

*“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6*



# TRI-STATE

## CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### Calendar of Events

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<b>November</b>	2	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter
	5	No School – Teacher In-Service
	9	No School – K-6 <sup>th</sup> Parent-Teacher Conferences
	11-14	ACSI Accreditation Visit
	21-23	No School – Thanksgiving Break
<b>December</b>	14	Christmas Concert
	24-31	No School – Christmas Break
<b>January</b>	1-4	No School – Christmas Break
	18	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester/2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
	21	No School – Teacher

### An Update from Dr. Nuce and the TSCS Board

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Since our last newsletter, the second most important event in the history of Tri-State Christian School took place: the relocation of the school from Galena, Illinois, to Dubuque, Iowa. As the summer came to a close, remodeling work on the new grade school building in Dubuque was completed in time for school to start just four days late, which given the many challenges we faced, is miraculous. We wish to thank all those who joined in helping with the move, assisting teachers with setting up their rooms, or helped with last minute details such as bulletin boards, door stoppers, cabinets, and landscaping. Our first day of school in the new building was on September 10, and it was a day of celebration as we rejoiced to see what the Lord has provided and reflected on His goodness.

We did not have internet or phone lines for the first three weeks of school, but thanks to the ingenuity of our secretary and the patience of our teachers and parents, we proved that a 21<sup>st</sup> century school can survive without either – at least for a few weeks. Additional work for the grade school still needs to be completed. Iowa state law requires that we fly both the American and Iowa flags, weather permitting. The flag pole just arrived today and should be installed within the next two weeks. In addition, thanks to the help of several families, the playground from our old property in Galena was disassembled and transported to the new property in Dubuque. The installation of the playground along with fencing awaits some fill dirt, but it should be completed before winter. Gifts to help cover the cost of either the playground installation, fencing, or the purchase and installation of the flagpole would be greatly appreciated.

The completion of the modulars for the secondary program and the fine arts program has been much more challenging than anyone anticipated. While the modulars are intended for temporary use (two years), the fire marshal's office with the State of Iowa has required expensive frost protection to prevent the buildings from shifting, along with additional engineering upgrades to all three buildings. This has caused unexpected delays. Thankfully, with the assistance of Dubuque Community Church, we were able to start our secondary program on time in their building on September 4. Since the work on the modulars has been delayed, we are indebted to DCC for allowing us to stay much longer than anyone had anticipated.

Work on the modulars continues, but not as quickly as we would like. Units 1 and 2 are ready for painting, and carpeting will be installed the first week of November. Work to complete the frost protection and ADA compliant ramps and stairs will require two more weeks. We are hoping that Units 1 and 2 can be completed by the second or third week of November. Once they are completed and inspected by the State of Iowa, we plan to move our secondary program over as quickly as possible. Work will then continue on Unit 3, which is needed for our music and art programs to function most effectively.

In many ways, this has been a trying time for those involved with the secondary program. However, I have found that I grow the most spiritually when facing difficult circumstances because I am forced to depend more fully on the Lord. This challenging situation with the modulars is no different. While it is my prayer that they will be completed soon, I am thankful for the opportunity to exercise my faith in trusting God during this situation. I trust the same is true for our students and teachers as well.

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### Fall Banquet

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The Annual Fall Fundraising Banquet was on Tuesday, October 23, at the Dubuque Country Club. The funds raised at this banquet are used to fund our financial aid program, which is so important for many of our young families.

The Lord blessed us with a great evening of food, fellowship, and fundraising. We had a record number of guests this year with over 130 in attendance. Our grade school children, led by our new music teacher, Jennifer Dombeck, provided special music for the event.

In addition, this year's guest speaker, Jeff Keaton, founder and CEO of Renewation, gave a stirring message on why Christian education and worldview training are so important for our children today. The statistics clearly indicate that the American church is

losing its children to secular humanism. This is why intentional Christian worldview training in the home and at school is needed to counteract the negative influence of a secular culture that is diametrically opposed to God.



Mr. Keaton's message stirred hearts, and the Lord graciously provided through His people. The school netted approximately \$20,000, for which we are very thankful.

On behalf of the TSCS School Board and the many families who benefited from this great event, we wish to thank Barb Block and Michelle Murdock for their tireless efforts to make the evening a great success. In addition, we are thankful for the many individuals whose involvement made the night such a blessing. Finally, we wish to thank those who gave generously, as the Lord, led to support the ministry of Tri-State Christian School.



### Mrs. McKay's Classroom News

It is a tradition at TSCS for the intermediate department to meet together at the beginning of each year for a time of prayer, singing, and praising God. We met this year in the sixth grade classroom and had a time of thanksgiving for our new facilities in Dubuque.

Chapel is a special time for the students at Tri-State. With our school temporarily split between two locations and the delay in the completion of the junior and senior high classrooms, we have missed meeting together as a whole school. The sixth grade class decided to plan a special chapel service just for the elementary students. We are studying the Old Testament this year and have been learning about the life of Moses and how God used him to deliver His people from Egypt. We shared some of this story in chapel through songs and a skit.



It was a delight to hear the students pray for God to use their skit to teach biblical truths to the other elementary students, even as they prayed that God would apply His Word to their own hearts. Some of the things the sixth graders said that they learned through our study of the life of Moses are:



*"Moses had many excuses, but he trusted the Lord. I shouldn't have excuses, I should trust in God."*

*"God always has a plan for everyone, and I should trust Him."*



*“God always has a plan, and it’s perfect.”*  
*“I know God is here for us. He answers our prayers.”*  
*“God protects, saves, and loves us. We were made in God’s image, and He said we were very good.”*  
*“I learned that God is awesome and amazing and loves to save the people that are His.”*  
*“God does miracles.”*  
*“You should always trust in God.”*  
*“God is always aware of His people’s struggles.”*  
*“God protects, saves, and delivers.”*  
*“God is wise.”*



**Mrs. Taylor’s Kindergarten Fieldtrip**

Kindergarten is off to a great start. We have been learning our letters, practicing their sounds, and even starting to blend them together and read small words! It is so exciting. God has given us good brains to sort, organize, and create many things!







We recently had the opportunity to take a trip to Vesperman's Farm. The kindergarteners were able to take a wagon ride behind a real tractor. They got to pick pumpkins from the field they were growing in. They were able to pet some cool farm animals and feed some energetic goats. (I see why young goats are called kids!) Those were things in God's creation that we have been studying. The favorite activity, however, was many trips on a zip line. This is a brave, fun-filled class, and we look forward to learning many lessons together this year!



### Caleb Dodge and Secondary Bible

This quarter my 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders have been learning about different literary forms employed in Psalms and Proverbs. I have been very pleased with how quickly they have been learning! Currently they are categorizing and applying truths as they work their way through Proverbs. Although this process can be tedious at times — they have proved to be up to the task! This semester I have learned to appreciate the resilience of our upperclassmen at TSCS. I have been blessed to witness the joy of the Lord in their lives even when going through difficult times. To God be the Glory!

In 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, we have been going through Bible doctrine looking at the attributes of God. Believers are commanded to worship God in spirit and truth. It is neat to realize that as this class learns more about who God is, they are actually learning how to worship God better! I can't help but get excited at seeing these students grow in their ability to glorify God as they worship Him in spirit and truth!

My junior high students come to Bible full of energy, excitement, and questions! This quarter we are going through the life of Christ. The students have been challenged by the Word of God to commit to living for Him. As we are working our way through the Sermon on the Mount, we have had the blessing of being able to look at what it means to truly live for the Lord. I have been pleased with the students' ability to recognize what hypocrisy is and articulate what a genuine relationship with God should look like. I am excited to see the Word of God being planted in their hearts! What a blessing it is to know that HIS Word does not return void!



## High School Volleyball

Coach Fransman and Coach Fernandes would like to congratulate the high school girls on a great season! The girls loved and served one another and their coaches. The girls earned second place in the Galesburg Tournament, third place at the Unity Tournament, and received the Christian Testimony Award at the Unity Tournament. We praise God for His safety and protection this season and for the support of our parents and school.

The girls finished the season with an 11-18 record. We had two girls receive all-conference recognition this year. Laura Fernandes (11th) received Honorable Mention, and Jillian Fisher (9th) received 1st Team All-conference.

