

THE CONVOCATION

The Unexpected Collective Noun for a Group of Eagles

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GC Journalism Staff

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NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

By Sofia Wagnon

On August 14, Greenville Christian School started a new school year with many new faces, classes, and policy changes. Students and staff are excited for the new adventures and experiences to come.

GC has a total of 278 students for the 2024-2025 school year. This number includes 28 new families, and 35 new students. Seven new staff members have also been hired who will help make Greenville Christian thrive.

Greenville Christian has added many new elective classes this year. GC now has a journalism class. The journalism class, which meets first period Monday-Thursday, will be publishing a school newspaper periodically throughout the school year. Mrs. Kinnard is the teacher and staff sponsor for the newspaper. The newspaper

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ELEMENTARY FIRST DAY

By Jillian Nelson

GCS started the 2024-2025 school year with new and old faces alike anticipating exciting adventures ahead. Many elementary students were thrilled and ready for a fun filled year. Sixth grader Anthony Hudgeons describes his first day as fun. He says, "The rules were different and I got to see my friends and the new kids." Victoria Staubli, also sixth grade, states great things about her first day as well. She says her day was "Awesome because I got to pick my own seats!" Kindergartener Abygail Watters is excited to eat pizza every day for lunch. Some of the younger students even set goals for themselves for this school year. Third grader Dawson May describes his goal: "I want to get 100 tickets this year!" Another third grader, Gus Pate, said his goal is "to not pick my nose all year!" Kadie Pierce from fourth grade also set a high goal: "I want to get 125 Read-n-Quiz points so I can go to the party at Shenaniganz!" GC elementary students are ready for an exciting new year.



First grade teacher Mrs. Johnson begins the year with a fist bump from Sawyer Pierce.



NEW HEAD OF SCHOOL FOR GC

By Jillian Nelson

Greenville Christian School welcomes a new Head of School, Mrs. Laura Smith. Mrs. Smith has been in the education profession for thirty years now. Her most recent schools have been Heritage Christian Academy and McKinney Christian Academy. She has served in a variety of positions. She has taught many math and science classes over the years and was the school photographer at a previous school. In addition, she has served as an upper school principal for seventeen years, more than half of her career in education. Now, God has led her to Greenville Christian School.

Mrs. Smith and her husband, Jeff Smith, reside outside of Rockwall. They have three very successful daughters, Kadie Sidlauskas of Farmersville TX, Carlee Purdum of Bryan TX, and Michal Wathur of OceanSide CA. They are blessed with five beautiful grandchildren as well. Mrs. Smith and her husband attend Ridin' High Cowboy Church in Royse City.

Mrs. Smith's favorite Bible Verse is Isaiah 41:10 which states: "Do not fear for I am with you, do not be dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

SECONDARY FIRST DAY

By Sadie Whitt

GC secondary students returned to school on Wednesday, August 14th. In the words of junior Sean Holt, "It was the start of something new." Everyone came in with goals and aspirations for this 2024-2025 school year. Many students were excited to see their friends again. When asked about her favorite memory from the day, senior Kylie Hogue said, "definitely Senior Sunrise." Senior Sunrise is a time that the graduating class meets together before school to have a Bible study, eat breakfast, and watch the sun rise. It has been a beloved tradition at GC for many years.

While most students seemed to enjoy their first day of school, some said they missed their summer break and especially taking naps. The first day was difficult for some, like eighth grader Greyson Ellis. He said the first day was stressful.

Many students were looking forward to different events coming up this school year such as sports seasons. Sophomore Khloe Montenegro reported, "I'm excited for football games with lights, for all of the sports coming up, and for the TAPPS state

cheer competition." Other students are also looking forward to upcoming school functions which showcase school spirit. Junior Abby Basham said, "I'm super excited for homecoming this year."

Many secondary students also set some goals for themselves this year for academic or athletic success. Freshman Owen Johnson said his goal was "To score a point in basketball." Freshmen Ella Lowe said her goal was "To stay on top of my school work and to try my best in sports." The year is off to a great start. GC students are excited to see what this year brings.



Mrs. Sandra Fields greets students Hannah Johnson, Izzie Kelsey, and Sofia Wagnon.

DEAN OF STUDENTS HIRED

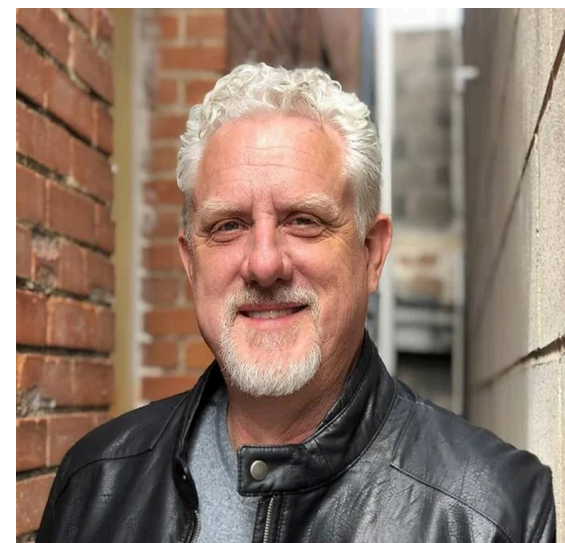
By Ryder Brantner

There are many new faces at Greenville Christian this year, including newly hired Dean of Students, Mr. Todd Nivens. As Dean of Students, Mr. Nivens' job is to be a mediator between parents and the school. If an issue arises, Mr. Nivens will do his best to help solve the situation. He is also in charge of student discipline, and secondary chapels.

Mr. Nivens has quite a bit of experience in Christian and public education, teaching more than nine different classes over the course of his career. In addition, Mr. Nivens has planted 3 different churches, Crossroads Community in Big Spring Texas, Brown Street Baptist in Wylie, Texas, and Christ Culture Community Church in Farmersville, Texas.

In 2020 Mr. Nivens suffered a heart attack and could no longer continue working in the same manner. He still

wanted a way to be able to provide for his newly planted church, so he began searching for other opportunities. Mr. Nivens recalls finding the opening at Greenville Christian, saying, "It felt like a calling from God . . ." Mr. Nivens hopes for everyone to enjoy a great year.





Third graders Elly Feezel, Kinley Nelson, and Sarah Wacasey enjoy Texas Snow at the Meet the Eagles event.



First grade student Henderson Pope poses for a photo at Meet the Eagles.



Fifth grader Michael McWhorter plays touch football at Meet the Eagles.



GC students and families gather to celebrate the installation of lights on the football field.

GC LIGHTS UP THE NIGHT

By Landon Wilburn

August 10th was a very important day for Greenville Christian School with the Meet the Eagles event. Many people came out to support GC for this exciting occasion. GC provided bounce houses for the younger kids to enjoy. Texas Snow provided snow cones, and there were many games and other activities for students and their families. One of the activities was the Little Eagles football game where elementary students could play flag football against each other with help from some older students. Following the game, there was a pep rally in the gym that celebrated the

beginning of the school year and introduced the fans to the football, volleyball, and cross country teams. After the pep rally was the main event, a celebration of the addition of lights to the football field. The GC family waited many years for these lights. They will greatly benefit the GC athletics program because the football team can now play in the evenings when it is cooler instead of playing in the heat of the day. The lighting of the football field for the first time was an important milestone in the history of Greenville Christian School.



Senior Austin Wilburn leads the football team into the Pep Rally at Meet the Eagles.

New School Year Begins

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is named *The Convocation*. This name was chosen because a convocation is the collective noun for a group of eagles. The Convocation can be found on the GC school website.

Another new class now offered at Greenville Christian is robotics. Mrs. Ross is the teacher and sponsor. This elective seems popular with the students. Freshman Ian Dierschke says, "It is really fun."

Mrs. Shasteen is now leading a class for the chapel worship team. They will be able to use class time to plan, prepare, and practice for chapel performances each week.

In addition to new classes, GC students also now have a different school day schedule. Elementary students begin at 8:05 am and dismiss at 3:15 pm. Secondary students enjoy longer passing periods between classes, but also have a longer school day, with the final bell at 3:30 pm. Fridays are great days for staff and students alike; GC now dismisses early every Friday afternoon. History teacher Lewis Smith says of the new schedule: "I like it. It gives me time to get lesson plans done before the weekend."

Greenville Christian has adopted some new policies for secondary students as well. Eagle Essentials is a policy that helps students to be prepared for class and ready to learn. If a student is not ready for class with proper materials by the time the bell rings, he or she receives a mandatory lunch detention which must be served within three days of the infraction. Secondary Bible Instructor Sandra Fields states, "The Eagle Essentials policy provides a safe zone for the learning environment where we can grow together with the order God knows we all need."

Greenville Christian's BMW (Be My Witness) program will undergo some changes this year as well. In previous years, secondary students participated in community service days twice a year. BMW Day will now be expanded in the spring. Students will be able to participate in mission trips or local ministry activities for a full week instead of just one day.

Students and staff are hopeful that these will be positive changes for the future of Greenville Christian School.

Eagle Sports

- Volleyball
- 9/5 GCS vs. Grayson Christian
 - 9/7 Tournament @ HCA
 - 9/10 GCS vs. Texoma Christian
 - 9/13 GCS @ Boles
 - 9/17 GCS vs. North Hopkins
 - 9/19-21 GCS @ Grayson Christian Tournament
 - 9/24 GCS vs. Azle
 - 9/26 GCS vs. Greenville Home Association
- Football
- 9/6 GCS @ Irving Faustina
 - 9/14 GCS vs. Tyler Heat
 - 9/21 GCS vs. Ovilla
 - 9/26 GCS @ Campbell

The Convocation Newspaper Staff

Mrs. Carla Kinnard, Sponsor
Sofia Wagnon
Landon Wilburn
Jillian Nelson
Sadie Whitt
Ryder Brantner



COMICS

"A joyful heart is good medicine . . . " Proverbs 17:22

“High School Hijinks” by Lewis B. Smith

