



HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ACADEMICALLY
EQUIPPED

BIBLICALLY
GROUNDED

SPIRITUALLY
NURTURED



LOOKBOOK
PRESCHOOL
THRU 8TH

Welcome from the Principal

Mr. Kyle Weener



Since 2019, my family and I have had the privilege to be a part of the Highland Christian School community. As HCS' principal, it is a joy to see our school community thrive. When considering enrollment, faith formation, academic outcomes, expanded programming, new facilities, and enriched community engagement, Highland Christian continues to be a champion and beacon of light to the diverse community we serve.

Established in 1909, our school has a rich history and one that has found much success over the past decade. My desire is that we stay focused on God's calling - not to be great, but simply to be faithful.

It is my deep hope that every child entrusted in our care grows to deeply love the Lord. Alongside an exemplary staff of 100+ Christian employees, we share a commitment to achieve our vision to academically equip, Biblically ground, and spiritually nurture to impact the world for Christ. Whether you are new to our school community or have been a part of our school for generations, we are glad to welcome you to Highland Christian School!

Vision Statement:

Highland Christian School students will be academically equipped, biblically grounded, and spiritually nurtured to impact their world for Christ.

Our Mission:

In order to honor God, we nurture and guide students

- To see the Father's creation,
- To sense order in a world saved by Christ
- To serve God through the leading of the Holy Spirit



Student Life



Profile of a Graduate

A graduate of Highland Christian School develops their personal relationship with Jesus and expresses it through these roles:



CREATION CARETAKER who celebrates and cares for God's creation. Nurture and respect all of God's creation that He has entrusted to us.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. Genesis 2:15



IMAGE REFLECTOR who individually and uniquely reflects God's image. Display God's power and glory, and recognize His image in all whom we encounter.

and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Colossians 3:10



BEAUTY CREATOR who uses their creativity and efforts to glorify God. Invited to design, invent, build, create, dramatize, and restore beauty in order to continue to enhance God's kingdom here on earth.

and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills— to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts. Exodus 31:3-5



SCRIPTURE FOLLOWER who actively connects to God's calling upon their life by applying Scripture. Learn and believe that God's infallible word speaks to all aspects of life.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. II Timothy 3:16-17



TRUTH PROMOTER who seeks and spreads God's truth. Boldly promote God's truth by living it out in word and deed, encouraging others to do the same.

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. Ephesians 4:25



SERVANT WORKER who demonstrates God's love by serving others. Follow Christ's example by humbly and willingly serving others for God's glory.

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10



JUSTICE ADVOCATOR who recognizes and Biblically responds to injustice. Learn to use our God-given gifts and talents to stand up for truth and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow. Isaiah 1:17



COMMUNITY BUILDER who promotes unity and collaboration around them. Build an encouraging and empathizing community. Make God-honoring communities through joyful cooperation and collaboration.

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:4-5



GOD WORSHIPPER who exalts God's name through worship and service as led by the Holy Spirit. Recognize that worshiping God is honoring and trusting who God is, what He has done, and what He will do.

I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together. Psalm 34:1-3



Community Events

Family:

Family Fun Events
 Chapels
 Roller Skating Party
 Grandparents Days

Friends:

Spring Auction
 Golf Outing
 etc...Thrift Store
 Chapels



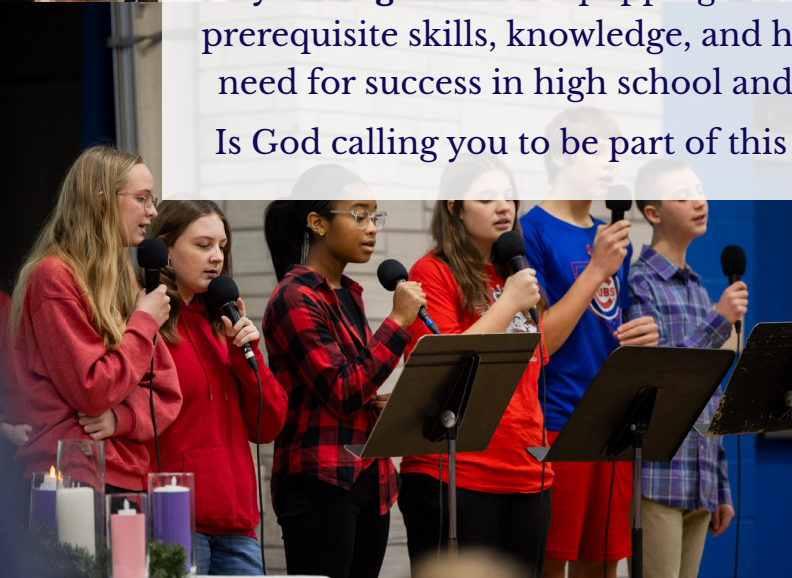


Our Calling

Highland Christian School has a bright future! With a rich history to build upon, deep roots to anchor us, and a beautiful community that supports our school, we press forward in pursuit of our mission which states, “In order to honor God, we nurture and guide students to see our Father’s creation, to sense order in a world saved by Christ, and to serve God through the leading of the Holy Spirit.”

What a great calling this is! We are wildly excited to proclaim the absolute truth of Scripture, and to cultivate our students’ understanding of **who they are** and **to whom they belong** all while equipping them with the prerequisite skills, knowledge, and habits they need for success in high school and beyond.

Is God calling you to be part of this mission?



What does it mean to be “Biblically grounded”?

To be **Biblically Grounded** means to have our lives firmly planted in God’s Word. This is illustrated by a tree or plant with strong roots firmly planted in healthy soil where it is more likely to thrive. The entire narrative arc of God’s Redemptive Story is one of thriving and flourishing. Jeremiah 17:8 says, *“They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”* We will only thrive when we root everything we do in God’s Word. Only with the life-giving power of God’s Word will we flourish in this generation and into the next.

Bible is a core content area where students hear and remember the stories of God’s faithfulness, the stories of God’s redeeming work in Jesus, and the stories of God’s restorative work through His people. Daily students hear God’s story, search the truth of Scripture, and interpret God’s Word for their lives. Biblical grounding happens in Bible class when students hear the story of creation and the fall, when students dig into the faith and failings of King David, when students examine closely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and when students respond to the call of the prophets and the message of the disciples to “love God and love His people”. In order to flourish, teachers Biblically ground their content lessons in God’s Word when students witness the breaking of a chrysalis and re-birth of a Monarch butterfly, when they plant and harvest tomatoes, beans, and lettuce, when students sense the order of functions and equations, when they compare and contrast literature with the redemptive story of God’s Word, and when students recognize their responsibility to build community at home, school, and in the world.

What does biblical grounding look like to our students? Our deepest hope is that our students are firmly planted in God’s Word so they learn to thrive as Creation Caretakers, Image Reflectors, and Beauty Creators. Teachers work diligently to train students to flourish as Scripture Followers, Truth Promoters, and Justice Advocators. Our heartfelt prayer is that our students follow God’s calling to impact the world as God Worshipers, Servant Workers, and Community Builders.

Being **Biblically Grounded** at HCS means that God is at work in the hearts and lives of the students drawing them closer to Him as they learn to grow and walk in faith.

10 Facts about HCS:

- Highland Christian is a nationally recognized Model PLC (Professional Learning Community) School.
- Instruction and assessments focus on critical standards. All grading is mastery driven.
- HCS has created a guaranteed and viable curriculum.
- All students participate in a 1:1 technology program.
- Students participate in PLTW (Project Lead the Way). HCS has received national recognition for our implementation.
- Students utilize flexible seating to maximize movement in the classroom.
- Highland Christian actively partners with over 110 unique churches.
- Highland Christian actively seeks various grants to improve security, academic services, and professional development for staff.
- Student retention is regularly between 98% - 99%.
- Highland Christian serves as a non-public leader in the state of Indiana and with CSI (Christian Schools International).





HCS is a Model PLC School

Excellent Christian schools not only teach from a Biblically-rich perspective, but are academically robust and ensure all students learn at high levels. Highland Christian embarked upon this journey of excellence in 2016 when it first adopted the Professional Learning Community framework. As a PLC, grade levels work together to develop a guaranteed and viable curriculum to ensure every child learns the essential skills necessary to be successful in the upcoming grade. As a result of this ongoing work, Highland Christian continues to see student growth well beyond a year's worth of learning and exceeds grade level expectations (compared to other schools and demographic statistics) on all state and internal assessments.

The three big ideas of a PLC are learning, collaboration, and results. These three ideas focus all of our efforts on the student.

To best partner with the family and serve the child, we ask 4 questions:

1. What do we expect our students to learn? (Standards/Desired Outcomes)
2. How will we know when they are learning? (Data/Evidence)
3. How will we respond when they don't learn? (Intervention)
4. How will we respond when they already know it? (Accelerated Learning)

2020

Years of
Experience

15:1

Student to
Teacher ratio

14

Student Support
Professionals

53

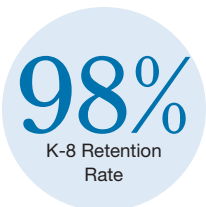
Students in
High Ability
Programming

Standards-based

Standards-based learning focuses on student proficiency against these objective knowledge standards. From this list of standards, Highland Christian School has identified “Power Standards” that are essential at each grade level.

We also practice standards-based grading (SBG), which provides parents and students specific, meaningful information in regard to a student’s mastery of each standard. Standards-based grading is making a substantial educational impact for students from kindergarten to 8th grade. This transition to standards-based grading is beneficial for teachers, parents, and most importantly, the students in the following ways:

1. SBG allows teachers to clearly define student progress at a given skill.
2. SBG correlates to higher academic achievement of students.
3. SBG provides an appropriate game plan for each student.
4. SBG promotes student-centered classrooms; not teacher-center classrooms.
5. SBG (4,3,2,1) is NOT related to an A, B, C, D scale. It solely is based on student mastery. A “3” means a student meets the grade-level skill.



Results-oriented:

Student mastery levels are assessed periodically through formative and summative assessments. Based on this data, students receive a variety of push-in and pull-out supports that fill gaps or advances learning.

Collaborative approach:

Through an ongoing process of collaboration, systematic inquiry, and action we are constantly in pursuit of better student outcomes.

Growth-minded:

We believe that one key to improved learning for students is continuous, job-embedded learning for educators. We provide regular access to and funding for ongoing learning.

Setting & Reaching goals:

Ten years ago, we set a goal that 70% of our students would perform at the 70th percentile or higher in Math and English Language Arts (ELA) on MAP testing. In 2021, 49% of our students were at the 70th percentile in Math. At the completion of the 2024 school year, 69% of our students are at the 70th percentile! Additionally, in 2024, when comparing IREAD 3 results to our local public schools, HCS ranks 1st with a combined score of 98.2%!



Arts at Highland Christian School:

Whether it is singing in the preschool's Thanksgiving program, or playing an instrument in the school band, the arts are alive at HCS.

Music: Beginning in kindergarten, students participate in music class, where the foundation is laid for rhythm and singing.

Band & Choir: In fourth grade, students are introduced to instruments through learning to play the recorder. Subsequently, from fifth to eighth grade, students participate in band and choir.

Art: Kindergarten through eighth grade have art class once per week.

Theater: Students in junior high are encouraged to participate in an annual spring theater production. This can be through the creation of sets, props, and costumes, audio-visual, singing, dancing, and acting.



Students in grades 6 through 8 have the opportunity to participate in team sports.

Sports are divided into the following seasons:

Fall (August-October):

- Co-ed Soccer
- Co-ed Cross Country
- Girls Volleyball

Winter (October-February):

- Boys Basketball (Oct-Dec)
- Girls Basketball (Jan-Feb)
- Boys & Girls Wrestling
- Girls Cheer (Oct-Feb)

Spring (March):

- Boys Volleyball

Spring (April-May):

- Co-ed Track





Advancement & Development

Established by God and for His glory, Highland Christian School's leadership team is in constant pursuit of excellence. Our advancement and development initiatives align with School Improvement goals which are updated every five years and address key needs within our school community. We are excited to co-labor with you and other community partners to see our students thrive!

Impact our KIDS

- Volunteer in the school
- Pray throughout the year with us
- Serve on the Board
- Participate in special Projects

Impact the COMMUNITY

- Provide Professional Support
 - Use your knowledge and skills to advance God's purposes at HCS!
- Provide Financial Support
 - Annual Gifts – provide for current needs!
 - Recurring Gifts – Maximize your impact, capitalize on convenience!
 - Major Gifts – Make a high impact investment in a high-stakes need!
 - Legacy Gifts – Share our passion for Christ-centered education? Join our family!

Join the HCS Foundation

Through the HCS Foundation, we are resourcing the future!

Donate, Shop, Serve at etc... A Thrift Store



EIN 35-0898393 Association for Christian Instruction
(d/b/a Highland Christian School)

School Colors



School Mascot: Husky



Head



Body



Paw Print



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