



# CSAGH

Christian School Association of Greater Harrisburg



# ANNUAL REPORT 23-24



IN THIS ISSUE

**LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT**  
**LESSONS TAUGHT, LESSONS LEARNED**  
**STUDENT LIFE HIGHLIGHTS**  
**STRATEGIC UPDATES**







2024-2025 Theme:

# Rooted in Christ

“Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

—Colossians 2:6-7



## LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

## Looking Back and Looking Ahead

CSAGH leaders took time this summer to reflect on the previous year. This sounds like a simple exercise, but the discipline to take time to look back and evaluate both good and bad allows us to improve personally and as a community of Christian educators.

Our theme for last year was Be Transformed, so we were essentially asking—is there evidence of transformation? Paul says in Romans 12:2, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Looking back, we could see that our community was really energized by this theme. We saw lives changed, including students who accepted Jesus for the first time, and many students rededicated their lives to Christ! Praise the Lord for His goodness!

Last year was a year of accomplishments. Here are four highlights:

- A fall visit from the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) resulted in a seven-year renewal of our accreditation.
- We had the highest-ever enrollment at 920 students!
- Our new teachers and administrators had a strong year, resulting in more than 85% of teachers returning for the next year.
- CSAGH students completed 243 college courses in our new Dual Enrollment Program, where juniors and seniors can take up to 12 college credits per year paid by CSAGH. CSAGH graduates are a step ahead, with many saving almost a year of college tuition.

Looking back also gave us clarity for the year ahead. A new theme – Rooted in Christ – is helping us focus on pointing students to Jesus. Work continues on the 2023-2026 Enhance and Expand Capital Campaign, and we remain steadfast in increasing support for our teachers and students.

Our CSAGH graduates are the best of this generation and hold much promise to impact the world for Christ. Your support allows us to educate young students to know Christ and serve Him. For that, we thank you!

Blessings,



*Mark Seymour*  
Mark Seymour  
President, CSAGH

PS: This annual report is packed with awesome stories, accomplishments, and pictures of our students! I hope you will take the time to read through it and see what is happening in our community.



## Table of Contents

1	Lessons Taught, Lessons Learned
3	Student Life Highlights
11	Athletic Highlights
15	Alumni Class Notes
17	Faculty and Staff
21	Strategic Plan Update

## CONNECT WITH US:



@westshorechristianacademy  
@harrisburgchristianschool



westshorechristian  
harrisburgchristianschool

## PARENT PROMISE

Our promise is to deliver an excellent Christ-centered education which prepares students to be leaders who impact the world for Christ.





Mrs. Stonge

# Lessons Taught, Lessons Learned

By Kylie Stewart, CSAGH Marketing Coordinator

Kindergartners are in the formative years of their lives. They learn letters, sounds, shapes, times, seasons, and much more. At Harrisburg Christian School (HCS) and West Shore Christian Academy (WSCA), our kindergartners also learn who God is, that He loves them, and what that means for their lives.

HCS and WSCA students are surrounded by teachers who love Jesus and love sharing the gospel. Ms. Shughart, a kindergarten teacher at WSCA, said,

One of my favorite things about teaching at WSCA is that I can daily talk about Jesus and share the gospel with my students. There is no holding back the truth of God and His Word and we get to daily live that out together in our classroom community.

At CSAGH schools, we have five incredible kindergarten teachers who teach students the academic foundations for elementary school. But it's not just the teachers who are imparting knowledge in the classroom; our kindergarten students are also teaching valuable lessons to their teachers in many ways.

*Our kindergartners are a reflection of the faith God calls us to have.*

When asking our kindergarten teachers what lessons they have learned from students, Mrs. Palmquist, a kindergarten teacher at HCS, said, "In Matthew 18, Jesus reminds us to be like children. I love looking to my students because they are a great reminder to have faith like a child."

In Matthew 18, Jesus encourages His listeners to humble themselves like a child and receive Him like a child. However, having faith like a child is not easy. In Matthew 18:4, Jesus tells us, "So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven." Having faith like a child requires

us to put aside our misconceptions so they do not get in the way of trusting Christ wholeheartedly.

Hebrews 11:1 tells us that "faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." Children are known for their pure belief and trust, and as Christians, we can learn something from them. Embracing a childlike faith means placing our confidence in Christ's promises, even in circumstances that are unclear.

*"Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."*

— Hebrews 11:1

Ms. Shughart shared another lesson she has learned from teaching kindergartners at WSCA,

One of the greatest lessons I have learned from my students is that we should be so eager to learn more about Jesus that we cannot contain ourselves. There is a hunger in little children for Jesus and the Word that we should desire to have as adults. Kindergartners love Jesus, and they spur me on to desire to know Him more, too.

Our vision statement at CSAGH is "Preparing students to impact the world for Christ." While our staff and faculty partner with families to provide Christ-centered education so students will impact the world for Christ, in many ways, our students are already making an impact.

Our kindergartners are impacting the world for Christ by the way they love and trust Jesus. They are also being equipped with the academic foundations for elementary school to be prepared for the calling God has on their lives.

HCS and WSCA kindergarten teachers utilize a variety of learning styles to help each student succeed. Mrs. Stonge, a WSCA kindergarten teacher, loves incorporating play into her classroom. She said,



Ms. Shughart

"I utilize a variety of teaching strategies in my classroom to help meet each student's needs, but I personally prefer activities that involve songs, puppets, and costumes!"

When you step into a kindergarten classroom at HCS or WSCA, it's common to see our teachers singing songs, teaching through play, and serving as role models for impressionable minds.

At CSAGH schools, we partner with families to nurture young minds and hearts, and our kindergarten teachers are instrumental in achieving that. They prepare students with the academic foundations for elementary school and the spiritual building blocks of biblical truth. It is inspiring to watch our kindergarten students not only grow academically but also be reminders of how we should love and trust our Creator.



Mrs. Palmquist



# Student Life Highlights

The communities at HCS and WSCA have enduring impacts on students’ lives. Our success as schools depends not just on academics but on the strength of the relationships between the students and between the students and faculty. By God’s grace, we have continued to see our school communities thrive and even go out to serve the broader Harrisburg area through the Day of Service, field trips, and internships.

Our community is unapologetically Christ-centered, so we intentionally build times into the year for spiritual development, such as weekly chapel and Spiritual Emphasis Retreats. These pages are filled with these and many other wonderful memories from the year.

## CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF GREATER HARRISBURG



## Students Reach the Community During the Day of Service

In April, HCS and WSCA students had the opportunity to serve the Greater Harrisburg community through our Annual Day of Service, serving at 34 locations, including Bethesda Mission, Caitlin’s Smiles, Forgotten Voices International, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Milk & Honey Farms, New Hope Ministries, and Wildheart Ministries.

## Spiritual Emphasis Retreats

In September, students in grades 5-12 participated in Spiritual Emphasis Retreats. The retreats utilize an experiential learning format to encourage and challenge students spiritually. Students and faculty members from HCS and WSCA participate together in a fun team activity designed to teach a particular spiritual principle.



## J-Term 2024

During J-Term, junior and senior students interned with local officials, an electronic parts supplier, and an emergency management office. Middle and high school students also had the opportunity to go on caving adventures, take an Introduction to Biomedical Research course, learn the art of Scripture Performance with Piercing Word, and more!



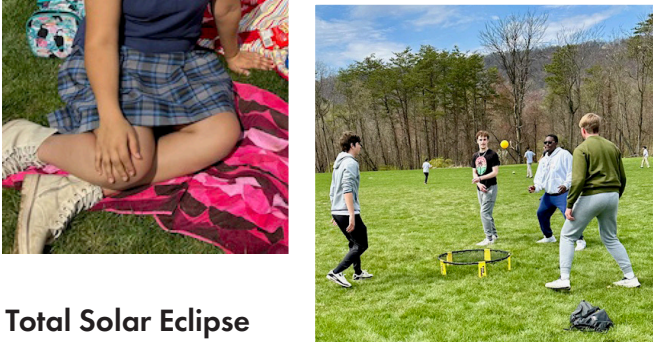


HARRISBURG CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Daniel Gil Speaks to Elementary Students

Season 12 Champion and seven-time national finalist on American Ninja Warrior, Daniel Gil, known as the Kingdom Ninja, came to speak to our elementary students for J-Term. He shared his story and encouraged the kids to give 100% in all they do for the Lord.



Total Solar Eclipse

Middle and high school students gathered on the athletic fields to view the solar eclipse. Students were invited to bring blankets to sit on, snacks, and games. It was an exciting celestial event to be remembered for years to come!



Surgery Live! at the Whitaker Center

Many of the high school science students attended Surgery Live! at the Whitaker Center and watched a robotic gastric sleeve procedure. Doctors at the Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center conducted the surgery, and it was streamed live to the Sunoco Theater HD screen. A second doctor was present at the Whitaker Center to explain the procedure and answer questions. The anatomy students completed the unit on the digestive system and were able to view the organs they studied. Students took this experience and knowledge and applied it to fetal pig dissections. They were also given insight into medical careers and the education needed to become a surgical technician, nurse, anesthesiologist, and surgeon. The program concluded with an informational video on organ donation.



Read Across America

Elementary students celebrated Read Across America Week by participating in daily reading-related activities like Reading Camp Day, where students brought flashlights and blankets to read in the dark.

WEST SHORE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



Elementary Students Visit Country Meadows

After exchanging letters with some residents at Country Meadows, WSCA second graders visited their pen-pals. They did some fun activities and games together. The students showed God's love and brought many smiles to the residents.



Challenge Students Attend Invention Convention

WSCA Challenge students attended an Invention Convention where they participated in STEAM stations exploring the study of flowers through experiments, math, and art. During the second part of the Invention Convention, the Challenge students presented their own unique inventions, which were created and designed to solve a real problem. WSCA's Challenge Program is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) program for advanced learners in 2nd-5th grade. The Challenge Program helps students see the handiwork of the Creator and be empowered to pursue further study in STEM.



Speech and Debate Team Competes at Districts

The WSCA Speech and Debate team competed in the Dallastown invitational in York County. The debaters competed in Public Forum Debate and Congress. The speech team competed in Prose and Poetry. Everyone put wins on the board. Team Cornetto/Wolfe made it to quarterfinals in Novice Public Forum, and Emma Greenawalt placed sixth in Poetry.



Students Participate in The Cortez Trial

Students in 10th Grade World History II wrapped up their two-year cycle of World History with The Cortez Trial. This month-long project ends in a week-long mock trial before a live jury of strangers. Students demonstrate skills such as using and distinguishing between primary and secondary sources, oral presentation, and group dynamics of leadership, delegation, and specialization.



# Annie the Musical

In March, Harrisburg Christian School performed Annie the Musical, starring Addison Reed as Annie, Valen Shrum-Groff as Oliver Warbucks, Lexi Reed as Miss Hannigan, and Abigail Watford as Grace Farrell.





# Shrek the Musical

In March, West Shore Christian Academy performed Shrek the Musical, starring Colson Endres as Shrek, Josiah Raymond as Donkey, Jilynn Demerly as Princess Fiona, and Jon Brye as Lord Farquaad. A huge thanks to the Harrisburg Christian Performing Arts Center for hosting this event and to all of our generous sponsors!







# HCS Athletics

At HCS, the athletic program promotes the mission of Christian education by teaching athletes integrity, servanthood, teamwork, and excellence. It was a year with many athletic victories. What follows are just a few of the memories and achievements of the Knights community. Go Blue, Go White, Go Knights!

## CCAC ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM ATHLETES

<b>Varsity Baseball</b> Cooper Gesswein	<b>Varsity Soccer</b> Crystal Ames Joi Brenize Cooper Gesswein Gabby Masters Evan Sunday	<b>Varsity Volleyball</b> Madison Keck
--	---	---

## NCSAA NORTHEAST SUPER REGIONAL TEAM

**Varsity Basketball**  
Eli Stargel

## CCAC ALL-ACADEMIC AWARD RECIPIENTS

Joi Brenize, Cooper Gesswein, Kevin Gilmore, Judah Kleinschmidt, Nathan Makor, Madeline Melville, Merab Nace, Kimberly Sanchez, Eli Stargel, Evan Sunday, Zachary Willis-Prince, Micah Wilson

## HCS ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

**Male Athlete of the Year:** Cooper Gesswein  
**Female Athlete of the Year:** Crystal Ames



**Eli Stargel**  
Eli Stargel was selected to National Christian School Athletic Association’s (NCSAA) Northeast Super Regional Team for Varsity Basketball for the ‘23-’24 season.



**2024 CCAC Track & Field Champions**  
Congratulations to the Middle School Boys Track & Field Team for being CCAC Track & Field Champions!



**Bob King**  
Coach Bob King was inducted into the 2024 Class of the Harrisburg Christian School Athletics Hall of Fame.



**District III Track & Field Championship Meet Qualifiers**  
Congratulations to Crystal Ames (100m), Valen Shrum-Groff (100m/200m), Daphnny Gomes (200m/Long Jump), Ayden Savage (200m), Nate Costume (110m Hurdles), Boys 4x400m Relay Team (Eli Stargel, Valen Shrum-Groff, Emery Horst, Ayden Savage), and Jake Elmer (Javelin) for being Championship Meet qualifiers.



**Kimberly Sanchez**  
Kimberly Sanchez received the PIAA District III Fackler Hower Sportsmanship Award, Charles “Pete” Fackler Senior Scholarship Award, and Blue & White Athletic Club Scholarship.





# WSCA Athletics

This was a memorable year for West Shore Christian Academy athletics. The girls varsity lacrosse team won the CCAC championship and several athletes set new school records. But most importantly, students had the opportunity to build genuine relationships with each other and with their coaches, learning to live out the year’s theme of “Be Transformed” both on and off the field. Go Bobcats!

## CCAC ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM ATHLETES

### Girls Varsity Soccer

Rose Dennstaedt  
Izzy Peachey  
Ava Sanders  
Alyssa Shaw

### Boys Varsity Soccer 1st Team

Logan Chronister  
Koen Mathews  
Peter Tanis

### Boys Varsity Soccer 2nd Team

Connor Barnes  
Memphis Barron

### Girls Varsity Volleyball

Naomi Footitt

### Girls Varsity Basketball 1st Team

Naomi Footitt

### Boys Varsity Basketball 1st Team

Lucas Drabenstadt

### Varsity Lacrosse

Joy Dennstaedt  
Rose Dennstaedt  
Naomi Footitt  
Ava Kanagy  
Izzy Peachey  
Ava Sanders  
Amira Solomon

### Boys Varsity Volleyball 1st Team

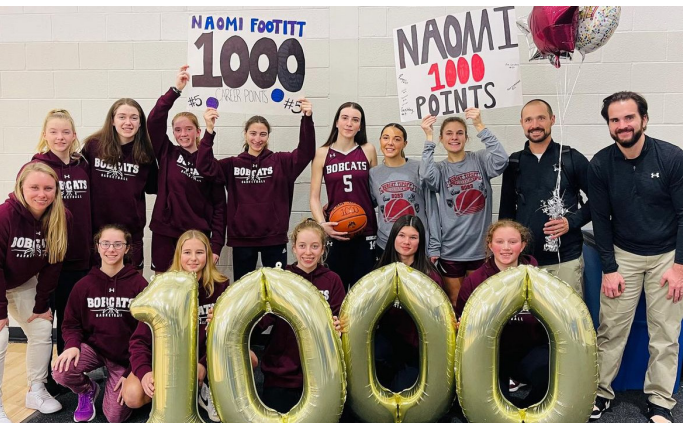
Josiah Martin

### Boys Varsity Volleyball 2nd Team

Bradley Gibson  
Peter Tanis  
Roman Thompson

### Varsity Baseball

Memphis Barron  
Connor Edwards  
Jaden Locker



### Naomi Footitt

Naomi Footitt scored 1,000 career points in basketball. She also broke the school basketball scoring record with 1,242 career points!



### CCAC League Champions

Congratulations to the Girls HS Lacrosse team for being back-to-back CCAC League champions!



### Six District Playoff Qualifiers for Team Sports

- Boys HS Soccer
- Girls HS Soccer
- Boys HS Basketball
- Boys HS Baseball
- Boys HS Volleyball
- Girls HS Lacrosse



### Noah Foust

Noah Foust qualified for and competed in the State Cross Country Championships.



### MS Track and Field Athletes Set Records

Peyton Cornetto set a new middle school record in the 800m and 1600m. Mason Drabenstadt set a new school record in the 800m. Jonathan Burnett set a new school record in the 1600m. Mason Drabenstadt, Rylee Reist, Jake Gustafson, and Liam Fisher set a new school record in the 4x800m.



### Emma Hare

Emma Hare broke the HS record in the 400m Dash.



# Class Notes

## HARRISBURG CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



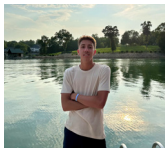
**Samantha Hatfield (Kreischer) (Class of 2014)**  
Since graduating from HCS, I attended Liberty University, where I received a BFA in Graphic Design, and I am currently working to finish my MFA in Graphic Design as well. Liberty is also where I met my husband, Nathaniel, who is a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Space Force. We are currently stationed in Colorado and have two daughters; an almost two-year-old and one more due this fall. In our free time, we work together on freelance web design/hosting projects for several clients. Looking forward to someday showing our daughters around the halls of where I grew up and found my passion for art!



**Christa Clouser (Class of 2017)**  
I am a 1LT in the PA Army National Guard, serving as a Medical Platoon Leader for Charlie Med of the 328th BSB. I am also a School Age Child Care Director at the Friendship YMCA.



**Jill Sunday (Rhine) (Class of 1998)**  
After graduating high school and college, I worked for a few years before getting married and becoming a stay-at-home mom to my three boys, who are now 16, 18, and 20. All three of my boys are "lifers" at HCS, meaning they started in K and have graduated from HCS or will be soon. I have been working at HCS as the Admissions Coordinator for the past 10 years. I love being able to share HCS, a school that impacted me so deeply, with families seeking Christian education for their children. I am so blessed by my involvement with HCS, our church, and service to God in tangible ways!



**Will Sunday (Class of 2022)**  
After graduation, I took a one-year program through New Horizons and received a certification in Networking. Since then I have recently started a job in IT to get some experience in the field. I have also been involved recently in planting a new church on the West Shore (Living Hope Bible Fellowship), which is growing quickly!



**Jody Green (Gutshall) (Class of 1995)**  
I have two kids, a 16-year-old girl and an 11-year-old boy. One of my fondest memories from my time at HCS is when Mr. Stahler was our class advisor. He put a lot of time into our class and it brought us together like a family.



**Ben Bechtel (Class of 2011)**  
My wife Whitley and I now have two daughters, Piper and Georgia. In the Fall of 2023, we launched a new church in the Midtown neighborhood of Harrisburg, Midtown Community Church, where we're laboring to see our friends and neighbors here in Midtown encounter Jesus for themselves.



**Eve Dolon (Parmer) (Class of 2010)**  
After being a stay-at-home mom for 10 years, my four children are now attending Harrisburg Christian School! I entered the working world and am passionate about making the community I live in a better place, whether it's work, church, or the school my children attend.



**Abigail Puleo (Class of 2023)**  
I am studying abroad in Uganda for the fall semester thanks to the dual enrollment credits I was able to accrue while a student at Harrisburg Christian School. I will be studying Global Health through Uganda Christian University and serving in the trauma unit of a local hospital.



**Corrie Kinsinger (Hamor) (Class of 1995)**  
I am so proud of my two daughters who currently attend Harrisburg Christian School. I have been married for 23 years, enjoy working as a school counselor and appreciate the support of my parents; my mom also taught at HCS years ago. We are thankful for the support of the HCS staff and community.



**Curt Nunemaker (Class of 1992)**  
It's been wonderful to watch our middle school son grow over the past few years at HCS. As a 1992 graduate of the school, I have so many fond memories from my time there. I remember Mr. King's sociology class and the lively debates in Bible class. Being part of the soccer and track teams forged lasting friendships and skills that helped me become a better student/individual. I'm grateful for the Christian foundation and personal growth I experienced at HCS, and having our son attend the school has been a wonderful experience that brings back so many cherished memories.

## WEST SHORE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



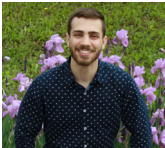
**Kylee Barnes (Class of 2020)**  
Kylee graduated from Liberty University with a BSN and has accepted a position in pediatrics at the Children's Hospital with the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston, SC.



**Heidi Johnson (Zentz) (Class of 2008)**  
My husband Andrew and I recently moved to the Hudson Valley from Iowa! Andrew now works as an Associate Pastor at Grace Community Church in Lake Katrine, NY. I serve as women's ministry director and pianist/vocalist on the worship team.



**Josh Lehigh (Class of 2017)**  
Josh is working as a Product Marketing Manager at Carlisle Construction Materials. He graduated from Penn State in December of 2020 with degrees in both Marketing and Management. He got married in January of 2021. He earned his MBA in October of 2023. He and his wife lead a young adult small group at Bible Baptist Church where he is a deacon.



**Chris Lehigh (Class of 2019)**  
Chris graduated from Lancaster Bible College in May of 2023 with degrees in Bible and Worship Arts. He is the Worship Director and Ministry Coordinator at Faith Church in Lancaster. One of the church's ministries is to the Lancaster County Prison inmates where he leads worship. He also writes, sings, and produces his own music.



**Katelyn Lehigh (Class of 2021)**  
Katelyn will finish her Bachelors degrees in Bible and Early Childhood Education and Masters in Special Education From Lancaster Bible College in December of 2025. She is involved in the kid's ministry at Bible Baptist Church. This summer, she spent 10 days in the Czech Republic helping at a Word Of Life Camp there.



**Ethan Derliunas (Class of 2013)**  
My wife and I have beautiful one-year-old twin girls. We are also in a period of transition as I pursue being a pastor and leave the military.



**Erin Joseph (Kauffman) (Class of 2008)**  
My husband Bryan, our four kids, and I have been called to be missionaries in Mazatlán, Sinaloa, Mexico, serving with Shoulder to Shoulder Mexico. We are being sent by our local church to partner with a bi-cultural team of missionaries seeking to serve and empower the local church in Mexico. God has been so good to guide us as we raise support, learn Spanish in TX in 2025, and arrive in Mexico in 2026.



**Andrew Lentz (Class of 2023)**  
I recently got engaged to Naomi Footitt and joined the Marine Corps for a five-year contract as an aviation air framer.



**Lauren Ishler (Class of 2020)**  
I graduated with my Bachelors in Applied Health Science from Messiah University in May of 2023. I'm currently in graduate school at Messiah, going for my Doctorate in Physical Therapy, which I will finish in May of 2026, and I plan on working in outpatient Physical Therapy. Recently, I got engaged to my high school sweetheart, Jeb Buehler. We are getting married next summer.



**Jessica Garvick (Smith) (Class of 1989)**  
I received an A.A. in Photography & Early Childhood Education from HACC and work as a kindergarten teacher at an early childhood center.



**Andrew Jekel (Class of 2016)**  
After graduating from the Air Force Academy in 2020, I was selected to become a pilot. I moved to West Texas for pilot training and was selected to remain as an instructor pilot at the end of my training. I'm currently instructing young officers to fly the T-6A Texan 2. I'll be marrying Helen Homola in October 2024!

*Do you have a class note to share? Please email us at [alumni@csagh.org](mailto:alumni@csagh.org) or visit the alumni page on your school website under Student Life ([hcs.csagh.org](http://hcs.csagh.org) or [wsca.csagh.org](http://wsca.csagh.org)).*



# Employee Milestones

## HARRISBURG CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### 5 Years

Kelsey Jarkowsky (Art Teacher)

### 10 Years

Katelyn Motter (Math Teacher)

Jill Sunday (Admissions Coordinator)

## WEST SHORE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

### 10 Years

Stephen Roe (Science Teacher)

### 20 Years

Barbara Shughart (1st Grade Teacher)



### Matt Perdue Joins HCS as Head of School

Matt Perdue comes to HCS with over 15 years of experience in education. He has served as a middle and high school teacher, coach, and counselor. Matt has been a school leader with experience as a principal and school director. Before starting at HCS, Matt served as School Director (Head of School) of Dakar Academy, a PK-12 ACSI Accredited Christian school with over three hundred students in Senegal, Africa.

Besides most recently completing ACSI's Leadership U program, Matt has an M.Ed. in School Counseling, a B.S. in Mass Communication/Media Studies, and holds teaching and instructional leadership certifications. Matt and his wife Sarah have four children who are students at HCS.

# School Administration '24-'25

## HARRISBURG CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



### Matt Perdue: Head of School

Matt Perdue (M.Ed. School Counseling – The University of West Alabama, B.S. Mass Communication/Media Studies – University of Montevallo) has an extensive education background, recently serving as Head of School at Dakar Academy in Senegal.



### Jo Ellen Bechtel: Elementary Principal

Jo Ellen (B.S. Elementary Education – Grace College) serves as the HCS Elementary Principal. She has been at HCS for 23 years. She has taught 4th and 5th grade and served as Assistant Elementary Principal.



### Jennifer Garvey: Middle and High School Principal

Jennifer Garvey (M.Ed. School Psychology and Secondary Counseling and B.S. Biology – Bucknell University) is an HCS graduate with extensive experience as a School Psychologist with Cumberland Valley School District. Her PA certifications include School Psychologist, School Counselor, and K-12 Principal.

## WEST SHORE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



### Elizabeth (Beth) Tippet: Elementary Principal

Beth Tippet (M.Ed. Teaching Technology – Lesley University, M.A. School Administration – University of North Carolina at Pembroke, B.S. Elementary Education – East Carolina University) has helped to start a church-based Christian school, worked as a curriculum and instruction coordinator, and been involved in education for 25+ years.



### Carolyn Oplinger: K-5 Assistant Principal/School Counselor

Carolyn Oplinger (M.Ed. School Counseling and B.A. Biblical Studies, emphasis in Professional Counseling – Lancaster Bible College) is a WSCA graduate. She holds a PDE Level II Certification in School Counseling and an ACSI Professional Level Certification in School Counseling.



### Brett Bonnema: Middle and High School Principal

Brett Bonnema (M.Ed. Educational Leadership and Administration – Calvin University, B.A. Physical Education – Calvin University) was previously a Principal and Head of School in Indonesia, following 10 years of teaching at Covenant Day School in Charlotte, North Carolina.



### Alea Crowe: Middle and High School Dean of Students/PE & Health Teacher

Alea Crowe (M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction – Eastern University and B.S. Health and Sports Science – Clarks Summit University) is a WSCA graduate. She also holds a certification in Health and Physical Education (PK-12) from Eastern University.



# CSAGH Leadership '24-'25

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Dennis Cullen Esq.**

*Chair of the CSAGH Board of Directors*

Dennis Cullen Esq. (J.D. – Widener University School of Law, B.A. Political Science – Temple University) is the Chief Operating Officer and member of the Board of Directors, Cipriani and Werner.

**Matt Campbell**

*Vice Chair of the CSAGH Board of Directors*

Matt Campbell (Ed.D. Educational Leadership – Millersville University, Principal Certification – Penn State University, M.Ed. – Shippensburg University, B.A. – Lebanon Valley College) is the Director of Learning Technologies at the Milton Hershey School.

**Nick Hansen**

*Treasurer of the CSAGH Board of Directors*

Nick Hansen (B.S. Finance – Bryan College) is the Financial Advisor, CFP, for the Turnbridge Group.

**Brandon Moist**

*Secretary of the CSAGH Board of Directors*

Brandon Moist (B.S. Finance – Penn State University) is the Chief Sales and Marketing Officer for Diamondback Covers.

**Stephanie Morris**

*Education Committee Chair*

Stephanie Morris (M.A. Biology – Shippensburg University, B.A. Environmental Studies – Messiah University) is a freelance science curriculum writer.

**James Fenush**

James Fenush (M.S. Nursing, B.S. Nursing – Penn State University) is the Vice President of Nursing, Emergency Services & Clinical Support Services at Penn State Health at Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

**Brandon Rogers**

Brandon Rogers (MBA – Penn State University, B.S. Accounting/Finance – Lehigh University, Executive Program Certificate – Cornell University) is the Principal and Founder of 2R Consulting Group and owner of the Bumble Bee Hollow Golf Course.

**Brian Gibson**

Brian Gibson (BBA Business Administration – Salisbury University) is the owner of six Chick-Fil-A locations, including Mechanicsburg, Carlisle Pike, two locations in Hersheypark, and two university locations.

**Jenny Nace**

Jenny Nace (B.A. Psychology – Messiah University) is currently a Grant and Report Writer – Partnerships with Operation HOPE and has worked with nonprofits in areas such as human services, human resources, development, communications, and grant writing.

**Aleta Serrano**

Aleta Serrano (B.S. Nursing – New York University) is the Divisional Board President of Midwest Food Bank of Pennsylvania.

**Dr. Rob Pepper**

*Board Member Emeritus*

Dr. Rob Pepper (Ph.D. Organizational Leadership – Regent University, M.S. Counseling, College Student Development – Shippensburg University, B.A. History – Messiah University) is the Executive Director and Assistant to the President for Innovation and University Partnerships at Messiah University.

## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

The Executive Leadership Team provides oversight and direction for the Christian School Association of Greater Harrisburg and its two member schools: West Shore Christian Academy and Harrisburg Christian School.



**Mark Seymour: President of CSAGH**

Mark Seymour (M.S. Nonprofit Management – Eastern University, B.A. English Literature – Messiah University) oversees the Christian School Association of Greater Harrisburg (CSAGH). Mark has previously worked for Delaware County Christian School, Malone University, Milton Hershey School, and Eastern University. He has focused his career on growing schools through enrollment and retention efforts, as well as working collaboratively with other school leaders to achieve strategic initiatives.



**Paul Beardmore: Vice President of Educational Programs**

Paul Beardmore (M.A. History and B.S.Ed. Social Studies – Shippensburg University) came to WSCA as a history teacher in 2015 after teaching history and economics for seven years at Cumberland Valley High School. He began serving in the role of WSCA Middle and High School Principal in 2017 and was appointed Vice President of CSAGH in 2021. Besides his roles with CSAGH and WSCA, Paul has also been an adjunct professor at Shippensburg University, Advanced Placement Reader for the College Board, and grader for the International Baccalaureate. He serves on the elder board of his church. Paul and his wife Rebecca are both proud members of WSCA's Class of 2004.



**Daniel King: Chief Financial Officer**

Dan King (B.S. Accounting – Houghton University) Before coming to CSAGH, Dan spent 25 years in Treasury and Accounting with Harsco Corporation, with his last position being Assistant Treasurer. Prior to that he worked for Dauphin Deposit Bank and KPMG. He is a graduate of Houghton College, and he and his wife Jenny have three children (all WSCA graduates).



**Mary Beth Gilge: Chief Enrollment Management Officer**

Mary Beth Gilge (B.S. Psychology – University of Arkansas) began working at WSCA as Admissions Coordinator in 2017 before moving into the role of CSAGH Admissions Director and then Chief Enrollment Management Officer. Prior to working at CSAGH, Mary Beth worked in corporate recruitment for the Keller Center for Corporate Learning and in pharmaceutical sales for Shire US. Mary Beth and her husband Jon have two children who are students at WSCA.





# 2023-2026 Enhance and Expand CSAGH Strategic Plan

By Mark Seymour, CSAGH President

## The Plan for Innovation, Connection, Expansion, and Development

I can't believe that one year is already complete of the 2023-2026 three-year strategic plan. The plan is a catalyst that takes our schools forward, moving beyond strengthening to innovation. Why this focus? To provide an excellent Christ-centered education, we need to expand our programming to include more hands-on, collaborative, and technology-based programming. This will best fulfill our promise to prepare students to be leaders who impact the world for Christ.

As a reminder, the 2023-2026 Enhance and Expand Strategic Plan has four areas.

### Innovation

We are working to innovate our curriculum, adding more technology and hands-on experiences that infuse 21st-century skills that colleges and employers are looking for in our graduates. The outcome of this effort will be a maker space at all campus locations, a K-12 technology curriculum, and one device for every 6-12th grade student (1:1).

### Connection

Involved and connected students are more likely to excel and benefit from our academic program. Connection is also a focus of our spiritual life program as we point students to Jesus and give them the opportunity to increase their connection to their faith.

### Enhance and Expand

As our schools grow and we enroll more mission-fit students and families, we are expanding facilities through the 2023-2026 Enhance and Expand Capital Campaign. The campaign goal is \$9.625 million. The first year was a success, with pledges and donations exceeding expectations.

## Develop Our Faculty and Staff

Innovation requires teacher training in new skills. We are offering more professional development, advancement opportunities, and leadership options for our teachers. We are also increasing support for all employees so that we can retain our incredibly effective teachers and administrative teams.

Look what has been achieved in just one year!



Proposed Maker Space Concept

Innovate Our Curriculum and Programs	Connect Students to Their School and Faith	Enhance Facilities, Expand Enrollment	Develop Our Faculty and Staff
All HCS 6-12th grade students have a personal computing device (1:1) as well as 11th and 12th graders at WSCA	Expanded summer camps to six camps and 73 students attended	Received \$670,000 in donations toward the capital campaign. Total donations and pledges to the campaign equal \$3,893,000	Expanded and evaluated our New Teacher Training Program to improve effectiveness and teacher retention
Juniors and seniors at both schools have access to dual enrollment courses paid for by CSAGH	All students were involved in a service opportunity	Highest ever enrollment at 920 students	Increased support for teacher pay and benefits – a budgeted increase of \$418,000
Four teachers are identified as “innovation early adopters” and are being trained in maker space technology and becoming STEM leaders at CSAGH	More than 80% of students were involved in an activity outside the classroom	Added a 3rd grade class at HCS and a 2nd grade classroom at WSCA. Expanded classrooms in WSCA MS/HS	Provided six teachers further education through our Messiah Pathways Partnership; nine WSCA and eight HCS teachers and administrators completed training outside CSAGH to further their expertise in selected areas

Continued on next page



Guiding Vision for Students’ Future

What describes a graduate of HCS or WSCA? After a year of research and visioning, we summarized how our community describes our alumni. We proudly say that they are the best of our next generation. A CSAGH Graduate is ... Living for Christ, Leading Boldly, Serving with Humility, and Confident in their Skills, Strength, and Experience.

Professional Development (PD) and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Training

PD and STEM training is a focus of our plan as we work to develop our teachers’ skills and abilities and build maker spaces on each campus.

This year, teachers completed training in the following:

- Middle Level Education through the Association for Middle Level Education
- Classroom Management through Cairn University

Key Strategic Outcomes

- 920 CSAGH had the highest ever enrollment in ‘23-’24 at 920 students.
- 698 WSCA and HCS juniors and seniors earned 698 college credits completing 243 college courses.
- 6 Six teachers are taking additional courses at the masters level, furthering their education and expertise.

- PA Creativity Conference with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit
- Classroom Management, Teacher Apologetics, and Campus Safety through the Herzog Foundation

2023-2026 Enhance and Expand Strategic Plan

Innovate Our Curriculums and Programs

Connect Students to Their School and Faith

A CSAGH Graduate is...  
Living for Christ  
Leading Bodly  
Serving with Humility  
Confident in Their Skills,  
Strength, and Experience

Enhance Facilities and Expand Enrollment

Develop Our Faculty and Staff



Run to Advance Christian Education (RACE)

The Run to Advance Christian Education (RACE) is CSAGH’s largest annual fundraiser. Thank you to the family, friends, and students who joined together in this event to support the academic programs, financial aid, student opportunities, and more at HCS and WSCA!

Thank you to the generous sponsors of the 2023 RACE!

Hot Frog Print & Media • Lehman Volvo • Diamondback Covers • 2R Consulting Group • Agape Counseling of Central PA • Dye It Rite, Inc. • Muscalus & Associates • Harrisburg Kitchen & Bath • Gunn Mowery • State Farm - Seth Gardner

Scan the QR Code to learn more about the 2024 RACE or to donate:





# CSAGH Golf Classic

Each year, business leaders from the community gather for the CSAGH Golf Classic at Harrisburg Country Club. This event raises funds that help us continue to sharpen minds, deepen faith, and develop gifts as we prepare students to impact the world for Christ. This May, over a hundred golfers joined us to demonstrate their commitment to the next generation of students.

Save the Date for the 2025 CSAGH Golf Classic: May 5, 2025



## Thank you to the generous sponsors of the 2024 CSAGH Golf Classic!

Huntington Learning Center • Midwest Food Bank • Fine Line Homes • Lehman Volvo • F.M. Berkheimer, Inc • The DT Firm • Hot Frog Print & Media • Lehman Volvo • Harrisburg Kitchen & Bath • Muscalus & Associates • Gunn Mowery • Diamondback Covers • T.D. Mills Promotional Products • Young Life Dauphin County • Advent Partners • Wood & Myers • Capital Blue Cross • Centurion Construction Group, LLC. • Master’s Advisors • FDI Management Group • Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates • Nutrition Management Services Company • Musser Home Builders • Robert R Jones & Associates • Horning, Sarchione & Innerst • Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting Solutions, Inc. • Latsha Davis & Marshall • Wenger Meats & Ice • Bumble Bee Hollow Golf • Robert W. Morris & Company • WSCA Golf Team • Property Management, Inc. • Jesse Hodges - Edward Jones

# Turn Your PA Tax Dollars into Student Scholarships

## Through Educational Improvement Tax Credits

### How it works:

You will make an upfront donation of \$1,000 or more, up to the amount of your annual state taxes. When you file your taxes in the spring you will receive a 90% refund of your donation from Pennsylvania and a federal tax deduction.

Donations are made through a Special Purpose Entity, a class of charity that exists solely to obtain PA Education Improvement Credits (EITC/OSTC). There are a limited number of credits available, so be sure to apply early.

### How the money is used:

100% of your donations provide financial aid to Harrisburg Christian School or West Shore Christian Academy students that qualify for assistance based upon their family’s income.

### Who qualifies?

LLC, Partnership, S-Corp, or Individuals with a PA tax liability of \$1,000 or more.

For more information, please contact Mark Seymour, President of CSAGH

mark.seymour@csagh.org  
717-545-3728

## Sample Tax Calculation

Based on a Two-Year Commitment

Cash Gift to Charity: \$3,500

PA Tax-Credit Reduction (90% of Contribution): \$3,150

Net-Federal Tax Deduction for Contribution (37% of tax rate): \$130

TAX GIFTED TO CHARITY  
\$3,500

OUT OF POCKET EXPENSE  
\$220



2000 Blue Mountain Parkway  
Harrisburg, PA 17112

[www.csagh.org](http://www.csagh.org)

717-545-3728

# Will you give this fall?

We cannot do this without you! The Fund for CSAGH bridges the gap between tuition and our cost to operate, provides financial aid for families with financial need, and allows us to increase pay for teachers and staff. We are seeking to raise \$500,000 this year. Will you support us?

## Other Ways To Support Us:

- **Pray for CSAGH:** We welcome your prayers as we serve our students and help them walk with Jesus.
- **Refer a Student:** Those that know us best refer the best students. Contact our admissions offices for resources to share about our schools.
- **Refer an Employee:** Prospective employee referrals also help us find excellent teachers and staff. Encourage those you know to apply for our open positions listed at [www.csagh.org/employment](http://www.csagh.org/employment).
- **Educational Tax Credits:** Take control of your PA state taxes by using those dollars to fund need-based student scholarships. Applying for credits is a simple three-step process.
- **Run to Advance Christian Education (RACE):** October 22 (HCS) and 23 (WSCA)
- **CSAGH Golf Classic: May 5, 2025:** Learn more at [www.csagh.org/support-csagh/golf-classic](http://www.csagh.org/support-csagh/golf-classic)

Your gift makes our ministry possible. [www.csagh.org/give](http://www.csagh.org/give)