

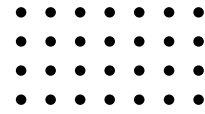


FRIENDSHIP
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2025-2026

YEAR-END REPORT

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FRIENDSHIP
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Our Mission

Friendship Christian School's mission is to assist and support parents in building a foundation that points students toward their need of a personal savior in Jesus Christ, teaches them to view everything through the lens of a biblical worldview, and develops their God-given potential to build a life of service to the Lord.

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2025-26 Theme

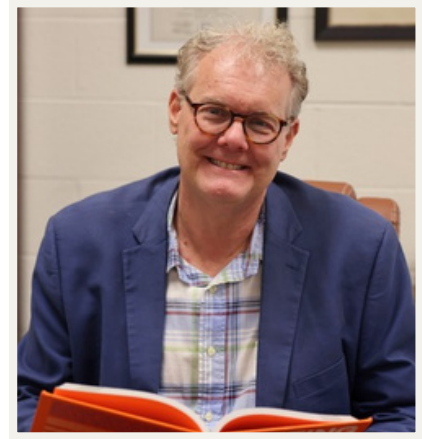
to lead is to
SERVE



In a culture that shouts “me first,” Friendship Christian School set a counter-cultural theme for the year: To Lead is To Serve, following the example of the world’s greatest servant leader, Jesus. At FCS, our desire is to equip and encourage the next generation of servant leaders motivated by a heart for Jesus.

"Jesus, the omniscient Son of God, the greatest leader to ever live, says if you want to be great in God's kingdom, be a servant. God first, people next." -Dr. Bob DeAngelo, Executive Pastor and Interim Head of School 2025-2026

Welcome Head of School



Dear Falcon Nation,

As I stepped into the Head of School role on June 1, 2026, I was encouraged by what I found. For more than 55 years, Friendship Christian School has been producing students who ***Think Critically, Live Faithfully, and Serve Compassionately.***

I truly believe the Lord is working in this school and greater things are on the horizon. The faculty and staff are committed educators who are strong in their faith and have a heart for your children.

In June, I was able to spend one and a half days with the Leadership Team discussing the prior school year's victories and challenges, as well as what I saw for our future. Our summer hours are being spent preparing for our students' return and being faithful to where the Lord is leading our school. I made sure that they knew the "Why" of our Friendship Baptist Church leaders which was a "prayerful desire to offer a biblically based education in North Raleigh." We will not drift from that "Why."

We will keep "biblically based" and all that it encompasses at the forefront of what we do.

I am very pleased to report that **enrollment for next year is already 12% higher** than where we ended this past school year with several more students "in process." I anticipate that we will begin the year with 15% more students than where we ended last year. We pray for the Lord to work in the lives of all of our students and are grateful for new opportunities that He gives us.

With a few staff departures after the school year ended, we have been hard at work recruiting and seeking out new teachers that are a perfect fit for FCS. We have filled every role thus far with the exception of one teaching position. As we are interviewing, **I ask that you pray along with us that the Lord brings us the right person.** I am optimistic that by the time this is published, that person will be on board.

With the Lord's guidance, I believe that great schools are built by great teachers!

I want to close by saying "thank you" to everyone who has extended a warm welcome to Shannon and me. Shannon will be teaching in 3rd grade and is looking forward to getting to know you and your children as well. It is an honor to serve as your Head of School and see what the Lord has planned for all of us at FCS.

Please continue to pray for Shannon and me as we go through this transition, as well as our three children and extended family back in Georgia. I firmly believe God has called us to Raleigh and feel a great peace moving here and being in service to all of you. Praying that the Lord continues to pour His blessings upon us!

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Les Walden".

Mr. Les Walden, M.Ed.
Head of School

Academics

The 2025-2026 school year provided another opportunity for growth and development within our school community. **God blessed us with spiritual, social, and academic growth, and we give Him all the glory for His provision and guidance.** Throughout the year, we witnessed God's faithfulness and sustaining grace.

At the beginning of the school year, we welcomed several new teachers who joined us in fulfilling our mission of **providing an excellent education grounded in a biblical worldview.** Our faculty remained committed to this mission by maintaining high academic standards while modeling Christ-like character and demonstrating God's love in their classrooms each day.

Expanding Opportunities

In addition to honors and dual-credit courses, high schoolers explored academic and career possibilities through a tour of Wake Technical Community College, an on-campus Trade Skills Education Day, and attending a nearby Christian college fair. FCS inducted 8 National Honors Society members this year (commended by the NHS committee in areas of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character) and 28 Scholar Athletes maintaining a 3.5 GPA or higher.

Measuring Growth

The following annual academic assessments provided insights into academic achievement, cognitive development, and benchmarks for individual academic growth and comparisons to national standards.

- Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) (1st-8th grade)
- Iowa Assessments (K-8th grade)
- PreACT to (9th-10th grade)
- ACT to students in (11th-12th grade)

College Acceptances

Congratulations to Friendship's 19 graduates who were awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in combined scholarships and received acceptance letters from the following institutions: Barton College, Baptist College of Ministry (WI), Campbell University, Durham Technical Community College, East Carolina University, Liberty University, Meredith College, New York Institute of Technology, Pensacola Christian College, Randolph-Macon College, Rochester Institute of Technology, UNC Charlotte, UNC Wilmington, University of Toronto, University of Washington, and Wake Technical Community College.

By the Numbers

9th Grade PreACT 8/9

- 10 students in top 11%–50% nationally (Early Scholars Award)
- 3 students in top 4%–10% nationally (Rising Scholars Award)
- 2 students in top 3% nationally (Distinguished Scholar Award)

10th Grade PreACT

- 74% of FCS testers scored in the top 50% nationally
 - 3 in top 90%
 - 5 in top 80%
 - 6 in top 50%

11th Grade ACT/PSAT

- ACT mean score above national average
- 71% scored top 50% nationally
 - 1 student in top 10%
 - 2 in top 80%
 - 7 in top 50%
- PSAT mean scores above state and national averages

FCS is committed to academic excellence and advancement as we help students prepare for college and equip them to think critically, live faithfully, and serve compassionately.



Elementary

As we welcomed students for another school year, we were excited to see continued growth in our elementary enrollment. Our annual Back-to-School Night gave new and returning families the opportunity to connect, build relationships, and quickly become part of the Friendship Christian School community.

Throughout the year, elementary teachers brought learning to life through engaging lessons, creative classroom environments, outdoor exploration, cross-grade collaborations, and themed learning experiences. Highlights from the first semester included:

Dot Day: As part of this global initiative to "make your mark on the world," elementary students embraced our annual theme, To Lead is to Serve, by completing service projects that encouraged and blessed members of the FCS community.

Field Trips: Students eagerly explored learning beyond the classroom through visits to local museums, educational centers, and area farms, enriching classroom instruction with hands-on experiences.

Gratitude and Celebration: Families joined us for classroom holiday parties and our annual Christmas program. It was a joy to see every elementary student participate in a meaningful celebration of Jesus Christ and the true meaning of Christmas.

Leadership: Our fifth-grade students demonstrated outstanding leadership throughout the year. Safety Patrol members helped ensure a safe and welcoming start to each school day, while fifth graders also invested in younger students by reading with them and leading games during special recess times, fostering friendships and building community across grade levels.





As students settled into classroom routines and made strides academically, the second half of the year included memorable events:

- Homecoming festivities, with elementary students enthusiastically participating in Spirit Week and cheering on our varsity athletes.
- Our annual elementary-wide Spelling Bee.
- Group and individual Fine Arts competitions, where our 3rd-6th grade students earned numerous first-, second-, and third-place ribbons. (See the full [Fine Arts results](#) on our website.)
- Cross-grade learning opportunities as classes presented projects to one another and partnered with Focus Learning Center students for lunch and visits to the greenhouse.

Spring academic testing reflected encouraging growth across every grade level. We are grateful for the dedication of our teachers, the hard work of our students, and the partnership of our families in helping students thrive.

The school year concluded with **Elementary Field Day** filled with relays, water games, laughter, and lasting memories for students and teachers.

On the final day of school, we gathered for a special **end-of-year celebration** recognizing academic achievement, personal growth, and leadership. The program also featured a year-in-review video and performances by several Fine Arts students, providing a fitting celebration of God's faithfulness throughout another wonderful year at Friendship Christian School.

Thank you for entrusting us with your students!
Mrs. Joy Raley, M.Ed.
Elementary Principal



Specialized Learning Center



The Specialized Learning Center had a successful year serving 59 students through both the Academic Success Center (ASC) and Focus Learning Center (FLC). Students represented a wide range of learning differences and support needs, and we were able to see growth throughout the year. While accommodations, specialized instruction, and individualized support are important components of our programs, student effort remains essential to success.

We are grateful for the culture of acceptance at FCS, where **students are valued and reminded that each person is uniquely created by God with purpose and worth.**

As we conclude another year, we thank God for His faithfulness and the privilege of serving students with diverse learning needs.

Gratefully,
Mrs. Renee Hemric, M.Ed.
Specialized Learning Center Director

Academic Success Center

The ASC continued to provide specialized support for students with documented learning differences. This included: Small Group Instruction (English and Math, 3rd-8th), ASC Study Hall (MS/HS); Classroom Accommodations; Testing Center; Study Skills Training; and Executive Functioning Support.

This year, five students graduated from the program, demonstrating the effectiveness of individualized support combined with student perseverance and hard work. Throughout their time at FCS, students developed self-advocacy skills and confidence in their abilities.

It was especially encouraging to see several graduates achieve high academic success while fully participating in school life. **These outcomes reflect our ongoing goal of equipping students with the skills and strategies needed to become successful, independent learners.**





Focus Learning Center

The FLC continued to expand opportunities for students pursuing an Occupational Course of Study. **The addition of the Falcon's Nest kitchen and greenhouse enhanced hands-on vocational training and provided meaningful experiences that support future employment and independent living.**

Students participated in a variety of practical learning opportunities:

- Food preparation and customer service
- Woodworking and gardening
- School-based business activities

Educational field trips, competing in the Special Olympics, lending a hand during High School Service Day, participating in music and art showcases, and clinics with Abilities Tennis of NC enhanced the FLC's academic year.

This year, one student graduated from the program, equipped with valuable workforce skills gained through real-world experiences. **The FLC remains an important part of our school community, demonstrating that every student can learn, contribute, and thrive when provided opportunities that match their unique strengths and abilities.**

We look forward to continuing our mission of supporting students, partnering with families, and preparing each learner for the future God has for them.



Student Life



Student Life offers our student body opportunities to grow relationally and spiritually. Through high school House competitions, chapels, leadership, service, and fun, **we help students understand living faithfully involves life in *and* out of the classroom.** In a discipleship-minded environment, we strive to cultivate a culture of grace, service, and community united in Christ.

In His Service,
Miss Rebekah Boehme, MAT
Director of Student Life and Learning

*By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples,
if ye have love one to another. John 13:35*

Student Life

FCS provides ample in-school opportunities to build unity and school spirit - from our youngest Falcons to our graduating seniors. Below is a snapshot of the fun.

- **Christmas Door Decorating Competition*** - The halls are decked out with creative holiday decor, and the whole Falcon community votes on a winner!
- **Ice Skating** - Middle and high schoolers enjoy this exam-week break every December.
- **Spirit Week and Homecoming*** - Falcon spirit is on full display all week, from themed Spirit Day outfits and pep rallies to exciting contests. The festivities culminate on Friday night with basketball games and Homecoming ceremony honoring our seniors.
- **Valentine's Day Fundraiser*** - Raising money for their senior trip, 12th graders coordinate Valentines and singing Valograms, delivering smiles and encouragement to all.
- **High School Community Service Day** - Each spring, 9th-12th graders put their faith into action through on- and off-campus practical service projects for churches, charitable organizations, and ministries. It reinforces our value that true leadership is reflected through serving God and others.

Follow FCS on social media to see Student Life photos and more!



Friendship Christian School



fcs_raleigh



*Schoolwide



Spiritual Growth

CHAPEL

FCS supports our mission in partnering with families in building a **foundation that points students to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, develops a biblical worldview, and builds a life of service to God.** Our chapels offer our entire student body spiritual refreshment through biblical preaching and teaching, personal testimonies, singing, and discipleship. In 2025-26, FCS held **34 chapel services with 13 guest speakers**, including pastors, evangelists, missionaries, ministry leaders, Christian educators, and college representatives.

LOCAL CHURCH & MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS

FCS continues to benefit greatly from strong partnerships. In 2025-26, we welcomed pastors and ministry leaders from Friendship Baptist Church (our home church), Bible Baptist Church of Creedmoor, First Baptist Church of Durham, Two Journeys Ministry, JM Ministries, the Frazor Evangelistic Team, Bob Jones University, and Pensacola Christian College. These partnerships enrich our chapel ministry while reminding students that they are part of a larger body of Christ. We are grateful for these faithful servants who invest in the spiritual lives of our students by proclaiming God's Word with clarity, conviction, and love.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

A vital part of our school community, student leaders exemplify Christlike character in service to others, leading by example, and actively encouraging involvement from the student body. This year's Student Leadership consisted of 17 students, including members of the National Honor Society and elected class representatives. Throughout the year, these students served in a variety of ways, including Morning Announcements (with devotionals and prayer), school event support, Veterans Day Chapel, elementary chapels, and more.

FCS House System

**COMPETE
GROW
SERVE**

In its fourth year, the FCS High School House System continues to be a favorite of students and staff to **foster community, strengthen relationships, and encourage student engagement** across grade levels. Houses compete all year long with exciting physical and mental challenges, rallying with spirited House cheers while wearing matching T-shirts. Students earn points for their houses through a variety of activities, including academics, athletics, fine arts, service, attendance, and participation in school events. They also meet for monthly Bible studies for spiritual growth and unity.

House Kardia was crowned the 2025-26 House champion after a solid show of participation, teamwork, and school spirit all year long. Way to go!

Fine Arts

The Fine Arts Department continues to provide students with meaningful opportunities to develop their God-given talents while pursuing excellence in music and the visual arts.

New this year, the high school music program launched the **Chambers Singers**, an auditioned ensemble of 24 students that provides advanced choral opportunities through special performances, competitions, and ministry events. In the fall, students and families also enjoyed a casual **Faculty & Staff Music Showcase**, highlighting the varied musical talents of staff, many of whom utilize their gifts as service in their home churches.

This year, we focused on service as we utilized our creative gifts to honor God and serve others.

For His Glory,
Miss Dani Chaney
Fine Arts Director



Concerts & Art Shows

Christmas Program, *Hallelujah! Christ Is Born*

Celebrating the birth of Christ, students led us into the season with vocal and instrumental performances, as well as visual art. All elementary students, the FLC, and middle and high school students in art, choir, band, and speech lent their talents. The high school choir enjoyed its tradition of performing in the NC State Capitol rotunda during the holidays. Music students also performed holiday songs for a senior adult lunch at Friendship Baptist Church.

Spring Events

Families enjoyed the annual **Spring Concert and Art Walk**. Elementary students exhibited self-portraits, middle school students showcased spring flower pieces, and high school students displayed artwork representing projects completed throughout the year.



The Spring Concert adopted the **Concert on the Green** style, creating a welcoming atmosphere as audiences enjoyed performances by the Jubilation Choir, 5th grade band, middle school and high school bands and choirs, the Chambers Singers, and combined secondary ensembles. Earlier in the spring, the **Elementary Showcase** highlighted each grade through music and presentations celebrating learning across school subjects.

All-State Band and Choir

FCS continued its active participation in the North Carolina Christian School Association (NCCSA) Fine Arts Program. This year, the school again hosted the NCCSA All-State Band and Choir Clinic, welcoming students from Christian schools across the state for a few days of musical instruction and fellowship. FCS was well represented with 17 students participating in the Concert Band, 7 selected to play in the Symphonic Band, 3 selected to play in the Honors Band, and 19 students participating in the All-State Choir.

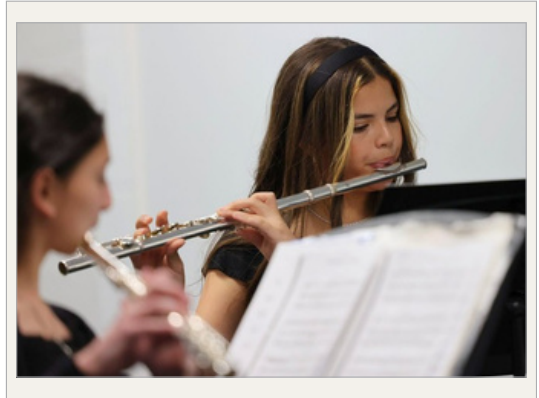




Fine Arts Competitions

FCS students demonstrated exceptional achievement at the NCCSA Elementary and Junior High/Senior High Fine Arts Competitions.

Elementary students earned first-place honors in all major vocal and instrumental ensemble categories, including choir, band, large vocal ensemble, small vocal ensemble, and small instrumental ensemble, while also receiving numerous individual awards in music, art, Bible, academics, and speech. See the [FCS elementary results](#) on the website.

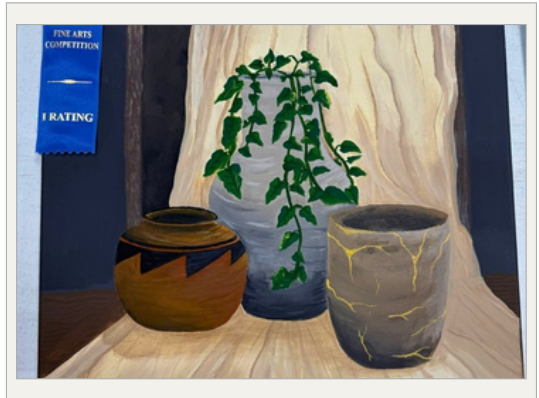


At the secondary level, ensembles earned top placements across band, choir, instrumental, and vocal categories, including first-place finishes for the junior high band and large instrumental ensemble. View the [FCS secondary results](#) online.

A Trip to Nationals

The newly established **FCS Chambers Singers** received a first-place superior rating in the high school choral group competition, qualifying them to represent FCS at the [AACS National Fine Arts Competition](#) held at Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina.

FCS also celebrated national academic success as two students qualified for AACS National Academic Testing, with **John Nguyen earning first place in Algebra**. These accomplishments reflect the dedication of both students and faculty in pursuing excellence for the glory of God.



Athletics



We are thankful to the Lord for another successful year of our FCS athletics! Our 2025-2026 seasons brought our 8th year competing in the NCISAA (North Carolina Independent Athletic Association) and our 6th year as members of the RAAC (Raleigh Area Athletic Conference).

Our teams have had the opportunity to compete against other Christian schools as well as other non-religious private schools in our community and beyond. Our student-athletes experience like-minded fellowship with other believers, as well as outreach opportunities to show Christ through the platform of athletics.

The quality of competition in the NCISAA, along with the RAAC, is very competitive. Our teams work hard to represent our school well and compete at each level. In the 1A classification in the NCISAA, every school we compete against is a similar size. In our conference, we play against multiple schools with larger enrollments.

Our Middle School and Junior Varsity levels continue to develop and have great participation, showing great promise for the future of our athletic program. **All six of our Varsity teams qualified for the NCISAA State Tournament, with four advancing past the first round.**

 **Our Varsity Girls Soccer team achieved school history by winning our first NCISAA State Championship, closing out another incredible season of Falcons athletics!**

In His Service,
Coach Evan Brondyke, MOL
FCS Athletic Director



By the Numbers

112

Student Athletes
(at least 1 sport)

64%

of all eligible
5th-12th graders

27

Iron Falcons
(athletes participating
in all 3 seasons)

28

Scholar Athletes
(GPA of 3.5 or higher)

*Great job to our student-athletes'
diligence in the classroom.*



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Fall Sports: Boys Soccer, Girls Volleyball, Cross Country

Our Varsity teams kicked off the 2026 athletic seasons with the Screaming Eagle Invitational at Raleigh Christian. The Varsity Volleyball team won the silver bracket championship. Our middle school teams continue to grow in skills and participation. The Cross Country team ran hard and improved their times throughout the course of the season.

Our challenging conference schedule helped our Varsity teams prepare for the State Tournament. The Varsity Boys Soccer team finished the year strong by reaching the Quarterfinals of the NCISAA State Tournament, where they lost to the eventual State Champion. The Varsity Volleyball team won its first-round State Tournament game and has high expectations for the 2026 season. Coach Brondyke was named the RAAC Coach of the Year for the Varsity Volleyball season.

Winter Sports: Basketball, Cheer

As always, our winter season brings lots of excitement and entertainment to the FCS gym! Everyone got to fully enjoy our newly renovated Falcons Nest throughout the season, and our cheer team helped rally fans for our teams. Both Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys had the opportunity to attend the Anchorage Tip-Off Tournament again this season. Homecoming was extremely well attended by students and alumni. The Varsity Boys were one of our Varsity teams to make it to the second round of the NCISAA State Tournament.

Spring Sports: Girls Soccer, Boys Baseball

The spring season brought a solid ending to our 2025-2026 athletic season. All of our soccer and baseball programs face tough competition almost every game. The Middle School Baseball team finished 2nd in the conference and were runners-up in the Conference Tournament for the first time ever. The Varsity Baseball team showed lots of improvement, qualifying for the State Tournament.

Playing one of the toughest regular-season schedules in the state, our Varsity Girls Soccer team finished the year on a historic high. After earning the #2 seed in the NCISAA State Tournament, they did not lose another game. They defeated top-seeded Lawrence Academy in the State Championship in dramatic fashion. After playing 110 minutes tied 0-0, the game went to penalty shots. Junior goalie Claire Perry did not allow a penalty to be scored on 5 shots, while also netting the game-winning penalty kick. Check out the championship game recap, photos, and video of the game-winning PK on the [FCS website](#).



All-Conference Teams



All-State Team

Varsity Soccer Corbin Carter Josh Hemric Yohan Moliso Isaac Pacheco	Varsity Girls Basketball Claire Perry Eva Reaves Varsity Boys Basketball Josh Hemric Josh Woodard	Varsity Girls Soccer Lorelei Hosford Ashley Johnson Claire Perry Brooke Rogers	Varsity Baseball Josh Hemric Chris Siano	Varsity Girls Soccer Lorelei Hosford Ashley Johnson Claire Perry Brooke Rogers
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Campus Updates

Partnering with Families for the Future

During the 2025-2026 school year, Friendship Christian School completed upgrades that enhanced academic offerings, classroom and athletic spaces, fine arts, security and safety, and our online presence. **Thank you for your continuous support** to help us serve Falcon families and continue our mission of pointing students to Christ, teaching from a solid biblical worldview, and guiding students to build a life of service to the Lord. We are grateful for God's faithfulness and your partnership!

\$71,571

The generosity of FCS families and friends during the fall Boosterthon fundraiser (\$50,271) and year-end gifts (\$21,300) funded important enhancements for our campus and programs.



Band Chimes

Baseball Batting Cages

Pitcher's Mound and Home Plate Upgrades

Fan Area Improvements (in progress)

Falcons Nest Remodel
Science Lab Upgrades
Security Improvements
Covered Walkway
Updated Signage
FLC Greenhouse
New Website



Projects Completed

