



BLESSING BLAST

"Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith..." Heb. 12:1

March 15, 2019

This Week:

Parent Teacher Conferences

-Mar 22nd @ 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

SPRING BREAK

-Mar 25th-29th

PTF Meeting

-April 4 @ 7 p.m.

JH Curriculum Night

-April 9th @ 7 p.m.

Coming Up:

Spring Play

-April 11-13

Preschool to the Zoo

-April 12th

20/21 DC Trip Info Meeting

-April 18th @ 6:30 p.m.

NO SCHOOL

-April 19th

This Wednesday afternoon caught me by surprise. I've worked in eight different schools over the past forty-two years, and at no time when I was about to leave did I have a problem standing up in front of a staff and saying, "Thanks for the memories...we'll stay in touch." It was just a job, after all, and even though I liked the people I worked with, they were simply casual friends and working associates. Nothing to get emotional about.

But this last Wednesday was different. I'd planned for weeks to make an announcement regarding my decision to leave NCCS, but it was to be no big deal. In fact, I was to make the announcement at a routine staff meeting – no fuss, no muss...and definitely *no* emotion. I was certain I could pull this off in my usual cool and collected manner – a short speech, a few hugs, and then jump on my trusty horse and ride off into the sunset.

Unfortunately, I was completely deluded. "What was I thinking?" I asked myself as I entered the staff meeting that afternoon. The friends I've made here at NCCS have been quite amazing, and unlike any I've had in my previous schools. For one, I found that I was completely connected with all of them – not just emotionally, but spiritually. It's what the Greek New Testament refers to as "Philia" love – a powerful emotional bond found in Christian friendships.

Here I was, ready to cut the cord once again. But it was different this time. From the moment I tried to get the words out of my mouth, I choked with emotion and my eyes began to water. I looked around, somewhat embarrassed, but still couldn't form the words I needed. I was completely overwhelmed. And then I realized that this had been the reason I had come here in the first place. I had been in public schools my entire career, and it had been a spiritual desert the whole time. My ability to express my love of Christ had been totally suppressed. But being at NCCS with these people had drawn me closer to God, and I was finally able to be myself for the first time in decades.

I love my staff, and for this reason I've found this separation to be harder than ever. To be honest, I've never served a more wonderful group of Christian men and women in my life. I can only hope and pray that whoever follows in my footsteps next fall will realize quickly the gift they are about to inherit. It took me a while, but last Wednesday I realized what an awesome gift God had given me four-and-a-half years ago. And I will never forget the men and women of NCCS who made my job so joyful and fulfilling. Thank you!



Auction Tickets On Sale

Families can now purchase tickets for the annual Spring Auction, which will take place at NCCS on Saturday, May 4th, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$30 each, with a \$5 ticket discount if purchased before March 22nd. Purchase

a table of 10 for \$250 or become a Sponsor.

Take a look at <http://ncchristianschool.com/events/nccs-auction>

Attention Junior High Parents

If you are the parent of a 6th, 7th or 8th grade student at NCCS, you are invited to attend our annual High School Information Meeting & Open House, which will be held in the library on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00 p.m.

This meeting will provide information to help you make important choices regarding your student's transition to high school and the many instruction programs and activities. Discussion will include:

- Curriculum and instructional focus for each grade
- Course offerings and programs to fit your child's college or career needs
- Public vs. private high school – Why is private school a better fit
- Dual Credit Programs – Completing college courses while attending NCCS
- AP & Honors Classes – What are they and how do they benefit my student?
- College/Career Counseling
- College scholarships for NCCS graduates
- Sports, music, band, drama and other activities
- Student schedules: What do they look like and how do I make the right choices?

A panel of high school students and teachers will share their experiences and answer questions.

Parent Conferences – Friday, March 22nd

Spring Conference for all parents, K-12, will be held next Friday, March 22nd, between 8:00AM and 6:00PM. Elementary teachers (K-6) have already schedule parents for meeting times in their classrooms, while secondary teachers (7-12) will be set up for open conferencing in the gymnasium. No appointments are necessary for junior high and high school conferencing.

Mission Statement

"North Clackamas Christian School **partners** with Christian parents in providing our students with a biblically-based education that **pursues excellence** in spiritual, academic, artistic, & athletic programs, training them **to serve Christ** daily."