

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3 (NIV)

Dear SCA Families and Friends:

Our 2022-23 school theme is **Blessed**— and we certainly have been! God has been so good to Sound Christian Academy. We are grateful and humbled for His overwhelming gifts and grace.

Looking Back

A few of the many highlights include:

- <u>Launching a newly refreshed WordPress website</u> following the release of our <u>60-year</u> commemorative publication.
- A thrice as nice three-peat: garnering Best of <u>South Sound Magazine</u> for the third year in a row and this time in three categories High School, Middle School, and Middle School Teacher (Kelli Soyring).
- Our first <u>SCA Auction Gala</u> was held offsite a tradition to be continued for years to come.
- We invested in an Admissions Mobile (golf cart) for campus tours with prospective families.
- High School Golf was reintroduced and had a great showing <u>making a state playoff run</u> and <u>Makenna Kelpman (8th grade) took third in state</u>.
- We graduated our first senior class of SCA Lions!
- Our second annual *End of the School Year Bash* was fun and fabulous.
- The first <u>SCA Golf Classic</u> was hosted at Oakbrook our new home course and has been renamed the *Dwane Henning Memorial Classic* in honor of our former Board Chair and benefactor who passed away suddenly this year.
- <u>Carri Jo Timmer moved from Board Vice-Chair to the Chair position</u>, while Craig Kessel assumed the Ex-Officio role.
 - o The Board thanked Tracey Hall for her service then welcomed new Board member Heather Wait and welcomed back Ron Nelson.
- Mary Neff joined the Administrative Leadership Team as our new Dean of Education.
- Summer Projects Completed...
 - o Gym interior repainted, and the gym floor resurfaced
 - o Choir room recarpeted, repainted, and converted into a Worship Center
 - o Library renovated to accommodate a testing center and BASC services
 - o G Building business office and lobby renovation with container for storage
 - o The school days open and close with music from newly installed courtyard speakers
- ...And some are projects pending...
 - o Four-foot interior fencing
 - o Exterior security cameras and lighting throughout campus

- We kicked-off the new school year with our first *New Parent Orientation and Ice Cream Social* followed by the *Back to School BBQ*.
 - o A special shout out to <u>Cheri Beavers</u>, <u>PVN President</u>, and the *Parent Volunteer Network* for all their hard work and hospitality. Thank you.
 - o And we are blessed with the <u>return of our caterer</u>, <u>Kim Young</u>, who prepares all our wonderful meals.
- 100 new students joined us this year, primarily in the elementary school, contributing to the largest enrollment in over a decade 308.
 - o Trisha Thornton moved into the (part-time) *Assistant Dean of Elementary* role to help accommodate our growth along with the addition of two elementary classes and new teachers' aides.
- The <u>Digital Learning Initiative</u> was launched with our one-to-one laptop program for high school students and increased technology in the classrooms.
 - o Jerry Saldajeno and Kyle Hofstetter were named **STEM Department Co-Chairs** for Science and Math, respectively.
- The Run-As-One elementary fundraiser was the biggest to date. Thank you all for contributing!
- We did suffer a small setback when the water heater on the second floor of the High School building broke open destroying the new computer lab and disrupting class space and services on the first floor. We appreciate your prayers and patience as we continue to repair and restore.
- The new SCA brand mark (logo) was recognized with a Graphis Gold Award in the <u>Graphis</u> <u>International Design Competition</u>.
- We recently hosted the third annual *Breakfast of SCA Champions* at the Hotel Murano with faculty and student storytelling raising \$25,000.
- The annual Christmas Chapel was another incredible time of reflection and celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. (Luke 2:11)
 - We are grateful to Calice Black, Cameron Cox, Lisa Mesler, Valerie Abeshima, Yulia Brubaker, Jared Hunt, and Matt Richey for getting our hearts prepared for the true meaning of Christmas.

It is awesome to see God's hand at work in the lives of the students through the hard work and dedication of the faculty and staff that serve our families.

Looking Ahead

A few things to put on your calendars for the new year:

- Make plans to join us on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 5:30 PM for the Coach Beth Wing Court gym floor dedication during halftime of the girls' basketball game in the Douglas E. Bond gymnasium.
- We are excited to announce a new midyear community event: the SCA Student Showcase, Friday, January 27, 2023, from 6:00 PM 8:00 PM.
 - o This will be a fun time to meet, mix and mingle with SCA families and enjoy food and live music while seeing what is happening in the classrooms throughout the campus from PK-12. Current families are encouraged to invite prospective families to attend.

- Re-enrollment begins Wednesday, February 1, 2023. As God continues to bless our numbers, you will want to ensure a seat for your child(ren) early for the 2023-24 school year.
 - o Through the years, we have worked diligently to provide the best value in the South Sound reducing tuition in 2019, then providing discounts throughout the pandemic years, and keeping rates flat until adding minimal increases of 2% (2021) and 3% (2022).
 - o This year we will be increasing tuition 9%. We remain the most competitively priced school among our peers and collegial institutions in the market.
 - o All other general population fees will remain static. There will be nominal increases to the *Optional Program Fees* (Sports, Meals, BASC and Transportation).
 - We remain committed to high quality, affordable Christian education and offer generous discounts and need based financial aid packages (up to 40%) for those who apply and qualify.
 - o Our full pay tuition discounts and deadlines remain:
 - 6% February 1 March 31
 - 4% April 1 May 30
 - 2% June 1 August 15
 - o For more information about our discounts and tuition assistance please go to our 2023-24 *Tuition and Fee Schedule* found *here*.
 - o For questions pertaining to re-enrollment please contact Admissions Director, Greg Olson, at golson@soundchristianacademy.org or call 253.475.7226 ext. 105
 - o For questions pertaining to finance, please contact Jessica White, at <u>finance@soundchristianacademy.org</u> or call 253.475.7226 ext. 131
- Open enrollment for new families begins March 15, 2023.
 - o Don't forget to take advantage of the \$1,000.00 Family Referral Award.
- Save A Date for the **SCA Annual Auction Gala** in late March date, time, and location TBA.

We continue to covet your prayers for the health and well-being of all our families and constituents that make-up the SCA community. And we continue to praise the Lord for His faithfulness and blessings.

Thank you for your support, investment, and involvement in SCA. Holiday blessings to all our families.

Sincerely,

The SCA Board of Directors