



STATE OF THE SCHOOL RECAP

MMXXIV

2023-2024 THEMATIC GOAL

“...You shall raise up the foundations of many generations.”

ISAIAH 58:12

DEFINING OBJECTIVES

Taking a look at how we are doing on our Defining Objectives for the 2023–2024 school year:

PAIDEIA OF THE LORD, NOT PATTERNS OF THIS WORLD



The fruit of fulfilling these objectives is evident in many ways, but Cameron challenged us to ponder the question, “Are we too busy?”

FORTIFYING THE FOUNDATION OF OUR LEADERS



Combined experience of Veritas Academy School Heads (Dani Cowen, Jenny McLatcher, Angie Thompson) totals over 40 years.

CULTIVATE GODLY CHARACTER, VIRTUE, AND WORKMANSHIP



Not only must we cultivate what is good, true, and beautiful, we must also guard against that which is not.

As we raise up this generation together in partnership, we are sending out lights for Christ into the world.



BUILDING A CITY ON A HILL,
A LIGHT INTO DARKNESS

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

FACILITIES: Our Facilities team continues to work tirelessly to improve and maintain our campus, and they have completed several noteworthy projects this year: painting the GS portables, terracing the lawn near the Café Patio, hanging art throughout the SL/R Academic Building, improving and adding to the Lower Village playground area, hanging (and re-hanging) outdoor banners, and building a deck for the “Broken Bus.”

BUSINESS OFFICE: We are back to a fully staffed business office with a new CBO & Controller and received our 15th consecutive “clean” audit while continuing to operate with a balanced budget so that Tuition & Fees cover all operating expenses. To help minimize tuition increases from year-to-year, the annual budget is created from scratch each fall before tuition is set for the upcoming school year. With seventy percent of the budget going to personnel, including strategic professional development and cost of living adjustments, investing in and caring for our faculty and staff is a high priority.

OFFICIAL 2023-2024 ENROLLMENT:

676 students

AVERAGE 2024-2025 TUITION INCREASE:

5.3%

ADVANCEMENT OFFICE: We remain near our targeted capacity, which generally accounts for three sections and a total of ~48 students in each grade (although we intentionally keep our PreS and PreK smaller and the current 8th grade class is larger). Interest and applications for the 2024-2025 school year is strong, with current families and word-of-mouth marketing serving as the top source of recruitment—thank you! And, thank you for your generous support of the annual Bless Our School & Bless Our Teachers funds. Your giving helps propel the mission, ministry, and people of our school forward. Lastly, be on the lookout for GS Defender Dash details... this special fundraiser and obstacle course will be back this April!

FAMILY MINISTRIES: Family Ministries continues to be the backbone of the “small town” within Veritas, helping families build roots and make connections through hosting various community gatherings, mentoring, serving, and just providing a foundation for doing life together.



2023 SENIORS ATTENDING FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE:

94%

TOP 2023 MATRICULATIONS:

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
TEXAS TECH
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

2023 NOTABLE ACCEPTANCES:

DARTMOUTH
COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

ACADEMICS

- Academic performance of our students continues to be at or above independent school norms in most categories measured by the new Classic Learning Test (CLT), which is administered annually to students in Grades 3-10.
- More than 70% of those taking AP exams passed them for college credit, down from the prior year, but twice as many took the exams.
- Twenty-six students participated in Dual Credit, receiving up to nine hours of college credit.
- SAT and ACT scores continue to exceed national averages by wide margins.
- Veritas Academy produced another National Merit Scholar this year. Congratulations, Carson Ferris!
- Look for Fireside Chats with Cameron revolving around the changing landscape of colleges and universities.

UNIFORMS

Oh, uniforms. In the best delivery of the evening, Cameron informed us that “while this was supposed to be the last year of wearing uniforms from any vendor other than DENNIS, our experience with them has left all of us concerned about relying on them exclusively.” He went on to delight the crowd with news that Flynn O’Hara will again be an additional uniform provider for us, and that pieces will be allowed only from DENNIS and Flynn O’Hara starting in the fall.

 **FlynnO’Hara**
UNIFORMS

 **DENNIS UNIFORM**

DEVELOPMENT PLANS

As we look to the future of Veritas Academy, we look forward to the day we can open the doors to our very own gym/community center (and coffee spot!) and invite others to our campus and be lights into the darkness.

Fundraising:

- Over 50 families filled out the “What Can We Build?” survey this past August, which was followed with a group of those families participating in an in-person “pre-campaign” conversation.
- Those conversations were very encouraging, and we are continuing to follow up with a handful of families who expressed their desire and ability to make lead campaign gifts. We will continue on this intentional and relational approach to fundraising, which will ultimately set the tone for what we can raise.
- When the time comes for the whole community to participate in giving—and getting us across the finish line—we will be in a strong position!

Build Progress:

- Our site permit was submitted to the City of Austin in October 2023. So far all things are moving forward as expected, and we hope to have full site approval in late 2024. (This can take anywhere from 12–18 months and is fully dependent on the city.)
- We continue to work with our builder to design a building based on our fundraising feedback and costs that continue to rise.

PRELIMINARY RENDERING



BUILDING A CITY ON A HILL, A LIGHT INTO DARKNESS

This campaign is for more than a building with courts, stages, and caffeine; it will provide more time and means for us to fulfill our mission for not just this generation of Veritas students, but also students to come, sending out more and more kids to be lights into the darkness.



TO WATCH THE STATE OF THE SCHOOL ADDRESS VISIT
[TINY.CC/SOTS2024](https://tiny.cc/sots2024)