



Columbia Christian

FAITH | CHARACTER | ACADEMICS

News and Updates – June/July 2017



Congratulations 2017 Graduates!

Columbia Christian Schools graduated 30 seniors on July 9, 2017. Mr. Evan Ziegenfus, one of our High School support teachers, was chosen by the senior class to speak during graduation. The 2017 Valedictorian was **Christopher Lane**, and the Salutatorians were **Zach Barbarick** and **Samuel Frazee**. Along with these academic awards, the Timothy Award, given to a student who has exhibited a great attitude when perseverance is needed to succeed, was awarded to **Ben Nagel**. The Spiritual Leadership Award, honoring students who are Christian leaders was awarded to **Dustin Vensel**, and **Riley Davis**. The Mr. and Miss Columbia Christian Schools Awards, a recognition given to a male and female student who demonstrate exemplary faith, character, and academics were awarded to **Zach Barbarick** and **Abigail Ray**. Graduation was held in the Eastside Church of Christ building and with all faculty, parents, relatives and friends present it was a full auditorium. Dr. David Tucker, the School Board Chairman presented the graduates with their diplomas.



Save The Date!

"Once Upon A Time", the 25th annual Columbia Christian Schools benefit auction is just around the corner! Alumni and friends of the school will join together for an evening of food, fellowship and fun bidding. Mark your calendars for October 21, 2017 and help us continue to write Columbia Christian's story.



Outdoor Play is better!

Studies have shown that kids who spend more time outside are sick less often and are more physically active. Furthermore, children who play in natural settings engage in more diverse, imaginative and creative play. Students also show improved language and collaboration skills...and they have fun! So, when a small plot of land became available on the north part of campus, the early childhood department jumped at the chance to turn it into a natural outdoor play space. They raised funds through private donations and through some class projects last year to fence the area and cover the ground with bark chips over the summer of 2016. This past fall, they hosted a continuing education class with a local educator and planted a living willow structure. They received a donation of a customized sandbox filled with sand in the spring and then installed a weather station for some science exploration at the end of the school year. They have plans for other additions to the space including some planting pots for some miniature gardens as well as an artist's corner so the kids can create beautiful art. They also want to add natural musical instruments and more wood pieces for the kids to climb on. It is a beautiful space for our early childhood program to grow and play!



70th Anniversary Celebration

Columbia Christian Schools welcomed former students, teachers and supporters to campus on July 15, 2017 to celebrate 70 years of Christian education at Columbia. Alumni came from around the United States and even from the United Kingdom, to participate in the celebration event. Once special honor was to have several students from the first year that Columbia Christian opened back in 1947.

The celebration event included an informal breakfast gathering, a chapel program, tours of the campus, lunch with friends, an alumni basketball game, a choir gathering and singing time, a BBQ hosted by the Columbia Christian Board of Trustees, an evening devotional, and of course, wonderful fellowship.

Columbia Christian will continue to host reunion and celebration events in the future and will keep everyone posted through our newsletter on additional gatherings. In the meantime, alumni, staff and friends of the school are welcome to visit anytime. We love to see the Columbia family on campus!



The mission of Columbia Christian is to provide a Christ-centered education focused on excellence in faith, character and academics.

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