



CALVARY

# WARRIOR REVIEW



## Mid Year Report

By: *Dr. Timothy Gray - Head of School*



As this school year progresses, it is time to share some of what has been going on behind the scenes. This year, we have set a few goals at the School Board and Administrative level. These goals are centered around securing our position in our newfound independence and solidifying our commitment to our mission. That mission is to effectively provide an education that is gospel centered, family focused, academically excellent, and individually designed for our students.

### *The School Board*

The School Board takes its new role as spiritual and fiduciary oversight seriously. The Board has been conducting a policy review with school administration input to help us run more effectively and efficiently. As your governance team, the Board recognizes the sacrifice in time and money required to enable Christian education.

One main area of focus has been overhauling our finance processes in collaboration with the Finance Committee to be better streamlined in technology, process management and reporting. The Finance Committee is comprised of representation from the School Board, staff members of CBS' Finance and myself as Head of School. This committee meets monthly to work on focused areas and does a regular review of our financial health as an organization. This is so we can ensure that the resources we have are being used most effectively in the best possible way.

### HERE'S WHAT'S UP!

- THE SCHOOL BOARD
- CONTINUED GROWTH
- CHANGES
- FINANCE & GIFTS
- OUTLOOK FOR 2023

### School Board Members

Mrs. Kate Hill  
 Pastor Aria Mavaji  
 Mr. Dale Moe  
 Mr. Peter Rall  
 Mr. Craig Silsbee  
 Mrs. Phyllis Stevens  
 Pastor Sam Wells  
 Mr. Howard Wood

Additionally, in recognizing the need to facilitate parental feedback, we are re-introducing the School Advisory Team (SAT). Please look for communication about the new SAT's upcoming meeting in the new year. We look to provide this meeting as a scheduled time to share what is happening at the Administrative and Board level, as well as receive input on how Calvary can do better. The transition team and committees from the past two years left a wealth of information and feedback that we are working to synthesize in meaningful ways. As a continuous learning organization, we will keep refining how we communicate, the way we handle our resources, and how we run our programs.

Calvary Baptist School exists to educate students with a Biblical worldview and support families as they train up their children in truth, all to the glory of God.

*Our Mission*

Calvary has been blessed over the last two years with an overall 24% increase in PreK-12 grade enrollment since the 2020-21 school year. This growth has not come not from our international program, but from our domestic community educational needs. This growth came from our school's ability to offer in person education while navigating mandated COVID protocols, closure of other Christian schools, and an increased demand for Christian education with Biblical family values. As a result, to support the increased enrollment, we have hired many new administrative and teaching staff.

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With new staff and students folding into our Calvary culture, we had a great opportunity to take our teaching team of K-12 to a professional development conference in Virginia, hosted by AACCS (our accreditation organization) in November. It was the first time in a decade we were able to invest in our full time teaching staff to be amongst peers in the industry and support their professional development.

This conference not only inspired the teachers with additional teaching methods, they were introduced to

"I was encouraged, inspired and also shown practical ways to improve my teaching at the conference!"

*- Marcia VanDame*

## Continued Growth

new tools and how to face growing challenges in education. Being together away from home also came with the benefit of building new and solidify existing relationships amongst themselves. As for the students, we are sensitive to the challenges new students face while coming into an established group of peers. We have found the integration of new students into our rigorous academic program requires sensitivity until they become acquainted with new practices. An example of this is the non-use of calculators in math classes (aside from learning specific functions). We must be mindful of experiences students are bringing to Calvary. This conference helped increase this awareness overall.



## Changes

You can't have growth without experiencing change. Therefore, it required some changes in our facilities. Since the start of the school year, we were able to renovate available space for two additional classrooms to accommodate our yearbook committee and give our art teacher a dedicated classroom. Office and meeting spaces were created by repurposing existing rooms, while demand for more transitional and permanent office/classroom spacing remains constrained.

With increased staff, we have been able to work on maturing our distinctive programs. Our existing Bible curriculum has been enhanced by Mr. Finkbeiner. Areas such as the preschool and childcare are a continued focus; like fine tuning the transition schedules and bringing on Mrs. Sally Gaugler, as director over extended care. Additionally, we have utilized staff to support the ACCESS and lunch programs.

Speaking of lunch, we did encounter some challenges this year as we sought to try new things. One of our failures has been the School Eatery lunch program. After a disappointing vendor performance with failed attempts to correct issues such as cost, portion size, and communication, we have decided to cancel our use of the program and bring the former lunch program back under our roof. This will start in January once we come back from break with details to follow. Sometimes we try to do something new and it doesn't work.

Sometimes change works better than we could have hoped. Are you enjoying CBS' professional photos? This year, our yearbook club is led by professional photographer (and CBS parent), Brett Martelli. Our new staff hires for our K-12th grade Spanish program, music and drama are some of many other areas that exemplify this. The reintroduction of a school band and expansion of our music program has been wonderful; recently showcased in our Christmas concerts.

These programs, coupled with the athletic programs, are tangible ways that we can engage the individual design aspect of our student body. Not every student is an athlete and not every student can play an instrument or sing. This is why we work to offer programs that expand the student's experiences and opportunities scholastically and with elective selections.

Another example is this year's high school students have an opportunity to go on a mission trip to Nicaragua to serve along a missionary (CBS Class of '09) who established a school and church. Having the opportunity for students to identify their passions and interests is crucial to understanding God's calling on their lives.



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## Finances & Gifts

Finally, here's an update on finances. We have been blessed this year with some wonderful support by way of sponsorships, donations, and gifts. In August, we received an unexpected anonymous donation of \$50,000 that we have set aside to build up working capital and the beginning of a rainy day fund. In light of the need to replace the line of credit with the church, the November Friendraising Event met its initial goal of \$50,000 and continues to draw support towards the larger goal of \$250,000 of working capital. General donations help give us flexibility in dealing with unexpected costs that arise. Sometimes gifts come in the form of tangible objects that we need such as a popcorn and cotton candy machine for some of our events. Donations not only help provide for a need, but

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they also save us money.

Curriculum is one of the largest expenses in the tuition costs aside from payroll. We have begun conducting a review of our fees and fee schedules with the Finance Committee to see if we can reduce or waive some, such as the technology fee.

This past year we have been able to purchase chromebooks via state funds, an opportunity which may be able to reduce or fully eliminate the additional charge to students. We are looking to implement some of these adjustments as soon as possible. Our current fees can be found on [cbschools.org/admissions](https://cbschools.org/admissions).



## *Outlook for 2023*

As we look toward the second half of this school year, we expect to finish strong as we continue to see the faithfulness of God provided in so many ways, while He is working all things together for good. With a new year calendar that is filling up, planning is underway for our enrollment open houses and spring fundraiser. We will continue to take advantage of grant opportunities as they present themselves, exploring available resources. With our associations, we will continue to be a voice to state and federal legislators, advocating for Christian education as we learn of legislative developments. The unfortunate agendas in the public school system are increasing the demand on Christian education. Therefore, strategic planning for the growth demands and evaluating expansion opportunities are always on our minds and considered in our decisions.

Thank you for your patience and support through all the changes this school year. We wouldn't be here without the faithful dedication, prayers, and support of many like you. God bless you in this Christmas season with a bright 2023 year ahead!

For His glory,

Calvary Baptist School inspires students to DISCOVER their purpose and to ENGAGE their Hearts, Heads and Hands in service to Christ both locally and globally.

*Our Vision Statement*



**CALVARY**  
BAPTIST SCHOOL

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