

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Tuesday night's Town Hall meeting. If you weren't able to join us, you will find brief highlights of the information here.



Key Parent Takeaway: Growing in the Right Direction

Growth is the theme here at ALCS – growth spiritually, growth in enrollment, growth in athletics and arts, growth in opportunities. God is growing us and that is growth in the right direction.

- Guest Speaker: Pastor Tom Flaherty shared regarding the distinctive culture at ALCS.
- Praise Reports: Mr. Strubbe shared a number of praise reports.
 - 100 days: Nearly 100 days into the school year, we have been (mostly) healthy and have been in-person learning – so grateful for God's provision.
 - Enrollment: Enrollment keeps growing – we are now at 335 full-time students!!
 - Students Coming to Christ: The ultimate purpose for our existence is to draw students into relationship with Jesus Christ and we have had a number of students in elementary, middle, and high school whose lives have been transformed by Jesus as they accepted him as their personal Savior! To God the glory!!
 - Dad's Prayer Group: We are excited to see the new Dad's Prayer Group get up and running. The first meeting had 20 fathers come together to pray and connect! The next meeting is Saturday, February 25, from 7:45a -9a in the ALCS Library. All are welcome!
 - Accreditation Secured!! Our final report from the Association of Christian Schools International has been received. ALCS is fully accredited for the next 6 years!! Thank you to everyone who participated to help us attain this important acknowledgement. Mr. Strubbe shared the five key commendations and the five key recommendations.
 - Matching Funds: We are happy to share that the *Blessed to be a Blessing* Matching Fund was fully secured resulting in \$100,000 for ALCS!! That is a gift to help us with our budget to keep tuition as affordable as possible. The Bill Zehner Honorary Scholarship Fund matching fund is nearly secured - \$40,000 of the \$50,000 needed has been attained. The scholarship fund is very important given the current inflationary environment.
- *Re-Enrollment / Enrollment for 2023-24*: Mrs. Pierce shared information regarding re-enrollment and enrollment. Many classes will be full, some already have wait lists. Securing seats for next year is vital if you intend to return. Re-enrollment is open now through February 17. Open enrollment for new families begins Monday, February 20.
 - *Tuition*: Mr. Butler shared critical information regarding tuition for 2023-24. ALCS intentionally kept the tuition increase for this school year well below the level of inflation

due to challenges families were facing coming out of the pandemic. With an inflation rate of 8% for next year, we must be able to manage the financial needs of the school while balancing the financial realities of families. To that end, we are planning for a 6.8% tuition increase for next school year (for K-8, a \$45/month increase; for HS, a \$56/month increase). ALCS will continue to offer multi-child discounts as well as tuition assistance.

- *Scrip*: As a reminder, Scrip profits can be used for tuition, any fees, lunch, etc. Learn how Scrip can benefit your family on our website or contact the Business Office.
- *Wisconsin Parental Choice Program*: ALCS is registered with the choice program again for the 2023-24 school year. Current WPCP families will have first priority for placement at ALCS. New families are selected through the DPI lottery system.
- *Unknowns for 2023-24*: We have some unknowns that will affect us moving forward as we grow. The most significant being can we hire the necessary staff to double sections in the middle school? Please be praying with us.
 - *Goodbye and Thank You!* Mrs. Megan Rohde, our Health teacher, has tendered her resignation due to a wonderful door God opened. We are sad to see her leave, but rejoice with her in this new adventure. Mrs. Rohde's last day will be February 10. Her elementary classes will wrap up at that time. We are working on staffing for her other classes. Please join us in wishing Mrs. Rohde all the best!
- **Spring Calendar & Standardized Testing**: Spring is exciting, wonderful, and busy!! Our calendar is packed with activity including:
 - **NO School**: 2/10 (P/T Conferences; Taste of the Arts set up); 2/24 (In-Service); and 3/20-24 (Spring Break)
 - **Terms**: 2/15 (mid-term); 3/17 (end of 3rd quarter); 4/26 (mid-term); and 5/26 (end of 4th quarter/last day)
 - **Testing**: 3/7 (Juniors/ACT with writing); 4/4 (Freshman/Sophomores – PreACT); 4/12-14 & 4/17-21 (Grades 3-8 & 10 – Forward Testing); 4/17-21 (K-2 Iowa Test of Basic Skills); and 5/1-3 & 5/5 & 5/8-9 (HS AP Exams)
 - **Reminder!** Standardized testing is a very helpful data point, but it should not become cause for anxiety or fear for students. Encourage a healthy view of testing as a way to measure growth and prepare for it with a positive attitude – get good sleep, eat healthy breakfasts, bring protein-based snacks, eat a good lunch, have outside time for fresh air, etc. Results are not a measurement of intellect, ability, or one's value. They simply help us know how a student is growing from year to year and many variables may affect testing on any given day such as allergies or a headache. Please encourage students to focus on growth and doing one's best – that is all we ask of them.
 - **Graduations**: Kindergarten @ 4:30p on May 26 AND 8th Grade @7p on May 26;
12th Grade Graduation @ 2:30p on Sunday, May 28
 - Key Dates for 2023-24 provided.

Thank you!