



VERITAS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
PURSUING EXCELLENCE THROUGH FAITH, LOVE, AND REASON

May 3, 2023

“Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” Matthew 13:32

Dear Parents, Alumni, and Friends of Veritas Christian Academy,

In 2010, a small group of faithful parents came together with a shared vision: create a school defined by academic excellence and an authentic faith in Jesus Christ. With 44 students, 10 teachers, and \$30,000, the smallest of seeds was planted. A short 13 years later, Veritas has graduated over a hundred students and disciplined and taught over four hundred. Praise the Lord!

To witness the growth of Veritas Christian Academy is to see God’s abundant grace and provision. No place is that more evident than in the leadership He provided through Lisa Gerdes and Cindy Wellman. Under their guidance, Veritas has grown to nearly 200 students and more than 40 teachers and staff, with further expansion plans at a new campus in the coming years. It has been a remarkable and rewarding journey.

Principal Lisa Gerdes recently informed the Board of Directors of her desire to retire at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. At the same time, Cindy Wellman communicated her desire to step back from her role as Executive Director to focus on development and create space for new leadership in 2024.

As faithful parents, original founders of the school, and servants in every capacity within imagination, there is no description of roles or highlight reel of achievements that could adequately represent the impact that Lisa and Cindy have had on Veritas and our community. In every way, Lisa and Cindy set their sights on excellence and consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the work to which they were called – kingdom work. As the leaders of Veritas, they have worked faithfully to build a school that glorifies God and upholds our mission: to develop in our students an authentic faith in Christ, an unconditional love for all people, and the ability to reason through the complex problems of this world. The lives of students and families have been changed for the better because of Lisa and Cindy.



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On behalf of the Board of Directors, we have the greatest of love and respect for Lisa and Cindy and want to offer our sincere gratitude for their devotion to shaping the minds and souls of Veritas faculty, parents, and students for the past thirteen years. We are also grateful to have their partnership as we look for Veritas' next leader, as well as their commitment to continue in current roles until the right person is found.

Transitions in leadership are inevitable, and we recognize the importance of making the wisest of decisions when it comes to our next Head of School. Lisa and Cindy have graciously given the board 18-months of advance notice to plan and follow a thoughtful succession process. As such, a search committee has been formed and we have engaged the experts from School Growth to thoughtfully guide us through this process. At a high level, I anticipate candidates will be identified and vetted through the remainder of 2023 so that we might have a final decision by late fall. Our goal is to have a new Head of School in place for the start of the 2024-2025 school year.

Thank you for your commitment to Veritas and Christian education. Updates will be provided to the community throughout the search process. We ask for your continued prayers and support as we embark on this new chapter. The selection of our next leader is a significant responsibility that also comes with joyful anticipation as we know God's vision for Veritas is far greater than anything we can imagine.

Faithfully yours,
Joseph Medendorp
Chairman, Board of Directors