scholar, and have attended Florida State University, University of Florida, Tallahassee Community College, Auburn, Vassar, Wake Forest, Stetson, Miami, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and other fine institutions.

To support and expand the quality of our academic experience for 313 students each year to 335 by 2019-2020, plans for the future include:

- Upgraded computers for the elementary computer lab and portable school “iLab.” — ACHIEVED
- An elementary school assistant administrator, needed as the Pre-K and elementary enrollment continues to rise.
- A full time Development Director and office, sustaining the financial health of the school and creation of a vibrant alumni program.
- Aging roof structures and campus parking lots require improvements for the safety and security of students and staff.
- Renovations to the auditorium create a professional, flexible space for the school in arts, academics, leadership and for educational and performing arts events open to the public.

CCS Is Growing

As the school expands services and student enrollment, future plans include a new two-story building to increase classroom and activity space. We look forward to offering more families the comprehensive education needed to make the most of their children's spiritual and educational potential.
Commitment to Character Comprehensive Campaign

Every aspect of the school is designed with character in mind: Academics, Arts, Athletics, Education Services and the Leadership Program. This unique COMMITMENT TO CHARACTER environment is a powerful force in the lives of children, families, and our community.

To empower CCS for greater service to families – and for greater impact on our community – the CCS Board has approved a comprehensive $6 million COMMITMENT TO CHARACTER CAMPAIGN. The five-year goal includes $3 million in new monies for projects and programs, plus a $3 million endowment plan to provide $150,000 each year in scholarships for children and families who desire a CCS education but cannot afford it.

WILL YOU JOIN US? Your partnership and commitment to the character of our young people – future citizens, employees and community leaders – is a blessing to us all.

A More Sustainable Future: The CCS Scholarship Endowment Fund

Each year, CCS extends scholarships to assist income-challenged families with student tuition. In 2015-2016, CCS provided $135,000 in scholarships – a significant amount that comes out of the school's operating budget.

A $3 million endowment would allow CCS to offer $150,000 in scholarships annually to assist more families who desire to experience the quality of a CCS education, but cannot afford it alone. Such a sustainable resource frees significant operating funds to better support programs and facilities.
## COMMITMENT TO CHARACTER CAMPAIGN

**Five Year Comprehensive Campaign Budget: $6 Million**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Cash and Pledges Goal</th>
<th>$3,000,000</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Endowment Goal (Earnings to Provide $150,000 in Annual Scholarships)</td>
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<td>Total Campaign Funds Committed To Date</td>
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<td>Total Campaign Funds to Be Raised 2017-2020</td>
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<td>Remaining Endowment Funds to Be Raised</td>
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### Campaign Accomplishments 2015-2016 and 2016-2017
- Leadership Trailer and Trek Gear
- Educational Services Teacher/Clinician
- Sand Volleyball Facilities
- Fine Arts Portable Sound/Light Equipment
- Elementary Computer Lab Upgrade
- Assistant Elementary Administrator
- Establish Development and Alumni Office
- Reroof School Buildings

### Leadership Program

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Full Time Program Administrator</td>
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<td>Program Land Purchase &amp; Upkeep</td>
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### Educational Services for Students with Autism and Learning Challenges

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<td>Elementary Teacher/Clinician</td>
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<td>Dedicated Program Space</td>
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### Athletics Program

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<tr>
<td>Athletics Complex</td>
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<td>Transition to Full Time Director</td>
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### Arts/LeTour! Program

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<tr>
<td>LeTour! Portable Equipment</td>
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<td>Specialized Arts Coaching in Earlier Grade Levels</td>
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### Academics & Administration

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<td>Elementary Classroom/Computer Technology</td>
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<td>Establish Development/Alumni Office</td>
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### Facilities Improvements

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<tr>
<td>Reroof Auditorium</td>
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<td>Parking Lot Resurfacing</td>
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<td>Yearly Campaign Expenses</td>
<td>$1,858,700</td>
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Community Christian School

2016-2017 CCS School Board
Richard Gale, Amy Cliburn, Ed Wynn, David Pinson, Doug Banks, Wes Brigmon
(Not Pictured - Alex Buck)

For additional information, please contact:
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April 2017