



HCS News

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Heritage Christian
School

Volume 29, Issue 5
October 13, 2025

Yearbook News

We are excited about adding the dedication pages to this year's yearbook. Our goal is to have a 1/4 page personal dedication section for each student in kindergarten, 8th grade, and 12th grade. We are hoping that families will purchase those dedication pages and that others will consider donating the \$50 cost of the page for students whose families are not able to buy one.

We can accept dedication pages as late as **February 6, 2026**.

However, it takes us time to create the page and have it proofed. The entire yearbook has an early March deadline for us to have the initial yearbook printed by early May. It would be very helpful for pages to be ordered before Christmas. If you wish to purchase a yearbook (\$65) and a dedication page (\$50), you can purchase both for \$100 if you will make the purchases before

December 18, 2025.

Dedication pages can contain one or two pictures and text. Please submit your orders to Mr. Fanning (email: jamesfanning@hcstopeka.org, text: 620-273-9013). Digital photos can also be emailed to him or put on a flash drive and taken to the HCS office.

Please consider donating \$50 to purchase a dedication page for families that can not purchase one. You can purchase a dedication page anonymously, or we can let the family know who purchased the page in their name.

We are also selling ads this year. Parents who are interested in selling ads will earn PSCs for your time spent and will earn a free yearbook if they sell 10 ads. Ads must be submitted to Mr. Fanning by **February 6, 2026**. If you are interested in helping to sell ads, please contact Mr. Fanning by email or text as listed above. Information and order sheets for both dedications and ads are available on the table in the front lobby. Order your 2025-2026 yearbook through the HCS office. Please contact Mr. Fanning or the office if you have any questions.

PTF News



The October PTF Night Out is tomorrow from 3:00-10:00, at Texas Roadhouse. Flyers are available on the table in the front lobby. Information about the November Night Out will be in the next newsletter.

Senior Parent Meeting

A very important Senior Parent meeting is tomorrow, Tuesday, October 14, at 4:30, in room 14. Topics to be discussed include graduation details, senior picture deadlines, scholarships & FASFA information, mission trip plans, and senior service guidelines. It is important that every senior and at least one parent for each senior attend the meeting. It will provide valuable information and answer many of the questions you may have as we prepare for this exciting final year. Parents may also discuss if they would like a senior reception at the school one evening before graduation; this would be a parent-sponsored event.

Sports Banquet

The fall sports banquet will be next Tuesday, October 21, beginning at 6:00, in the gym. This is for all of the volleyball players, soccer players, their families, and the coaches. Each family needs to bring a main dish. Families with last names beginning with A-L also need to bring a side dish, and families with last names beginning with M-Z also need to bring a dessert. This is a special time for the athletes to be recognized for their accomplishments this season and for families to enjoy fellowship with other families of HCS athletes.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, October 23 and 24. The sign up sheets for those were emailed to parents last week. Please be sure to check your email frequently and to sign up for conferences in a timely manner. We look forward to discussing your student's progress with you.

Vision & Hearing Checks Fall Picture Retakes

Vision and hearing checks for all HCS students will be done on Friday, October 17, beginning at 8:30. Those who need to be retested will be notified; the retesting date and time are not yet scheduled.

Fall picture retakes are scheduled for Wednesday, October 29, beginning at 8:00. Students wishing to have their picture retaken may wear picture clothes to school, but they must have uniform clothes to change into after their pictures have been taken.

Secondary Bonfire

The HCS Secondary students are invited to join the fun at the bonfire sponsored by Student Council on Saturday, October 18, from 6:30-10:00 p.m., at the Kesslers' farm. Groups are asked to bring items as follows: 7th grade: chips, 8th grade girls: soft drinks & water, 8th grade boys: hot dogs, 9th grade: condiments & napkins, 10th grade girls: plates, 10th grade boys: chocolate, 11th grade: hot dog buns, 12th grade girls: graham crackers, 12th grade boys: marshmallows.

Office Emails

Please use the HCS office email (hcs.office96@gmail.com) for any questions that you have for any of the office personnel. There are several regular office staff who have a schedule for covering the front desk duties. Any office or FACTS related questions or attendance updates will be forwarded to the appropriate person from this email address. Thank you for being flexible with our changes in the HCS front office.

Calendar of Events

Senior Parent Meeting in Room 14 @ 4:30	10-14
PTF Night Out at Texas Roadhouse 3:00-10:00	10-14
HCS Board Meeting in Room 14 @ 7:00	10-16
Vision & Hearing Screening 8:30 start	10-17
Preschool Field Trip to Coe Farm 9:40-12:20	10-17
Secondary Bonfire at Kesslers' 6:30-10:00	10-18
CLT for 11th & 12th	10-22
K-4th Grades Field Trip to Little Munchkins Pumpkin Patch 11:40-3:30	10-22
Parent/Teacher Conferences	10-23 & 24
Worship Team to McPherson 6:00-5:30	10-23
Fall Picture Retakes	10-29 8:00



Sports Calendar*

Monday, 10-13 Soccer
@ CPLS (Bettis) 6:00
Monday, 10-20 Volleyball
Soccer Teams vs. Volleyball Teams JH-4:00, Vars.-follows
Tuesday, 10-21
Fall Sports Banquet 6:00

Watch for information from coaches about Basketball practices!

**The Sports Calendar is subject to change. Up-to-date schedules and directions can be found on the HCS website under "Athletics." Be sure to scroll all the way to the bottom of the page.*

2025-2026 Theme: Soar!

“But they who wait for the LORD shall
renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint. “

Isaiah 40:31
Seek God Daily
Obey His Word
Abide in Christ
Rejoice Always

Our Mission: To provide a Christ-centered, quality education in order to prepare our children to serve Christ.

Our Vision: Students at Heritage Christian School will acquire wisdom, knowledge, and a Biblical worldview as evidenced by a lifestyle of character, leadership, service, stewardship and worship.



Upcoming Events

Tomorrow, October 14—Senior Parent Meeting in Room 14 @ 4:30
Tomorrow, October 14—PTF Night Out at Texas Roadhouse 3:00-10:00
Thursday, October 16—HCS Board Meeting in Room 14 @ 7:00
Friday, October 17—Vision & Hearing Screenings 8:30
Friday, October 17—Preschool Field Trip to Coe Farm 9:40-12:20
Saturday, October 18—Secondary Bonfire at Kesslers' 6:30-10:00
Monday, October 20—Volleyball vs. Soccer Volleyball games 4:00
Tuesday, October 21—Fall Sports Banquet 6:00, in the gym
Wednesday, October 22—CLT for Juniors & Seniors
Wednesday, October 22—Field Trip to Little Munchkins Pumpkin Patch for Kindergarten-4th graders 11:40-3:30
Thursday, October 23—Worship Team to McPherson Worship Festival 6:00-5:30
Thursday/Friday, October 23 & 24—Parent/Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, October 29—Fall Picture Retakes 8:00
Thursday, October 30—K-State College visit for 11th/12th 2:40-3:10
Friday, October 31—Buddy Time 10:30-10:50
Check upcoming issues of the newsletter, the HCS website, your elementary students' class newsletter, and the BAND app for more information on these events and on potential PSC opportunities.

2025-2026 LUNCH PRICES:

Hot Lunch (includes milk):

PK-2nd - \$4.25

3rd-12th - \$4.50

Milk - \$ 1.00

Side Cart Items - \$1.00 or \$1.50

Side Beverages - \$2.00

Salad - \$2.00

Extra Entree- \$2.00

Extra Slice of Pizza - \$2.00

PBJ or PB only - \$2.00

Ramen Noodles - \$1.75

Set up your prepay family lunch account in the office. You will receive an email reminder to replenish your account if the balance drops below \$10.00.

2025-2026 AFTERCARE FEES:

3:30-4:00 p.m.: No Charge

4:00-5:00 p.m.: \$5.00 per family

After 5:00 p.m.: \$5.00 per child for every 5 minutes or part of a 5 minute increment

Aftercare accounts, like lunch accounts, are set up as prepay family accounts. Charges for each family for the entire week are billed out the following Tuesday or Wednesday. Payment may be made online through the Family Portal or in the school office.



Left: Students honored for displaying flexibility: Emma Bency, Charis Denman, Ethan Tindell, Emmarie Broyles; Sawyer Richards, Alahni Martin, Leopold Norton.
Right: Shawnee County Honors Scholar Program at Washburn: Teddy McCormick, Peter Stirtz, Kara Strahm, Violet Tindell, Mrs. Lischke



School Improvement Plan

Each year HCS administration reevaluates our School Improvement Plan to address current needs. The 2025-2026 School Improvement Plan has three goals based upon the overarching needs of our students and faculty:

1. By the end of the 2025-26 school year, 85% of students will demonstrate growth, or learning gain, and be on grade level or above as measured by the Iowa Basics standardized tests core composite. 2. Enhance the rigor and relevance of curriculum to ensure that all students have access and entry points to high level content and skills. 3. By the end of the 2025-2026 school year, all HCS students will have received discipleship and opportunities to serve our community. Our teachers will also continue to work toward building the technological skills of our students.

Ms. Cunningham's 4th graders have been studying God's creation in Bible class and applying that knowledge in art, journaling, and language arts. During their art time, students have been working on a "Day 1 of Creation: God separated the light from the darkness" painting. They're incorporating pointillism techniques that they learned about in the first art lesson of the unit. Throughout the year, students will create other art pieces to correlate with the other days of Creation.

They start every school morning by reading a few verses from the book of John, journaling a short prayer, and sharing things they are thankful for. As school has been progressing, the students are embracing more of an attitude of thankfulness as they begin each day this way.

Students learned about the elements of haikus (three lines, syllabic pattern 5-7-5, talk about nature) and compared three different haikus. Then they brainstormed what they loved about nature and wrote their own haikus.

October Character Trait:

Humility

Humility is recognizing and acknowledging my total dependence upon the Lord and seeking His will for every decision.

“Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.” - 1 Peter 5:5

Humility is building life around God and others rather than myself.