

Los Altos Brethren School Newsletter June 2017

Graduation announcements from Los Altos Brethren alumni fill our mailboxes these days! May I boast a bit? Our Los Altos Brethren students are successfully graduating from area high schools and colleges. What a joy to see our alumni doing well! Sometimes it's hard to see our preschool and elementary age children as adults but it happens faster than any of us can imagine.

Our prayer for your family is that as you make schooling choices for your child's future, Los Altos Brethren School will be an option. Consider the moral values that you hold and the future you are picturing for your child. Consider the individual attention and the joy of coming to school each day! Consider the breadth and depth of academic potential along with incredible character development. Los Altos Brethren School holds to our mission of partnering with you, as parents, to educate, lovingly challenge, and Biblically encourage your child toward lifelong success.

We are thankful that your family has been with us this year. You have allowed us to intentionally love your child! Whether your child is continuing with us for next Fall or you are leaving us, you are now and forever a part of the Los Altos Brethren Family!



Important Calendar Dates:

June 4 - Piano Recital, 1:30pm, basement
June 5 - PSG Meeting, 7:00pm, rm 11
- Potluck @ 6:30pm, bring a dish to share!
June 6 - Early Dismissal @ 1:50pm
June 7 - 4th Grade Mission Field Trip
June 8 - Choir Showcase, 6:30pm, basement
June 9 - PSG All-American Hot Dog Lunch
June 12 - 1st Grade Readers Theatre, 10:30am
June 13 - Park Day, Grades 1-6
June 13 - 6th Grade Graduation, 7:00pm
June 14 - Last Day of School, Grades K-5
12noon Dismissal
NO AFTERNOON DAY CARE

LOST & FOUND: Check to see if your child's sweater or jacket is on the rack. All remaining items will be donated to the Long Beach Rescue Mission on June 9th.

REFERRALS: Spread the word. If you refer a family to LABS and they enroll, you will receive \$100.00 off a month's tuition. Thank you!!

SCHOOL SPIRITUAL TRUTH FOR JUNE...

God is our steadfast comfort.

"Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."

- Deuteronomy 31:6

PRAY FOR OUR SCHOOL AND EACH OTHER DURING THE SUMMER

For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that **without ceasing** I make mention of you always in my prayers. Romans 1:9

TUITION ACCOUNTS:

- All accounts must be cleared before the last day of school, June 14th.
- June tuition, band & choir fees are due.
- Report cards will not be issued if you have a balance on your account.
- May/June day care will be billed the week of June 5th.

REENROLLMENT PAPERWORK: If you have not turned in your enrollment/authorization for emergency care forms, please send them in by June 9th. *If phone numbers, addresses, etc. change over the summer, please contact the office.*

SUMMER MUSIC LESSONS:

- Piano lessons with Mrs. Dolmage starting July 5th. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Dolmage at saralindsaymusic@gmail.com
- Lessons on all instruments with Mr. Yamaguchi starting June 19th. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Yamaguchi at losaltosmusic@gmail.com

Elementary Summer Office Hours: Tuesday, 9:00am-1:00pm. Email checked daily.
Preschool Summer Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:00am-5:30pm

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CHRISTIAN *School* COMMENT

Volume 47, Number 8, 2015/2016

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: WORTH THE COST?

Is it really worthwhile to spend your hard-earned money on a Christian education? At ACSI, we firmly believe it is. I've invited Karen Winter, superintendent of Turlock Christian Schools (Turlock, California), to share some of the reasons why Christian schooling is worth what it costs. —Dan Egeler

Our kids mean the world to us as parents. We would do anything to help ensure their future success and Christian character development. However, as financial pressures weigh on families across the country, you may have wondered whether a Christian education is really worth the cost.

As a Christian school superintendent for 35 years in both church and independent schools, I've had the pleasure of hearing hundreds of testimonies from students, parents, and alumni about the exceptional academic education they received at our Christian schools. One of our recent graduates, who attends a prestigious university, recently shared her professor's accolades: "In all my years, I've never had a student who could think and debate with facts so clearly and not just argue. Where did you learn to debate with such conviction?" With a confident smile, our graduate replied, "Senior Bible class."

Bravo to the dedicated Christian school teachers and leaders in all our schools, because these results are emerging from thousands of Christian schools. In fact, there are several benefits to attending a Christian school:

1. The 2002 National Center for Education Statistics report showed that students who had completed eighth grade or higher in a private school were **twice as likely as other students to graduate from college**. They are also **twice as likely to complete a bachelor's degree or higher** than those who have attended public school, according to the National Educational Longitudinal Study of 1988.
2. Christian school students consistently **score top marks on standardized tests** and college entrance exams. "Private high school students scored significantly higher than public high school students on reading, math, and science assessments by age 15, and by age 23 had higher levels of educational attainment" (Frenette and Chan, 2015).
3. Between 90 and 100 percent of Christian school graduates **attend their university of choice**.
4. Christian education reinforces a **commitment to excellence**, strengthening a biblical Christian worldview.

5. Christian schools have a **higher percentage of students involved in extracurricular, leadership, and outreach activities**, which help develop new talents, responsibility, discipline, and a heart for serving.
6. A 2007 study reinforced the power of **dedicated teachers** in private schools (Van Pelt, Allison, and Allison). Christian teachers help children reach their God-given potential.
7. A **safe, secure learning environment**, one of the keys to student success, is a top benefit of a Christian school.
8. Christian education **supports a positive, Bible-based value system**, helping ensure your child makes good choices.

Two days after transferring to our school, one student said, "I love it here. The teachers and kids really care about me, and no one ever calls me names." The student's parent added, "If I had known Christian schooling would make this much difference in my child's life, we would have changed years ago!"

On occasion, I hear disappointing stories of students who leave Christian schools because they want to be in a bigger sports league or a larger choir. All too often, the child gets in with the wrong crowd and loses motivation. Grades drop and college plans fade, resulting in lost hopes and dreams. Time and time again, parents say, "I wish I would have kept my child in the Christian school. This was one of the biggest mistakes I've made!"

Being in a Christian environment with the support of other Christian parents, teachers, and students is one of the most important benefits of a Christian education. No amount of money can replace the benefits of Christian education for your child's future!

Karen Winter
Superintendent of Turlock Christian Schools, Turlock, CA

Reference

Frenette, M. and P. Chan. 2015. *Academic Outcome of Public and Private High School Students: What Lies Behind the Differences?* www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11f0019m/11f0019m2015367-eng.htm

Van Pelt, D., P. Allison, and D. Allison. 2007. *Ontario's Private Schools: Who Chooses Them and Why?* www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/OntariosPrivateSchools.pdf



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