



ALUMNI TIMES

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, November 16, 7:00 p.m.
Musical "In His Steps"
- Saturday, November 30, 5:30 p.m.
Alumni Basketball Scrimmage
If you are interested in playing, contact Coach DJ Kauffman at dj@djkauffmaninsurance.com or Coach Adam Clark at aclark2381@gmail.com.
- Monday, December 9, 7:00 p.m.
K-12 Christmas Concert

We love to see our alumni at CCS events!

Class of 2024



Back row: Tyler Estrella, Hudson Clark*, Camden Busatti, Dale Oatney, Justus Huff, Blake Yoder, Hayden Bontrager*, Dylan Craig
 Front row: Ashlyn Franz, Candace Bailey*, Ava Swanson, Natalie Jensen, Adalynn MacArthur

*children of CCS alumni

Senior Blessing Breakfast



The senior class was blessed with words of encouragement, hugs, and prayers.

The newest CCS graduates were given an alumni key to commemorate the occasion. Congratulations, Class of 2024!

Senior Commencement





Tonya graduated from CCS in 1999. She is married to Dale, and they have four children. They have a newlywed 21-year-old daughter and new son-in-law, a senior, a sophomore, and an eighth grader, and are in their eleventh year of homeschooling. Tonya has recently published a cookbook after blogging about mom life and sharing recipes for five years. Their RV adventures can be found on their website, www.rvoilers.com. They still represent the world's largest essential oil company as their job turned into ministry. Kansas is now their home, but they winter in Florida saying, "Snowbird life is the life for us!"

FROM TONYA (BONTRAGER '99) FERGUSON

I came to CCS as a shy 8th grader, devastated to be making the move from Hesston to Hutchinson. I remember touring both CCS and the local public school, and there was no question that CCS would be our home, even if we had to wear jeans in a school with no air conditioning to do it!

I graduated with a class of 21 students in 1999 and married the love of my life, Dale, in 2002. We started our family in 2003, and of course, my babies would also be Central Christian Cougars. My dad, Clay Bontrager ('65), and my grandfather, Andrew Bontrager (an early CCS board member), were so glad we would continue the legacy of the Bontrager family being part of CCS, right as the last cousin graduated. Every year was a faith journey, how we would pay for tuition for one, then two, then more Ferguson children, and every single year, the Lord miraculously provided in ways only He can . . . until in 2013, He didn't. I waited and waited for provision. I prayed and prayed. We did not get the usual scholarship funding, no surprise checks came in the mail, no big miracle commissions from Dale's work. Nothing was falling together, in faith, as we had grown accustomed to each summer.

As we prayed about the future of our kids being a part of Central Christian School, the Lord was clearly leading us to consider homeschooling our children. After many weeks of disappointment and seeking, we decided that He was, indeed, calling us to homeschool. I was concerned about breaking the 50+ year Bontrager Legacy, as I had started calling it, but God provided the next generation of cousins to continue it on. He is in the details, hallelujah!

When wise folks tell you hindsight is 20/20, they couldn't be more correct. Not too long after we started homeschooling, the Lord offered our family an adventure we could not pass up, if only we would leap! In the spring of that same year, our home-based business took off like a rocket, allowing Dale to retire from his insurance job at age 34. We sold all of our worldly goods, our "forever" country home and acreage, packed up in a little RV, and hit the road with our four children and wiener dog, Sophie. We set out to travel for six months and teach essential oil classes all over the nation. This was something I had grown passionate about as a stay-at-home, homeschooling mom.

Two weeks in—we knew *this* was the life for us, and we weren't going back, ever! Six months turned into six of the most incredible years of our lives. Living in 400 square feet meant the world was our playground! We learned to enjoy adventures, not stuff. We did life, all as a family, under one very tiny roof. We would go north in the summer and south in the winter. If we liked a place, we'd stay; if we didn't, off we'd go to the next city! We saw 47 states and made sure everywhere we went to eat the local culture and see the local sites and key places in history. Homeschool had morphed into *road* school, and boy, was it fun! We planned to retire into this life and keep going as our children grew and left the nest. The Bible tells us in Proverbs that our hearts can plan the way, but it is the Lord who directs our steps. You would think I had learned that life lesson by this point, but alas, here we go again . . .

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We were in our sixth year of travel, and still loving the nomad life. We had upgraded rigs to a 45-foot class A, our dream coach, pulling a 22-foot enclosed trailer that functioned as our garage. We had this travel life down to a science, my friends. We had met the most amazing families, grown our business successfully, been interviewed on several TV shows for our unusual lifestyle, and had nailed down how to fit six people, four sets of school books, two seasons of clothing, lots of food, a dog, six bikes, four scooters, a smoker grill, a family car, our on-the-road business supplies, and a Christmas tree into 400 square feet of living and “garage.”



But the Father began to nudge my heart that we needed to return to our roots in Oz and buy land. I thought surely I was hearing things and promptly put it to the side. One day Dale says, “Hey Tonya, I think the Lord is calling us to buy some land in Kansas. It is always a worthwhile investment; they don’t make more!” Alrighty then! We returned home and bought 40 acres of land, checked the box, obeyed, and left again on another grand adventure. See Lord? We did it!

Not long after that, the Father started prompting us to return to Kansas and build a house on that land. A house?! Like sticks and bricks, no wheels, can’t move, totally boring house? Yes. And it felt urgent somehow, like a now-obedience. I didn’t want to leave the RV life we lived and loved. Our entire business was based around this travel and a wandering lifestyle; our branding, our reputation, our cool factor. Dare I say, even part of our identities, all traded for a house? And in Kansas, no less? Of all the stunning places we had been to, I never saw that one coming! And so, right before the pandemic began in 2020, we obeyed. We came back to Oz and broke ground on a home.

Remember that hindsight is 20/20 thing? The Father’s plan for our hope and future all became clear, as the pandemic shut everything down just weeks later! Every shortage and price increase the building and construction industry faced, we were three weeks ahead of because of God!

Kansas became a refuge and safe place for us to weather the storm. Now, we look around at three giant teenagers and a daughter who is grown and married. They honestly wouldn’t have fit on little fold-out couches and camping cots in the small RV living room much longer. Sometimes growing pains happen *before* change. Other times, the growing pains are in the obedience part of change.

Isaiah 43:19a, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way . . .”

As I sit in my rocking chair on the prayer porch of my Kansas house, I am at peace. In front of me is wide open prairie and a slow turning windmill at the edge of the property line. It is my favorite place to intercede and to watch the sunset and the oh so famous Kansas thunderstorms roll in. Our home has become a place where we host family gatherings, oil classes, and Bible studies. Something we couldn’t do in our RV days. Sweet Kansas, with its slow adoption of trends, two fingered steering wheel waves, wheat fields, borrowed cups of sugar, and next door neighbors turned friends, I smile to myself and think . . . There’s no place like home. There’s no place like home.

Alumni & Reunion Weekend 2024

FROM CASSI JOHNSTON, ALUMNI DIRECTOR



Alumni Director Cassi (Eldridge '06) Johnston with mother Rita (Yutzy '76) Eldridge and daughter Adelynn Johnston, a current CCS 8th grader

Alumni & Reunion Weekend 2024 has commenced! As alumni director, it is now one of my biggest weekends of the year. It's an honor to be a part of watching classes come together to reminisce, it is a joy to hear stories, and it is fun to make connections.

The storms on Friday delayed the football game for an hour and a half. During that time, many huddled together under the shelter of the Samson Center the way community does. With five hours of sleep Friday night after the football game, we had our craft fair and chili feed on Saturday morning—with coffee in hand! It's fun to be the good kind of tired. The kind of tired where you want a nap but the fact that your heart is overflowing just keeps the adrenaline going.

Saturday morning I thought we were gathering together for the first craft show in the school's history. But it turns out, it was just the first that I knew about! I began attending CCS in 2000, and all of the craft shows occurred before my time. It's a tradition I hope to revive.

Live music accompanied the craft show from dads of alumni (my own included) and friends of CCS. There were students, alumni, former teachers, current families, and friends who had booths. A chili feed happened outside, but due to the heat, many opted to eat inside, which led to more craft fair shoppers and school tour takers. The chili feed brought cinnamon roll bakers, chili makers, self-appointed door holders, and greeters. I loved to see CCS families of yesterday and today gathered together all weekend.

I deeply see the value in community. Preparing for the weekend was a lot of relying on the abilities of others. It was another excellent reminder that we weren't made to do life alone. Thank you to everyone who participated. I don't think it's too soon to be excited about next year!

Thank you for returning to CCS to celebrate!



The Class of 2004 celebrated their 20th reunion on Friday night at the football game with a pulled pork meal and a school tour.

Left to right: Lisa Dalke, Shana (Corcoran) Walter, Kelly (Yoder) Voth, Sarah (Stambaugh) Neufeld

We encourage you to begin reaching out to former classmates now for next year's CCS Alumni & Reunion Weekend on September 26–27, 2025. For lists of class members and their contact information, please email alumni@cougarsccs.com



The class of 1974 celebrated their 50th class reunion on Saturday evening with reminiscing and a catered meal.

Back row: Barton Groening, Joey Jackson, John David Stutzman, Mike Prieb, Leland Headings, John Balzer, Dale Kauffman

Front row: Gary Plett, Karen (Morehead) Butterfield, Gloria (Wagler) Miller, Jean (Yoder) Geist, Kathy (Ewert) Paziak

Alumni & Reunion Weekend 2024

Although stormy weather sent some home early, we were thankful to have at least 48 alumni attend the festivities on Friday night!



FROM BONNIE (SCHROEDER '99) BAILEY

At the end of our eighth grade year (1995), Mr. Jim DeVries came up with the idea to create a time capsule. It was his first year teaching at Central, and he was our class sponsor. The capsule contents included notes from our elementary and junior high teachers, the eighth grade graduation program and several cards, and sheet music for "The Lion King", which we sang under the direction of Mr. Greg Carr. There were also pictures, two of which were from Mrs. Susan (Kroeker '85) Penner and another picture from Art Sundquist of his three daughters since his daughter Sarah (Sundquist '99) Seachris was in our class. We included an old fashioned photo that was taken of a few of us girls on our eighth grade trip to Worlds of Fun. Luke Eli included his Pistons hat. There was also a VHS tape of a Bible project that Crista (Ullum '99) Yingling, Tonya (Bontrager '99) Ferguson, and I did. It was so special to read through the letters from teachers which included their memories of our class. It was a good reminder that we came together and supported each other!

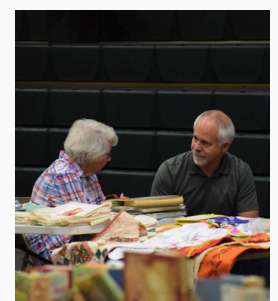


During Alumni & Reunion Weekend, the Class of 1999 opened a time capsule they created as eighth graders to be opened in 2024, twenty-five years after their high school graduation.

L to R: Bonnie (Schroeder) Bailey, Ben Bailey, Mark Fletchall.



Alumni & Reunion Weekend 2024



Stewardship Dinner

Actor, author, and speaker T.C. Stallings was the speaker at the Stewardship Dinner on November 9. If you were unable to join us, please consider helping to meet our Stewardship Dinner's financial goal of raising at least \$100,000. <https://www.cougarsccs.com/support-ccs/>

Grandparents Day



CCS elementary students celebrated grandparents on Friday, September 27! Along with cinnamon rolls, doughnuts, and coffee, our CCS grandparents were treated to a musical performance the students had been working on. Pictured are the alumni grandparents and alumni honorary grandparents who participated with their grandchildren. It's a beautiful legacy when grandchildren and grandparents (Cougars and Comets alike) can enjoy Christian education together.

FAMILY NEWS

[Please keep us updated by emailing alumni@cougarsccs.com](mailto:alumni@cougarsccs.com)

CONGRATULATIONS

- Elisha Bailey ('20) and Tucker Robson were married on June 8, 2024.
- Logan Miller ('17) and Ashley Werth were married on June 8, 2024.
- Rick Goertzen ('80) and Kathy Conklin were married on June 25, 2024.
- Deven Finlay ('19) was hired as Director of Development at CCS in August 2024.
- Jace Losew ('19) and Kyran Crist were married on September 7, 2024.
- Dr. Jana Nisly ('76) has retired. Dr. Nisly graduated from medical school in 1985 and from residency in 1988. She worked for United Methodist Urban Ministries from 1988 to 1992, worked in El Salvador until 2021, and at Health Ministries Clinic in Newton until October 2024.
- Brittani Green ('13) and Joshua Lalicker were married on October 11, 2024.
- Kylee Bartett ('20) and Deven Finlay ('19) were married on October 12, 2024.

BIRTHS

- Scott ('11) and Chelsea Finster, a daughter, Sadie Grace, on February 3, 2024
- Raelee (Ibarra '17) and Damian Espinosa, a son, Eliseo Marcos, on February 23, 2024
- Rachel (Willis '10) and Christian Harrold, a son, Ronan Jude, on May 21, 2024
- Zach ('07) and Shelby Bowman, a daughter, Navy Faith, on June 17, 2024
- Maria (Dudley '01) and Jason Kowalski, a daughter, Ruby June, on June 26, 2024
- Serina (Moore '11) and Ross Heide, a daughter, Shaelynn Nicole, on July 25, 2024
- Karissa (Goering '02) and Mandrae Collins, a son, Arrow Chosen, on August 17, 2024
- Heather (Casey '12) and Cam Rucker, a daughter, Magnolia Eden, on August 21, 2024
- Greg ('09) and Jessie Yoder, a daughter, Adeline Jo, on August 26, 2024
- Jessica (Dixon '08) and David Toevs, a son, Eli Benjamin, on October 1, 2024

DEATHS

- Kimberly (Boshears) Schmidt of Ulysses, Kansas, friend of the Class of 1979, on August 1, 2024



Zach Bowman graduated from CCS in 2007. He is married to Shelby, and they have two daughters. Zach is a fifth grade teacher at Central Christian Academy in Wichita. He is a soccer coach, and to say that he's a huge fan of Dr Pepper would be an understatement. The Lord has moved in mighty ways in Zach's life, and he is grateful.

FROM ZACH BOWMAN ('07)

Christ is my firm foundation
The rock on which I stand
When everything around me is shaken
I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus
'Cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations
So why would He fail now?
He won't, He won't

Songwriters Cody Carnes, Austin Davis, and Chandler Moore
Firm Foundation Lyrics © Capitol Christian Music Group Publishing

Growing up I was blessed to attend Christian schools for my K-12 education. My first years were spent at a Christian school in Omaha, Nebraska, and my last six years were spent at Central Christian School in Hutchinson. My parents believed that a Christian school education was vital for my siblings' and my future. They understood the importance of the foundation they would be building in our lives.

During my junior year at Central Christian, my world was rocked, and if it were not for the decision of my parents to invest in forming that foundation in Christ, I would not be where I am today. In the fall of 2005, I had just completed my best season of high school soccer and led the CCS soccer team in goals and assists. I had a few tryouts for some college teams, and I had a great "plan" for the next part of my life. I didn't really know what God's plans were for me, but I felt like my plan was pretty solid!

As I continued to wonder what God's plans were, we had an evangelist come to my church who said something that really struck me. He started talking about God's plans for each of us and how we can figure them out. He said the best way to figure out what God's plans are for you is to give Him permission to ruin your own. I quickly said, "Okay, God, I give you permission to ruin my plans." The evangelist quickly remarked, "But be careful, that is a dangerous prayer!"

In December of 2005, my plans were officially destroyed. I was involved in a car accident. I was T-boned by a pickup truck at 30th and Halstead, immediately knocked unconscious, and suffered serious injuries. I had a traumatic brain injury, spent 17 days in a coma, and I had severe short-term memory loss. I was rocked to my foundation! Thankfully the investment of the Christian education my parents provided allowed me to build a true foundation. One that when the storms came, it held!



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Life after my car accident was not easy. Sometimes we get the idea that because we are Christians and follow God, that our lives will be easy. Scripture, however, makes it clear that isn't that case, that life will in fact have challenges. The question isn't if we will face storms, but when and how will we respond? Will your feet have something sure to stand on once the storms of life have subsided?

By the grace of God, 19 years later, I am still standing on that foundation! I am married to my wife Shelby, and we have two children, Nya (age 5) and Navy (4 months). It is hard to believe that my car accident was almost 19 years ago.



Over the past 11 years, I have been blessed to teach 2nd grade and kindergarten at Central Christian in Hutchinson, 4th and 5th grade at the Classical School of Wichita, and I am currently teaching 5th grade at Central Christian Academy in Wichita. I've had the privilege of sharing with my students my testimony of how God has worked in my life and how His plans don't often look like our plans. I challenge my students to start looking at their own life for God's plan as they figure out their testimony.

The world we live in gets darker and darker each day. It is so important that our children know what they believe and why they believe it. Their own personal testimony and experiences with God will be their ammunition when the darkness of the world pushes in and attempts to suffocate the light of God's truth. The truth of God that I get to help my students learn and discover is building the foundation that they will stand on when the darkness closes in and the storms of life arise. Knowing that God can use my testimony to encourage and give hope to my students is incredibly humbling. I think that is the biggest reason why I am so passionate about Christian education and thankful for the Christian education that I received.



My daughter Nya is in kindergarten at CCA, and I am so grateful that there is such a strong community of Christian schools in the region that are filled with educators who aren't solely focused on their tenure, SAT scores, achievement testing, graduation rates, and a gambit of other issues. Instead they have a heart for teaching, because they know the value of a child's soul!

I look back on the teachers who I had growing up and have many memories that I cherish of my time in their classrooms. I am sure they have many memories of me that are probably not as fond! I am so thankful for all their work and effort they gave, because without them, I wouldn't be where I am today.

To all involved in the operations at Central Christian School in Hutchinson, thank you for your contributions—your time, your money, your gifts, your words, your prayers—they are seeds that are producing fruit, and your sacrifices will not be in vain.



CENTRAL
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

**Private School Category
WINNER
Central Christian School**

Central Christian School has been voted the winner in the Private School category of the Hutchinson Community Choice Awards! This is the second year in a row CCS has won this award.

Walker Becomes Runner to Assist CCS Students

FROM CASSI JOHNSTON, ALUMNI DIRECTOR

Shared as written for public news outlets



All article photo credit goes to Heartland 100

On Saturday, October 12, 2024, John Walker was up before the sun. Having just flown in from a training event in Arizona, he slept in his car awaiting the start of a new challenge. He laced up his shoes, filled his water bottles, and his crew was ready to embark on a new adventure together. John was preparing to run the Heartland 100 race. The Heartland 100 is a foot race that is 100 miles long.

John is a father of four who wants to show his children that anything is possible. John's own grandfather made it a tradition to ride his bike 100 miles each year on his birthday. His final annual ride was on his 89th birthday. "He was an inspiration to me. I want to be an inspiration to other people—as much as I can be. I'm not special. Anyone can do hard things," John stated.

Dr. John Walker is the superintendent of Central Christian School. He has a heart for low and middle income families who would like more access to private education, and he has spent many hours conversing with congressmen at the national level and with Kansas statesmen about assisting more families who desire a private school education. With that desire, he chose to raise money for tuition assistance by running a 100-mile foot race. "The Lord was so kind to allow me to do this race and raise funds and awareness for tuition assistance at Central Christian School."

John spent four months preparing for the Heartland 100. His training was physical, mental, and spiritual. The longest consecutive distance John had run before the Heartland 100 was 54 miles. He did have doubts about his ability to finish 100 miles, but, as with most anything, a good support system is vital. Once a week for four months he would have a long run of 27–32 miles. The next day he would run another 10–12 miles on tired legs to get his body acclimated to running tired.

On race day, there were four races of varying lengths happening at the same time near Cassoday, Kansas. John chose to wear a shirt that said, "Jesus is King." He explained his reasoning, saying, "I thought this would be a fun way to share with other people who I am, first of all, but second of all, to see if there were opportunities for questions and discussion. I got lots of comments on the shirt. One guy I was talking to was an atheist, and we had some cool conversations about that."

John ran his race in 28 hours and saw the sunrise . . . twice. "One of the coolest moments was the last five miles of the race when my body stopped fighting me and it actually felt good to run at a faster pace. We were able to finish those last miles strong. I didn't expect to be so emotional crossing the finish line. There were so many times I could have twisted my ankle. There were lots of people who dropped out of the race. I believe there were nearly 40 people who were signed up to do the 100 miles and only 21 finished. The Lord was so kind to provide friends for me to help me finish this race, a loving wife, and all of the things I needed to finish."

John says he could not have completed his race without his crew. He had three pacers starting at mile 42 who took turns running about 20 miles each. Many of those miles were run in the dead of night. "I was thinking how much of a blessing that was through the entire race, how they were looking out for my well-being and that I was nourished, but also to make sure that my feet would not stumble."

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Dr. John Walker spoke to the CCS secondary students in chapel and said, “It’s so important who you surround yourself with. It’s so important that you surround yourself with friends who look out for not only where you are, but where you’re going so you don’t stumble and fall in the darkness of night.”

One of the motivations for the race was to raise funds for Central Christian’s tuition assistance program so more families can be a part of the school. To date, the race has raised over \$20,000. “I am humbled by how much the Lord has provided for tuition assistance.” John stated.

Due to some varying factors, Walker totaled 101.5 miles. Those who know John aren’t surprised since he typically goes above and beyond what anyone asks of him. When asked to recap the event, John Walker recounts, “So many lessons learned, honestly. I could talk for hours. But mostly, glad I finished, glad the Lord provided, and glad for the opportunities to learn lessons from Jesus along the way.”



Central Christian hosted the annual Cougar Classic Golf Tournament at Willowbrook Golf Course on Saturday, September 28. Thank you to alumni, friends, and current CCS families who participated!



Laura Patrick Inducted in ESU Sports Hall of Fame



CCS Class of 2010 alumna Laura Patrick was named to the Emporia State Sports Hall of Fame! Laura played women’s basketball for Emporia State from 2012 through 2014. She was a unanimous first-team all-MIAA selection for the Lady Hornets. She led Emporia State to back-to-back MIAA tournament titles. Laura was a D2 Bulletin Honorable Mention All-American as a college senior in 2013. She was named to the Central Regional All-Tournament team as she took the Lady Hornets to their third straight Sweet 16. Laura made 92 three-pointers as a senior to rank third on the Lady Hornet’s single season list. She was named ESU female student athlete of the year in 2013–2014. Congratulations, Laura!

Construction Underway on Early Education School

FROM DR. JOHN WALKER, CCS SUPERINTENDENT



Central Christian School board members and staff, donors Jay and Connie Schrock, and general contractor Wiens & Company broke ground on the construction of the Early Education School on August 19. This new facility will allow CCS to provide care and education for children six weeks old through school age. The \$2.1 million project is currently 85% funded.

The school expects to complete construction by the end of February in hopes of using the new space by the summer of 2025.

Left to right: Matt Carden, Bart Kooiman, Connie Schrock, Doug Anderson, Jay Schrock, Sharon (Yutzy '85) Kauffman, Dr. John Walker

The new child care facility, currently under construction, is located on the southeast corner of our campus. Partial demolition of the former Hutchinson Fire Station building, a remodel of its remaining space, and an addition to its original footprint will enable CCS to provide a nurturing and innovative learning environment for young children. This expansion will double the capacity of the current preschool and child care center and will have six new classrooms, an infant room that will include a nursing mothers room, a large interior activity area, and office space.



After the completion of this project, Central Christian Preschool and Child Care Center will become the Central Christian Early Education School. We are pleased to be a part of the solution to the child care crisis in Reno County and to serve our community in this way.

To support this project, go to <https://www.cougarsccs.com/support-ccs/>

CCS Child Care to Expand to Second Location

FROM DR. JOHN WALKER, CCS SUPERINTENDENT



CCS alumni, it is with great joy that I share with you that Central Christian School has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Buhler Mennonite Brethren Church and Sunshine Meadows of Buhler to expand our child care services into the Buhler area.

With the help of the Reno County Task Force for Child Care, during this school year, CCS plans to launch another child care site at Buhler Mennonite Brethren Church located at 415 N. West St in Buhler. We are excited to serve more families and teach more children from a biblical worldview.

Central Christian School will operate a new child care facility in Buhler MB's church building. Remodeling and construction are currently underway to prepare space for infants through 3-year-olds. Sunshine Meadows has agreed to assist CCS in supplying the food and nutrition for the child care center.

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As we continue our pursuit of serving more families in Reno County who need child care solutions, we also need to hire more staff! Please help us identify prospective child care staff members who are believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, have a desire to work with children, and are searching for a Christ-centered workplace.

Benefits include tuition discounts for eligible children at the child care center and for students in K-12 at Central Christian School, no evening or weekend hours, paid training, and other benefits as outlined in the employee handbook. For those who have an interest, please email Sharon Kauffman at srkauffman@cougarsccs.com. Please join us in praying for this endeavor as we seek wisdom in doing what the Lord wants from us.

Community Partners

FROM DR. JOHN WALKER, CCS SUPERINTENDENT

Shared as written for public news outlets



Doug Wright and Dr. John Walker

CCS is pleased to partner with Hutchinson businesses Superior Boiler and BOLD 3PL. Our partnerships will see both new businesses providing financial support for the construction of our new Early Education School. This marks a pivotal development in our school's commitment to expanding early childhood education in the community and reflects the deeply impactful support the Lord has provided.



Dr. John Walker, Darren Barnes,
and Bart Kooiman

"I have the best job in Reno County," said CCS Superintendent Dr. John Walker. "I could not be more thankful for these local business partners who are willing to step up and meet the need of our early education school project. These partnerships will assist us in meeting our financial goals toward this project." Wiens and Company Construction is the general contractor, and if all goes according to plan, they expect to complete the new building between February and March of 2025.

Central Christian School has operated a preschool and child care facility since 1980, a total of 44 years, making it one of the longest-tenured child care centers in Reno County. Superior Boiler, a leading provider of industrial boiler solutions with deep roots in the Hutchinson community, is excited to invest in the future of local families through this initiative and support its own employees who need access to child care.

"Supporting education and community development is at the heart of our values," stated Doug Wright, Chairman of Superior Boiler, LLC. "We are honored to contribute to Central Christian School's mission and to be part of this meaningful project which will benefit countless children and families."

BOLD 3PL, the Kansas leader in fulfillment, storage, and kitting, was formed in 2012, and it has recently shipped its one millionth order to clients all over the world. "One of our company's core values is 'A passion for family and community'. Knowing that this is a pressing need here in Hutchinson, we were excited to help get this project closer to the finish line," said Darren Barnes, CEO of BOLD 3PL.

"I cannot think of a better investment with a better return than investing in the early education school project at CCS," said Bart Kooiman, COO of BOLD 3PL. Kooiman continued by stating, "Superior Boiler and Doug Wright inspired us to help out with this important project. We have no doubt that the early education school at CCS will make a difference. We are so proud to be a part of the solution to see students cared for and taught with biblical principles."

Central Christian School, Superior Boiler, BOLD 3PL, and other community donors are eager to see this project come to fruition and to continue their shared commitment to enhancing the community's educational landscape.



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CCS Alumni Association
Central Christian School
1910 E. 30th Ave.
Hutchinson, KS 67502

We want to keep in touch with our alumni and friends. If you have a change of email or mailing address, please contact the CCS Alumni Association at alumni@cougarsccs.com.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FORMER CLASSMATES. IF YOU NEED THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION, EMAIL ALUMNI@COUGARSCCS.COM.

The Alumni Times is Going Digital

FROM CASSI JOHNSTON, ALUMNI DIRECTOR



Cassi (Eldridge '06) Johnston,
CCS Alumni Director

We are about to close out our sixth year of proudly mailing newsletters to keep you updated on your CCS family, and I want to share an important update with you. As we strive to be good stewards of our finances, we have made the decision to transition to a digital format for future editions of the Alumni Times. This change will help us manage costs while continuing to provide you with news and updates.

For those who still prefer a printed copy delivered by postal service mail, we will gladly provide that option. Your connection to our school and each other is invaluable, and we want to honor that in every way we can. There is a postcard enclosed in this newsletter. If you would like to receive a mailed copy, please take a moment to fill it out and send it back to us.

In full transparency, the CCS Alumni Association is funded primarily by donations, and every donation makes a difference. For each alum who receives mailers, we spend about \$7 per year, respectively. That doesn't sound like a lot, but with over 1,300 alumni and no steady revenue stream, it adds up.

As we make this transition, please make sure we have your current email address. You can email it to alumni@cougarsccs.com. The Alumni Association also has expenses outside of the newsletter. If you have a desire to support the Alumni Association financially, donations can be made to the school with the designation of Alumni Association. Thank you for your understanding, for your continued support, and for being an essential part of the CCS family! We look forward to sharing stories from our CCS family of yesterday and today, both digitally and in print.