



# EUGENE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

October 2024 Quarterly Newsletter

Hello ECS Friends, Alumni and Families,

Back to school time is here and we are so excited to welcome our students and families back for another amazing year at Eugene Christian School. Currently, we have over 390 students enrolled for this year and for the first time, over 100 in our middle school. Over the course of the next few years that will grow to a capacity of 140 in middle school bringing our enrollment up to between 415-425!

We have been back now for several weeks and everything is going so well, the best start to a school year I've experienced in my 24 years of education. We've already had our middle school go and return from an amazing outdoor school, and we've had chapel each Friday. The first field trips are happening as well. Fall Open House was a huge success. Teachers are teaching and students are learning!

We were able to gather our parents for the 3rd Annual ECS Parents Night Out. This has been such a great way for all of our families to have the opportunity to connect with one another. We will also be having our first in-person book fair in many years during our Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences.

We are truly blessed at ECS to be a part of what God is doing in our community. Another opportunity for our families that we are planning is to have an ECS Family Worship Night. God is doing awesome things at the school and we want to be able to celebrate that together in a night of praise and worship. Mark your calendars for Thursday, November 7th and stay tuned for more details. Thank you for your continued support.

NOV  
7TH  
6:30-  
8PM

# FAMILY Worship NIGHT

MUSIC LED BY  
**NEW HOPE YOUTH WORSHIP BAND**  
FEATURING  
**LEVI BAGGE &  
THE ECS WORSHIP TEAM**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



If you would like to support the mission of ECS financially? Consider one of these convenient ways to give and help us in Developing Kingdom Leaders



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# ECS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT -MIRANDA DEAN-



## **Grades attended at ECS -**

I started school as a half-day kindergartener and went through 8th grade!

## **Favorite teacher at ECS -**

This is such a hard question to answer because I loved all of them and have such wonderful memories in each grade. But if I have to pick one, I'd have to say Mrs. Duncan in 5th grade. I enjoyed all aspects of her class, but especially when we did art together. One time she invited a few of us to her home for lunch and a private watercoloring session. I remember that day fondly. She even came to my wedding a few years ago :)

## **Favorite memory while at ECS -**

While in grade school, I was not very outgoing. In 8th grade, however, I had the opportunity to do something out of my comfort zone and I am thankful I did. I wrote an essay and presented it in front of my class and their parents and then was voted to be one of four who laid the wreath at The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I am thankful for how ECS pushed me to do hard things because it allowed for a once in a lifetime experience.

## **How did your time at ECS prepare you for the future (spiritually and educationally) -**

As I entered high school, I quickly realized ECS prepared me for much harder curriculum than some of my public school peers. While the subjects weren't always easy, I had the foundation of a hard work ethic that helped me to excel in high school and college. I am eternally grateful for ECS and how it molded my relationship with Jesus. I first accepted the Lord in kindergarten chapel and remember running home to tell my parents. I learned about how God's incredible handiwork is found throughout Creation, which led me to my degree as a Fisheries and Wildlife major.

I learned the value of putting your trust in a loving and gracious Jesus as I watched my parents faithfully put me in a school that may have not been in our budget at the time. All of these moments molded me into a disciple of Christ and I'm so thankful for the foundation that ECS provided me with.

## **Looking back, what advice would you give to current ECS students?**

ECS provides you with a unique opportunity to spend many years with a very small batch of peers that love the Lord. You will most likely never again have the opportunity to study and attend school with this mix of people. Take advantage of that blessing and pour into relationships with those around you. I promise it will be worth it. I still have a couple of best friends that I met in kindergarten at ECS - what an incredible blessing that is, 25 years of friendship!

## **What is your occupation -**

Choosing a major is so difficult when you're so young. Find something you're truly passionate about and go for it. I attended Oregon State and got my Bachelor's in Fisheries in Wildlife Sciences. This allowed me to have several jobs in the Forest Service and Army Corps of Engineers where I got to survey and study pond turtles, birds, bumble bees, etc. It was truly an incredible experience. After these jobs I worked at ECS for 5 years before settling into the best occupation ever - a stay at home mom to my son Everett! :)

## **What was it like for you to be a part of ECS as a student and as a faculty member -**

Coming back to work at ECS after having such a wonderful experience as a student was like coming home. As silly as that may sound - it was so comforting. Although many things had changed since graduating in 2009, there were a lot of familiar things (and faces) too. I absolutely loved being an assistant at the school and I hope I will be able to come back someday! :)

# ECS STAFF SPOTLIGHT -MR. A-



## How long have you been here at ECS?

This is my 22nd year of teaching at ECS. I was hired the morning of our daughter Hannah's birth.

## Where did you teach before ECS?

Prior to working at ECS I had gone back to school at the University of Oregon to study mathematics. While at Oregon, I taught several lower level math courses that led me to want to teach full time.

## Why do you love teaching here at ECS?

I love that I can not only talk about my faith, but I can live it and teach it. It is such a refreshing place where Jesus is at the center.

## Who inspired you growing up?

My dad has been a huge influence in my life and he has always been involved in Education. He retired after 35 years of being the Dean of Education at East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma where I grew up. He gave me my start in education and it was fostered along by Professor Koch at Oregon. His encouragement set me on a path to teach with passion.

## What is something about you that people may not know?

My wife and I love to dance. We have taken several years of ballroom together and are looking for more opportunities to continue and grow in our dancing skills.

## What church do you attend?

We attend Mannahouse Eugene Campus.

## What is your favorite classroom activity?

Math, especially linear equations. The precision and orderliness that is found in mathematics due to an orderly and precise God who created it all. Helping students to understand this unique perspective about our loving God, only serves to reinforce his beautiful gift to us.

## What scripture really resonates with you right now?

I seem to always fall back on Colossians 3:1-17. It has helped to guide my life and live a life centered on Christ.

## What is your favorite hobby?

Golf and fishing are my favorite hobbies. I do not get to do either as often as I would like.

## What is the perfect Saturday?

Relaxing with the Lord over a great cup of coffee, followed by a day spent with family in the activities of the day. Topped off with a dinner from either our barbeque or smoker.

## Upcoming Events

- 11/7 - Family Worship Night
- 11/15- Veterans Day Chapel
- 11/25-11/29 - Thanksgiving Break
- 12/19 - Grades 2-5 Christmas Program
- 12/23-1/3 - Christmas Break

WANT TO  
STAY UP  
TO DATE?

