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Our new lunchroom has officially opened for our students!

The Principal Observes

College, Part 2

On November 7, 2019, I wrote about making the decision to send children to college. For as long as America has existed, people have aspired for their children to earn a college degree so they reach their highest potential. For most, this choice has been a good one because research demonstrates that college graduates earn higher salaries than their non-college educated peers, and that the highest roles in society are usually filled by people with degrees. While there are other paths to success, going to college has offered an almost sure route.

In our era, families need to consider whether college is best for their children. In my prior column, I indicated that there are three factors to think about: measure, motivation, and means. Measure refers to a student's academic record. It either meets the college standard, or it doesn't, so this is a natural filter. However, grades are not enough because students must be motivated to continue their education in order to succeed. Many intelligent students have flunked out of college for lack of motivation. I wrote more regarding measure and motivation in the previous article, so this column is about means.

Since college is a privilege, not a right, students must have the means to pay for it. There is a growing perception that everyone should be able to go to college, so many institutions are willing to loan money to make it possible. This possibility may seem wonderful on the surface, but it may not be wise. The problem with loans is that they must be repaid. When my first child started receiving financial aid offers, we were disappointed that they contained not just scholarships, but loans, too. The offer made the schools look affordable, but they assumed we would happily borrow the money to make her education possible. To make it worse, the contract showed only what was needed to attend the first year, not the next three years. We ended up making it work, but it included student and parent loans.

Colleges and universities desire that all academically qualified students attend their school regardless of the payment method. They are not particularly interested in the way students pay for it. But over time, the price of a college education has risen faster than scholarships available to pay for it, so families have no choice but to fill the gap with loans.

I am not opposed to taking out loans. I would be a hypocrite if I said I was, considering I took out loans for my children to go to college. In fact, for most people, loans will be a part of the solution to paying for college. The issue is how much is borrowed and what the consequences for the future will be. If we, or our children, borrow too much, we live under a crushing load of debt for years, or even decades. Proverbs has it exactly right, "the borrower is the slave of the lender" (22:7).

Other Options are:

- If there is only one acceptable college, get some college credits before matriculating through College in the High School, CLEP, online courses, etc.
- Stretch out the college years so that you pay more cash.
- Take advantage of local community colleges and their cheaper prices for the first two years of college and then transfer to the college of your choice.
- Attend an online school and enjoy less cost."

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should attend college, but there is no shame in taking another career path. Hopefully, these considerations will help families make wise decisions.

Calendar

Green: Elementary Events

Red: Secondary Events

Blue: All Other Events

HS Track/Golf Practice Begins, **March 2**

ACSI District Speech Meet, **March 13**

JH Track Practice Begins, **March 30**

11:40 Dismissal, End of Quarter, **April 3**

JH Lock-in, **April 3, 12-6 p.m.**

NO School, Spring Break, **April 6-10**

For the entire calendar, including events for 2019-20, see the Grace Academy Events [calendar](#) and Grace Academy Athletics [calendar](#).

Second Quarter Honor Roll

Congratulations to these students who worked so hard to be on the Honor Roll.

4th Grade

Tashina Cortez
Nicholas Christiansen
Jackson Danielson
Emily Hammack
Benjamin Impola
Emery Loffer
Ilyria Torres Lucero
Solomon Magnuson
Mariana Sainfils
Ava Roca
Keali Stewart
Isaac Zyskowski

5th Grade

James Abrenilla
Jasmine Bajaj
Abigail Fuhrman
Reah Gill
Aurora Hollis
Adrian Jorgenson
Adysen Laizure
Caitlin Langford
Alice Mellema

8th Grade

Gavin George
Pearce Hess
Katarina Kraft
William Maas
Candice Mugo-Wainaina
Leeto Perez
Cade Peterson
Kyle Struiksma
Benjamin Wentling

9th Grade

Austin Birkhofer
Hannah Chapin
Ella Denny
Elijah Engelson
Jaya Gill
Calvin Hamstra
Nolan Hegnes
Karis Jones
Colton Leigh
Jack Mellema
Samuel Roehl

10th Grade

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	Miles Nunn		Blake Ashby
	Emma Reems		Braden Carr
	Inderpaul Sangha		Christina Erfan
	Robert Shabalov		Kathryn Fehme
	Caleb Struiksmas		Heidi Impola
	Dustin Wade		Caleb Kraft
	Lincoln Wall		Emma Mathews
	Phoebe Wentling		Sofia Shabalova
	Ella Williams		Luke Struiksmas
	Zoryana Zelenska		Parker Thompson
	<u>6th Grade</u>		Hannah Wentling
	Gabriel Engelson		<u>11th Grade</u>
	Amber Nearing		Siyapa Chanhorm
	Luke Roehl		Faith Engelson
	Emily Sutton		John Fehme
	Caitlin Zyskowski		Aeris Fredrickson
	<u>7th Grade</u>		Miriam Hamstra
	Shaandeep Bajwa		Blaire Hess
	Conner Birkhofer		Hali Nearing
	Elijah Brent		Heather Scott
	Claire Coulson		<u>12th Grade</u>
	Emily Hegnes		Jonathan Hamstra
	Luke Impola		Amiyah Hill
	Nathan Mellema		Isaac Impola
	Noah Rainwater		Quinn Kazen
	Chloe Wells		Dallas Mathews
			Tien Nguyen
			Kaitlyn Struiksmas
			Noah Sutton

Volunteer of the Month

It is our privilege to enjoy the benefit of countless volunteer service hours from those who desire to positively impact our students. People volunteer to grade papers, drive buses, help teachers, tutor students, and in dozens of other little and big ways, but it is always focused on the children.

This month we focus the spotlight on a volunteer who has shown the characteristic of faithful service. One such person is **Bryan Galbreath**.

Bryan Galbreath has provided more than twelve years of service at our Grace Academy Basketball home games, as our volunteer Time-Keeper/Scoreboard Operator. Bryan worked his pilot's schedule with Alaska Airlines around our home games, so he could volunteer at Grace Academy's basketball games. He also assisted with the Junior High Tri-County Basketball Tournaments hosted by Grace Academy.

Bryan has gone above and beyond to volunteer long after his own children had graduated from Grace Academy. Bryan has been a big part of assisting Grace Academy to be nominated as Host School of the Year by the Referees' Association for a number of years. His dedication, flexibility, and attention to detail will be very difficult to replace. Thank you, Bryan, for your many dedicated years of service here at Grace Academy.

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2020 HS Spring Banquet

Spring is coming which means that our annual high school banquet is just around the corner. On May 1 we will be celebrating on an Argosy Cruise around Lake Washington. There will be amazing views, an incredible buffet of Mexican food, and a whole lot of fun!

High school students will be dismissed from school at 12:40 on banquet day. They need to be back at Grace by 3:15 p.m. for departure. After the banquet students will arrive back at school by 9 p.m.

The cost is \$100 payable through FamilyID (this is the same place that you have used for Snow Retreat and athletics). Students may make a \$25 non-refundable deposit to reserve their spot. Final payment is due by April 24. If you choose to pay through the office, you must still register through FamilyID.

Details about inviting guests and appropriate banquet attire can be found in the Student Handbook. Guest forms may be picked up in the office. All guests must be currently enrolled in high school. All dresses must be pre-approved by Miss Callaghan. Please email her a photo for approval. ecallaghan@graceacademy.net

\$175 Re-Enrollment Fee Until May 1

Beginning February 1, the enrollment fee is \$175 with a \$525 family maximum until May 1, when it will increase to \$225 with no family maximum. The Student Fees and Tuition for 2020-21 can be found on ParentsWeb by selecting the Resource Documents Tab.

If your child's class fills up before enrolling, your name will be put in a wait pool, and names will be taken from there to fill any spots that open. Enrollment for grades 1-12 opened to the community on February 1. Classes are already filling so we strongly encourage you to enroll now.

Grace Academy Speech Meet

Congratulations to each of the students who represented Grace Academy at the School Speech Meet Tuesday, February 18. The students listed below will be presenting their speeches at the upcoming ACSI District Speech Meet on March 13.

FIRST GRADE

Jett Hill
Brooke Frankhouser

SECOND GRADE

Eleena Basta
Henry Lee

Kyla Muñoz

THIRD GRADE

Max Harden

Abby Sarr

Paoa Stone

Nevaeh Winegar

FOURTH GRADE

Emery Loffer

Ava Roca

Ilyria Torres Lucero

FIFTH GRADE

Hannah Holland

Aurora Hollis

Alice Mellema

Linkoln Wall

SIXTH GRADE

Lorien Ashby

Sofia King

Mia Leguizamon-McLean

Emily Sutton

SEVENTH GRADE

Elijah Brent

Noah Rainwater

EIGHTH GRADE

Katarina Kraft

William Maas

Kyle Struiksma

Upcoming Book Fair

We're getting ready for another exciting book fair! The theme this year is "Becoming a New Creature" and the students have caterpillars turning into butterflies as they add up reading minutes! The book fair theme is 'wild for books' with lots of elephants, tigers and books, oh my! In our book fair jungle we will earn 50-60% of the profits back in books and replace worn and outdated books. Join us as we celebrate reading! The book fair dates are March 27 - April 3. We will also have an online site

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available for ordering. Flyers and book fair advertisements will be sent out as the book fair approaches. They will have information on how to create an e-wallet for your student with whatever money you have placed in it. The cash registers work very well at keeping track of how much money is left and what has been used.

If you are interested in helping by manning the Book Fair after school, please contact June Eldred at extension 421.

Sunday, March 29, 12-12:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Lego giveaway Monday, March 30
Poster drawing Friday*, April 3 at 3:10 p.m.
*Must be present to win.

Grace Cafe is Now Hiring

Interested in a part-time job working with students and food that coordinates with your child's school schedule? Please apply at the office.

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