



# HCS News

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Heritage Christian  
School

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## Conferences

Be sure to check your email for the sign-up for conferences that will be held next Thursday, February 26. Please sign up as soon as possible if you haven't already done so. We hope to see you for the last scheduled conferences this school year!



The winter sports banquet will be held in the HCS gym Monday evening beginning at 6:30. All of the basketball coaches and players and their families are invited to attend. Each family needs to supply a main dish. In addition, families with last names A-L need to bring a dessert, and ones with last names M-Z need to bring a side dish. Come enjoy the fellowship and celebrate the students for their basketball season.



## Prayer Groups

God continues to bless HCS in countless ways; prayer is one of the greatest tools and privileges we have. Each Saturday morning, from 8:00–9:00, in their homes, a group of HCS moms and grandmothers pray by name for our students and intercede for our staff and school. This dedicated time is a powerful encouragement and support. We would love to see this ministry grow; imagine several groups of Heritage families across Topeka, united in purpose, seeking God's protection, wisdom, and blessing over HCS every week. If God stirs your heart to join this ministry, or if you would simply like more information, please contact Melissa Pagán at 785-221-7504. If you would like to join other Heritage moms to pray for your children and the school, we have a group of moms meeting every Wednesday morning at 7:45, in the library. Contact Kathleen Rothe (785-383-5944) for information about this opportunity and her desire for unity within the HCS family and to have a mom's prayer group for each grade. Your prayers matter, and they make an eternal difference. "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving." Colossians 4:2

## PTF News



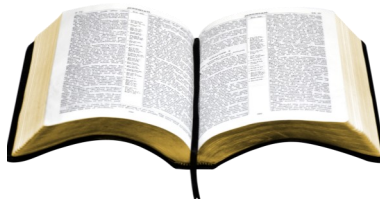
A very important PTF meeting will be held this evening, Tuesday, February 17, at 6:30, in the HCS gym. Information about the upcoming 5K & Pancake Feed Fundraiser scheduled for April 18, will be discussed and distributed. There will also be important updates from the HCS board including information about 2026-2027 tuition and enrollment information. Please make your best effort to attend this meeting.

### Variety Show

The Variety Show is coming on April 9! Plan now for a night of fun entertainment. The sign up sheets are in the office and are due by February 25! A flyer was attached to the last newsletter, and extras are available on the front lobby table.

## Class & Basketball Pictures

Class and Basketball pictures have been rescheduled for this Thursday, February 19, due to personal medical issues affecting our photographer. Sports pictures will begin at 9:15 a.m. Basketball players should bring their uniforms to school but should be in regular attire until it is time for the team photos. Please have your student bring the picture forms and payment with them. Thank you for your continued patience and flexibility. We are truly grateful for your understanding and support!



## Secondary Girls' Bible Study

Mrs. Toni Drinkard will be leading our secondary girls in a spring Bible study beginning on Wednesday, March 25. It will be in the elementary computer lab each Wednesday from March 25 through April 29, from 3:45-4:45 pm. The theme for this study is Be Free: Living a Life of Beauty Instead of Duty based on a study of our freedom in Christ as found in Galatians. This study is available for all 6th-12th grade girls. Thank you, Mrs. Drinkard for your desire to pour into and disciple our female students.

## Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, March 7, from 8–10. Enjoy a great breakfast, fellowship, and the opportunity to serve by helping complete a few jobs around the school. It's a wonderful way to connect with other men, support our school, and lend a helping hand. We hope you join us!

## Kindergarten Round-Up

The Kindergarten Round Up for the 2026-2027 kindergartners and their families is on Thursday, March 26, from 5:30-7:00. It includes an informational meeting and a presentation by the current kindergarten students. Families who attend will have the opportunity to meet the teacher and staff, review curricula, and ask questions. To register, please use the school website (hcstopeka.org). We hope to see you there!

## Calendar of Events

PTF Meeting @ 6:30	2-17
Class & Winter Sports Pictures @ 9:15	2-19
Winter Sports Banquet @ 6:30	2-23
Etiquette Dinner @ Olive Garden 6:00-7:30	2-24
Variety Show Sign-Ups due in HCS Office	2-25
No School: Parent/Teacher Conferences	2-26
No School: Teacher Work Day	2-27
Juniors to Advisors Excel	3-3
End of 3rd Quarter	3-12
HCS Board Meeting @7:00, Room 14	3-12
No School : Teacher Work Day	3-13
No School: Spring Break	3-16 to 20



### Sports Calendar\*

#### Thursday, 2-19—

**Saturday, 2-21** MCAA Vars. Tournament @ HCS & Cornerstone Girls: Fri. @ 6:30 @ Woodward, Boys: Fri. @ 6:30 @ HCS, Other games TBD

**Monday, 2-23** Winter Sports Banquet 6:30

**Saturday, 3-14** Soccer @ Spurgeon College HS Jamboree TBD

**Thursday, 3-26** Soccer @ KC Christian 4:30

**Friday, 3-27** Soccer vs. Whitefield 4:30

\*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.



**Character Counts:** Those pictured at right demonstrated joyfulness or integrity: back: Logan King, Chace Perry, Ethan Tindell, Cale Banker, Peter Stirtz, Josie Driver, Ariel Laursen; Middle: Mrs. King, Liam Robbins, Gus Greer, Abby Atwood, Naomi Putman, Cash Perry, Katie Mullikin; Front: Adilynn Cadwell, Charley Gonzales, Britton Davidson, Samson Forbes, William Taylor, Abbott Rice, Sawyer Richards; Not Pictured: Trip Lindgren

## 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.

Mrs. Laursen’s second graders have been working hard all year and have started the spring semester with an emphasis on spelling and memory skills and Bible study applications. They recently played a new study game called “ball toss” as they reviewed their spelling words. The students were paired and tossed a ball back and forth to each other as each one progressively said one letter of their spelling words. They also recently finished their section on Joshua in their Bible curriculum. They discussed why it is so very important not to let sin and temptation come into our lives. Mrs. Laursen used an analogy of a closed door with a lock to keep sin out. She told the students that God and His Word are the door and lock. The emphasis of the application was that we can’t leave the door unlocked or cracked open, and certainly not wide open. We are to guard our hearts!

## Upcoming Events

**Today, February 17**—6:30, PTF Meeting  
**Thursday, February 19**—9:15, Basketball & Class Pictures  
**Monday, February 23**—6:30, Winter Sports Banquet  
**Tuesday, February 24**—6:00-7:30, Middle School Etiquette Dinner  
**Wednesday, February 25**—Variety Show sign-up sheets due  
**Thursday, February 26**—Parent/Teacher Conferences  
**Friday, February 27**—No School: Teacher Work Day  
**Tuesday, March 3**—Juniors to Advisors Excel  
**Thursday, March 12**—End of 3rd Quarter  
**Thursday, March 12**—7:00, HCS Board Meeting, Room 14  
**Friday, March 13**—No School: Teacher Work Day  
**Monday, March 16-Friday, March 20**—No School: Spring Break  
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-2<sup>nd</sup> - \$4.25

3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> - \$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.

## Gift Cards

You can purchase gift cards from the HCS office or by ordering from the Raise Right app. Contact Mrs. King in the office for information about the cards that we have in stock or how to order by using the app. Forms listing all of the cards available can also be picked up in the office.

## February Character Trait: Compassion

Compassion is responding to a deep need with a longing to do whatever necessary to meet it.

*“But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?”*

*1 John 3:17*

“We will never know by experience God’s richest blessings of comfort and compassion toward others until we ourselves have trials.” - T.J. Bach