



The KNIGHTLY NEWS

Columbia Christian School • PreK-12th Grade

June 2019



SPECIAL GRADUATION ISSUE

Wow, your child seems to really love school. What's your secret??

Let me tell you about Columbia Christian...

As Columbia Christian celebrates all of their students moving upward and onward, the school's mission remains: to teach Christian character, Christian faith, and world-class academics in a safe environment.

Your referrals are the best way for Columbia to continue growing and impacting the lives of students. Tell your friends to schedule an Educational Success Consultation, which will be conducted directly with Mrs. Vensel.



Twenty-eight seniors lined the stage for graduation on Thursday night. Among the class of 2019 graduates were nine Distinguished Scholar recipients, 13 National Honor Society Members, 11 scholar athletes, and 28 special servant-hearts.

Dean Joel Davis presented traditional graduation awards to top ranking students selected by faculty and administration. Davis presented the Timothy Award, that honors a student who has exhibited great attitude with great perseverance, to Zeke Keller. Saylor Dukes received the Chuck Lawrence Award for a student who exhibits outstanding service on and off campus. The Morgan Outlaw Award for a student whose life exemplifies genuine Christian faith and whose attitude and leadership positively impact the lives of others, went to Brooklyn Davis.

The Valedictorian, Cole Wagner, was also presented with the Mr. CCHS award for exemplifying the academic, social, behavioral, and spiritual qualities Columbia strives to promote and nurture in its students. Miss CCHS was awarded to Isabella Banducci for the same criteria. Salutatorians this year were Saylor Dukes and Maddy Yadav.

Bart Valentine, selected by students as commencement speaker for his humble leadership as a math teacher and athletic director, shared video clips to illustrate wisdom gained through decades of coaching experience.

Family, friends, school staff, alumni, and other supporters filled the auditorium to celebrate the accomplishments of this excellent group of young men and women. An enthusiastic cheer punctuated the ceremony as the tassels were turned and many caps were tossed into the air. The class of 2019 joins the legacy of decades of Columbia graduates who have moved on to the next chapter of their lives, having built a foundation on God's truth and being prepared for lives of service to his kingdom.

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL



FIELD TRIPS 1st & 2nd to Food Bank, 7th & 8th to Ape Caves, 7th to OMSI, and 3rd to Pittock Mansion



HS BLUE LAKE



ELEMENTARY BBQ & FIELD DAY



PREK & K HONORS



BANNER KNIGHT



8TH GRADE GRADUATION



Disneyland!

In May, the senior class flew to Orange County to spend an exhausting-but-exhilarating 24-hours at Disneyland. These friends who have learned and grown up side-by-side at Columbia Christian enjoyed their special trip to the Happiest Place on Earth.

The seniors have been planning this trip for years, fundraising and saving to be able to make these golden memories.



Europe 2020

Castles, cathedrals, coastlines, and countrysides will become the classroom on the Europe trip in Summer 2020. Participants will see the British Isles, from the rolling, rugged beauty of the Ring of Kerry to magnificent man-made cathedrals like St. Patrick's in Dublin and Shakespeare's Birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon. From there they will experience the history of London with a tour of the incredible Tower of London and the Queen's Walk before heading to Paris for a tour of the Place de la Concorde, Champs-Elysees, the Louvre, and the Eiffel Tower. This 11-day trip will take place in June of 2020, giving students opportunity to raise necessary funds to experience an unbelievable journey. Anyone interested should go to the [tour website](#) and use tour number 2228328AX. Contact [Mrs. Banducci](#) for more information. It's not too late to sign up!

Athletics

The high school spring sports programs recently wrapped up, culminating in a strong finish at the class 2A State Track and Field Meet on May 17/18. The Columbia Christian team had 12 individuals qualify for the state meet, 6 boys and 6 girls. The highlight of the meet for Knight fans



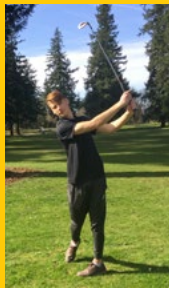
was the last race of the day:

the 4x400 meter relay. The Knight's team of Jared Doyle, Marcus Doyle, Zeke Keller, and Isiah Mariscal came within an eyelash of winning that race, finishing 2nd to the undefeated team from Heppner High School. The same foursome finished 4th in the 4x100 relay earlier in the meet. Marcus Doyle also finished 6th in the high jump, capping an outstanding senior season. On the girls side, the team of Cassidy Deyoe,

Isabella Banducci, Maliah Aldan, and Brooklyn Davis ran their best time of the season in the 4x100 relay to finish 9th in state.



At the recent Track and Field Awards Presentations, Marcus Doyle and Brooklyn Davis were awarded the Most Valuable Track and Field honors. Jared Doyle was voted as the Most Improved Athlete, and Isabella Banducci was presented with the Most Inspirational Award. Congratulations to all track and field athletes and coaches.



For the high school golf season, five golfers participated on the team. Senior Nathan DiVincenzo was the lone golfer who competed in the district meet. He came up short of qualifying for the state meet, but had an outstanding season.

Middle School Track and Field had a fun and successful season, led by Coach Even Yaws. The young athletes learned to compete in various events as they honed their skills in preparation for competing at the high school level down the road. Five athletes advanced to the MCL District Track Meet. Isaac Cashdollar excelled in the throwing events, earning a spot in the very prestigious Meet of Champions, which takes only the top athletes in each event throughout the state at any level. Isaac threw a personal best 40 feet in the shot put, to finish 10th in that highly competitive meet.



Spring Soccer



This year's spring soccer program was once again a great success. Columbia partnered with the coaching staff and players from Multnomah University to run the day-to-day camp activities for around 60 kids—including about 40 1st-6th graders on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 20 PreK and Kindergarten kids on Wednesdays. The participants are already looking forward to next year!

CLASS OF 2019

SENIOR LUNCHEON



"HOLD ON TO INSTRUCTION, DO NOT LET IT GO; GUARD IT WELL, FOR IT IS YOUR LIFE."
PROVERBS 4:13

COLUMBIA GRADUATES ARE GOING PLACES!

The 2019 graduating class includes **Nine** Distinguished Scholars Diplomas.

More than **70%** of seniors took Honors, College Credit, or AP classes this year. **100%** of students passed.

One of the graduates applied to **13** universities and only paid a total of \$35 in application fees – thanks to fee waivers secured with the help of our College & Career Success Team.

More than **95%** of our graduates go on to higher education at colleges and universities, military service, or trades internship programs.

Columbia Christian seniors have already been awarded over \$817,000 in scholarships and grants for college. This is a preliminary number that continues to grow!

Students (current & former) have enrolled in the following colleges and universities:

- Abilene Christian University
- Azusa Pacific University
- Biola University
- California State University
- Clackamas Community College
- Clark College
- Concordia University
- Corban University
- George Fox University
- Grand Canyon University
- Harding University
- Idaho State University
- Lipscomb University
- Lubbock Christian University
- Michigan State University
- Mt. Hood Community College
- Multnomah University
- New York State University
- Northwest Christian University
- Northwest Nazarene
- Oklahoma Christian University
- Oregon State University
- Pepperdine University
- Portland Community College
- Portland State University
- San Diego State University
- Seattle Pacific University
- Stony Brook University
- University of Idaho
- University of Massachusetts
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Oregon
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Washington
- Warner Pacific University
- York College

COLUMBIA CHRISTIAN WILL ALWAYS BE FAMILY

2019 Graduates and Alumni,

Many parents are watching their child walk across the stage to accept their diploma and wondering, "How on earth did this day come so quickly?" Often, tears begin to appear. This is a wonderful time of the year, but a hard time as well. Those who are graduating are excited for the next chapter, but parents say goodbye to their child and welcome the adult that has emerged.



For Columbia Christian, this is a time to remember all the graduates who have been such an important part of the story: ...Graduates who went on to get their degrees in Education, Kinesiology, Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering, Social Work, Biology, Nursing, Human Services, Acupuncture, Medicine, Missions, Physical Science, and Human Development, to name a few... Graduates who have seen their children and grandchildren walk the halls of Columbia Christian School and who have seen such accomplishments as PE Teacher of the Year, published author, ministry leader, and successful business leaders.

Alumni, stay connected. Watch for alumni events throughout the year by visiting the alumni page, the alumni group page on Facebook, and the monthly newsletter. Last December over 70 alumni were present during Homecoming. Stay tuned for communication for the 2019 Homecoming. All alumni are welcome home and special recognition will be made for classes: 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999, and 2009.

Please take 5-10 minutes and fill out the [Alumni Survey](#).

-Jason Housley, Development Director



Answers with Ami

Principal Vensel shares about Columbia's recent partnership with The Protectors

What led you to implement The Protectors program at Columbia?

Because bullying is widespread in our culture, it is one of the most common complaints we receive when students come to us from public school. Due to these increasing concerns, we decided to be intentional and proactive. The best way to create a bully-free campus is to teach kids how to prevent it, to stop it before it starts. We strive to develop character and integrity in our students. We want to foster a school family that responds quickly and consistently to bullying behavior; to send the message that it is not acceptable.

Who is the program geared toward?

Columbia wants to encourage students, parents, and staff to prevent bullying by talking about it, building a safe school environment, and creating a community-wide prevention strategy through partnership with The Protectors program.

Does Columbia have a "bullying" problem?

Our society has a bullying problem. We cannot deceive ourselves by thinking that our students are protected from the evil in this world. Unfortunately, there are now more opportunities for bullying with the Internet, cell phones, and social networking technology. More than one out of every five (20.8%) students report being bullied (National Center for Educational Statistics, 2016). Our response must be educate and equip students in faith, respect, character, and courage.

What can parents do to support this new initiative?

We invite parents to join with us as we partner with The Protectors program and implement their faith-based curriculum to empower our community to be a bully-free environment. Parents can be a great contribution to fostering a positive school climate through the parent teacher fellowship (PTF), volunteer opportunities, and attending school events. We encourage parents to talk with their kids about school, friendships, and to monitor digital devices.



Faculty Attend Brain-Targeted Teaching Workshop

In keeping with Columbia's ongoing commitment to excellence, administrators Ami Vensel and Marquita Moss and two Columbia teachers participated in a workshop in Atlanta last month to learn what current brain-based research reveals about best practices in classroom instruction.

Dr. Mariale Hardiman, professor and co-founder of the Johns Hopkins Neuroeducation initiative and author of The Brain-Targeted Teaching Model, led the 2-day interactive workshop. A key element of the workshop focused on transferring learning from short-term memory to long-term memory.

Principal Vensel secured a grant for the conference, which was hosted by Greater Atlanta Christian School. High school teacher Karen Banducci and elementary school teacher Leah Fletcher, who both created teaching units during the workshop, shared what they learned with the rest of the Columbia faculty in a hands-on session when they returned.



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