



**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.

### Goldenrod Conference Art Show

The NC student artists had the opportunity to showcase their work on April 26th at the Goldenrod Conference Art Show hosted by Central Valley Schools in Greeley. Twenty-nine Nebraska Christian students took the spotlight showcasing 53 stunning works of art, which is double what was brought by NC last year. Several of the artists returned to campus with awards.



Amanda Carlson received Best of Show for her acrylic painting and third place in watercolor, Ray Zhang received third place for his contour line drawing, Alyssa Paul received a first place ribbon for her perspective drawing of a street scene, Cyan Dong received first place for his computer art drawing, Max Ye received Best of Show for his portrait drawing in pencil, Lydia McKinney and Malachi Zaruba also received Honorable Mention awards for their pieces as well.

Renate Johansen, NC's art teacher, stated "Every year I look forward to seeing the art students get recognized for their hard work and creativity in the art room. This year, I was pleased with the number of ribbons NC students were awarded!" Elba won the Conference Art Show and the runner-up was Humphrey St. Francis. Although NC did not win overall, Mrs. Johansen was still incredibly proud of the students and their work.

Beautiful work was presented by all of the artists. One artist, senior Amanda Carlson, is quite passionate about art. She had a few things to say about the creative process. "Art allows you to start conversations. I love to meet new people and learn from them, get to know them, and see them in a new way. Art allows you to see the world in a new way. It allows for a new type of self-expression".

Amanda has created some amazing pieces in various mediums in her time at NC. Her favorite subject matter is humans, faces, facial expressions, and features. She has created a handful of pieces that seem to stand out among the rest of her creations. One particular piece that was not shown at the Conference Art Show was a textured acrylic eye. Although it was only four inches square, the creation seemed to come alive and jump off of the board. This particular piece took her approximately four days to complete.

When asked if it was important to offer art for high school students, Amanda replied, "It is incredibly important to learn art and allow yourself to be creative or to have a creative outlet, especially in high school". She went on to say, "Art helps you learn about the world in a new way, and teaches you how to deal with your mistakes and learn from them".

One takeaway from Amanda and other members of the Art II class is that "No one is born 'good' at art, practicing is the only reason that anyone ever becomes 'good' at art. Allow yourself the opportunity for creativity". Thank you, Mrs. Johansen, for your continued influence on these wonderful and creative students.



## Senior Spotlight

Since 1960, Nebraska Christian Schools has had the privilege of graduating students from our beautiful campus in central Nebraska and sending them off to become a light for the Lord in the world. This year makes no exception, with a graduating class of thirty seniors, these students are ready to go out and take it on. While the majority of our students this year plan to pursue a college education, many of who were also awarded scholarships, we also have students who are ready and eager to join the workforce. Here is what our students have planned for their futures.



### Tavita Afata Litombo

**Years at NC:** 1

**Future Plans:** To attend UNO and study Environmental Engineering.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship



### Tug William Burdett

**Years at NC:** 6

**Future Plans:** To attend Central Community College in Grand Island, study Criminal Justice, get an Associates Degree, then work in Law Enforcement.

**Scholarships:** CCC Academic Opportunity Scholarship  
CCC Committed to your Success Scholarship  
Myrtle & Jim Clarke Scholarship



**Amanda Grace Carlson**

**Years at NC:** 6

**Future Plans:** To attend Montana Wilderness School of the Bible.



**Ethan Grant Carlson**

**Years at NC:** 5

**Future Plans:** To farm with my dad for a full season, attend Wyotech in Laramie and major in Automotive Technology with a minor in Chassis Fabrication, then return to Nebraska to farm with my dad.

**Scholarships:** Larry Dearing, DVM Memorial Scholarship



**Micah Isaac Davis**

**Years at NC:** 5

**Future Plans:** To pursue a career in Construction.



**Reghan Avery Flynn**

**Years at NC:** 6

**Future Plans:** To attend The Capitol Beauty School and study Esthetics.

**Scholarships:** Vernie L. Lock Scholarship



**Micah William Green**

**Years at NC:** 8

**Future Plans:** To join the United States Marine Corps.

**Isaac Richard Herman**

**Years at NC:** 5



Future Plans: To attend UNK and study Political Science & Economics.

**Scholarships:** Ann Urban Alt Scholarship  
Central City Scale-Ron & Jeanette Hawthorne Scholarship  
Knights of Columbus Scholarship  
Merrick Foundation Founders Scholarship  
UNK Honors Program Scholarship  
UNK Kearney Law Opportunities Program Scholarship



### **Gabriel Carlson Langemeier**

**Years at NC:** 12

**Future Plans:** To attend UNK and go into the Pre-Med Program.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
UNK Distinguished Scholar Award



### **Truitt Evan Merchant**

**Years at NC:** 5

**Future Plans:** To attend Central Community College and study Nursing.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
CCC Committed to your Success Scholarship  
CCC Myrtle Grimminger Estate Scholarship  
CCC Stueven Health Sciences Scholarship



### **Owen Matthew Morris**

**Years at NC:** 6

**Future Plans:** To pursue a career in plumbing with my dad.



### **Marlie Grace Mundt**

**Years at NC:** 14

**Future Plans:** To attend Concordia University and major in Pre-Occupational Therapy & Spanish.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
Concordia Regent's Scholarship  
Dan and Susan Monaghan Scholarship  
Merrick County 4-H Council Scholarship

### **Chelsey Marie Myers**



**Years at NC: 4**

**Future Plans:** To attend Grand Canyon University and study Behavioral Health Science.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
GCU Canyon Christian Schools Consortium Award  
GCU Provost Scholarship  
NATO Theater Scholarship

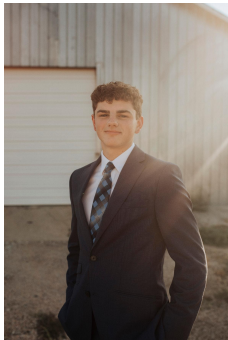


**My (Mia) Tra Nguyen**

**Years at NC: 1**

**Future Plans:** To attend UNL and study Business Administration and Management.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship



**Jacob Ryan Nokelby**

**Years at NC: 6**

**Future Plans:** To attend UNK and pursue the Pre-Med path.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
UNK Board of Regents Scholarship  
UNK Honors Program Scholarship  
UNK Kearney Law Opportunities Program Scholarship



**Andrew Eldon Perdew**

**Years at NC: 11**

**Future Plans:** To attend UNL and major in Education.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
UNL Husker Power Scholarship  
UNL Nebraska Promise Scholarship

**Elijah John Peters**

**Years at NC: 6**

**Future Plans:** To attend Cedarville University and major in Electrical Engineering.

**Scholarships:** Columbus First Baptist Church Scholarship  
Cedarville Excellence Award  
Cedarville Pastor Recommendation Scholarship  
Cedarville President's Ministry Impact Scholarship



Cedarville President's Scholar Award Society Fellow  
Cedarville University Engineering Honors Program  
Myrtle & Jim Clarke Scholarship



### **Claire Annelise Pipher**

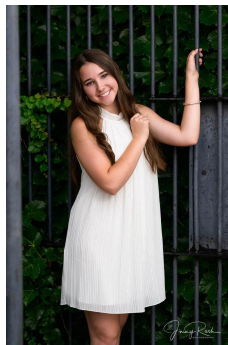
**Years at NC:** 5

**Future Plans:** To attend Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, MI.

**Scholarships:** Hillsdale Bill and Berniece Grewcock Scholarship

Bonnie Kohl Memorial Scholarship

Gail Gregg Ferris Registered Nurse Scholarship



### **Kaylee Nicole Powell**

**Years at NC:** 3

**Future Plans:** To attend Concordia University in Seward and major in Business Management with an emphasis in Marketing and Agribusiness.

**Scholarships:** Albert E. & Dorothy E. Emgarten Memorial Scholarship

Concordia Dance Scholarship

Concordia Regent's Scholarship

Dan and Susan Monaghan Scholarship

Gary Bader Memorial Scholarship

Hall County 4-H Council Scholarship

Merrick County 4-H Council Scholarship

Orscheln Industries Foundation Scholarship

P.E.O. Chapter AB Scholarship



### **Rachel Susan Rathjen**

**Years at NC:** 4

**Future Plans:** To attend Concordia University in Seward and study Early Childhood Education/Elementary Education.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship

Concordia Church Work Scholarship

Concordia Dean's Scholarship

Concordia Lutheran Heritage Scholarship

Concordia Music Scholarship

P.E.O. Chapter GG Scholarship

### **Cooper Duane Schnell**



**Years at NC:** 7

**Future Plans:** To pursue a career in Motorsports Fabrication.

**Scholarships:** Myrtle & Jim Clarke Scholarship  
UNK Board of Regents Scholarship



### **Riley Christopher Schreiber**

**Years at NC:** 9.5

**Future Plans:** To attend UNK and major in Exercise Science and pursue a career in Physical Therapy.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
UNK Health Science Explorer Scholarship



### **Terrigen August Sebek**

**Years at NC:** 6

**Future Plans:** To attend Concordia University, study Secondary History Education, and play football.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
Concordia Dean's Scholarship  
Concordia Football Scholarship  
Concordia Lutheran Heritage Scholarship



### **Amy Lynn Springer**

**Years at NC:** 11

**Future Plans:** To attend Central Community College in Columbus and major in Early Childhood Education.

**Scholarships:** Benjamin Thomas Lindner Memorial Scholarship

CCC Bernice Blomenkamp Smith Scholarship  
CCC Committed to your Success Scholarship

### **Sophie Mae Swanson**

**Years at NC:** 6

**Future Plans:** To attend Concordia University in Seward and major in Graphic Design.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
Concordia Art Scholarship  
Concordia Dean's Scholarship



**William Harley Twogood**

**Years at NC:** 6

**Future Plans:** To attend Bethel University and Manage Golf Courses.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
Bethel Legacy Scholarship  
Bethel Royal Merit Scholarship  
John Pork Memorial Scholarship



**Long Hoang Vo**

**Years at NC:** 2

**Future Plans:** To attend the University of South Florida and study Chemistry.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
USF Green & Gold Directors Waiver Award



**Malachi Robert Wheeler**

**Years at NC:** 4

**Future Plans:** To attend Northeast Community College and study Ag Electronics.



**Maryah Mychelle Wheeler**

**Years at NC:** 4

**Future Plans:** To take a gap year, and potentially pursue a career in Early Childhood Education.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship





## **Malachi Kang Zaruba**

**Years at NC:** 14

**Future Plans:** To attend Central Community College in Columbus for a 2-year degree in Mechatronics.

**Scholarships:** Austin & Cleo Vanderford Scholarship  
CCC Committed to your Success Scholarship

Congratulations to all of our 2023 NC graduates!

## **April Service Awards**

*“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” - Mark 10:45*

Monthly awards go to secondary students who exemplify our NC Core Values: Service-Minded; Exalting Christ; Relationally Focused; Vibrant Disposition; Innovative Practices; Collaborative Approach; and Excellence.

Students are nominated by their teachers. April’s core value was “Excellence”, students whom our faculty and staff agreed to have displayed excellence. These students include Cara Sidak, Liliana Macken, Julie Sidak, Micah Davis, and Marlie Mundt.

### **Cara Sidak**

Cara demonstrates excellence with academics. She pays attention to detail and takes initiative on her schoolwork. In short, she goes above and beyond what she has to do.

### **Liliana Macken**

Liliana is not afraid to step out of her comfort zone to complete activities, assignments, and projects with great enthusiasm. She strives for excellence and works hard to do her best.

### **Julie Sidak**

Julie stands out in the classroom as she demonstrates excellence. She is insightful and thorough in her explanations. She displays tenacity to understand and to learn more.

### **Micah Davis**

Micah shows excellence in craftsmanship. He sets out to do things the right way, to not take shortcuts, and to produce the best quality work that he can.

### **Marlie Mundt**

Marlie tirelessly devotes herself to the pursuit of excellence. She is dedicated to making the best better, has a spiritual focus, and is an example of an uncompromising work ethic.



## Thank You - Go Big GIVE



Go Big GIVE 2023 has officially ended and we couldn't be more excited to see how the Lord has provided for Nebraska Christian yet again. On behalf of the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation and everyone at NC, we want to say **THANK YOU**, from the bottom of our hearts for your generosity, support, and every part that you played in supporting us in our goal of fundraising for **The Next 50 Years Capital Campaign: Phase 2A -**

### **New Kitchen & Dining Hall.**

This year, we set multiple large goals for Go Big GIVE including 20 checks at \$100, having 100 individual donors, and reaching a final goal of \$150,000. We are happy to announce that we flew by two of those goals, and very nearly missed our overall goal of \$150,000. At midnight, our final total raised for Go Big GIVE was \$148,610. Pair that with our \$75,000 match, and our official total is **\$223,610!** We are so blessed!

Several people played an incredibly pivotal role in helping this event, including several students in multiple different facets. Four senior classmen, Kaylee Powell, Drew Perdew, Cooper Schnell, and Maryah Wheeler spent a morning assisting the NC Go Big GIVE team in making calls to help engage our NC family to assist by giving. They had a blast! There were also several NC Digital Media students who had a hand in developing many different creations within the media department. Abby Young, Maryah Wheeler, Cooper Schnell, Liliana Macken, and others assisted in creating the official updated [Phase 2A marketing video](#). Also, Sophie Swanson and Grace Musgrave helped to develop social media images; Mallory Paul and Abby Young were able to create separate social media short animated video clips, and Mallory also assisted with helping to video the content for other social media as well.

Also, thanks to the NC staff and faculty who assisted the Go Big GIVE team in setting up and planning our fun Match-A-Minute party along with volunteering their time to assist in pushing the buttons (literally). So much grace was given, and blessings were received during the entire event and even before the official day began.

On behalf of the entire Go Big GIVE team and the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation, we say thank you all for your kind words, prayers, participation, and encouragement throughout this event. We are so thankful and incredibly blessed by each and every one of you! God is so good! Thank you!

If you would still like to give to the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation - **The Next 50 Years Capital Campaign: Phase 2A - New Kitchen and Dining Hall**, you can. This campaign is of the utmost importance for the future of NC, as our student enrollment continues to grow year after year, now more than ever we need to update our facilities in order to accommodate our growing numbers. If you feel compelled to get involved and give, we welcome you to call our office to make a donation, or you can mail a check to:

Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation  
Attn: Phase 2A  
PO Box 222  
Central City, NE 68826



**Nebraska  
Christian**  
SCHOOLS  
FOUNDATION



Scan the code to watch the Digital Media marketing video for The Next 50 Years Capital Campaign - New Kitchen & Dining Hall

### **Digging Deeper Recap:**

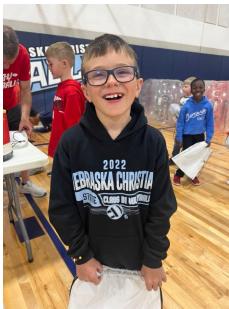
The NC campus was buzzing during this year's Digging Deeper event on April 21. It was a full day of fun, laughs, and activities. Open to all elementary-aged students from NC, nearby Christian schools, and homeschool students from preschool through eighth grade, the stands were nearly at capacity!

Beginning the day with a welcome, worship, and a morning devotion, students then quickly split into groups and transitioned to stations located all across the NC campus. Each station was unique and catered to each age group. Stations were led by individuals from Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Timberlake Ranch Camp, and Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF). We also had stations where students were able to run through basketball drills and games, led by NC's own basketball coaches; wrestling games and techniques, led by Greg Smith; and sports medicine practices were taught by Dr. Nate Krug. Students also had the opportunity to play knockerball and race pedal cars, led by Caleb Pongo.

While these events were entertaining, active, and taught the students many different lessons, the highlight of the day was the guest speaker, the one-and-only KC Wolf, mascot for the 2023 Super Bowl winning team the Kansas City Chiefs. KC Wolf (Dan Meers) spoke to the students about the A-

B-C of Success where he explained the importance of attitude, behavior, and character. He even took a moment to let a student try on the wolf costume.

Thank you to all who came to participate in this fun-filled day and for all who worked to pull this day together. This event would not have been possible without the planning, organization, and dedication of each and every volunteer, station leader, and NC staff member. After a Digging Deeper event of this magnitude, everyone is excited to see what next year has in store!



## Track Highlights

The month of April proved to be a busy one for the NC track athletes. The varsity and junior high teams have been soaring lately traveling to meets all across the area. Great job, Eagles!



### **April 6 - High Plains Junior High Invitational**

The girls finished as Champions and the boys finished fourth out of eleven teams.

### **April 12 - High Plains Varsity Invitational**

The boys and girls teams won first place.



**April 13 - Osceola Junior High Invitational**  
The girls placed first and the boys finished third.

**April 17 - Osceola Varsity Invitational**  
The boys and girls teams won first place.



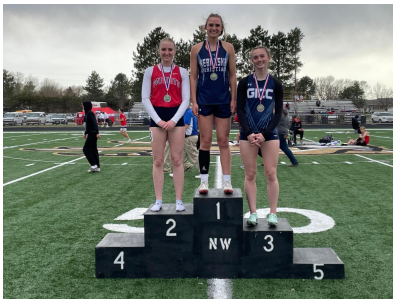
**April 19 - Fullerton Junior High Invitational**  
The girls finished as Champions. The boys and girls finished as combined Champions. At this meet, the junior high girls 4 x 8 broke the meet record that was 11:50.34 with a time of 11:32.57.

**April 20 - Fullerton Varsity Invitational**  
The boys and girls teams finished as Champions. Hannah Swanson received the Outstanding Female Athlete Award for her victories in the mile, two mile, and 4 x 8 relay.



**April 24 - Central Nebraska Track Championships (CNTC)**

Jacob Swanson finished second in the boys 3200m.  
Hannah Swanson finished first in the girls 3200m.  
Brodey Flynn finished third in the boys 1600m.  
Sheridan Falk finished first in the girls 100H.  
The girls 3200R team finished first and broke the school record.  
Vendell Juzyk finished third in the triple jump.



**April 25 - Junior High Invitational at Twin River**

The girls won first, and the boys tied for second place.

**April 29 - Junior High A-Town Showdown in Aurora**

The girls 4 x 8 relay team finished sixth with a time of 11:06.  
Micaiah Wheeler finished second in the high jump at 5'3".



## May 1 - Varsity and Junior High Goldenrod Conference

The junior high girls, varsity girls, and varsity boys finished as Conference Champions. Taytum Perdeu broke the school triple jump record of 35'2".



## In the Classroom

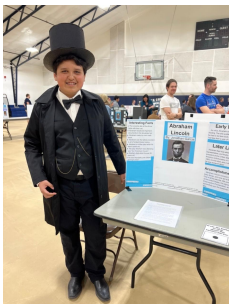
### Science Fun

Multiple classes have gotten the chance to learn more about animals and anatomy, and did so by observing and dissecting different creatures and invertebrates. The fifth and sixth graders dissected jellyfish and the sophomore biology class dissected Dogfish Sharks. The students had a great time learning more about God's creation by taking a closer look at these creatures' complex biological systems.



### Student Showcase

On May 2nd, the elementary students hosted the annual Elementary Showcase in the NC gym. There were many beautiful, informative, and well-crafted projects and displays presented from each grade in the elementary. One of the highlights of the event was the living wax museum projects. Students had the opportunity to research and create a display about a famous or historical figure and then dress like that person and tell about their life. Students portrayed individuals such as Jim Elliot, Abraham Lincoln, Clara Barton, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Rush Limbaugh, and many others. The students all did a great job on their projects and portrayed their characters incredibly well!



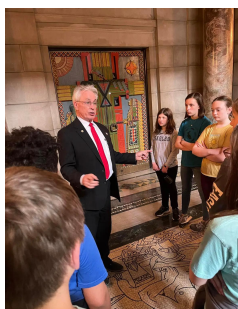
### Stuhr Museum Elementary Field Trips

As the school year winds down, the elementary classes have taken the opportunity to visit some interesting and historical places. Several of the classes had the opportunity to visit the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island in April and early May. The students learned about tools, farming, and life in early American communities up to the 1800s, technology and science in the 19th century, the Civil War, and what it was like to live on the prairie in the early years.

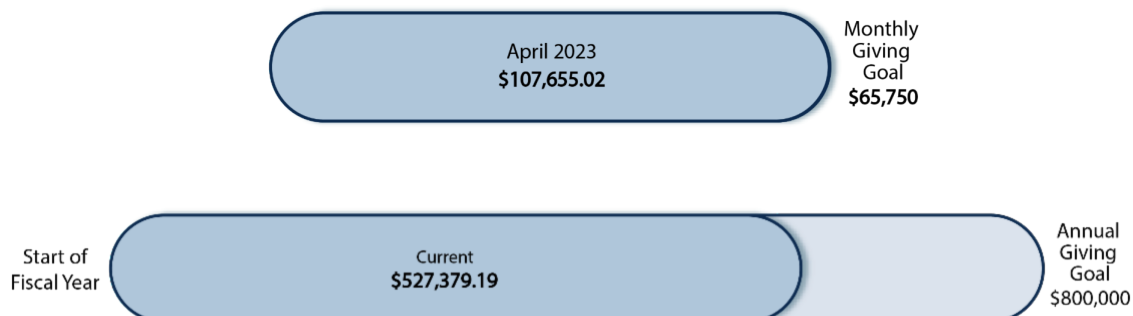


### Nebraska State Capitol Field Trip

The sixth grade class traveled to Lincoln in April to learn about Nebraska's capitol. Ms. Schreiber, NC's sixth-grade teacher, said it was a very exciting day! They began the day by going to see Memorial Stadium, then headed to the capitol building and walked around locating all of the counties on the outside of the building that the class represented. The students then enjoyed a self-guided tour where they met Loren Lippincott, who surprised the group by coming to speak to the class. Mr. Lippincott then took the students into the room where Governor Pillen would sign a law just 45 short minutes later. The students were in the hall when the law was signed and could hear the cheers erupt from inside the room once it was signed. Afterwards, when Governor Pillen walked out, the students got an opportunity to briefly meet and hear a little from him. The class also saw the Supreme Court, the State Library, and the 14th-floor observation deck.



### Budget Corner



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



## Memorial Gifts

**For:** Richard Musgrave  
**From:** Don & Kayleen Riley  
Harold & Dorothy Cook  
Dorothy Glad  
Daniel & Carol Schmidt  
Dave & Ruth Ferris  
Becky Deichmann  
Ron & Marie Adams  
Carolyn Russell  
Shirley Greving

**For:** Richard Musgrave  
**From:** Greg & Karen Senkbile  
Adair & Anita Ballagh  
Gary & Carmen Urwiller  
Bob & Susan Ritta

**For:** Kathy Krieger  
**From:** Dave & Ruth Ferris

## Upcoming Dates

### May 13

- Graduation

### March 19

- Summer Break Begins

### May 18

- End of 4th Quarter

## Alumni News

If you or someone you know is an NC Alum and has exciting news that you would like shared with the Nebraska Christian community, let us know! From wedding announcements, baby announcements, a new change in career or job, mission work, etc, let your NC family know!

**You can email Rachel, NC's Communication Specialist, at [rblair@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:rblair@nebraskachristian.org) and your news will be published in the next Advance. We can't wait to hear from you!**

## 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](mailto: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!