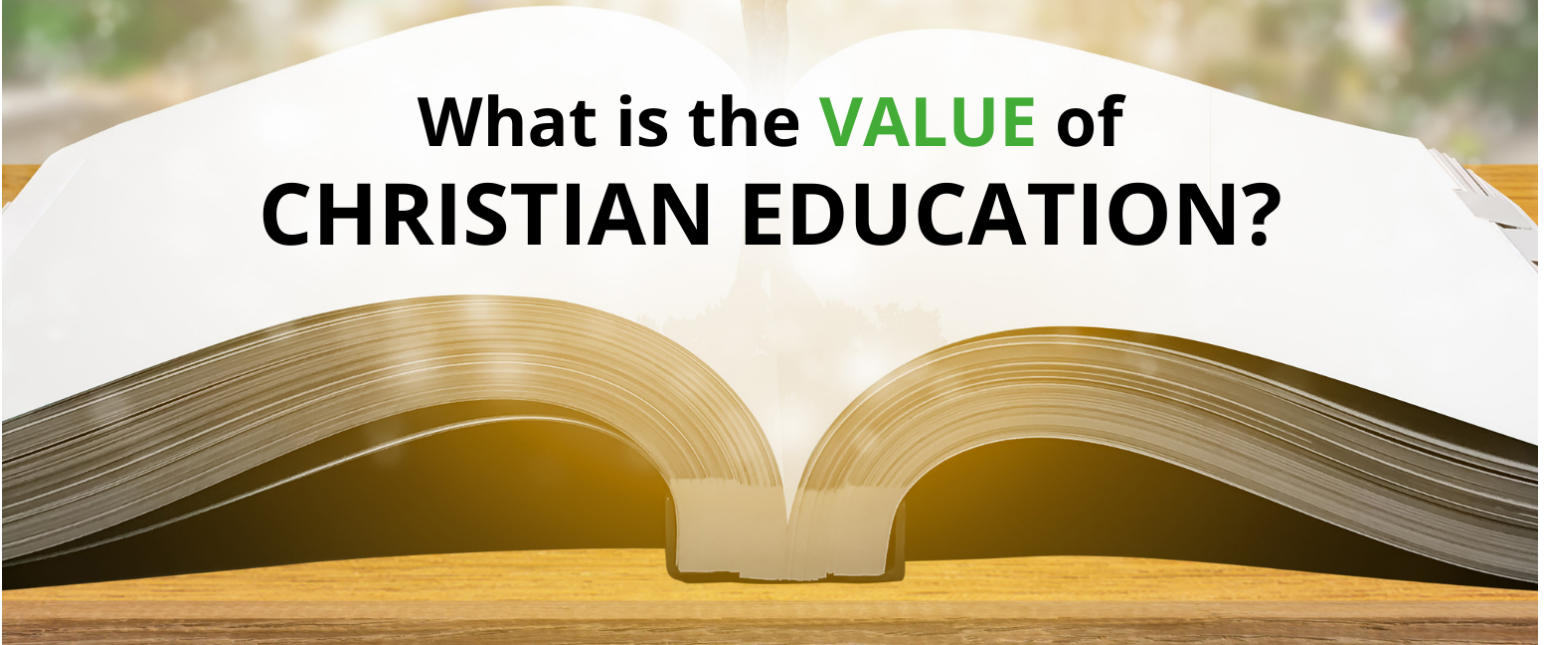




**FLINT HILLS
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**



What is the **VALUE of
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION?**



*In memory of Amy Ward whose love of
Jesus, life, learning, and books was contagious.*

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Introduction

There is a movement happening right now towards Christian education and it's becoming a topic the media can no longer ignore as more and more parents are seeking out options in education. In Kansas alone, over 100 teaching positions have been cut.¹ It's amazing how God is using the post-pandemic dissatisfaction in the public education system to advance His kingdom despite the major obstacle of surging inflation. If you are still unsure about making the switch, we are so glad you are taking time to read this document.

"In the past two years, a mass exodus of over 1.2 million students has left the public school system as parents seek alternative education routes, such as public charter schools, private schools, and homeschooling." - The Daily Signal²

There is plenty of speculation as to why this movement is taking place, but we believe it's because parents are realizing that each student spends **nearly 16,000 hours** from Kindergarten through 12th grade within the walls of an educational environment. Also, that there are influences, philosophies, and bureaucracy at play that perhaps do not align with the beliefs held in their homes. We also believe parents desire to have more educational involvement and the ability to make decisions concerning their child(ren).

With now just 4% of millennials having a solid biblical worldview³, it's clear to see that we need a fresh way of thinking when it comes to education, or **our next generation will truly not know Christ**. While *any* school can have excellent programs, teachers and extracurricular activities, we have a different model, which is to be an extension of the Christian home in an effort to develop each child in body, mind and spirit.



Photo Details: Kindergarten students practicing their writing skills. (May 2022).

¹ <https://libertas.org/education-empowerment/families-are-leaving-the-public-schools-in-droves/>

² <https://www.dailysignal.com/2022/08/08/back-to-school-blues-droves-of-americans-ditching-public-school/>

³ Rainer, Thom S. *The Millennials: Connecting to America's Largest Generation*. B&H Books, 2011

What is Christian Education?

What even is Christian education? For those who have yet to experience the immense benefits of Christian education, this is an extraordinarily valid question and one that deserves some intentional exploration.

Christian education is a way to establish a positive spirit of academic excellence while simultaneously fostering sincere faith from a very young age. It seeks to teach students how to view the world through a Biblical lens, how to walk faithfully with God, and how to understand and defend Christian beliefs. If children don't know what they believe or why they believe it, they will not remain faithful to what they don't understand. Fortunately, in most Christian schools, providing quality academics alongside the development of a solid Biblical worldview is so intertwined that there isn't really one without the other.

The United States contains a large number of religious denominations which means there is a vast array of educational and religious philosophies found within Christian schools. For the sake of consistency, it is very important to research the specific beliefs of *any* Christian school of interest to ensure it aligns with the faith practiced within the home. Oftentimes, Christian schools are associated with an established denomination, but there are many that are independent and non-denominational.

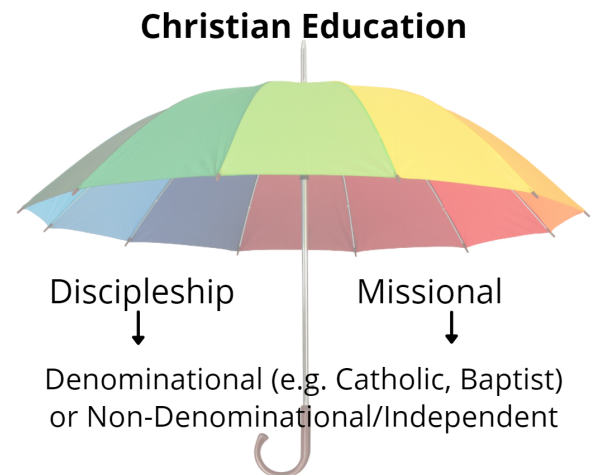
Example Questions:

- What is the mission and vision of the school?
- What is the school's statement(s) of faith?
- What is the school's philosophy of education?
- What are the school's core values?
- What are the expected student outcomes?

Going just a little deeper, there are two prominent types of Christian education worth noting and those are discipleship and missional. Each of these has tremendous value to the Kingdom, but they each serve an entirely different purpose.

As an example, we are a discipleship school, and that means we serve students who come from a Christian home. Think of Flint Hills Christian School as a resource for those who want a community of support behind their scriptural-based parenting. This isn't to keep children in a bubble or to shelter them, but it is to provide a *safe* platform within an educational environment to practice and train with real-life experiences.

It's important to note that this is a community that strives to do God's will, **but we are all human**. Our students are not exempt from things like discipline and accountability. As life circumstances arise, and they do, students and families are rallied around, supported, prayed for, prayed with, and loved. Our overall expected outcome with this approach is to do all we can to prevent a student from straying from their relationship with Christ and therefore produce well-educated, effective leaders of tomorrow who confidently love, serve, and honor God.



In contrast, missional schools are ones that seek to bring salvation to families and students, usually (but not always) through the teachings of a specific denomination. Because of this, they have less requirements in their admission process and an acceptance rate higher than discipleship schools.

Biblical Worldview

Thus far you have read the term *Biblical worldview* in a couple areas, so before moving forward, let's take a moment to define this concept and outline its value. This is important to understand because our students receive intentional and immediate Biblical worldview integration in both their curriculum and classroom culture beginning at Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade.

We believe a Biblical worldview means accepting the standard of authority is God's Word and that it is the defining measure of truth, which is to be followed and applied in all areas of one's life and in all efforts to understand the world. It is also to be used for training, correcting, teaching, and convicting. Using this as our guide, we approach education through a Biblical lens in order to fulfill the mission of our school.













💡 Did you know? Flint Hills Christian School has 35+ churches represented within its student body.



Photo Details: 3rd - 12th grade participants in the Flint Hills Christian School Spelling Bee competition (Dec. 2021).

Comparing Options in Education

School choice is the freedom parents have to select an educational organization that best fits their family. Every child deserves to be taught in the specific way they learn, and because we believe God created every child to be unique, the approach we offer is unique as well. Let's take a closer look at some of the impactful ways Christian education is flourishing in comparison to other options.

Standards ⁴	Christian Education (Examples: discipleship, missional, denominational, non-denominational,, classical schools.)	Non-Christian Education (Examples: traditional public schools, charter schools, virtual schools, magnet schools, montessori schools.)
Operates from a written mission and statement of faith that outlines Biblical foundations and beliefs.		
Facilitates spiritual formation of students, provides opportunities for discipleship and outreach, and fosters the development of a Biblical worldview.		
Develops a Christlike culture in which staff and students demonstrate respect, sensitivity, and responsiveness to individual needs and differences.		
Engages stakeholders in ways that develop community, promote accountability, and improve institutional effectiveness.		
Provides an instructional program that promotes a biblical worldview, supports the school's expected student outcomes, and fosters high student engagement, critical thinking, and academic growth.		
Provides a distinctively Christian environment in which students are well cared for, feel supported and secure, and are encouraged to pursue godly and healthy living.		

⁴ "ACSI INSPIRE - Accreditation Revision Process." Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), <https://www.acsi.org/accreditation-certification/accreditation-for-schools/inspire>

Discipleship

One last term to intentionally explore is *discipleship*. We are a discipleship school, as mentioned and explained on page six, but one may wonder how that applies to students. We define discipleship as putting Christ's teachings into selfless and sincere action. Let's look at some examples of this in application.

Prior to the pandemic, our elementary students have partnered with area long-term care facilities to show the love and joy of Christ through song, crafts, time spent, hand massages, and by playing games with residents. Students participated in quarterly visits, but also made cards and art work to be delivered to residents as an additional way to provide them a message of Christ's love and joy. We look forward to resuming this soon.



Photo Details: Students traveled to The Voice of the Martyrs in Bartlesville, OK to serve in their Operations Center (June, 2021).

We also partner annually with the Flint Hills Breadbasket (a local food bank) to support their mission to minimize hunger and poverty. Our students collect hundreds of pounds of food to donate each fall. Similarly, students help University Christian Church with their meal packing project, which is a ministry that also works to alleviate hunger in places such as Zimbabwe.

Secondary students are required through their Bible classes to perform a minimum of 8 hours of community service each quarter. Because of this requirement, many students have found creative ways to collaborate with ministries through their home congregation and have even traveled to places like the Voice of the Martyrs headquarters in Oklahoma to serve hands-on. This school year, Secondary students have completed a total of 616 hours (and counting!) in discipleship to our greater Manhattan community.

 *Did you know? Flint Hills Christian School is a Pre-Kindergarten - 12th grade educational organization.*

School athletics and other extracurricular activities are an additional area where discipleship and character is not only taught but given a safe platform for real-life practice. It is through a combination of practices, games, winning and losing that discipline, the development of positive habits, and true character is cultivated.

Can Christian Schools be Accredited?

Yes. We are proudly accredited with the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) *and* the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), a division of Cognia. Because of our high standards in quality education, our average ACT score is 26 with the state average being 21.6 and the national average being 20.8.⁵



AdvancED and
Measured Progress
are now



Individualized Learning

While Christian schools generally have smaller class sizes, this is just a part of the whole of what individualized learning looks like. Yes, a small student-to-teacher ratio has incredible benefits when it comes to things like quickly answered questions, classroom management, and student accountability. However, what really sets private education apart is the freedom to move through the curriculum at a pace and tempo that supports the genuine learning of every student in the class.

Here at Flint Hills Christian School, we have curriculum standards which are firm and set by our dual accreditors and also our Board of Directors. Think of those standards as the *bones* of our educational skeletal system. Teachers have the flexibility and freedom to add in experiential learning activities, to allow students to excel in

⁵ "The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018." American College Testing (ACT).
<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/cccr2018/Kansas-CCCR-2018.pdf>

their specific areas of interest, and to dedicate the necessary amount of time in instruction to ensure students are truly soaking in the content. This key part of individualized learning is the *muscle* of the curriculum, flexing and moving as needed to ensure comprehension and information retention within each member of the class.

But what sets all of this into motion? What is the thing that causes systematic function in the rest? The part of individualized learning that sparks the curriculum and instruction forward is parent involvement, which can be visualized as the *nervous system* of it all. Without parents intentionally guiding and encouraging their children, teaching values from home, communicating with teachers, and truly being involved, our educational organization could not be successful at serving students properly.

 *Did you know? Flint Hills Christian School offers athletics, debate, drama and scholars bowl.*

Lastly, we have a long-standing partnership with the local school district, which allows us to receive special education services on-site. This partnership provides greater access to Christian education for students with educational supportive needs ranging from IEPs to gifted services. It is important to note, however, Flint Hills Christian School is not equipped to accommodate the special needs of all children. After review of a student's particular needs and approval of the Administrator and teacher(s), students with exceptional physical, medical, cognitive, language, or emotional needs *may* be accepted. While the resources available to us are very limited, we are incredibly grateful for our special education teacher and for the paraeducators who work on campus.



Photo Details: Caedan K. selling the homemade puppy treats he made from scratch with a paraeducator as a fundraiser (Feb. 2021).

Athletics

As a Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) approved school⁶, we have a Class 1A, D2 enrollment. We participate in the series of KSHSAA approved schools championship tournaments and proudly display banners in our gym and trophies in the hallways to commemorate athletic accomplishments. We are also members of the Kansas Christian Basketball Association.

The Warriors compete against area Christian schools and homeschool groups. We also compete against area 1A schools in basketball and volleyball. Cross country and track teams compete against schools ranging in size from 1A – 6A, including Manhattan High and Rock Creek. Go WARRIORS!



Photo Details: Jacie Hurla signing on to play volleyball at Manhattan Christian College (Dec. 2022). From Left: Richard Hurla (dad), Janell Hurla (mom), Jacie Hurla and Lauren Sanders, head coach for the Manhattan Christian College Lady Thunder.

Extracurricular activities are a vital and important part of the experience we offer. While spiritual growth and academics are the primary reason to consider Flint Hills Christian School, participation in team sports supports the development of a well-rounded student. For example, student athletes are able to develop leadership and collaboration skills, which are highly valued when they enter the workforce following high school or college graduation. Additionally, sports provide a way to display God-given talents while being a Warrior for Christ. We

⁶ "KSHSAA Approved Schools Detail Information." Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA). <https://www.kshsaa.org/Public/General/ApprovedInfo.cfm?SchoolNo=KSS0827>

focus on honoring God through our play and good sportsmanship, which is evident in how prayer and scripture are incorporated into practices.

There is a full range of competitive athletics available for grades 7th - 12th, with some participation being permitted by 5th and/or 6th grades depending on roster numbers. The sports available are: boys and girls cross country, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls track and boys and girls golf. Additionally, football is available through the Manhattan Eagles program, which combines our students with homeschool students from the C.H.I.E.F organization. In the spring of 2023, we will be adding trapshooting for boys and girls.


Due to the size of our student body, our teams are generally small. The advantage of small team sizes is that students who may not have had an opportunity to participate in sports in larger schools are able to compete at Flint Hills Christian School. Plus, we are still visible to college scouts as they look for athletic talent.

"A successful program, one which meets the needs of students, is not based solely on a high school staff putting all the pieces together at the varsity level. It takes a community to help achieve this goal."⁷

For us, a successful athletics program looks like student athletes meeting eligibility requirements, coaches displaying excellent leadership, individuals volunteering at events and supporters filling the bleachers. The rhythm and balance of this fosters character development, a team mindset and team spirit, higher academic performance and promotes a strong work ethic. **It really does take a community.**

The athletics department has been blessed to have gym improvements made during the recent construction project such as new bleachers and new scoreboards. Additionally, over the summer a dirt track was created north of the school. Prior to this, our track athletes ran around the school grounds, placing them at a significant disadvantage to those they competed against. The student runners are very grateful for this improvement since it is now a regulation sized track.

Our athletic director and experienced coaches are excellent at supporting the whole student athlete. However, propelling our programs forward requires additional resources. Through a state of the art gym, complete with dual practice courts, improved equipment and large auditorium, incredible opportunities would open up. We would then be able to implement more activities of student interest, such as plays, musicals, robotics, coinciding athletic practices and tournaments as well as be able to invite community engagement. Additionally, a paved track complete with a grass infield would allow the school to add sports such as soccer as it grows. We look forward to how God will continue to grow and advance our athletics department.

 *Did you know? Local businesses such as Varney & Associates, Genesis Health Club and Wildcat Fitness & Fun support our athletics department through our booster program!*

⁷ "Creating a Positive Connection Between Youth, High School Sports in a Community." National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS). <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/creating-a-positive-connection-between-youth-high-school-sports-in-a-community/>

Student Athlete Accomplishments



Elizabeth Fuller, 9th Grade

In August 2022, Elizabeth set a State Drug Tested record as recognized by the United States Powerlifting Association (USPA) in the Junior Women 13 - 15 age group by benching 66.10lbs.

Additionally, Elizabeth set a State Drug Tested record as recognized by the United States Powerlifting Association (USPA) in the Junior Women 13 - 15 age group by deadlifting 187.40lbs.



Nevaeh Pearson, 11th Grade

Per MaxPreps, Nevaeh is currently a top performer in the state of Kansas girls basketball for points per game, rebounds per game and blocks per game. She is averaging a double-double which means she is averaging ten points and ten rebounds per game. Very few players average double-doubles as it is very difficult to achieve.

Additionally, Nevaeh recently led the FHCS Varsity Girls to win the 2022 Shea Basketball tournament.



Michael Malone, 11th Grade

At our first Cross Country race of the 2022 season, Michael ran in the 4K (2.5miles) race. He took 1st place and set a new FHCS HS Boys 4K record with a time of 15:24.5min. This time also makes him the #1 KCAA (Kansas Christian Athletic Association) 4K time of the season.

At our State meet he ran an 18:15.88min 5K at Warner Park, here in Manhattan. This is a very challenging course yet his time places him in the top 10 in the KCAA. Out of 9 races, he medaled at 6 of them. 5 of those medals being top 10.



WARRIORS

Sense of Community

There is a level of community to be found within Christian education that is unmatched. It is made up of a diverse group of individuals who all share a common love for Jesus and a passion for academic excellence.

Throughout the year, we offer a wide variety of fellowship opportunities. Of course, families get out of it what they put in, but there's no shortage of areas to plug-in. Here are just a few examples:

- Our annual auction is always a well attended and an incredibly fun event. This is normally held in the fall and a dressier gala is held in the spring.
- If you're looking for a group of women to grow close to, each August we have a women's retreat to welcome and include all new FHCS women. We also have a Facebook group called FHCS Ladies.
- Our PTO is actually called PATT (Parents and Teachers Together). This is a group of men and women who get together specifically for the purpose of fostering community and engagement within FHCS families.
- There are plenty of committees and even advisory councils to be involved with for those who enjoy contributing in a meaningful way as a group.



Photo Details: Students enjoying their Green Walk celebration day (May 2022).

💡 *Did you know? Flint Hills Christian School has been a part of the MHK community since 1983.*

We have prayer groups, student retreats, fundraisers, movie nights, and so much more, but the one thing that really brings families together is our service hours requirement. We require that parents complete a certain number of hours each year in service to our students, teachers, and staff.

- a. Household of full-time Pre-K student – 30 hours of approved service
- b. Single parent household of full-time student – 15 hours of approved service
- c. Dual parent household of full-time student – 30 hours of approved service

We require this partly to keep payroll and other expenses at a minimum, which in turns means the most affordable tuition possible, but also to display *discipleship* through you to your children and other students. Areas of service include (but are not limited to) athletics, event planning, drama, library, lunchroom, becoming a board member, classroom coordinator, baking treats/making meals, skilled labor, and school maintenance.



Photo Details: We love grandparents! This image was taken during our Grandparents Day Parade (Sept. 2021)

How We Got Here

We began in 1983 with just 35 students as part of Living Word Church. Thirty-nine years later, we have grown and developed into a flourishing independent school enrolling 232 students in 2022.

Flint Hills Christian School experienced significant growth within the first ten years, which was a major part of the decision to become a community Christian school operating independently of Living Word Church. Shortly before the 1995/1996 school year, 15 acres of land was purchased and a 24,500 square foot building was built, which then opened in the Fall of 1996. One year later a Pre-Kindergarten class was added and enrollment was at 130 students from 30 area churches.

In 2000, we received the gift of three modular buildings that were used to increase our Secondary classroom spaces as well as host a special education department. Our student body continued to grow so in 2012 the Catterson Family Science Building was opened. This expansion greatly enhanced the science learning experience by offering drastically improved teaching and lab facilities. After this, however, enrollment began to stall so through much prayer for direction and for the return of student body growth, a new strategic plan began in 2018 to reach 300 students by the year 2030.




Photo Details: Dennis Mullin, Dr. Moni El-Asar, DC Hackerott, Matt Zimmerman and Jason Smith during our groundbreaking ceremony (June 2021)

Just two brief years later, the implemented approach was exceedingly successful making it very clear that our school was quickly running out of room to meet the enrollment demands of our community. In early 2020, the Raising Warriors Capital Campaign was launched to expand our facility with a dedicated elementary wing. The global pandemic that began around the same time only increased our growth, which was confirmation that our plans were to continue by relying completely on God's goodness.

Many of our classrooms were at maximum capacity or experiencing a waiting list. While the leadership, staff and teachers efficiently utilized the current space, there was an opportunity to have an even larger impact on area students by expanding the current facility. It is a blessing to say that we broke ground in June of 2021 to build a much needed elementary wing.

As further evidence of answered prayers, in the last year we began to broaden our professional team at an administrative level, we received our first major grant, and have the highest enrollment our school has ever seen. Our focus now is to excellently serve each and every student by remaining true to our core values in a world that is moving further and further away from biblical principles and traditional wisdom.

 *Did you know? Flint Hills Christian School's student body has grown by 40% since 2017.*

Profile of a Flint Hills Christian School Graduate

By now, you may be wondering what results to expect in a child after investing in Christian education. Expected student outcomes (ESOs) are the basis for the programs we offer and is our effectiveness measure. After all, if you aim for nothing you will hit it every time. This intentional list gives us as an organization and you as parents a clear focus, especially when certain results can feel intangible (i.e. spiritual aspirations). All of this to say, everyone stands to benefit from identifying what our organizational mission should look like lived out in the post-graduation lives of our students. Here are our Warriors for Christ ESOs⁸:

Spiritually Ready

Commit to and develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Know, understand, and apply God's Word as a standard for daily life.

Are able to articulate and defend their faith and Christian worldview while having a basic understanding of opposing worldviews.

Are empowered by the Holy Spirit and pursue a life of faith, exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit in their lives.

Treat their bodies as the Temple of the Holy Spirit.

Personally respond to carrying out the Great Commission locally and around the world.

Are actively involved in a church community, serving God and others.

⁸ "FHCS Board Policy Manual." Flint Hills Christian School (FHCS).

<https://flinthillschristianschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/FHCS-Board-Policy-Manual-6-14-2021-1.pdf>

Become Christian servant-leaders of their home, church, and community.
Commit to developing and using their spiritual gifts.

Well-Educated

Are skilled in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Are proficient in math and science.

Have a knowledge and understanding of people, events, and movements of history and the cultures of other people and places.

Appreciate literature and the arts and understand how they express and shape beliefs and values.

Have an appreciation of languages and cultures of other people, helping to dispel prejudice.

Know how to responsibly access resources including technology to find, analyze, and evaluate information.

Are committed to life-long learning.

Have the critical thinking skills to question, problem-solve, and make wise decisions.

Value intellectual inquiry and are prepared to engage in the open and honest exchange of ideas.

Engages with the World

Value and engage in appropriate social and community activities.

Practice justice, mercy, and peacemaking in their family and society.

Are good stewards of their finances, time, and resources.

Understand that work has dignity as an expression of the nature of God.


Respect and relate with integrity to the people with whom they live, work, and play.

Value the worth of every human being as created in the image of God.

Appreciate the natural environment and practice responsible stewardship of God's creation.

Are equipped to practice the principles of healthy, moral family living.

Practice Biblical hospitality towards all people.

 *Did you know? Flint Hills Christian School has six board members with great faith in Jesus Christ who are building upon a strong foundation and helping the school flourish in its season of growth.*

Donna Cranford, Board President, Preschool Teacher at UCC Preschool Academy

Joseph Dillon, Vice President, Command Sergeant Major, Allied Trade Supervisor, MATES at Ft. Riley, KS

Dr. Moni El-Aasar, Retired Engineer with BG Consultants

Dennis Mullin, Chairman at SPS Companies, Inc.

Amy Vandorn, FHCS Stakeholder and Homemaker

Jennifer Foveaux, Owner of JointFit Chiropractic and Licensed REALTOR® at ERA High Pointe Realty

Graduating Class of 2023



Caleb Buchanan has a big heart and is a highly esteemed member of our student body. Every Wednesday night during the school year, Caleb helps with Awana. In fact, he has helped there every year since he graduated out of the program in sixth grade. Other areas of involvement include the Flint Hills Christian School comedy club, plays, and he also helps lead friendship mentoring groups. He is truly a servant leader.

Caleb has plans to become a high school math teacher and is currently deciding if he will go directly to Kansas State University or if he will complete general education courses at Manhattan Area Technical College then transfer.



Joshua Fredricks came to us just last year and is an incredibly talented young man with a huge love for Jesus. In addition to prioritizing Christian education for himself, he is a very successful athlete (in the Kansas Top 10 for rebounds, blocks and steals) and works hard on a ranch in Junction City.

Josh plans on attending the University of Michigan for mechanical engineering with a minor in software engineering.



Jacie Hurla is a sweet, talented, recording holding Warrior for Christ. She was named the Kansas Approved Schools Championship All-Tournament Team in 2021 and an Honorable mention in 2022.

Jacie wants to use her love for the Lord and children by staying in Manhattan to continue her volleyball career at Manhattan Christian College while also majoring in counseling and early childhood education. Jacie officially signed on with MCC Lady Thunder in December, 2022.



Kaylee Johnson, a very skilled athlete, has been a lead pitcher for her softball teams since the age of 13, with pitches reaching up to 64 mph. For volleyball, she placed 2nd in state on her volleyball team here at Flint Hills Christian School.

Kaylee is currently enrolled at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, NE and will be completing their two year Building Construction program. Once that is complete, she will figure out which area she would like to major in: construction marketing, safety, quality, etc. Her goal for summer 2023 is to intern with Mortenson Construction on one of their sites in Utah.



Caeden Kephart has probably the most contagious energy and smile. Gifted with a love for socializing, Caeden has never met a stranger and is always willing to jump right into anything. He is truly filled with the joy of the Lord.

After completing 12th grade in May, he will go to Manhattan High School for the 18 - 21 program. He will be on a job site daily and receive instruction in a one content area in preparation for the workforce. Caeden attends University Christian Church with his parents, Corey and Barb Kephart.

Alumni in Our Community



Mike Dunn, Class of 1999

The name 'Dunn' might be a familiar one to you since this family has been part of the fabric of our school for decades. Mike, son to William and Molly Dunn, graduated as an FHCS Warrior in 1999. Mike then went on to attend Central Christian College in McPherson, KS where he graduated in 2005 with a bachelor in liberal arts and an emphasis in criminal justice and small business management.

Mike began his professional career with the Riley County Police Department 10 years ago and is now proudly celebrating his recent promotion to Sergeant, received January, 2022. Lacey Dunn, Mike's wife of 15 years, is a former teacher with us and together they have two children that both attend FHCS full-time.

"Great Christian leadership, great school and great community! Totally worth it. God definitely has His hand in this place with a bright future!" - Mike Dunn, Alumnus



Ashlyn Shultz, Class of 2016

Ashlyn, daughter of Brian and Mel Shultz, graduated as an FHCS Warrior in 2016. She then attended Kansas State University where she graduated with a B.S. in Political Science and Philosophy. Next, Ashlyn was awarded her Juris Doctorate from the University of Kansas School of Law. After being admitted to the bar in 2022, Ashlyn became an associate attorney at Arthur-Green, LLP here in Manhattan.

"I can't speak highly enough of my experience. With the smaller, more intimate classroom setting, I was given many opportunities to practice leadership, there was always someone listening and willing to answer my questions. The teachers encouraged me to further pursue faith as I started to get interested in it, and always entertained deep conversations about serious questions of Christianity.

I can't give Flint Hills credit for my faith today (sorry, Jesus gets all of that), but they set me up with the foundation of a biblical worldview that, despite my strenuous testing of it out in the "real world," continues to hold up." - Ashlyn Shultz, Alumna

School Accomplishments

- This year we have introduced Summit Ministries Bible curriculum to our secondary students. We are thrilled to have this as an additional tool to infuse discipleship and relationship with the Lord in a way that cultivates profound faith in each student.
- We are excited to offer a Financial Literacy course for Secondary students as a graduation requirement. This course, beginning for the first time in January 2023, emphasizes good stewardship, proper saving and spending habits, and fundamental financial concepts.
- Our students now have Forensics and Debate added to the list of available extracurriculars. The purpose is to help students develop lifelong skills in critical thinking, research, persuasion and communication.
- What an honor it is to have added more faculty and staff who desire to teach students how to view the world through a Biblical lens, how to walk faithfully with God, and how to understand and defend Christian beliefs. All of our students are now able to benefit from a counselor, further para support, and two music teachers.
- Our building expansion fell behind schedule due to supply chain and construction staffing issues, making it necessary for us to think creatively on how to move forward with our 2022/2023 school year. We decided to delay the start of school from August 17th to August 24th to provide the additional time needed for our teachers to set up temporary classrooms in three separate locations: Crestview, Emmanuel Baptist Church and the Green Valley Community Center. School began in these three locations on August 24th and on September 14th we welcomed our students into our beautiful new elementary wing!

Student Accomplishments

- 11th grade students Nathan Dunaway and Jonathan Featherstone participated in the Fall 2021 InvestWrite® competition and placed 2nd and 3rd in the Kansas Senior High School Division. They were notified of this accomplishment in Fall 2022. For this honor, Nathan earned a scholarship in the amount of \$4,000 and Jonathan earned a \$2,000 scholarship. InvestWrite® is a program of the SIFMA Foundation⁹ offered exclusively to students participating in The Stock Market Game™¹⁰.
- Reed Hofstra, 8th grade, was awarded Best New Recruit of the Year through the Civil Air Patrol (Air Force Auxiliary) Konza Composite Squadron. He received this award in January, 2023.
- Lacey Mullet, 7th grade, Paxton Mosier, 2nd grade, and Kiptyn Plummer, 5th grade, were honored and recognized at the Manhattan Optimist Club as Youth of the Month in October, 2022.

⁹ "SIFMA Foundation." Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA).
<https://www.sifma.org/about/sifma-foundation/>

¹⁰ "What is the stock market game?" The Stock Market Game, a program of the SIFMA Foundation.
<https://www.stockmarketgame.org/>

· Deborah Burch, 7th grade, and David Shultz, 8th grade, advanced from our school's spelling bee to the Pottawatomie county spelling bee, which took place in Wamego in February, 2023. Burch won on the word *affluent* and will now be sent to the Kansas State Spelling Bee for the next round of the national competition.

· Benjamin Dunaway and Levi Craft, both 6th graders, earned 1st place in the 2023 Kansas History Day District 4 Contest, a National History Day program, under the Junior Group Website category. Their project will advance to the state competition. National History Day is a yearlong learning opportunity for students in grades six through twelve, that offers students the opportunity to explore topics that interest them. They conduct research, using primary and secondary resources, and then analyze the information. The theme for history day this year was 'Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas'. The title of their project is 'Roald Amundsen-Journey to the Bottom of the Earth'.

· Neveah Pearson, 11th grade, was named the K-State Credit Union - KMAN Student Athlete of the Week on KMAN News Radio March 21, 2023.¹¹



¹¹ "KMAN News Radio" K-State Credit Union Student Athlete of the Week.
<https://www.facebook.com/1350KMAN/posts/pfbid0hNoZUy1FPVvXvU8TSr1F1pMuAxA36nhwHgZrREMU4nFYmUDf7L3zQE3U2VwBeupQI>