

# Connections

*Preparing for college and life at Cambridge Christian School • October 2018*



# Connecting with the Head of School



*Shawn Minks, M.Ed.  
Head of School*

Most of us don't have to think much about physically standing up. God has designed our bodies such that this is a natural function. It is not until we have an injury or illness that this ability is hampered and no longer taken for granted. As I now possess the neck and back of a man approaching 50, I know this all too well. God challenges us to take a different kind of stand, and, once again, He provides all that we need to do so.

Last spring, students in our Student Leadership Institute proposed three potential themes for the 2018-2019 school year. Of the three, our Senior Staff then selected "Take a Stand" based on Ephesians 6:13:

**"Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand."**

Christian schooling used to be the way it was done throughout our country. When Horace Mann came along and launched government schools, the secularization of our society gained great momentum. Now,



*Emily Peake, sixth grade*

it seems Christian schools must take a stand to even exist at times. Many of these schools soften their Biblical position or betray them entirely – particularly at the higher education level. Cambridge Christian School makes no apologies about adhering to Biblical standards and principles. We must take a stand.

As individual Christ-following educators, we must take a stand with what we teach and how we teach it. We will teach truth (yes – it exists), and we will do so in a relational, excellent manner. We will challenge our students to take a stand in a world of which we, as parents, only understand a part. Our kids face challenges, temptations, and worldviews entirely unique to their generation. Taking a stand looks different for them. Our prayer is not only that they take a stand, as some folks seem eager to defend even the most trivial causes. Instead, may all generations of Lancers stand for the one true God, for truth, and for Biblical principles.

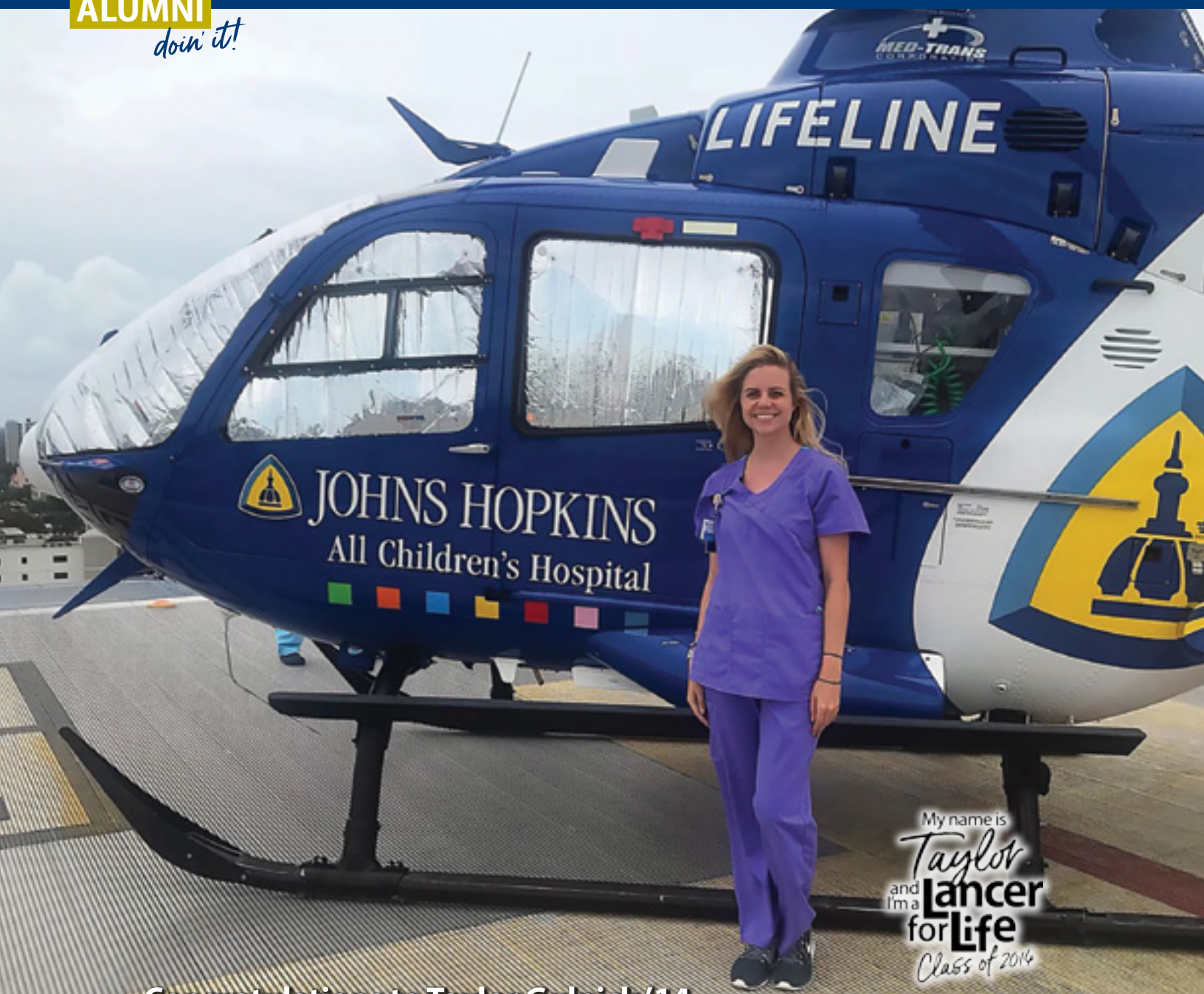
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## Connections

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**Congratulations to Taylor Gulnick '14  
who is living out her dream as a Pediatric Perioperative  
Nurse at John Hopkins Hospital.**

*Connections*, an outreach of Cambridge Christian School, is sent to you as alumni, family and friends of Christian education in Tampa.

*Connections* is published twice a year to share information about the programs, activities, and people of Cambridge Christian School.

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**Our Mission**

The mission of Cambridge Christian School is to glorify God in all that we do; to demonstrate excellence at every level of academic, athletic and artistic involvement; to develop strength of character; and to serve the local and global community.

Visit our web site to discover more. [CCSLancers.com](http://CCSLancers.com)





# Excellence in Lower School



The 2018-2019 school year is off to a great start! We completed a great summer camp program here on campus, featuring Drama Camp's Jungle Book production, STEM Camps, Sports Camps, Art Camps, Cooking Camps, and more! Some of our teachers were also able to experience some excellent professional development training this summer by attending biblical worldview conferences in Texas and reading conferences in Nevada. Standardized testing scores were high this year, with 76 students qualifying to be a Duke Tip scholar, with most of them qualifying in multiple categories! Our school year began with over 70 new students and four new teachers joining the Lower School family. Dr. Rewa Chisholm joined us in fourth grade after 23 years of teaching and leading trainings in Hillsborough County and Florida.



Mrs. Elizabeth Schneegold also joined us as a first grade teacher after spending 25 years teaching in Florida, and Mrs. Danielle Vinca also joining us as Little Lambs Director. She comes to us with over 20 years experience in the early childhood field. We are very blessed to have such a qualified and godly group of women join our faculty this year.

Our students have really connected with our school theme this year of "Take A Stand, Ephesians 6:13." Local pastors from CityLife Church and First Baptist Church of Tampa have given us great messages this year in Lower School Chapel of heroes from the Bible who have taken a stand for the Lord. Sixth grader Emily Peake even created an amazing logo for our theme, be sure to look for it around the Lower School campus!



*Jonathan Valdez  
Lower School Principal*





# Early Childhood at CCS

Our Early Childhood Program is off to a fantastic start this school year. Our students were excited to get back to school and even more excited to get back to chapel! Our weekly chapels allow our Little Lancers to discover engaging worship and learn from interactive

Bible lessons. Our very own Cambridge faculty, staff and students share God's stories that are age appropriate and meaningful. Our worship time is led by Mrs. Sharon Jordan, our Lower School Music Teacher, and Mr. Wes Burnham provides technology support. Parents are always welcome to join us. It is a great way to start your Monday mornings!

We are also very happy to partner with The Whole Child Learning Company to provide three new afterschool club opportunities for our PK3-Kindergarten students. GiggleBytes and Lego Engineering engages students in learning important STEM concepts while Yo Yo Yoga increases students' strength, flexibility, balance, and focus. Ms. Nicole and Ms. Lisa do an amazing job with our students!



This year, we have also added a new addition to our Little Lambs staff. Ms. Danielle Vinca has joined us as our Little Lambs Director, she comes to us with over 20 years' experience in early childhood. We are blessed to have her here at Cambridge!

We are looking forward to all that God will do this year!

## Kingdom Education: The Early Years

As parents, we all have the greatest intentions when raising our children. We want them to be loving, successful, honest, independent and most importantly, we want them to love God with all their heart

(3 John 1:4). As a mother of two children, I understand these intentions very well. As we seek the best for our children, how does a Kingdom Education effect the early years of a child's life?

During the early years, a child's worldview and spiritual foundation are developed and is a significant building block in helping a child discover how much God truly loves them (2 Timothy 3:14-15). I love how God gave children this amazing capacity to receive and understand spiritual truth at an early age! A young child's faith is "imitative." They copy what they see and hear parents and teachers do. Young children also use their imaginations to understand and relate to God. They remember the Bible stories and songs they hear at home, church or school and blend them into their daily life. This is the building of their spiritual foundation. Like a house that is built on a solid foundation, it can withstand floods and storms. A life built on a strong spiritual foundation based on God's Word has eternal purpose on a child's spiritual development.

At Cambridge, we realize the importance of this God-ordained role of partnering with parents in providing a Kingdom Education. We understand that one of the most important factors in developing a child's worldview is the influence of their teachers. Our teachers provide Biblical teaching that is interwoven and modeled throughout our children's day. We focus on the whole child; spiritually, intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically. Most importantly, we delight in the opportunity to grow in God's love together, while providing the components that help to build a strong spiritual and academic foundation. Kingdom Education prepares our children for life and it begins in the early years.

"The greatest gift we can give our children is the gift of teachers, both at home and at school, who teach from a biblical worldview."

*Glen Schultz*



*Tracy Moss  
Assistant Lower School Principal and  
Director of Early Childhood*

# Excellence in Middle School, *Minds In Motion!*

Lisa Saviola  
Middle School Coordinator



In his article, *Maximize the Power of the Middle School Brain* (2017), Dr. Thomas Armstrong stated, “It almost goes without saying that middle school is the most challenging level of instruction in K-12 education.” Some might disagree, but having personally taught first, fifth, seventh, and eighth grades, and spending one year in high school teaching Freshman English, I would concur with that statement!

How would you define your middle school student? Loveable? Frustrating? Independent? Needy? A mass of contradictions? Put all these together, and you are close to an accurate description! A middle school student is in grades 6-8, which puts his/her age somewhere in the range of 11 to 14 years. This means they are a young or early adolescent. The early adolescent experiences change on almost every level: physical, intellectual, social, moral, and others.

To effectively teach and mentor a middle school student, it is critical you understand what is happening to them.

## Physical

Puberty strikes in this age range, and with it comes an onslaught of hormones and strange, new feelings. Students will find their bodies changing, and while this is a beautiful part of God’s plan for us, it is also uncomfortable, awkward, and sometimes, a little frightening. This is especially true if a boy finds himself the first in class whose voice changes or a young lady is the first in her peer group to need a bra.

Children in this age range are often gawky or gangly, but there is a reason for that! Bones are growing faster than muscles, which leads to clumsiness (gawky) and the head and hands can also grow faster than the arms and legs (gangly).

## Intellectual

The brain is growing; in fact, the growth that appears from ages 11-15 is the second greatest in a human’s life. The ability to think abstractly will develop during this age span. However, the brain is another area of contradiction for the middle school student! The pre-frontal cortex is growing; this is the part of the brain we use for decision-making and judgment. However, the hormones that come with puberty put the student’s emotions on high, and unfortunately,

this “emotional brain” is functioning long before the executive brain functions have kicked in. This leads to the volatile emotions and drama that parents and teachers know come with the middle school territory. Middle school students will often act before they think, and even when asked why they did what just did, parents and teachers will frequently get the infuriating answer of “I don’t know.” What we must try to understand is that, sometimes, they really don’t know!

## Social/Moral

During this stage, students are actively searching to discover and establish their own identity, and their personal knowledge and experiences will serve as the filter they use in their attempt to make sense of the world. Up to this time, the elementary student has taken pride in following the rules, but the middle school student begins to question both the rules AND the people who made them. While parents and teachers have been seen as wise and all-knowing, this ends now!

The peer group becomes of prime importance, and the acceptance of their peers is everything to the middle school student. They will fiercely fight for independence one moment, but



conversely, they desperately want to have the love and support of parents and teachers behind them. They are watching the adults in their life carefully to see if we accept and value them just the way they are. In searching for their own identity, they want everyone to see them as unique and special, but contrarily, they don't want any differentiation from their peers and want to be seen as "just like everyone else."

So, how does this translate into our middle school, its vision, and its philosophy?

### **Biblical Worldview**

If you comprehend the changes the middle school student is undergoing, then it is clear how essential the principles of Kingdom Education become (Schultz, 2002). Two of these principles resonate with me every day – that education must be based on God's Word as absolute truth and that education must hold Christ preeminent in all of life.

While the academic, emotional, and social growth of each student is vitally important to us, the primary goal of our middle school program is to incorporate a Biblical worldview into every single classroom. In fact, we don't want to just incorporate it; we want to seamlessly weave the fabric of God's truth into our curriculum and instruction so that recognizing the glory and omnipotence of God becomes as natural to our students as breathing. Each classroom has a set of our 12 Truth Strands prominently placed, and each unit taught will have numerous areas in which students are challenged to see how these truth strands connect to the content they are learning. If our students are searching to find out who they are, we want to ensure they establish their identity firmly in Jesus. When it is time to send our middle school students to high school, we want them to go with a knowledge of and relationship with Christ resolutely in their hearts.

### **"Renaissance" Program**

If our students are using their personal experiences as they search for

their identities, we want to give them opportunities to explore numerous areas of interest! We don't want to "pigeonhole" them at this age! We want them to discover talents they didn't realize they had and appreciate what an incredible ungle of potential they are! With choir, band, art, gardening, robotics, introduction to engineering, drama, and an incredible athletic program of 12 different sports, we hope that our students get to "taste" anything that interests them. Each year, we look at ways to incorporate more choices into our program. An item on my personal "challenge" list is to find a way to provide a graphic design, a culinary art, and a computer coding elective in the next year or so.

### **House System**

In the 2017-18 school year, we unveiled a "house system." With Joshua 1:9 as our guide, we established the houses of Tolmao (Courage) and Dunamis (Strength). Each house consists of both seventh and eighth-grade students, boys and girls. The students sit with their houses during middle school chapel and on our weekly advisory days. The House Council serves as the student leadership group for the middle school and assists in planning different activities throughout the year, such as Homecoming Week activities, semester parties, and service projects.

Throughout the year, each house receives points for numerous and varied activities, such as winning games and competitions, mastering the most IXL units, and best results for a service project. At the end of the year, the house that has the highest total points receives the coveted house cup!

Additionally, a student who receives a merit point through the upper school discipline system not only receives the personal accolades that come with the point but also earns points for his/her house! There is also a consequence side in which a house could experience deductions from their score should a student receive a demerit. The motivation behind the points is to promote positive peer influence and to encourage students to help one another and hold each other accountable.

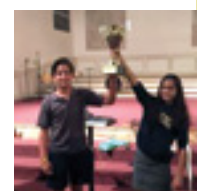
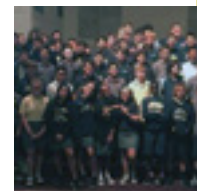
The MS house system provides our students with the following opportunities:

- Vertical mentoring across grade levels
- Leadership opportunities within houses and grade levels
- Constructive competition and positive peer influence
- An organizational structure that promotes teamwork
- Promotion of servant leadership

### **Student Activities**

We want to create a sense of family and teamwork in our middle school, and the best way to do that is to have fun together! We began the year by welcoming the new seventh graders into their houses with an afternoon spent at QZar. The house competition began

*(continued)*







that day with the winner of each laser tag match accumulating points for their house.

Each year, both the seventh and eighth grade classes take a class retreat. The seventh grade spends a day at the Day Springs Episcopal Camp, and the eighth grade has an overnight retreat at Cedarkirk. Each semester, the House Council plans a themed party for the middle school, and we will also have a service project in each semester. Every other Thursday advisory period, the houses gather for an exciting, fun game or competition that generates points for the winning house. Our J-term has a fabulous new activity for this school year as, for the first-time ever, the eighth grade will travel for three days to Washington, D.C. Seventh grade will

have a service-oriented J-term that will conclude with a day at Disney.

Another addition to our middle school this year is the creation of game time during our lunch break! Over the summer, our incredible Mr. Brian Willeke built a gaga pit for us right off the freshman deck, and that has been a huge hit with our students! Lunchtime now finds our students either in the gaga pit or playing spike ball, cornhole, frisbee, or volleyball. We have seen new friendships formed as students have this additional opportunity to have fun and play together.

## Discipline

The hormones and emotions are on high, they act and speak before they think, and they want to challenge every rule and push the boundaries! This



makes discipline one of the greatest challenges we face in middle school and one of our biggest areas of contention with parents. Sometimes, one of the greatest hurdles we have is trying to explain that there is a difference between recognizing the challenges that the middle school student faces and accepting these challenges as an excuse for bad behavior.

Middle school students do **not** respond well to regimentation, but they also crave to be shown the boundaries for acceptable versus unacceptable behavior. Our middle school team endeavors to show them these boundaries and set our expectations with patience, humor, grace, and love, but we also do hold our students accountable for their behavior. We strive every day to teach them the real-life adage of “actions have consequences.” The point system used in the upper school allows us to recognize good behavior with “merit” points as well as issue demerits for poor behavior choices.

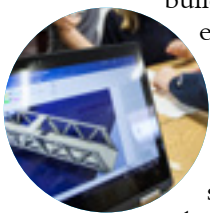




## Cooperative Learning/ Project-Based Learning/ Engaged Learning

Finding ways to get the students to connect classroom content to real life experiences is another goal of our program. Middle school students must see learning as relevant to their lives before they “buy in” to it. When you combine this with their physical energy and their increased socialness, the traditional “lecture/read the textbook” approach is not going to work.

Project-based learning (PBL) units, such as the seventh-grade bridge building program and the eighth-grade inventions project, not only allow the students to explore real-world problems but also show the students how content connects across multiple disciplines.



Cooperative learning allows students to work together to accomplish learning goals, but this is done within clearly defined structures. It transcends traditional group work and requires “positive interdependence, individual accountability, equal participation, and simultaneous interaction” (Kagan, 2017). Two of our teachers spent a week in Orlando this past summer at Kagan seminars learning how to integrate cooperative learning into their classrooms, and our goal is for every middle school teacher to attend this training over the next few years.

Do we always get it right in middle school? I wish I could say yes, but just as every parent wrestles with making the right choices for their child, our team struggles every day with making the right decisions for the numerous situations we face. And when we do get it wrong, it grieves our heart. Yet, our middle school team is devoted to doing the absolute best we can for each precious soul that is entrusted to us each day. It is a privilege to come in each day and partner with my middle school colleagues. They love

the Lord, they love our students, and they are great at what they do!

We love it when our middle schoolers come back to visit us throughout high school and even college. It warms our heart when a student says, “My English teacher was amazed at how much I already know about annotating,” or “I am finding Algebra II really easy!” It is a great feeling

when a student says that the bridge building project is where he/she found a passion for engineering or the inventions project taught them organizational skills that they are still using. And of course, the absolute best feeling in the world is when a student says, “You helped me understand what it means to have a relationship with Jesus Christ!”

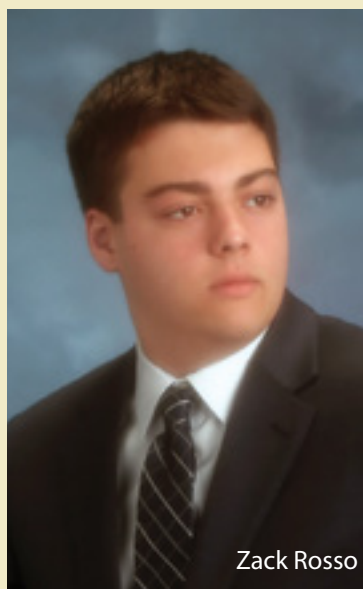


## National Merit Achievements

Congratulations to Adam Fernandez, recognized as a National Merit Commended Scholar and Zack Rosso, recognized as a National Merit Semifinalist.



Adam Fernandez



Zack Rosso





### Band

• For the first time in many years, the High School Band and Middle School Band performed separately in the Talent Show. The High School band had a stunning performance of "Take On Me" and the Middle School Band had an incredible performance of "Thunder." Bravo!

• The 5th and 6th grade bands had a phenomenal performance of "The Star Spangled Banner" to open up the Team Day events!

• The Bands look forward to several performance opportunities this year including the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, and of course, Disney Performing Arts On Stage!

• The Band program is growing! There are 78 students involved in the band program this year as opposed to only 53 as of 4 years ago. The band program has grown 47% between then and now!

### Chorus

• The Ensemble, Concert Chorus, and Lancer Chorus all had breathtaking performances in the Talent Show.

• The Chorus program looks forward to several performance opportunities this year including the Christmas Concert and Spring Concert.

• In February, several of our chorus members will participate in District level Solo & Ensemble competitions.

• The Choir is going to Barbados in March on their annual Spring Break Chorus Mission Trip. The students look forward to spreading the love of Jesus in word, deed, and song throughout the beautiful island of Barbados.







## Drama

- The Drama department is planning a riveting performance of the Wizard of Oz in November. The Fall Play gains more and more attention each year. This year will be no exception. We love seeing God use our students and Mrs. Vath's work to bring glory to Himself in these productions!
- The Middle School Drama class performs spiritually challenging vignettes each quarter in Middle School Chapel.
- The High School Drama class looks forward to entering into some dramatic competitions in the Spring Semester.
- Mrs. Vath and the drama students are already working hard on the upcoming Spring Musical production!



## Visual Art

- The Visual Arts program began a fun new tradition—the annual Spring Art Show. This show runs in conjunction with the Spring Musical and will take place in the media center.
- Miss Dayton continues doing a great job working with our students and helping them produce incredible art.

- The Visual Arts program will host another Spring Art Show this April. Be sure to swing by and enjoy the art. Local artists will judge the work and award the best pieces.

## Fine Arts

- The Fine Arts Department is excited to perform Hairspray as our Spring Musical. This fun and upbeat musical is sure to put a smile on your face. We hope you join us in April for this incredible show!

- We are launching a corporate sponsorship program to help increase the quality of our shows and help us expand into new disciplines. Thanks to Bruce Blagg and Phoenix Advantage, the first phase of that initiative is complete! With their gift, we were able to purchase 18 ear worn microphones to use in our productions! If you would like to learn how you can become a Fine Arts Corporate Sponsor, please contact the Director of Fine Arts, Shaun Stimson, at [sstimson@ccslancers.com](mailto:ssstimson@ccslancers.com) for more information!





# Excellence in Upper School

## Where God guides He provides!

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us." Ephesians 3:20



In this verse Paul is praying that we would be filled by the God who is able to do far beyond what we can imagine. He is praying for God's own to be filled with the fullness of God and His endless love. As a staff we have asked for the Lord to fill us with his strength and love, and He has done so in ways that have blessed us beyond our human expectations. As we have sought the Lord's guidance and leading, He has responded. We are blessed to play a role in what the Lord is doing at CCS. This 2018-2019 school year has begun, and His power has been at work within us. We may be only a quarter of the way into the school year, but we recognize the blessings that our all-powerful God has bestowed upon us and we are rejoicing in Him.

A new school year represents new beginnings filled with opportunities. We welcomed 45 new students this year to the Upper School. There are new leadership organizations, honor societies, trips, J-term offerings, courses/electives,



and traditions in both middle and high school this year. These are all exciting enrichments to our already blossoming program. In the past three years we have introduced a variety of new additions to our Upper School program and the Lord has blessed each one. We are thankful and blessed beyond measure.

We began this school year with no turn over in staff, which is amazing. In the middle school we were able to add a new teacher to the team which is a reflection of God blessing us with growth and provision. Our faculty is dedicated and committed to pursuing God's excellence in all they do in and out of the classroom. This past summer we challenged them to grow professionally and they responded by completing over 17,000 pages of reading, new certifications, educational webinars/workshops/conferences, and many traveled the globe.

The abundance of God's provision continues as we analyze student performance over the past three years. Our Advanced Placement student passing rates are averaging 22% above state standings and 17% above global standings. SAT mathematics scores have improved by 8% in the last year. The SAT verbal standings have increased an average of 3% to 4% per year since 2016. Over the past three years our students' PSAT math and English scores have consistently improved, and they are scoring at above average rates. The middle school's Terra Nova standings have also shown growth over the past three years. As a whole, 7th and 8th graders are demonstrating between 75%-80% high mastery of both English and math content for their grade - well above the national average.

Spiritually we are seeking and believing for the Lord to continue to work in the lives of our students. We have seen students come to the Lord over the past three years and we

rejoice with them. The Lord is challenging our students to grow in their faith, to be real in their walk. As a staff we see the Lord at work and it's humbling. There is still a great harvest to reap but we believe the Lord is faithful.

Since school began we have not missed a beat. Our faculty and students are thriving and growing. God is faithful and continues to bless us in ways that daily remind us of his providence. This year we will graduate our largest senior class in CCS history. We have 70 seniors! The class of 2019 has 16 Lancers for Life, one of the biggest groups we have had in recent years. We are looking forward to all that the Lord has before us this upcoming year with great anticipation. It's great to be a Cambridge Lancer!

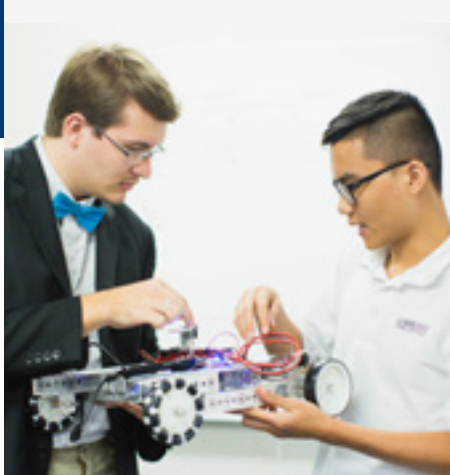


### STEM Update

STEM...WE HAVE LIFTOFF!

CCS launched its much anticipated STEM program for the 2018-2019 school year. Twenty students have elected to earn a STEM distinction on their diploma in three focus areas: Digital Technology, Engineering, and Science. Our new STEM courses are well under way. Entering its second year now, the Space Engineering and Technology class is studying aeronautics and will be starting their first large scale aeronautics project – stay tuned! The Lancer

These students are consistently scoring at above average rates in most categories of the full testing composite. These are great gains and we are giving the glory to God.



Robotics Team has huge success in its first year, short of qualifying for the state competition which is a huge accomplishment. This year's team is poised and ready to engineer the robot that will take them to a state victory. Our MS Robotics and HS Foundations of Robotics courses are learning how to design and construct robots to serve many useful purposes. Go Lancer Robotics! The new STEM course offerings in Forensics, Computer Aided Drafting, CompTIA, Engineering, and Sports Medicine and Management are designed to expose students to real-world problem solving and encourage innovation while preparing them to meet future world challenges

During the 2018-2019 school year, the STEM program will focus on building, strengthening, and improving upon its curricular offerings. This year we are looking forward to connecting with local businesses and educational institutions who will support students in the program by means of sponsoring STEM projects and internships. Equally exciting is the organization of the STEM Student Advisory Panel which will allow for students to provide student-led feedback and leadership as they steer the direction of the program and foster community among our STEM students. There will also be a broader focus on parent and community partnerships to become an integral part of the CCS STEM program's success. STEM is a culture and a community, not just an acronym. How can you be a part of it? You can simply contact the school or the CCS STEM program Director, Christopher Schmidt at [cschmidt@ccslancers.com](mailto:cschmidt@ccslancers.com). We are blessed and excited to see the plans God has made realized in these students.

## Guidance Update

### COLLEGE ADVISING

This fall our College Advising Office hosted the annual Christian College Fair. They welcomed 36 colleges and universities from across the country. The Fair was followed by a College Financial Aid Workshop hosted by a financial aid specialist from Samford University for junior and senior parents. We look forward to our yearly College Advising parent meetings and this year a series of short videos will be introduced for our freshmen parents to help them navigate college decisions and prepare them throughout high school. Parents can also look forward to a guide to help them navigate the You Science Software implemented last year into the college advising program.



## What's NEW Update

### #what'snewthisyear

This year we are planning to host our first 8th grade end of year celebration and the 8th grade is heading to Washington DC during J-Term. In the high school we are introducing two new Honors Societies – The English Honor Society and the National Science Honor Society. We are starting three new leadership groups; GRACE Council, Cultural Heritage Committee, and Advisory Planning Committee. Each of these groups will be led by students for the purpose of enhancing our overall program.

- Cultural Heritage Committee is made up of students from varying cultures that will come together to help plan, organize, and execute a CCS celebration of cultural diversity during four nationally recognized months: September (Hispanic Heritage Month), February (African American Heritage Month), March (National Women's Heritage Month), and May (Asian/Pacific Heritage Month).

- GRACE Council is led by a group of students who want to usher a greater unity among our student body. This group of students is organizing new student fellowships, ways to break down walls among our student body, and promote more dialogue that will create bridges and develop new friendships.

- Advisory Planning Committee will organize our new "Community Days" that will take place once a month during advisory time. They will organize and host our new professional panels, student games and tournaments, and bring new ideas to elevate more fellowship among our students during advisory.

We will also introduce two new traditions this year for juniors and seniors. In the fall we will host a class ring ceremony for seniors and juniors (it will be a junior class tradition moving forward). The senior class will also participate in our Senior Regalia in the spring. At the regalia seniors will receive their graduation gowns, caps, and honors cords.

Thank you to all our parents and families for their continued support of our Upper School students and programs.



*Mrs. Cari Gibson  
Upper School Principal*



# Congratulations!



Catholic  
School  
of the  
Sacred  
Heart

Class of 2018

- This year's class was offered admission to 80 different colleges and universities representing 30 different states and the country of Australia
- 22 of the 64 graduates are graduating with honors. 9 graduating summa cum laude, 5 magna cum laude, and 8 cum laude
- Completed almost 11,000 hours of community service





## Cambridge Christian School Class of 2018

- 12 of our seniors have committed to play their sport at the collegiate level
- The class of 2018 was offered over 4.2 million dollars in academic scholarships and over 32 million in athletic scholarships for a grand total of over 36 million dollars





# 2017-18 LANCER ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

“EVERY ATHLETE  
A DISCIPLE”

## CLASS OF 2018 SIGNING SCHOLARSHIPS TO PLAY IN COLLEGE

Megan Seubert, Volleyball, Bethel University  
Richard Gouraige, Football, University of Florida  
Jaylin Jackson, Football, University of Florida  
Caleb Young, Football, University of West Florida  
Andrew Cunningham, Football, Georgia

Southern University

Aaron Racki, Football, Bentley University  
Ricky Mann, Football, Southeastern University  
Darryl Mercer, Basketball, Warner University  
Kendall Marra, Soccer, Marymount University  
Kacie Hickinbotham, Soccer, Point University  
Ansley Valido, Soccer, Florida College  
Michael McCarty, Baseball, Cincinnati Christian  
Sevas Cardona, Baseball, Barton College  
Austin Carter, Baseball, Briar Cliff University  
David Carlson, Track, Southeastern University

### COLLEGE RECRUITING

Several other athletes in multiple sports are currently exploring opportunities to play at the next level and will be continuing to examine scholarship opportunities over the next school year as well.

### VARSITY 3 SPORT ATHLETES

William Shell  
Rebekah Bustamante  
Chandler Couture  
Emma Layman  
Karter Lenardos  
Katelyn Lewis  
Darryl Mercer  
Anna Dale  
DJ Peterson  
Kacie Hickinbotham  
Sergey Fitzgerald

### GOLF

- Latanna Stone won the individual District Championship in girl's golf with a round of 71. Latanna was also the Region Champion with a round of 65 and qualified for the state tournament. At the State tournament, she finished with a two-round total of 140, which was 4 under par, and 4th place overall.

### BOWLING

- Girls bowling won their second consecutive District Championship and qualified for the state tournament where they finished 8th.
- Boys bowling won their first ever District Championship, qualifying for the state tournament, where they finished in 20th place.

### FOOTBALL

- Football finished 9-3 and were the regular season Regional Champions; in the playoffs they were Regional Champions, losing in the State Final Four to the eventual state champions, Champagnat Catholic.
- Richard Gouraige was named Under Armour High School All America and represented Cambridge Christian in the Under Armour All American game in early January.
- Jaylin Jackson was named the Florida Dairy Farmers Class 2A Player of the Year in football.





- Jaylin Jackson was also named the 2A Most Valuable Player by Florida HS Football.
- CCS had 3 players named to the Tampa Bay Times All-Tampa Bay football teams (includes 5 counties): Richard Gouraige and Jaylin Jackson were named to the first team, and Darryl Mercer was named second team.
- The senior football players enjoyed one of the best four-year periods in school history, finishing with a four-year combined record of 41-7, 3 District Championships, 2 Regional Championships, 2 State Final Fours, and 1 State Runner Up.

## SOCCER

- Girls soccer enjoyed one of their best seasons ever, winning the Lancer Invitational and finishing with a 13-2-2 record. Several records were set during the season including: Most goals scored in a season with 90. Kendall Marra tied the single season scoring record (Also held by Shelly Lyle) with 28 goals. Cassidy Kidder set the single season assist mark with 17, previously held by Malissa (Gallogly) Garcia. Anna Rawls tied the record for fewest goals allowed with 14, shared with Alexis (Caruso) Shears. The team also went 13 games in a row without a loss. Great job ladies!
- Boys soccer enjoyed a strong season, going 19-5, winning the Lancer Invitational, and advancing to the district semifinal. The boys allowed only 28 goals while scoring 72.

## BASKETBALL

- Boys basketball had success as well, finishing with 16-11 record against some very strong competition. One of the highlights of the season was winning the Falcon Holiday Tournament, going 3-0, and defeating Osceola High in the championship game 72-53.
- Girls Basketball team was very young but improved as the season progressed and had a great Senior Night victory!

## TENNIS

- Girls tennis enjoyed strong season going 11-5 during the regular season. The girls also finished as both the District Runner Up and Region Runner Up.
- Boys tennis worked hard throughout the season and had several individuals that qualified for the second round of districts.

## TRACK AND FIELD

- Varsity track had a strong season, winning the Shorecrest Invitational, and qualifying several athletes to both the region and state meets. The boys team finished third in the district meet out of 13 teams. Qualifiers for the region meet were Matthew Pearson in shot put, Ron White in 110m and 300m hurdles, Aaron Racki and David Carlson in 400m dash, 4X100m relay (Michael Carlson, Julian Surriel, Preston Snider, Ricky Mann), 4X400 relay (David Carlson, Dylan Schaffer, Ricky Mann, Aaron Racki). The 4X100 and 4X400 relay teams also qualified for the state meet where they finished 18th and 21st respectively out 24 teams.

## BASEBALL

- Baseball enjoyed another strong season, finishing with an 18-6 record and setting several season and career records along the way.
- Kendall Marra was named to the Hillsborough/Pinellas all-star game in soccer.
- Olivia Elliott was named FACA District Player of the Year in softball.
- Kevin Hickinbotham was named the FACA District Coach of the Year in softball.

## ACADEMIC HONORS

- Volleyball finished 9th in the FHSAA Team Academic Championship standings for 4A.
- Boys golf finished 2nd in the FHSAA Team Academic Championship standings for 1A.
- Football finished 3rd in the FHSAA Team

Academic Championship standings for 2A.

- Boys Cross Country finished 6th in the FHSAA Team Academic Championship standings for 1A.
- Girls' basketball finished 2nd in the FHSAA Team Academic Championship standings for class 4A.
- Boys basketball finished 4th in the FHSAA Team Academic Championship standings for 4A.
- Baseball finished 1st in the FHSAA Team Academic Championship standings for 3A.
- Softball finished 3rd in the FHSAA Team Academic Championship standings for 3A.
- CCS finished 4th overall in the FHSAA Team Academic Championship standings for 4A.
- Andrew Paradise, Matthew Rey, and DJ Peterson were named FACA Academic All State in boys soccer.
- Kacie Hickinbotham was named FACA Academic All State in girls' soccer.
- Kacie Hickinbotham and Alyssa Hickinbotham were named FACA Academic All State in softball.

## BY THE NUMBERS

- 80% of students participated in sports during the 17-18 school year.
- Varsity teams won 66% of their games throughout the year.
- Varsity teams won 2 District Championships, 1 District Runner Up, 1 Regional Championship, 1 Regional Runner Up, and qualified 3 teams and 9 individuals to the State Championships.





## ALUMNI UPDATE

Alea White (Class of '16) had another strong season pitching for the UCF softball program, leading the team in wins, saves, appearances, innings pitched, and strikeouts, setting several singles season records along the way. She was named the American Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Week three times and named 2nd team All-Conference (for the second year in a row). Great job Alea!

J'Kobi Reddick (Class of '17) was named Mid-South Conference First Team All-Conference as a Return Specialist while playing football at Bethel University in Tennessee. Congrats J'Kobi!

Lauren Odom (Class of '17) had a strong first year playing volleyball at Lynn University, which included being named the Sunshine State Conference Defensive Player of the Week for Nov. 6, 2017. Awesome Lauren!

## ALL-STATE PLAYERS

Jaylin Jackson – 1st Team – Football  
Darryl Mercer – 1st Team – Football  
Caleb Young – 1st Team – Football  
Richard Gouraige – 1st Team – Football  
Scott Ater – 1st Team – Football  
Ricky Mann – 1st Team – Football  
Aaron Racki – 2nd Team – Football  
Jayeln Scribner – Honorable Mention – Football  
Andrew Paradise – FACA – Soccer  
Matthew Rey – FACA – Soccer  
Kendall Marra – FACA – Soccer  
Olivia Elliott – FACA – Softball  
Kacie Hickinbotham – FACA – Softball  
Alyssa Hickinbotham – FACA – Softball

## COACHING HONORS

Head Bowling Coach Julinda Gallogly - CCS

## LANCERS COACH OF THE YEAR.

Head Football Coach Bob Dare finished 5th in the Florida Dairy Farmers 2A Coach of the Year voting.

Head Coach Stephen Piercefield has now coached more games (126) than any other baseball coach in school history and moved into 2nd place on the baseball all time wins list with 79.

## CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN 28TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

The 28th annual golf tournament was held on Jan. 13, 2018 and was a huge success. There were nearly 100 golfers and wonderful sponsors who assisted the booster club in raising over \$38,000 for Lancer athletics.

## OVERALL ATHLETIC AWARDS

FEMALE SCHOLAR ATHLETE OF THE YEAR:

Anna Dale

MALE SCHOLAR ATHLETE OF THE YEAR:

Jacob Krueger

## BOWLING

LANCER AWARD

Boy: Aaron Bustamante

Girl: Katelyn Lewis

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER:

Boy: Tyler Bowles 216 Average and

Marcus McCray 216 Average

Girl: Emma Layman 185 Average and

Melissa Medina 185 Average

CAPTAINS AWARD:

Boy: Tyler Bowles

Girl: Emma Layman

HIGH SERIES:

Boy: Tyler Bowles 748

Girl: Emma Layman 691

2 TIMOTHY 2:5:

Boy: Ben Gibbs

Girls: Hannah Brody

COACHES AWARD:

Allie Hickinbotham

## VOLLEYBALL:

LANCER AWARD: — Jessica Hubbard

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD: Anna Dale

## CHEERLEADING:

LANCER AWARD: — Maddie Presson

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD:

McKenzie Heller

COACHES AWARD: Melissa Cuevas

TRIPLE A AWARD: Caitlyn Webber

FEARLESS FRESHMAN AWARD: Annie Guan

## BOYS BASKETBALL:

LANCER AWARD: Jacob Krueger

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD:

Dylan Jackson

BEST DEFENSIVE PLAYER: Justin Froelich

BEST OFFENSIVE PLAYER: Daryl Mercer

COACHES AWARD: Mikal Willeke

## BASEBALL

Lancer Award- Ethan McCoy

MVP Award- Tilden Agee

Gold Glove Award- Sevas Cardona

Fireman Award- Austin Carter

Cy Young Award- Michael McCarty

## CROSS COUNTRY

LANCER AWARD:

GIRL: Jade Dungy

BOY: Ben Johnson

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD:

GIRL: N/A

BOY: Will Shell

GIRLS BASKETBALL

LANCER AWARD: Anna Dale

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD:

Emma Layman

BEST DEFENSIVE PLAYER AWARD:

Alayyah Washington

RISING STAR AWARD: Maddie Heller

BLUE COLLAR AWARD: Gia LoCicero

CAPTAIN AWARD: Anna Dale





CAPTAIN AWARD: Emma Layman  
CAPTAIN AWARD: Bekah Bustamante

## SOFTBALL

Lancer Award – Anna Dale  
MVP – Olivia Elliott  
Gold Glove Award – Kacie Hickinbotham  
Silver Slugger Award – Olivia Elliott  
Jennie Finch Award – Alyssa Hickinbotham

## GIRLS GOLF

LANCER AWARD: Theresa Stanger  
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD:  
Latanna Stone  
CAPTAINS AWARD: Sarah Johnson

## BOYS GOLF

LANCER AWARD: Matthew Liffrig  
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD: Zach Jordan  
MOST IMPROVED AWARD: Reid Jordan  
FUTURE LEADER AWARD: Evan Pivacek

## BOYS SOCCER

LANCER AWARD: DJ Peterson  
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD:  
Andrew Paradise  
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD:  
Byrce Burnham  
OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD:  
Matthew Rey  
COACHES AWARD: Luke Meneses and  
Austin Hessinger

## TRACK AND FIELD

Most Improved Player:  
Boys – Jaylen Scribner  
Girls – Jordyn Teasdale  
Most Versatile Athlete:  
Boys – Preston Snider  
Girls – MK Clark  
Lancer Award:  
Boys – Noah Kent  
Girls – Ansley Valido

Most Valuable Player:  
Boys – Adam Fernandez  
Girls – Jade Dungy

## FOOTBALL

LANCER AWARD: Aaron Racki  
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD: Jaylin Jackson  
MOST VALUABLE OFFENSE AWARD: Daryl Mercer  
MOST VALUABLE DEFENSE AWARD: Scott Ater  
OUTSTANDING LINEMAN AWARD: Will McNichols  
COURAGE AWARD: Trevor Strawser  
IMPACT PLAYER: Ricky Mann  
CAPTAIN AWARD: Caleb Young  
CAPTAIN AWARD: Richard Gouraige  
CAPTAIN AWARD: Andrew Cunningham

## GIRLS SOCCER

LANCER AWARD: Kacie Hickinbotham  
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD:  
Cassidy Kidder  
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD:  
Ansley Valido  
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD: Anna Rawls  
ATTACKING PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Kendall Marra

## TENNIS

LANCER AWARD:  
GIRLS- Sofia Arevalo  
BOYS- Justin Froelich  
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD:  
GIRLS- Cooper Jackson  
BOYS- Sergey Fitzgerald  
MOST IMPROVED AWARD:  
GIRLS- Elizabeth Ho  
BOYS- Dustin Yu  
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD:  
GIRLS- Sophia Nobles  
BOYS- Reid Jordan



*Go Lancers!*

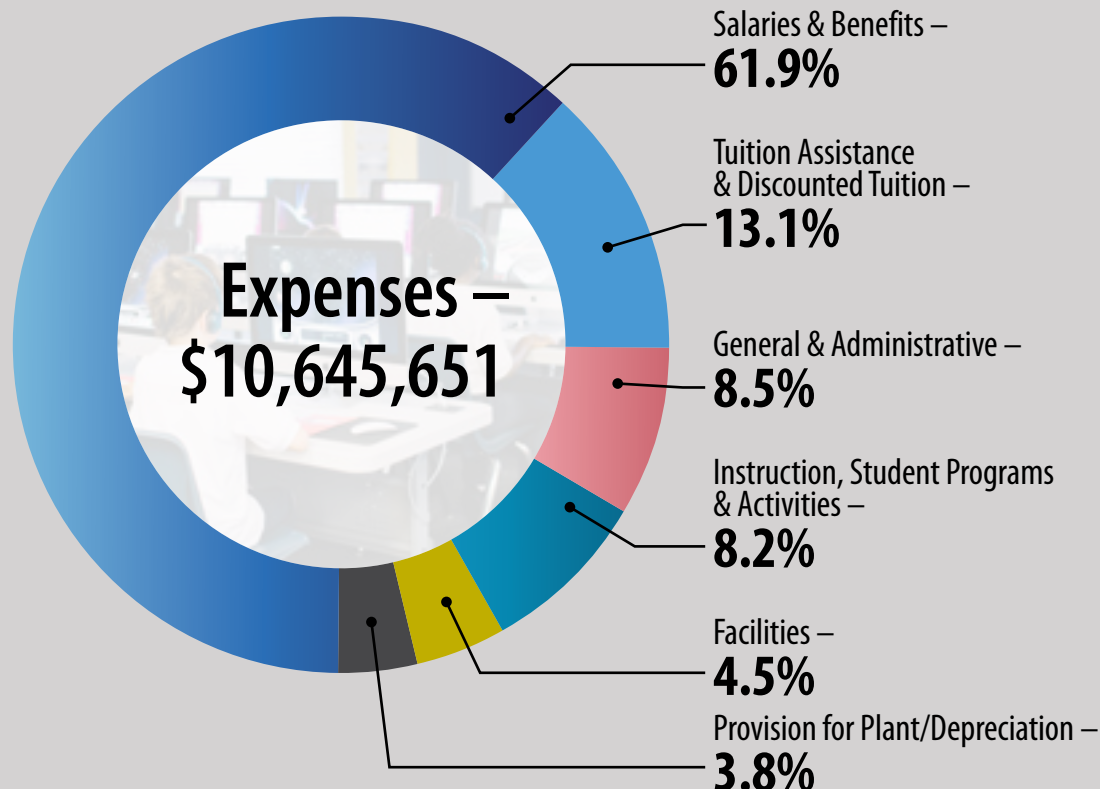
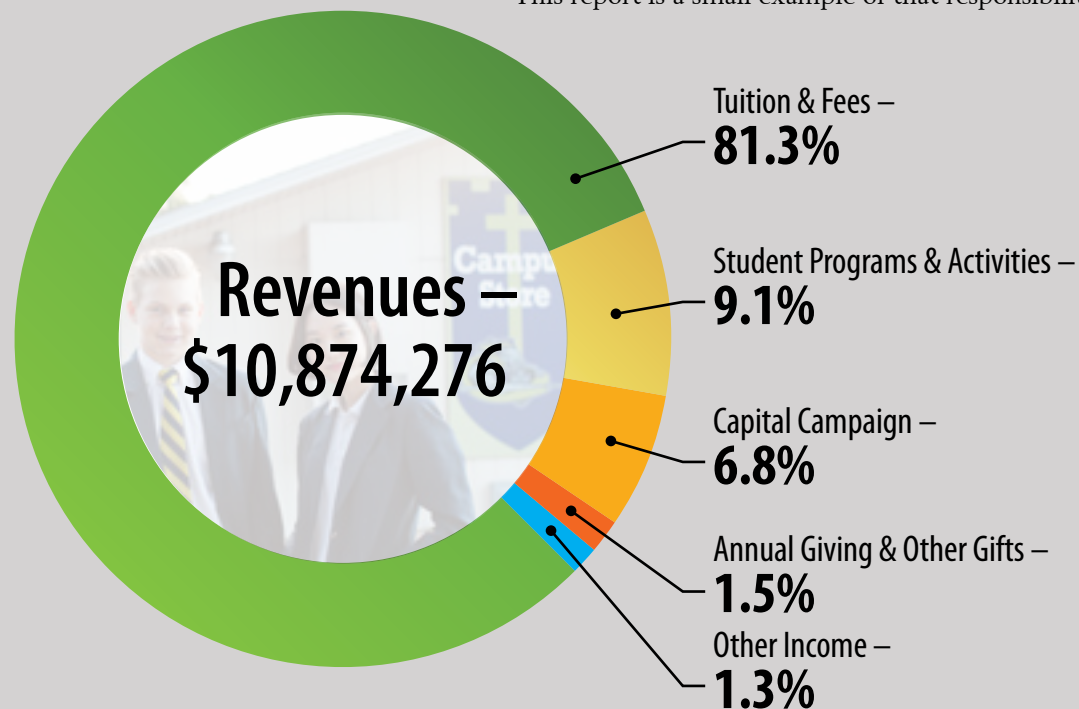




# Advancement

Every school year, Cambridge Christian School has a comprehensive financial audit completed by a third party. Along with a yearly audit, the Business Administrator and I meet monthly with a Finance Committee made up of Board of Trustee members and parents of Cambridge Christian School to review financial records and financial stability. In addition to the report given yearly at the State of School address on the financial stability of CCS, we publish this end of the year report. This report is simple but demonstrates to all stakeholders that CCS administration and Board of Trustees take the core value of financial stability seriously. I am pleased to report that Cambridge Christian School finished the school year meeting all expenses. We are accountable to be good stewards of your investment and handle the business operations of Cambridge wisely and biblically.

This report is a small example of that responsibility.



# FUND





# the Buses! **We did it!**



**T**hanks to the generosity of Bill Currie Ford, the Bellomo Family and the Lancer Community, CCS is now the proud owner of not one, but two, brand new passenger buses to expand our transportation on campus. We came together and raised over \$20,000 in 10 days and we are so thankful to all of you for making this a reality!

*Go Lancers!*







Elizabeth Myers  
Advancement and  
Alumni Relations

**W**e thank God for the family, friends, and alumni who partner with us each year in support of Kingdom Education in Tampa, Florida.

The gifts we receive of time, talent, and treasure are priceless and allow Cambridge Christian to continue to grow and thrive in its mission and vision.

Because of your continued generosity each year, we are given the opportunity to minister to hundreds of students and their families and disciple them through the work of Kingdom Education. Students are graduating from Cambridge Christian prepared for college AND prepared for the challenges that life has waiting for them.

**"The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith." — Billy Graham evangelist**

Giving is important to Cambridge, as it is to any private, nonprofit school. It is because of this importance that we ask each year for 100% participation in our Annual Fund Giving Campaign from our CCS Faculty, Staff, and Board before we ask for support from Lancer families and friends.

Because our Faculty, Staff, and Board have a passion for Cambridge and a knowledge of the importance annual fund giving has on the health of our school, their cumulative giving made up approximately 25% of the gifts received in the 2017-2018 school year.

Will you join us in giving to Annual Fund this school year? Every gift makes a huge difference.

Visit [CCSLancers.com/Support-Us](http://CCSLancers.com/Support-Us) to learn more about Annual Fund, Ways To Give and Planned Giving or email [Advancement@CCSLancers.com](mailto:Advancement@CCSLancers.com) to find out how you can make the biggest impact at Cambridge with the treasure God has entrusted you with.

**Thank you to Lancer Families below** who showed their Lancer Support in 2017-2018 by giving of their time, talent, and treasure to Cambridge Christian School.

**Thank you to the PSA, Homeroom Coordinators and parent volunteers for supporting the parents, teachers, and staff of CCS each year! This year with their support the advancement team was able to host the Lancer Fall Fest and Auction and the Team Dungy Book Signing to benefit CCS!**



**Save the Date for  
the Lancer 5K and  
Ministry Fair •  
March 30, 2019 at  
Al Lopez Park**

More info coming soon. If you are a part of a nonprofit, charity, or foundation and would like to be a part of this event please contact [Advancement@CCSLancers.com](mailto:Advancement@CCSLancers.com).

Keep an eye on the CCS Lancer website, Facebook, and email for more details on the Lancer 5K and Ministry Fair for more details to come soon. Email [Advancement@CCSLancers.com](mailto:Advancement@CCSLancers.com) for questions or to get your ministry connected.

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 Family Foundation Inc  
 Westshore Pizza

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## Student Spotlight

Part of our mission statement is to serve the local and global community.



If you would like to highlight a student in Connections, please contact Marty Hillier at [mhillier@ccslancers.com](mailto:mhillier@ccslancers.com).

Grant, a sixth grader at CCS, visits the elderly with his dog Hunter and brightens up the lives of so many while sharing the love of Christ. Hunter even has his own business card! Thank you to Grant and his family and to the many students that are servant leaders every day in their community and throughout the world. You can find out more about Canines for Christ by visiting [k9forchrist.org/](http://k9forchrist.org/).





Feature!

# Full Circle Student, Parent and Educator

"Be kind to one another," Ephesians 4:32. This is in my favorite verse in the Bible. It is the verse my, then, 3-year-old son taught me. Yes, my 3-year-old! My name is Danielle Vinca and I am a Cambridge Alumna. I started in 1st grade and graduated from Cambridge in 1996. I was taught



the Christian beliefs; to pray, go to church, be kind and loving to your neighbors, etc., etc. I had an amazing school career at Cambridge Christian (Seminole Presbyterian).

I met lifelong friends, made fond memories and I had the most inspiring teachers. After graduation, I went to college, got married and had a son. Everything was as it should be, the typical life. I moved from day to day trying to make each day the best it could be while remembering my Christian beliefs. You know, waking up saying my morning prayer, praying before meals, taking my son to church, a routine that most everyone has. When my son was old enough to start school, I valued the importance of starting his education early and wanted to foster the same Christian beliefs in school that I had at Cambridge Christian. In August of 2011, I enrolled him in Cambridge's Early Childhood program. He was learning, having fun, saying his daily prayers, memorizing Bible verses and growing up so quickly! He was happy, I was happy, and we continued with our daily routine.

My son and I loved to eat out, so one night I took him to his favorite restaurant, Red Robin. There was a claw toy machine, where you put a quarter in and have a chance to win a stuff animal. He loved this game. I gave him 2 quarters and said have fun. He noticed a little boy who was standing at the machine, had no

quarters and really wanted to play. He turned to him gave him his quarters and said, "Be kind to one another, Ephesians 4:32." My jaw dropped, tears were flowing from my face and I looked at my son in complete awe. My 3-year-old not only thought to say this Bible verse, knowing what it meant, he actually knew how to put it into practice. He was not just going through the motions of a daily routine. He was living out what God wanted him to do, at age 3! God truly used my son as a messenger for me not only to know the Word, but to actually live it, practice it and to show others what God is all about! I knew what Ephesians 4:32 said but my son taught me how to live it. After my tears stopped flowing and I composed



Danielle Vinca,  
Little Lambs Director

myself, I asked my son how he knew that verse and his reply was "my teachers, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Fabian". These women and from what I have learned since, the entire staff at Cambridge, not only know Bible verses, they practice and live it. This to me is the only true education. An education that will last a lifetime. At CCS I have come full circle; graduate, parent and now educator. Children thrive in a nurturing and loving home and school. I am grateful for the Kingdom Education my son is receiving and the impact it has already had on our family.

## The following Lancers were inducted into our Cambridge Christian School Athletic Hall of Fame on October 12.



Kelley Taylor Nugent – '06  
Valerie Kessel – '06

Donnie Kmiotek – '98  
Mary Campbell Johnson – '94



## ALUMNI

### Updates

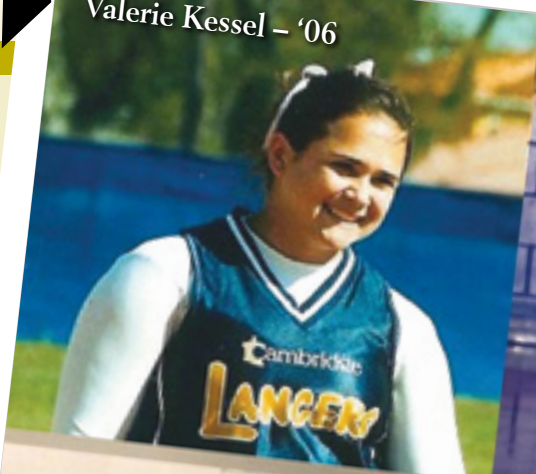
**Sarah Grove Johnson**  
'12 graduated with a  
Master of Science in  
Speech Language  
Pathology from Florida  
State a University



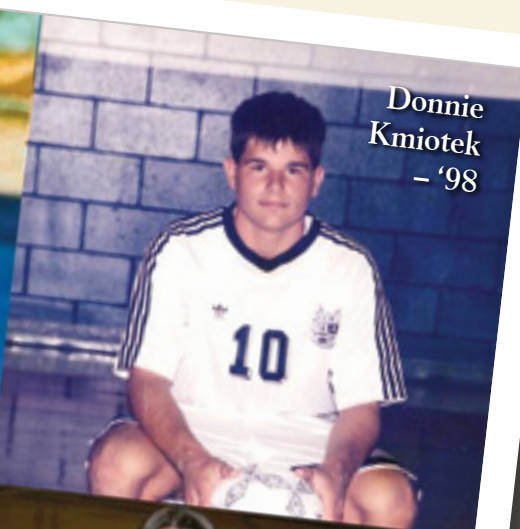
**AJ Cooper**  
'15 completed his  
summer internship  
with Red Bull in  
Atlanta assisting with  
their sports marketing  
and special events.



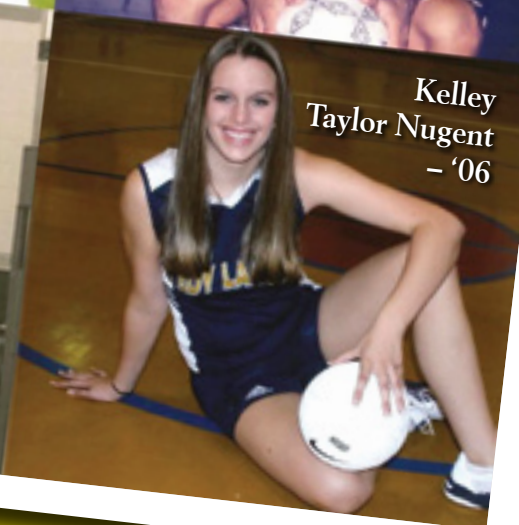
Valerie Kessel – '06



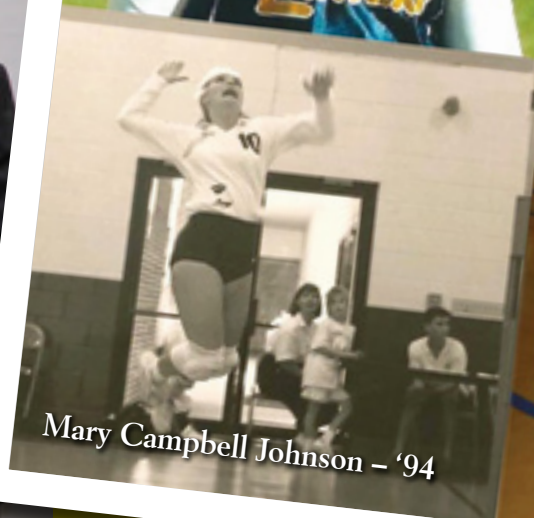
Donnie  
Kmiotek  
– '98



Kelley  
Taylor Nugent  
– '06



Mary Campbell Johnson – '94



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