

THE LASTING VALUE OF A COVENANT EDUCATION

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# *A Classical Education in a Modern World*

What is the role of classical and  
Christian schooling in today's  
world?

Why does my child's education  
make a lasting difference?

How does a Covenant  
education create a foundation  
for knowledge and a love for  
lifelong learning?

How can our family extend the  
classical and Christian model of  
education to our home?



**COVENANT**  
CLASSICAL SCHOOL





## *Classical*

YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN TO THINK  
DEEPLY, READ WIDELY, AND WRITE WELL  
THROUGH OUR ENGAGING CURRICULUM  
AND PROVEN TEACHING METHODS.

## *Christian*

AN ESSENTIAL DIMENSION OF LEARNING  
ROOTED IN FAITH WILL HELP EQUIP YOUR  
CHILD TO STAND FIRMLY GROUNDED IN  
TRUTH WHILE ENGAGING THE CULTURE.

## *Community of Grace*

YOUR CHILD WILL BE KNOWN AND LOVED  
AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR AUTHENTIC  
COMMUNITY AND BUILD HEALTHY,  
LIFELONG RELATIONSHIPS.





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Dear Parents,

Thank you for considering Covenant Classical School as a next step for your child.

Education is a profoundly formative experience in the life of a child, and your choice of schooling will have a lifelong impact. In category after category of a recent study from the University of Notre Dame, classical Christian schools outscore all other educational options—public, private preparatory, Catholic, evangelical, and homeschool—by significant margins. We invite you to learn more about Covenant to discover why.

The mission of Covenant Classical School is to provide an exceptional education in the classical tradition that honors Jesus Christ as the beginning and end of all truth, goodness, and beauty. We are distinctly classical, Christian, and a community of grace. These three themes are woven throughout our students' daily experiences at school.

Our classical model teaches students to think deeply, read widely, and write well. We use proven teaching methods that have stood the test of time, and our students wrestle with the ideas that have shaped our culture. The curriculum is intentionally designed to help students find deep satisfaction and joy in learning at every grade level and to learn to express their own ideas with clarity and logic. While studying great literature, history, Latin, math, science, music, and art, your child will be challenged to understand ideas and values that are informed by the historic Christian faith. By including this dimension of learning in the classroom, our students come to understand the world in which they live in a way that is complete and fits together.

All of this is done within a community of grace in which students are known and loved for who they are and where kindness and respect for others are the norm. Our vision, and the outcome of our mission, is for Covenant students to discover the joy of learning and the grace of Jesus Christ.

Please let us know how we can be of help to you as you prayerfully consider the lasting investment of a Covenant education.

Dr. Tom Stoner, Ed.D.  
Head of School

# *The Path to a Covenant Education*

As you seek the right fit in a school for your child, our team is delighted to walk alongside you through the admissions process. Please contact us with any questions you might have.

## **Tour.**

Schedule your tour with one of our admissions team members. We are happy to schedule tours for a time that is convenient for you. Open houses provide an opportunity for families to tour the school with a small group of other parents at the same time. Open house dates are listed under the "Admissions" section of our website.

## **Apply.**

Once you have made the decision to consider joining the Covenant family, create an account online to begin your application. Once you begin your application, you will have the flexibility to log in to your account as needed until your application is ready to submit. After submitting your application and completing the supplemental forms, track your admissions status through your account online.

## **Enroll.**

An academic evaluation and a parent meeting will be scheduled following the submission of your completed application. Academic evaluations are scheduled and prioritized according to application submission dates. Once an offer of acceptance is issued, secure your child's spot by notifying the office and submitting your enrollment information and tuition deposit fee.

We look forward to partnering with you in your child's education!



**Tour.**



**Apply.**



**Enroll.**





# *The Role of Classical and Christian Education*

## **THE WHOLE PICTURE.**

One of the hallmarks of classical education is a rich and engaging curriculum in which all subjects are seamlessly woven together. Each element of the curriculum is intentionally chosen in order to help students recognize the interconnectedness of ideas and find their place in the great conversation of ideas past, present, and future.

How great a gift it is to see a kindergartner progress through the Covenant program in its entirety! Students leave our walls with a deep and comprehensive understanding of our world, of the ideas which have shaped our culture, and of their place in God's plan for His creation.

*A classical and Christian education is best understood by looking at the portrait of a graduate.*



A COMPREHENSIVE AND COHESIVE PROGRAM  
FROM START TO FINISH.

# A Portrait of a Graduate

## BEGINNING WITH THE END IN MIND

Ivy League acceptance. Perfect ACT scores. National Merit Finalists. Accelerated placement. Covenant graduates have accomplished much after completing our program, and we rejoice with them in their success. But while we applaud their achievements, these accolades do not define us as a school, nor do they define our alumni. Academic success is often a by-product of our true mission and vision.

If our students succeed in the academic realm, yet have not hearts of compassion, we have failed them. If our students can think deeply, yet have not wisdom to discern right from wrong, we have left them unequipped. If our students can translate ancient texts with ease, yet cannot wrestle with the ideas that have shaped the culture in which we live and stand upon a foundation of truth, we have left them wanting.

*What defines the Covenant graduate?* The Covenant graduate possesses a lifelong love of learning that was sparked in the youngest years of education. They have a humble confidence in who God has created them to be. They are known, loved, and accepted for who they are. Covenant graduates have a wealth of information tucked away alongside the ability to use this knowledge with wisdom and discernment. They communicate with clarity and logic in both their writing and speech. They stand firmly in their beliefs and present truth with grace.

We begin a Covenant education with the end in mind, training our students to think deeply, read widely, and write well. We strive to equip the whole child, preparing the heart, mind, and soul to embark upon an ever-deepening relationship with Christ. Our desire is to train students to serve Christ purposefully and passionately and to lead others with humility and grace. When our graduates leave Covenant, if they have hearts that love God and others, and have minds that possess both wisdom and knowledge, then we have succeeded in our calling to prepare students for the road ahead.

— “

"The lessons I learned at Covenant will forever positively impact my academic life, my faith, and my goals for the future.

- Covenant Alumna, 2015 -

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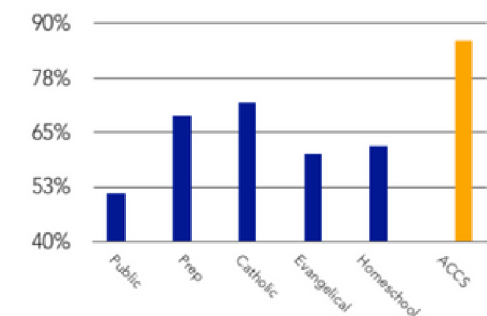
# Does the Choice of Schooling Really Matter?

## A STUDY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

- Sarah Zylstra, Senior Writer for The Gospel Coalition, former Covenant Parent -

It almost looks like a trick. In category after category of the University of Notre Dame report, classical Christian schools outscore all other educational options—public, private preparatory, Catholic, evangelical, and homeschool—by significant margins.

### WELL PREPARED FOR COLLEGE BY THEIR HIGH SCHOOL



Percent of respondents who answered they were prepared perfectly or very well for college.

### COLLEGE AND CAREER

A whopping 84 percent of classical Christian school alumni (ranging from 23 to 44 years old) were better prepared for college and their career.

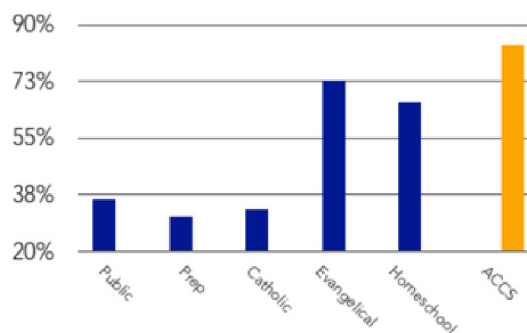
That means more of them told the survey team they felt prepared by their high school—but it also means they scored better on their SATs, earned more A's in college, completed more degrees, and continue to read more books.

### CHRISTIAN FAITH & TRADITIONAL PRACTICE

Even more—90 percent—are above the median in spiritual practices. Nine out of 10 attend church three times a month or more, 83 percent go to a weekly small group, and 70 percent read the Bible weekly.

Over and over, classical Christian school alumni landed higher than their peers—including feeling more thankful, volunteering more, and having more close friends as adults.

### THE BIBLE IS AN INFALLIBLE GUIDE FOR PERSONAL FAITH AND BEHAVIOR



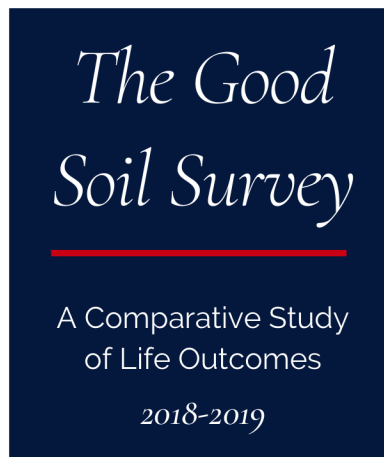
Percent who agreed.



## A WINNING COMBINATION

“The combination of a wide and deep reading in the classics and student engagement around Socratic discussion tables tells part of the story,” the report authors wrote. “So does a focus on respect, manners, and a serious academic pursuit. Logic trains students to think well; rhetoric integrates all knowledge and challenges students to think at an advanced level; Latin to understand more precisely.”

Those factors lead to scores so consistently excellent they almost look like a trick—or a gift, given generously, by a profoundly good and gracious God.

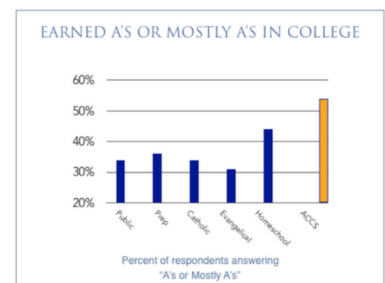
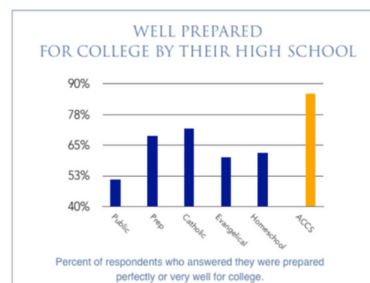


"My background in classical education instilled in me a love for the humanities that remains with me to this day."

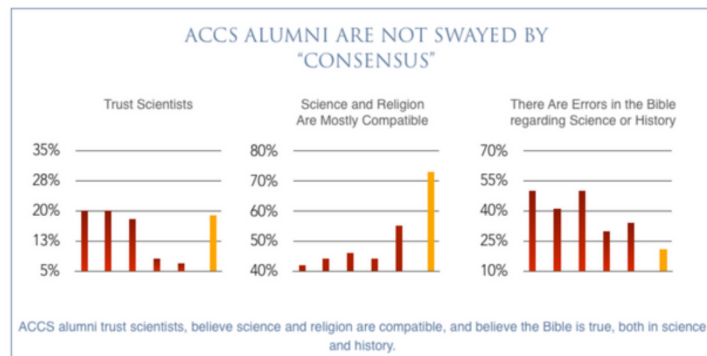
- *Covenant Alumnus*, 2012 -



## COLLEGE & CAREER



## INDEPENDENT THINKERS



## TRADITIONAL VALUES



*Learn More! The Good Soil Survey*

Visit the Classical Difference at [classicaldifference.com/good-soil](http://classicaldifference.com/good-soil).



# *The Essential Progression of a Covenant Education*

## **A FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING**

Our teachers use time-tested methods, including songs and movement, guided discovery, round-table discussions, and Socratic questioning. Classical schooling rests on the foundation of the Trivium, a framework of education that works with the grain of a child's natural development in three stages: Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric.

### *Grammar School: A Focus On Fundamentals*

In the Grammar School stage, students develop a broad knowledge base in every subject area, giving them a deep well from which to draw in later years. The curriculum of the Grammar School is intentionally designed to encourage mastery of fundamental skills. Direct and systematic instruction in phonics, grammar, cursive writing, vocabulary, and spelling builds a firm foundation for writing well. Math taught conceptually establishes a deep understanding of the logic behind the process. Purposeful training in reading closely and making connections between big ideas equips students to approach any new topic with confidence.

Young children are naturally inquisitive and eager to explore the world around them. Hands-on activities and guided discovery encourage curiosity, creativity, and joy in the learning process.

A Covenant education values choosing the best over trying to do it all. Time is given to delve deeply into important ideas, allowing students to develop a strong understanding and deep appreciation for what they are learning.

## *Logic School: A Place to Grow*

Classical methods empower students to express their ideas in a way that is logical, thoughtful, and respectful. Students learn to discern for themselves what is true, good, and beautiful.

The Socratic method of teaching centers on asking intriguing questions that require students to think critically, confront misconceptions, and make authentic connections between big ideas. This method of discussion is utilized across the curriculum, from math to history, science to literature. Formal logic classes undergird a focus on sound analysis, helping students to organize ideas, express themselves well, and listen to different perspectives with humility and respect.

Our Logic School program offers electives that enhance the core curriculum and encourage students to develop their unique gifts. Classes offered include Debate, Art Studio, Marimba Ensemble, and Drama.

## *Rhetoric School: Capstone of a Classical Education*

The classical model of education culminates with the Rhetoric School. Covenant is preparing to extend our schooling to include this crucial stage of development and education, equipping students for a purposeful life with God, humanity, and the world.

Students are taught to properly honor the contribution of every academic discipline by viewing it through the person of Christ. They come to understand each of their individual topics of study as interconnected within the grand story of human thought. Students are actively instructed in the tools of learning and critical thinking. These tools enable students to begin to form their own ideas and arguments about the world and to articulate them persuasively and eloquently through discussion, Socratic dialogue, formal debate, and collaboration.

A Covenant education presents students with the most masterful and influential creations of human thought: great works of art and literature, great ideas of science and philosophy, and great movements of history and culture.

Actively engaging this greatness is, by nature, challenging, but a rigorous curriculum is not an end unto itself. Students are invited to take their places as thinkers and creators in the history of ideas and culture.



# The Trivium

## THE PLACE WHERE THREE ROADS MEET

### GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Building a foundation of knowledge through mastery of the fundamentals, sparking a lifelong love of learning

### GRAMMAR SCHOOL

#### *Teaching Methodology*

- Memorization
- Songs
- Jingles
- Chants
- Movement
- Hands-on activities
- Conceptual instruction
- Presentations

### LOGIC SCHOOL

#### *Teaching Methodology*

- Socratic questioning
- Debate
- Round-table discussions
- Analysis
- Presentations
- First-hand experiences

### LOGIC SCHOOL

Equipping students with the tools to read widely, think critically, and express ideas with sound logic and humble respect

### RHETORIC SCHOOL

Preparing students to wrestle with big ideas and communicate in a way that is both winsome and wise

### RHETORIC SCHOOL

#### *Teaching Methodology*

- Application
- Critical thinking
- Analysis
- In-depth reading
- First-hand experiences

# IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR SCHOOL?

## Kindergarten Readiness

Preparing a child for kindergarten is an exciting time for a family. Even so, this season can also become a time of uncertainty for both parent and child.

Set your child up for success by helping him or her gain these crucial skills.

## ACADEMIC READINESS

Can your child...

- ✓ Focus on a task to complete it?
- ✓ Follow two to three-step instructions?
- ✓ Write his or her first name?
- ✓ Identify and name colors?
- ✓ Identify and name numbers 0-10, putting them in order?
- ✓ Count to 30 or more and count objects?
- ✓ Identify basic shapes?
- ✓ Understand and complete basic patterns?
- ✓ Understand positions words, such as above, below, behind, beside?
- ✓ Recite the alphabet?
- ✓ Identify and tell most letter names & sounds?
- ✓ Identify sounds in words?
- ✓ Write some letters and numbers?
- ✓ Cut with scissors?

## SOCIAL SKILLS

Help your child build lifelong social skills.

Encourage your child to...

- ✓ Cooperate with friends.
- ✓ Wait for his or her turn.
- ✓ Share toys willingly.
- ✓ Respect others' belongings and space.
- ✓ Obey rules and authority.
- ✓ Communicate his or her feelings and needs.

## EMOTIONAL SKILLS

Build emotional maturity within your child.

Seek to help your child...

- ✓ Separate from parents and siblings easily.
- ✓ Respond to and cooperate with adults and other authorities.
- ✓ Be flexible in different and new environments.
- ✓ Show focus for 15 - 20 minutes at a time, not utilizing a screen or other device.

## PHYSICAL SKILLS

Develop your child's coordination skills.

Make learning fun while helping to...

- ✓ Coordinate large muscles by jumping, running, hopping, and balancing.
- ✓ Coordinate small muscles by holding a pencil, cutting with scissors, and putting together a simple puzzle.
- ✓ Care for physical needs, such as eating, putting on shoes and a coat, and toileting independently.

# Curriculum Overview

## THE BACKBONE OF A CLASSICAL EDUCATION

One of the hallmarks of classical education is a rich and engaging curriculum in which all subjects are seamlessly woven together. Each element of the curriculum is intentionally chosen in order to help students recognize the interconnectedness of ideas and find their place in the great conversation.

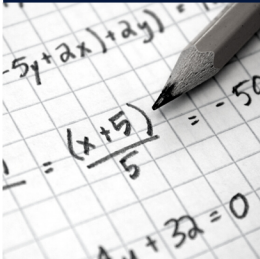
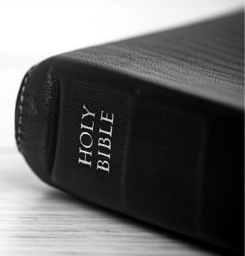


### HISTORY

Through a comprehensive study of world history, students are led to recognize God's providence as it has been revealed throughout time. They come to understand the historical significance and chronological position of influential people and watershed events from creation to the present.

### BIBLE

Through the sequential study of God's Word, students develop an understanding of the overarching metanarrative of Scripture, basic theological concepts and major biblical themes, the attributes and characteristics of God, and the plan of salvation.

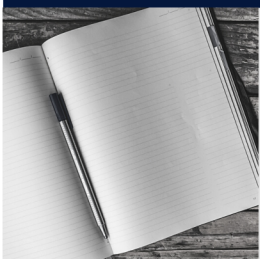
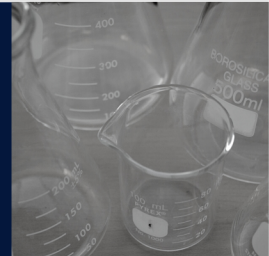


### MATH

We teach not only the procedures of mathematics, but the underlying concepts as well, yielding a much stronger retention of the material, the flexibility to apply knowledge to new situations, the ability to discern best approaches to problems, and a true delight in the subject matter.

### SCIENCE

Each grade level focuses on one branch of scientific study each year. Students are trained to employ scientific methods, engaging in learning that is founded on direct experience and building an understanding that is both functional and deep, developing a genuine appreciation of science.



### GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION

Our students are challenged to wholly embrace the challenge and joy that come from producing great pieces of written work. They engage with a wide variety of writing styles and formats, develop and incorporate a robust vocabulary, research thoroughly and edit carefully.





## LITERATURE

Students are trained to read deliberately and thoroughly. Classic works that have stood the test of time serve as the backbone of our literature curriculum, stories that reveal God's beauty, sovereignty, and creativity, reflecting the ultimate story of love and redemption found only in Christ.

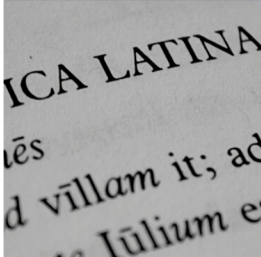
## GEOGRAPHY

Throughout their course of study, students learn the location and capital of every nation on earth, incorporating this knowledge into a broader understanding of the geographical, political, and cultural landscape of each region, nurturing globally-minded leaders who exhibit compassion.



## LATIN

Studying the Latin language provides an excellent foundation for understanding the roots of English vocabulary and for studying other languages. It also trains the mind to think in an orderly fashion, to encounter unfamiliar material in a disciplined way, and to appreciate the beauty of language.



## LOGIC

Logic provides adolescents with the tools they need to seek out evidence, assess arguments, and come to their own conclusions; in short, to truly become their own man or woman. Logic lays the foundation for persuasive essay writing in high school as well as for careers in computer science, law, and many other fields.



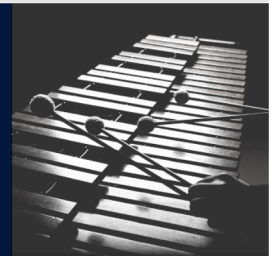
## FINE ARTS - ART AND DRAMA

The fine arts shape our students and teach them to love beauty, truth, and goodness. Grammar School students experience an introduction to each of the fine arts areas, and the Logic School students choose their fine arts experience through a series of electives during their time at Covenant.



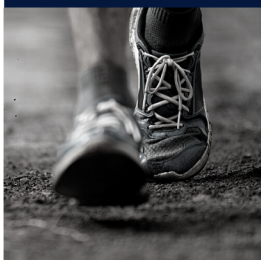
## FINE ARTS - MUSIC

Music at Covenant exposes students to new styles and sounds, guiding them to appreciate a variety of musical genres. They have the opportunity to explore different modes and cultural pieces while actively taking part by becoming the music makers, challenging the intellect and stirring the soul.



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

While taking part in healthy competition, students discover the importance of cooperation while strengthening mind and body. They build lasting relationships with their peers as they participate in team-building activities and challenges.





# HISTORY

Through a comprehensive study of world history, students are led to recognize God's providence as it has been revealed throughout time. They come to understand the historical significance and chronological position of influential people and watershed events from creation to the present, as well as the influence of these on contemporary thought and culture.

Emphasis is placed on the use of primary sources and historical narrative. A holistic approach to instruction is taken, allowing students to develop empathy and a deeper understanding of each era.

History comes alive through special events such as Greek Olympics, a Medieval Tournament, and a Renaissance Faire.

In grades 1-6, world history is studied chronologically, from ancient to modern times, enabling students to develop a thorough understanding of the context of historical events. In grades 7-8, students complete a more in-depth study of world history from ancient to modern times. The study of the Roman empire in grade 8 includes a comparative study of the United States' Constitution.



## *A Chronological, In-Depth Study*

<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	Overview of History
<b>FIRST GRADE</b>	Ancient Civilizations
<b>SECOND GRADE</b>	Greece and Rome
<b>THIRD GRADE</b>	Middle Ages
<b>FOURTH GRADE</b>	Renaissance and Reformation
<b>FIFTH GRADE</b>	Age of Revolution
<b>SIXTH GRADE</b>	Modern Era
<b>SEVENTH GRADE</b>	Ancient Civilizations and Greece
<b>EIGHTH GRADE</b>	Rome/American Civics



## BIBLE

Throughout their time at Covenant, our students are introduced to the big story of God’s creative and redemptive work throughout history as revealed in Scripture. In daily Bible classes, they study God’s Word sequentially from Genesis to Revelation, developing an understanding of the main events and people in the Bible, major biblical themes, the character of God, and the plan of salvation.

Rooting Scripture in its historical context, students learn to recognize patterns of God’s sovereign hand throughout the ages and to see how an understanding of time and place informs scriptural interpretation.

They also see their own place in the metanarrative of Scripture, as sinners created in the image of God and in need of God’s saving grace, who are invited into a personal relationship with Christ and equipped by the power of the Holy Spirit for all godliness.

We believe that God’s Word is truth, and it is applicable to every facet of life and learning. Under the shepherding of Covenant’s teachers and through the power of the Holy Spirit, our students are challenged to hide God’s Word in their hearts and to allow it to transform the way that they live.

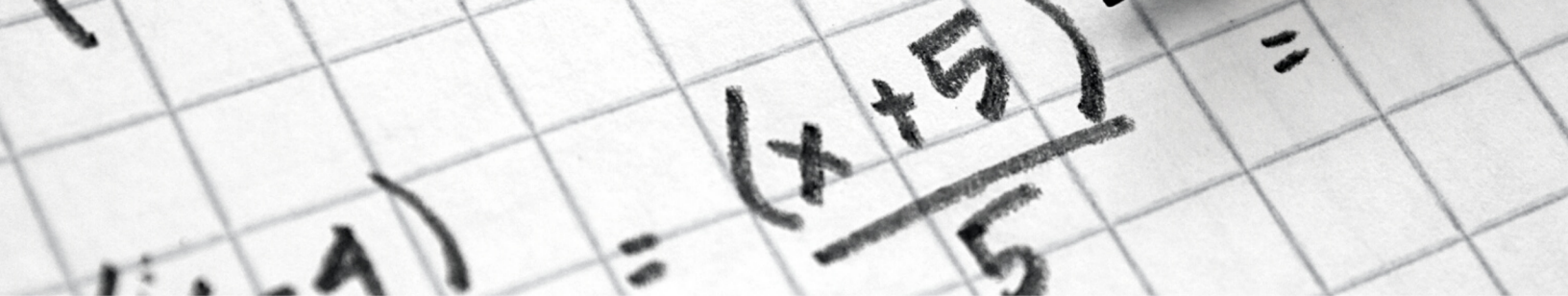
The practice of spiritual disciplines, including regular Bible reading, prayer, and confession, encourages and equips our students to invite the shaping of God’s Word and Spirit in their lives.

### *From the Head to the Heart*

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<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	Leading Little Ones to God
<b>FIRST GRADE</b>	Genesis-Ruth
<b>SECOND GRADE</b>	I Samuel-Malachi
<b>THIRD GRADE</b>	Gospels
<b>FOURTH GRADE</b>	Acts and Paul’s Letters
<b>FIFTH GRADE</b>	General Epistles and John’s Writings
<b>SIXTH GRADE</b>	Old Testament Survey I
<b>SEVENTH GRADE</b>	Old Testament Survey II
<b>EIGHTH GRADE</b>	New Testament Survey





# MATH

We teach not only the procedures of mathematics, but the underlying concepts as well, yielding a much stronger retention of the material, the flexibility to apply knowledge to new situations, the ability to discern best approaches to problems, and a true delight in the subject matter.

Mathematics is a powerful language used to describe relationships and patterns. The certainty of its results are achieved through the application of pure logic. The language of mathematics communicates truths which are found not only in the physical world, but also in the abstract realm where its outcomes are often surprisingly useful and also astonishingly beautiful. We pray that our students will not only develop an appreciation for the power and beauty of mathematics, but that this appreciation will direct them to gaze upon the living God, the author of all mathematical truth, and that they will worship Him for His limitless power, perfection, and beauty.

In order to derive the greatest benefit from the study of mathematics, it is crucial that students are trained to think deeply about concepts and to trace the logic behind each and every result. Instead of forcing students to rigidly adhere to prescribed steps, we encourage them to experiment, explore, and to keep asking questions. This has a formative effect on the minds of young students, producing more disciplined, logical thinking.

## *Practical Application of Logic and Order*

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<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	Saxon Math 1
<b>FIRST GRADE</b>	Saxon Math 2
<b>SECOND GRADE</b>	Singapore Math in Focus 2
<b>THIRD GRADE</b>	Singapore Math in Focus 3
<b>FOURTH GRADE</b>	Singapore Math in Focus 4
<b>FIFTH GRADE</b>	Covenant Math 5
<b>SIXTH GRADE</b>	Covenant Math 6
<b>SEVENTH GRADE</b>	Covenant Pre-Algebra
<b>EIGHTH GRADE</b>	Covenant Honors Algebra I





# SCIENCE

Students are trained to employ scientific methods, engaging in learning that is founded on direct experience and building an understanding that is both functional and deep, allowing students to develop a genuine appreciation of each branch of scientific study.

We train our students to employ the scientific method well, inviting them into hands-on experiences with the concepts they are studying. Beginning in the Grammar stage, students are taught to ask good questions, make logical hypotheses, conduct experiments, and write simple lab reports on their findings.

In the Logic and Rhetoric stages, this process is more fully developed to encourage greater independence, engagement with more complex procedures, and deeper analysis of results.

Because of a scope and sequence that focuses our science curriculum on one branch of study each year, teachers are afforded the time that is needed to delve deeply into the topic they cover. Students develop a genuine understanding and appreciation of each science. It is our desire that our students not only develop a solid understanding of scientific concepts, but also learn to integrate them with their faith. Through experimentation and the inquiry process, they are led to rediscover amazing truths about God's magnificent creation, truths that have been observed by great men and women throughout history. Ultimately, we seek to continually point our students beyond the beauty of creation itself to the inexpressible splendor of the Creator.

## *One Scientific Branch of Science Each Year*

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<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	God's Creation
<b>FIRST GRADE</b>	Zoology
<b>SECOND GRADE</b>	Botany and Anatomy
<b>THIRD GRADE</b>	Astronomy
<b>FOURTH GRADE</b>	Geology and Meteorology
<b>FIFTH GRADE</b>	Introduction to Physics
<b>SIXTH GRADE</b>	Chemistry
<b>SEVENTH GRADE</b>	Biology
<b>EIGHTH GRADE</b>	Physics



## GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION, & VOCABULARY

Strong writing skills are developed through intentional teaching of proper grammar and syntax, an expansive vocabulary, and the practice of eloquent wordsmithing. Writing well requires that each step of the process be practiced and refined, from idea generation to final draft.

At Covenant, our students are encouraged to wholly embrace the challenge and joy that comes from producing great pieces of written work through the IEW program (Institute for Excellence in Writing). They engage with a wide variety of writing styles and formats, develop and incorporate a robust vocabulary, research thoroughly and edit carefully. Strong organization of thought leads to a distinct thesis and compelling arguments, careful word choice and eloquent wordsmithing display the beauty of language, and the rhythm and flow of sentence structure provides a platform from which to convey meaning and purpose. All aspects of the process are considered as students are trained to practice truth, goodness, and beauty through the craft of writing well.

In addition to producing great writing, our students are also given the opportunity to eloquently present and defend their work. From Kindergarten on, our students practice sharing their writing with their peers and other members of our school community. The ability to communicate clearly, persuasively, and respectfully reflects a commitment to building strong rhetorical skill at every age.

### *A Systematic Study of Grammar*

<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	Beginning writing skills
<b>FIRST GRADE</b>	Shurley Grammar 1
<b>SECOND GRADE</b>	Shurley Grammar 2
<b>THIRD GRADE</b>	IEW, Shurley Grammar 3, Wordly Wise 4
<b>FOURTH GRADE</b>	IEW, Shurley Grammar 4, Wordly Wise 5
<b>FIFTH GRADE</b>	IEW, Easy Grammar 6, Wordly Wise 6
<b>SIXTH GRADE</b>	IEW, Easy Grammar Plus, Wordly Wise 7
<b>SEVENTH GRADE</b>	IEW, Easy Grammar Ultimate Series: Grade 8, Wordly Wise 8
<b>EIGHTH GRADE</b>	IEW, Easy Grammar Ultimate Series: Grade 9, Wordly Wise 9



# LITERATURE

Students are trained to read deliberately and thoroughly. Classic works that have stood the test of time serve as the backbone of our literature curriculum; stories that reveal God's beauty, sovereignty, and creativity, reflecting the ultimate story of love and redemption found in Christ.

Covenant's Language Arts program encompasses and integrates phonics, literature, vocabulary, spelling, grammar, and composition. In Kindergarten through grade 2, students receive intensive phonics instruction to equip them with the phonetic skills needed to become fluent readers with strong comprehension. At all grade levels, students are trained to read deliberately and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work's complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in literary form. They are encouraged to discuss great literature with energy and imagination, coming to genuine insight based upon an analytical and critical evaluation of the text.

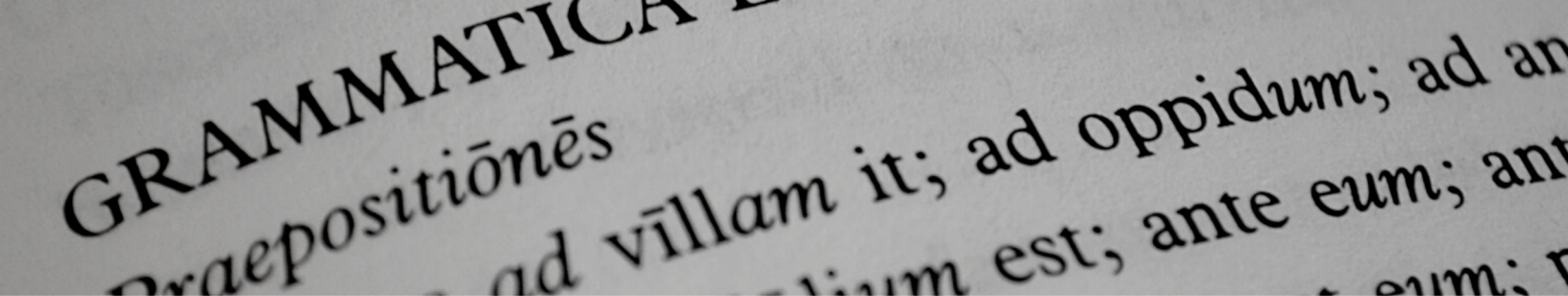
A wide variety of excellent literature is used to teach reading skills and to encourage a lifelong love of books. Because we are asking students to engage in deep literary analysis and to search for what is truly good and beautiful, we provide them with rich ground from which to mine.

## *Classic and Quality Literature*

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A wide variety of classic trade books, in addition to *Little Bear*; *Mr. Putter and Tabby Pour the Tea*; *Frog and Toad Are Friends*; *Harry the Dirty Dog*; *Henry and Mudge*; *Nate the Great*; *Caps for Sale*; *Madeline*; *Miss Nelson is Missing*; *Stone Soup*; *Bread and Jam for Frances*; *Corduroy*; *Blueberries for Sal*; *Billy and Blaze*; *A Chair for My Mother*; *Make Way for Ducklings*; *Miss Rumphius*; *Doctor De Soto*; *Amelia Bedelia*; *The Magic Fish*; *Amahl and the Night Visitors*; *A New Coat for Anna*; *Bears on Hemlock Mountain*; *The Courage of Sarah Noble*; *Little House in the Big Woods*; *The Boxcar Children*; *The Gods and Goddesses of Olympus*; *Homer Price*; *Charlotte's Web*; *Island of the Blue Dolphins*; *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*; *Little Pilgrim's Progress*; *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*; *I, Juan de Pareja*; *Ten Tales from Shakespeare*; *Amos Fortune*; *Sign of the Beaver*; *Where the Red Fern Grows*; *A Wrinkle in Time*; *Lincoln: A Photobiography*; *Out of the Dust*; *A Christmas Carol*; *The Hobbit*; *Treasure Island*; *The Fellowship of the Ring*; *Magician's Nephew*; *Heroes, Gods, and Monsters of the Greek Myths*; *The Trojan War*; *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*; *American Short Stories*; *The Iliad (selected readings)*; *The Odyssey (selected readings)*; *The Aeneid (selected readings)*





# LATIN

Studying Latin not only provides an excellent foundation for understanding the roots of English vocabulary and studying other languages, it also trains the mind to think in an orderly fashion and teaches students to recognize and appreciate the beauty of language.

A formal study of Latin improves a student’s ability to decipher new or complex English words, and the study skills learned in Latin provide a foundation for learning any other language, especially the descendants of Latin (Spanish, French, Italian, etc.). “The past is a foreign country” (L.P. Hartley), and by learning to read Latin texts in the original without translating, students will develop the ability to understand and communicate with people of other cultures. Most importantly, since Latin literature is some of the greatest in the world and Latin grammar is beautiful in its intricate complexity, students will develop an ear for linguistic beauty.

Learning the Latin language is a formative experience, shaping the students’ minds and allowing them to become better thinkers. At Covenant, we teach Latin as a living language: by fifth grade, a large portion of class sessions are conducted entirely in Latin, and students are learning Latin through Latin rather than exclusively through English translation. Learning a language in this way develops crucial critical thinking and inductive reasoning skills, since students have to figure out grammar and vocabulary for themselves. In addition, by translating texts, students demonstrate analytical thinking and attention to detail, skills which transfer to a myriad of other subjects.

## *A Foundation for Language Acquisition*

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*Formal Latin instruction begins in 3rd grade.*

**THIRD GRADE**

Latin for Children A

**FOURTH GRADE**

Latin for Children B

**FIFTH GRADE**

Latin for Children B and Lingua Latina  
Per Se Illustrata

**SIXTH GRADE**

Lingua Latina Per Se Illustrata

**SEVENTH GRADE**

Lingua Latina Per Se Illustrata

**EIGHTH GRADE**

Lingua Latina Per Se Illustrata





# GEOGRAPHY

A comprehensive study of each country and continent of the world empowers students to understand historical events and literary texts in the context of culture, nurturing globally-minded leaders who exhibit compassion and empathy.

Throughout their course of study, students at Covenant learn the location and capital of every nation on earth, incorporating this knowledge into a broader understanding of the geographical, political, and cultural landscape of each region. This comprehensive understanding allows them to identify how geographical and cultural factors influenced the historical figures, significant events, and influential ideas that have shaped civilizations.

In an increasingly accessible world, globally minded students become leaders who exhibit compassion, seek justice, and celebrate unique cultures and people groups. In addition to being well-prepared to participate in a global community, the hearts of our students are nurtured towards virtue in order that they might use their knowledge to serve more effectively, pray more passionately, and spread the good news of Jesus Christ to every corner of the world.



## *Every Nation, Every Location*

**KINDERGARTEN**  
**FIRST GRADE**  
**SECOND GRADE**  
**THIRD GRADE**  
**FOURTH GRADE**

Continents and Oceans  
United States and Canada  
Asia  
Europe  
Central and South America, Australia, Oceania, the Antilles, Mexico and polar regions

*Formal geography instruction concludes in 5th grade.  
Consistent review is given throughout history courses in Logic School.*



# LOGIC

The ancient Greeks called logic the *organon*, the instrument of thought, because logic provides adolescents with the tools they need to seek out evidence, assess arguments, and come to their own conclusions; in short, to truly become their own man or woman. Logic allows us to identify flaws in our thinking that can be harmful in our personal lives, preventing us from being taken in by deceptive reasoning from politicians, advertising agencies, and even well-meaning teachers. Ultimately, logic allows us to “take every thought captive to Christ” and fulfill our destiny as bearers of God’s image by submitting our minds to the Truth.

In sixth grade, students begin their study of logic with philosophy and critical thinking. They discern the background ideas and assumptions in texts and media all around us, and learn how to critique those ideas and articulate our own conclusions. Through this, students learn to identify whether a chain of reasoning accurately leads to its conclusion, and they learn to spot the tricky logical fallacies that make bad arguments look like good ones.

In seventh and eighth grade, students learn formal symbolic logic, learning to reason on a precise, technical level. In alternating years, they study propositional logic and categorical logic. These two branches of logic teach students to compose extended, multi-part arguments, preparing them to write convincing argumentative essays. Symbolic logic also lays a foundation for future work in computer science, law, and many other fields. Most importantly, it helps them acquire intellectual virtue and live more fully as followers of Christ, whom the Bible calls the *logos* of God.

## *A Humble and Wise Pursuit of Truth*

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*Formal logic instruction begins in 6th grade.*

### **SIXTH GRADE**

Philosophy and Critical Thinking, Informal Fallacies

### **SEVENTH GRADE EIGHTH GRADE**

Categorical and Propositional Logic  
(alternating years)



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We emphasize the importance of caring for the whole child at Covenant. Our faculty members engage students in hands-on lessons and physical activity daily--no matter the age!

Our students spend time throughout each week with our P.E. instructor developing coordination, gaining a basic understanding of popular and classic sports, and improving physical and mental well-being through sports and exercise.

While taking part in healthy competition, students discover the importance of cooperation while strengthening mind and body. They build lasting relationships with their peers as they participate in team-building activities and challenges.

## FINE ARTS

The fine arts are an integral part of a classical curriculum, as they shape our students and teach them to love beauty, truth, and goodness.

Grammar School students experience an introduction to each of the fine arts areas integrated with their historical and cultural studies. Logic School students choose their fine arts experience through a series of electives.

### *Art, Music, and Drama*

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#### **K-8 ART**

Art History and Appreciation;  
Development of Artistic Skills

#### **K-8 MUSIC**

Music History and Appreciation;  
Music Theory; Vocal Training

#### **K-8 DRAMA**

Drama History and Appreciation;  
Dramatic Skills Development

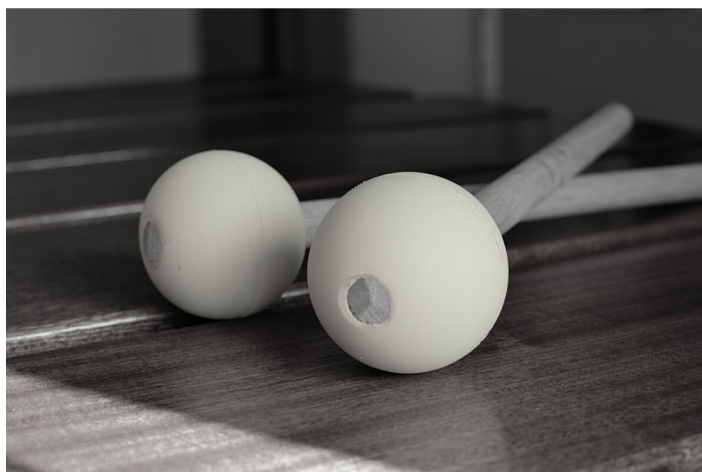




## LOGIC SCHOOL ELECTIVES

*A variety of electives are available from which students may choose each semester. Electives are provided on a rotational basis and are focused on fundamental skills while integrated with historical and cultural studies.*

<b>ART</b>	Color Theory, Bookmaking, Classical Art, Medieval Art, Asian-Inspired Art, Watercolor/Acrylic/Oil Painting
<b>MUSIC</b>	Kusika Marimba Ensemble, Jazz Music, Modes and Modern Music, World Music
<b>DRAMA</b>	Musical Theater, Voice and Diction, Drama Productions, Theater Appreciation/History of Theater, Fundamentals of Acting
<b>ADDITIONAL</b>	Certamen (Latin club), Math club





# The Great Works Initiative

## **SCHOLE: TIME TO STUDY THE MOST WORTHY THINGS**

The purpose of the Great Works Initiative is threefold. We seek to provide intentional opportunities for our students to encounter great works of literature, art, and music; appreciate and collect moments of true beauty; and develop habits of leisure and *schole* that nurture the soul.

This initiative serves as an extension of our classical model, encouraging students to seek out and discover the good, true, and beautiful in their lives outside of the classroom. We hope to build in our students a robust cultural literacy that will undergird not only their educational careers but their lifelong journey of learning.

We offer comprehensive lists at each grade level of the classic literature that we believe every child should read. Our team is also working to include important pieces of art, music, and even film that integrate into our curriculum at each level. It is our hope that this list will be helpful to our parents and serve as a guidepost each time they go to the library or visit the art museum. It will become one more piece of our partnership with parents in the education of their children. Many of these works are available to our students here at school and are integrated into our curriculum. We want to give our students such good books to read and mull over that they are entirely ruined for reading anything but. A good book should be in the hands of every child.

Additionally, students take part in commonplacing. This is a discipline that has been used by men and women throughout history, from Marcus Aurelius to Mark Twain. Simply put, it is the act of collecting beauty. A commonplace journal is a special book in which to record the true, good, and beautiful quotes that one hears or reads. We provide a commonplace journal to each child who enters Covenant, which will travel with them throughout their years with us. This journal becomes a beautiful record of a child's growth and development, as they record the truths and bits of wisdom that have impacted them.

The process of intentionally searching out the true, good, and beautiful is a wonderful way to cultivate a child's taste for these things. The final piece of this initiative is the devotion of time in our school week to *schole*. These moments of rest take various forms, such as time to read for pleasure, contemplate a beautiful piece of art, or record quotes in our commonplace journals. In so doing, we seek to stand against the trend of busyness and hectic pacing so prevalent in our lives today and teach our students how to practice true rest, reflection, and contemplation.

# Co-Curricular Options

## ENHANCING OUR PROGRAM

Co-curricular programs enrich our robust and vibrant curriculum, providing opportunities to delve more deeply into areas of interest and build strong friendships with like-minded students.

At Covenant, we seek to grow and develop the whole person – mind, body, and soul. One way we do this is through our co-curricular programs, which provide opportunities for students to develop new skills and explore their interests outside the classroom.

## DRAMA. FENCING. MATH CLUB.

### *Co-Curricular Options\**

FENCING	MANDARIN
YOU BE THE CHEMIST	CODING
KNITTING	CHOIR
SIGN LANGUAGE	MATH CLUB
COOKING	DRAMA
DANCE	ART
BIBLE STUDY	CHESS
PICKLEBALL	SPANISH
BOARD GAMES	ENGINEERING
TYPING	LEGOS
GOOEY SCIENCE	RUNNING CLUB
CHEER	BASKETBALL

*\*Co-curricular options vary each semester.  
Additional fees may apply.*

# Field Trips

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

We are blessed to call the city of Chicago our classroom, with several world-class museums on our doorstep. As part of a holistic education, field trips at every grade level allow us to provide our students with hands-on experiences that support and enhance a robust and rich curriculum.



### KINDERGARTEN

- Morton Arboretum
- Warrenville Animal Hospital
- Brookfield Zoo
- Drama Production
- Kuipers Family Farm



### FIRST GRADE

- Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Field Museum
- Brookfield Zoo
- Shedd Aquarium

### SECOND GRADE

- Kline Creek Farm
- Oriental Institute Museum
- Art Institute
- Morton Arboretum



### THIRD GRADE

- Kline Creek Farm
- Adler Planetarium
- Medieval Times



### FOURTH GRADE

- Art Institute
- Field Museum
- Lizzardo Lapidary Museum

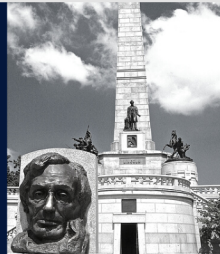


### FIFTH GRADE

- Field Museum
- Museum of Science and Industry
- Naper Settlement

### SIXTH GRADE

- Cantigny
- Museum of Science & Industry
- Congregation Beth Shalom Synagogue
- Springfield, IL



### SEVENTH GRADE

- Shedd Aquarium
- Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures (ISAC)
- Washington, DC/Boston, MA (alternating)



### EIGHTH GRADE

- I-Fly
- St. Athanasius Greek Orthodox Church
- Washington, DC/Boston, MA (alternating)



### RHETORIC

- Washington, DC/Boston, MA

*Rhetoric tutorial students are welcome to attend these trips with our Logic School students.*

# The House System

## FOUR HOUSES. ONE COMMUNITY.

The middle school years are often marked by uncertainty as students seek to understand themselves and the world around them. Consistent and compassionate mentorship from both teachers and senior students can bring stability and a sense of belonging and purpose. Students are assigned to one house for the duration of their time at Covenant during the Logic School years.

The Houses gather together weekly for community time, spiritual formation, competitions, and acts of service. These activities provide a venue for students to build healthy and lasting friendships with students of all ages and backgrounds.



A PLACE TO BE KNOWN.  
A PLACE TO CONNECT.  
A PLACE TO GROW.  
A PLACE TO BE LOVED.  
A PLACE TO LAUGH.  
A PLACE TO SERVE.  
A PLACE TO BE CHALLENGED.  
A PLACE FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION.  
A PLACE TO BELONG.



- C A R I T A S -  
FOUR HOUSES. ONE COMMUNITY.



- P R U D E N T I A -  
FOUR HOUSES. ONE COMMUNITY.



- F O R T I T U D O -  
FOUR HOUSES. ONE COMMUNITY.



- I N T E G R I T A S -  
FOUR HOUSES. ONE COMMUNITY.



# A Look at Our Alumni

## WHERE DO THEY GO FROM HERE?

*"Covenant Classical School has continuously exceeded my family's expectations."*

-COVENANT PARENT

*"Covenant is a grace-filled, loving community with high expectations and a rigorous curriculum. We are beyond blessed to be a part of the Covenant family!"*

-COVENANT PARENT

*"The faculty's dedication to teaching embodies the Christian pursuit of academic excellence."*

-COVENANT PARENT



While academic success is a by-product of our program, it is not the end goal in and of itself. Our students' spiritual formation and lifelong pursuit of wisdom and truth hold even greater value in our hearts as we send them beyond the walls of the school.

*Read more from our "Portrait of A Graduate" on page 5.*

## A PATH OF LIFELONG, JOY-FILLED LEARNING

### HIGH SCHOOLS THE NEXT STEP

*Benet Academy  
Wheaton Academy  
Covenant  
Rhetoric Tutorials  
The Greenhouse  
Local public  
high schools*

### COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES A FEW OF THE MANY

*Wheaton College  
Stanford University  
Georgetown University  
Bethel College  
Washington University  
Grace College  
Purdue University  
Northwestern University  
Biola University  
Michigan State University  
St. Mary's College*

### HONORS IN EXCELLENCE

*National Merit  
Finalists and  
Commended  
Students  
Perfect ACTs  
Service Awards  
Academic  
Scholarships*



HOME  
sweet  
HOME

## *Extending A Covenant Education to the Home*

### **A PARTNERSHIP THAT BEGINS AND ENDS AT HOME.**

The mission of Covenant Classical School is to provide an exceptional education in the classical tradition that honors Jesus Christ as the beginning and end of all truth, goodness, and beauty. Our vision is for students to discover the joy of learning and the grace of Jesus Christ. This mission extends to the home of each of our students.

The Covenant experience is only possible through a vibrant partnership with our parent community. Our community consists of dedicated and supportive parents who help bring our mission to life. We believe parents have a responsibility and privilege to shepherd their children during these formative years. Our greatest desire is to partner with like-minded parents in this sacred calling.



### **BUILD.**

A home library  
Family hymn time  
Book baskets  
Artwork wall  
Family prayer journal  
Conversation cards  
Travel journals  
Audio book collection  
Family timeline  
Academic portfolios

### **EXPLORE.**

Museums  
Art institutes  
Botanical gardens  
Aquariums  
Forest preserves  
Zoos  
Historical landmarks  
Symphonies  
Travel opportunities  
National parks

### **SERVE.**

Churches  
Homeless shelters  
FMSC  
Food pantries  
Neighbors  
Ronald McDonald House  
Rafiki Foundation  
Loaves & Fishes  
Nursing homes  
Hospitals

# *Resources* **LEARN MORE.**

## **BOOKS**

- **How Am I Smart?**  
Dr. Kathy Koch
- **Wisdom and Eloquence: A Christian Paradigm for Classical Learning**  
Charles T. Evans and Robert Littlejohn
- **The Lost Tools of Learning**  
Dorothy Sayers
- **The Well-Trained Mind: A Guide to Classical Education at Home**  
Susan Wise Bauer and Jesse Wise
- **An Introduction to Classical Education: A Guide for Parents**  
Christopher Perrin
- **For the Children's Sake: Foundations of Education for Home and School**  
Susan Schaeffer Macaulay
- **Classical Education: The Movement Sweeping America**  
Andrew Kern & Gene Veith
- **Norms and Nobility: A Treatise on Education**  
David Hicks
- **The Liberal Arts Tradition: A Philosophy of Christian Classical Education**  
Kevin Clark & Ravi Jain

## **WEBSITES AND ARTICLES**

### **The Covenant Colloquium**

[covenantclassicalschool.org/blog](http://covenantclassicalschool.org/blog)

### **The Classical Difference**

[classicaldifference.com](http://classicaldifference.com)

### **Classical Academic Press**

[classicalacademicpress.com/blogs/classical-insights](http://classicalacademicpress.com/blogs/classical-insights)

### **Good Soil Survey**

[classicaldifference.com/good-soil-video](http://classicaldifference.com/good-soil-video)

### **Memoria Press**

[memoriapress.com/articles](http://memoriapress.com/articles)

### **The Society of Classical Learning**

[societyforclassicallearning.org](http://societyforclassicallearning.org)

# *Notes*







COVENANT  
CLASSICAL SCHOOL

Visit us online to learn more.  
[COVENANTCLASSICALSCHOOL.ORG](http://COVENANTCLASSICALSCHOOL.ORG)