



**Nebraska
Christian**
SCHOOLS

Building Lives For Eternity

Advance

God is doing exciting things here at NC as we make an impact around the globe. We invite you to be a part of this movement in providing the next generation with a Christ-centered education. Together, we can equip students with a Biblical worldview that helps to foster a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

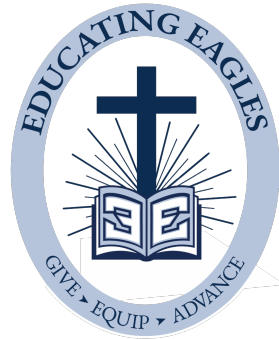
Introduction of Educating Eagles



Tim Hekrdle, Superintendent

The Advance. Have you ever stopped to ask yourself why this publication is called *The Advance*? We strive for this monthly newsletter to be consistent with the mission, vision, and purpose of our school. The hope is that you will see different ways the school is taking action to advance His kingdom. Let that sink in for a moment.

As Christians, we have the absolute privilege of being a part of what the Creator of the universe is doing. We are blessed. **Ephesians 4:12** captures this responsibility well when it says that we are given gifts in order “**to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.**” The original Greek word that is used for the word equip is **katartismos**. This Greek word translates literally as preparation, training, or equipping. This nails the purpose and existence of Nebraska Christian Schools. Parents partner with us to help prepare and train these students for life. As our vision states, we are here to “equip students to stand on Truth.” Everything that we do should tie into this equipping ministry. Perhaps a familiar example might help bring this further to light.



Here in the heart of Nebraska, a majority of careers relate to agriculture. Let's go right to the root, and look at what it might take to equip a person to become a farmer. Farming crops requires an agricultural education to learn best practices of the industry. What are the best types of seeds to plant? When is the best time to plant? What types of soil promote healthy growth? What practices help to provide robust growth? You would, of course, need farmland to begin. Then you would need to take a balanced approach in using what the Lord has provided to you, to invest in the proper equipment and resources to make the farm operational.

For a farmer, this equipping takes time, energy, and money to complete. The same is true for our school when it comes to equipping students to stand on Truth. It takes resources (time, energy, and money) to carry out our mission, to impart a Christian Worldview through the provision of a Christian Education, and a focus on developing a love relationship with Jesus Christ. Importantly, even the time and energy provided by the school requires money. **In today's ministry setting, money is the fuel that the Lord provides to help us be the hands and feet of Jesus.** In our case, the primary focus includes partnering with the family and church in discipling and equipping the saints.

Nebraska Christian garners around ⅓ of our annual income needs through yearly tuition. In order to foster a healthy ministry through NC's model of affordable tuition, we need generous ministry partners like you to help educate these Eagles. We want to promote doing this in ways that are most efficient for our very lean administrative staffing. To this end, we want to partner with those who believe in the mission and vision of Nebraska Christian Schools. **It is for this reason that we are asking you to become an Educating Eagles member. It is a simple concept. Utilize our new online platform to monthly gift using our simplified online giving platform. (Be sure "Educating Eagles" is selected as the Giving Category.) Change is always difficult, so we thought we should have a little fun with it. The first 50 people that set-up their monthly giving, of any amount, will receive an Educating Eagles T-shirt. Anyone who becomes an Educating Eagles member before Thanksgiving will be entered into a drawing for a Special Package for two to the 2022 Festival of Lessons & Carols.**



**Scan the QR code
to set up monthly giving!**

Family Fun Night Recap



The annual PTF Family Fun Night & Carnival took place on Friday, August 19. What a night it was! With beautiful weather, and an excellent turnout of students and families, the night went off without a hitch!



The athletes had an opportunity to show off their skills as well, with the football, volleyball and cross country teams participating in events. This year seems to be off to a tremendous start for all of our athletes.



Thank you to all of the staff, faculty, parents and many other volunteers who were able to come out and help put on such an amazing event.

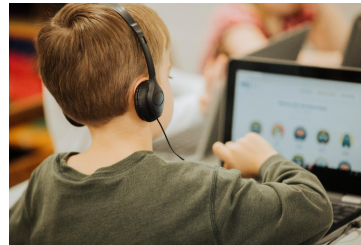
Great Success with the Read Live Program

Read Naturally Live is a highly effective supplemental reading program that develops fluency and supports vocabulary and comprehension for young elementary students. Improving reading fluency is important for developing readers. Fluent readers read smoothly and easily— as if they were speaking. They read with few errors, seldom need to pause to figure out words, and read at a rate that supports good expression and comprehension. They also tend to comprehend better than non-fluent readers.

Nebraska Christian has participated in this program for the last three years. Each year, it has experienced great success. In the past year, seven of the ten students who took part in the program went from reading at one or more grade levels below grade level to reading at or above grade level!



Students love this program. It simultaneously bolsters their confidence and their comprehension, while providing concentrated help to students who may be behind their peers when it comes to reading in the classroom. With Read Naturally Live, the students are initially tested to determine what their beginning level of reading and comprehension is. They then select a nonfiction text from the assigned level, read it along with an audio recording, and then read it alone several times until reaching their goal. The entire program takes approximately one year to complete, and after that year is over, it quite often happens that students enjoy it so much, many don't want it to end.



This level of success could only be achieved due to the dedicated care and support provided by the wonderful team of elementary paraeducators here at NC. We are so thankful for all of their hard work and dedication to our children and this program.

Honors Writing Showcase



Dr. Etherton, Secondary English, German

A Breath

Calm air, heavy and clinging.
Fall sports foretold.

Bitterness of coffee—
thick taste of humid air.

Sun illuminates glistening dew of dawn.
Broken shadows lend shade.

Blanket of beams;
lulling warmth melting tension.

Argument among foes disrupts calm.
Crows calling foretells fall.

When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,
The moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;
What is man, that thou art mindful of him?
And the son of man, that thou visitest him?

— Psalm 8:3-4 (KJV)

The barest hint of fall was in the air on a brilliant August morning at Nebraska Christian. In the midst of the hustle and bustle of the semester's start the telltale signs of autumn's approach may have been missed by many. This was not the case, however, for ten students in Honors Writing. In preparation for a personal narrative essay in which they would have to rely heavily on sensory descriptions, they stepped outside, closed their eyes, and paused to reflect on the beauty of God's creation. The immediacy of their impressions would transition into the slowness of contemplation and creativity as they labored over merging their individual

impressions into a cohesive whole. **After much debate, hard work, and deliberation, the result is the poem above. Below are their reflections on the writing process and what they learned from it.**



“Let's step outside really fast,” Dr. Etherton said. I was really confused as to what this was for and confused because I’ve never been in a writing class before. As we made our way outside on the sidewalk beside the school we got asked by Dr. Etherton to use our senses. We used all of them: sight, hearing, touch, taste, and even smell. When we came back inside we were told to write what we picked up by our senses.

Drew Perdeu

I loved writing this poem. Stepping outside, recognizing the outdoors, and putting this into words was something that made me admire God’s creation.



Marlie Mundt



I was surprised how one can make a poem by just stepping outside and standing there for a minute or two. It was a fun experiment that, I think, helped our class connect.

Lyss Springer

I enjoy the outdoors more because I don’t normally notice all of the details we described in our poem.



Rachel Rathjen



I liked having just a short time to view the world around me, and get a new perspective on the way the trees cast shadows or light reflects on the droplets of water on the grass. The way I view nature has changed throughout this activity. I now notice the things on campus that maybe I had never noticed before.

Chelsey Myers

As days passed we watched this moment turn into a beautiful poem. A single moment can take days to express. The title of the poem—“A Breath”—was meant to describe that it was just a moment but also it was there for a breath and then gone.



Amy Springer



Trying to describe on paper what you sensed is hard to do when everyone else experienced something that differed from your perspective. This exercise taught us how to communicate with others and find common ground.

Terry Sebek

Writing a poem was a lot harder than I first expected. Multiple minutes passed as we would debate the tense of a verb. It felt like the poem would never be finished at some points. The poem turned out to be a really fun way to just grow a little more comfortable with the creative process of writing.



Maryah Wheeler



The process of deliberation with the class was one of the best parts of the process because it showed me how others think and process things in the writing process and that will definitely help me grow as a writer. We have a lot of really talented writers in this class. Being a part of this process and seeing the impact my suggestions had on the project was fun.

Drew Perdew

Proofreading—which would normally be a drag and I would personally hate doing—was actually really fun. I got to voice my ideas out loud and receive respective criticism. I loved when we would get into word origins and I was able to look and realize why certain words fit and why some sounded awkward. I compared Latin, English, and Germanic words and realized that having unity on that level can do something to bring writing together. By the end of the writing process, I could look at a word and be able to at least have a good assumption of its origin. I hope I'll be able to be a part of other projects like this.



Sophie Swanson

Writing the sensory poem in Dr. Etherton's class opened me up to a whole new world of writing. This exercise has taught me to be more aware of my senses in any situation. It helps allow you to take in God's creation even deeper and helps you see how powerful and wonderful our Creator is.



I have taken what I learned from writing this poem to my personal narrative. I am able to describe the situations that are taking place when using descriptive words in my essays. I can already tell by doing this that it has spiced up my writing style.

Kaylee Powell

Budget Corner



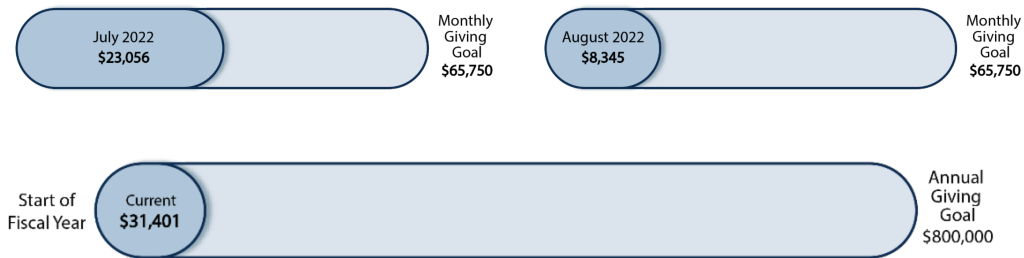
Tom Dockweiler, Business Manager

I may have gotten a little too excited about the numbers last month. When I reported the general fund giving for July, I misclassified a capital campaign gift which made it appear that the general fund giving was way better than it actually was. The actual general fund giving for July was \$23,056 which was still almost \$10,000 ahead of the general fund giving for the same time period last year. August giving was down compared to last year. **General gifts for the month totaled \$8,345, bringing the total for the year to \$31,401. This is just slightly behind last year's pace for the first two months of the fiscal year.**

Here is what I know from years of watching God supply the needs of Nebraska Christian Schools. I am far too easily excited when God brings in gift income, and far too easily disappointed when he doesn't. Somehow, God continually makes a way to provide for His work, and He usually does it on a time table and in a way that gives Him glory, and prevents any of us from taking credit for it. I am grateful to God for his provision and

for each of you that He has chosen to use to provide support for Nebraska Christian Schools.

Giving Link: <https://nebraskachristian.org/support-nc/donate-now/>



New Alumni Contact



Hi there!

My name is Brandi Flynn and I am the new Development Specialist here at NC. I am also the new contact for Alumni! Be sure to stop by the Alumni tent during the Homecoming game on Friday, Oct. 7, at 7:00 pm and say hi! You can roast s'mores over the campfire, enjoy the caramel apple bar, cider, coffee, punch, warm cheese dip, and more! Register to win the awesome gift basket while you are there!

Please feel free to contact me via email with any updates, questions or other information at bflynn@nebraskachristian.org

I can't wait to meet you!

New Athletics Informational Platform - rSchool

THE NC ATHLETICS SCHEDULE PLATFORM HAS BEEN UPDATED!

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR CAN NOW BE FOUND ON rSCHOOL

rSchool is the new platform for all NC athletic schedules
Google Calendar athletic schedules will no longer be active

Scan the QR code to go to our new site
Choose the option to "Get Mobile App" or go to the Google Play store or Apple App store to download

On the site, subscribe to get text alerts when there is a scheduling change, cancellation, etc.



SCAN ME



Upcoming Dates

October 7

- Homecoming

October 14

- Grandparents Day

October 17

- Fall Concert

October 27

- Parent Teacher Conferences

Core Value Highlights

OUR VISION
We aspire to equip students with a **Biblical Worldview** that **empowers** them to stand on **Truth**.

OUR MISSION
We assist the family and church by providing a **Christ-centered** education and encouraging a **love relationship** with the **Lord Jesus Christ**.

OUR CORE VALUES

- Service Minded
- Exalting Christ
- Relationally Focused
- Vibrant Disposition
- Innovative Practices
- Collaborative Approach
- Excellence

Nebraska Christian Schools

At Nebraska Christian, there are a set of values that staff and students strive to exemplify each and every day. These values are arranged as an acrostic poem and posted in every classroom on campus, and moving forward The Advance will look to highlight one of these attributes through the telling of it being lived out by a member of the NC Family. With this in mind, please feel free to share your stories of how you see the vision, mission, or core values being lived out by emailing Rachel Blair at rblair@nebraskachristian.org. Thank you in advance for being a part of telling the ongoing story at Nebraska Christian and stay tuned for the stories of the NC family being the hands and feet of Jesus in Nebraska, the United States, and possibly the world!



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