

SPRING 2023

SCHOOLUNIQUE...

# PARK PLACE SCHOOL

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA



## Inside...

- *What we love*
- *A Generous Justice*
- *Our Approaches*
- *Our Values and Beliefs*
- *Our Product*



PARK PLACE SCHOOL



## Why this book?

Dear Friends,

As we wrestle with God's unique call on us, two things become clear: first, this is a great thing the Lord has laid on us, and second, we need to share this with the broader community.

What has God called us to do? In a quick word, we believe we have been called to *strengthen* urban students. We strengthen them spiritually, relationally, and academically. And it is a joy to us! You would be amazed at the potential we see unlocked daily in our classrooms.

We *get* to do this thing, and if you join us, you *get* to do it, too!

**We get to do this incredibly cool thing: we strengthen students spiritually, relationally, and academically. Perhaps God is calling you to join us?**

**Vision energizes and focuses effort.** This little book is an attempt to describe our understanding of God's vision for our school. It is also an attempt to describe our unique approaches to bringing that vision to reality.

We have a unique mission, unique students, and we go about our mission in a unique way. We hope that as you see it, you will be moved as we have been. Ephesians 6:13 (NIV) inspires us: "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand."

**We equip students to stand.** In a culture and in a time when many don't stand, we train students to be able to take on the challenges of their lives and stand their ground.

That Jesus may be worshipped here,

*Don Robison*

Don Robison  
Director of Development



This was the first year we fielded a basketball team. It was a *huge* win for us. From the first minute of the first game it was obvious that we had made a great decision: our whole school family was wildly cheering for our team.

## Finding Your Way...

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### Introduction

Our behavior will almost always reflect what we truly love. We choose to do the things that match our values. Yes, we sometimes deviate, but not often.

Motivation is about what moves us to do what we do. It is also about the factors that influence choice. But, at a basic level, you can almost perfectly predict a person's (or school's) values by the choices they make.

Here we first describe what we love and who we love (our driving values), and what we would love to see (our vision). From there, we describe how we plan to get there.

We proceed from values and vision to really specific elements of vision and practice. Our hope is that you will clearly see what makes us a school-unique, and that you will love what you see!



We are grateful to the *Forgotten Heroes Foundation* for exposing our students to flight, and teaching them about the physical principles and challenges associated with flight.

## What do we love?

*“What do I love when I love my God?”*

*Augustine, Confessions*

When the lawyer asked Jesus the greatest command, Jesus replied, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ (Matt 22:38-39 NIV)

**Who we love...** And so, we start our explanation of *what* we love with a quick description of *who* we love: ***We love God first, most, and with all that we are; and we love the people He made.*** This is our starting place.

You could say it this way: we love Jesus and we love the people Jesus died for.

***We love our students...*** We love them not in the soft sense that we want to dote on them, but in the sense that we see them as people of dignity and unlimited potential strength that need only to be trained.

***We love our city...*** In our core values we emphasize our ‘sent-ness,’ that is, we believe that Jesus has sent us to this place and this time so that we may point to Him. We believe our students carry a unique call to stand in the gap for their community, to be leaders and workers. The Great Commission is their commission.

***We love a generous biblical justice...*** All that means in our context is that we are honored to strengthen students spiritually, relationally and academically to step up into the place of service and life that God has prepared for them.

***We love partnering with families and with community organizations and churches...*** We are always surprised by how many people and churches come together to keep Park Place School going.

***We love to see Jesus move in our midst:*** we are amazed to see 8th graders who struggled through lower school really show strength as they enter high school, we are amazed to see how Jesus owns this school, and miraculously provides financially. We are amazed when we consider that much of the work done here has been by volunteers, and we are amazed at the team Jesus has assembled. We are amazed when Jesus moves in the hearts of our students and saves them. We love to see Jesus move.

*We love learning and creative instruction...* We are educators and students, and we love to see learning happen. And we love to see students have moments or seasons of discovery. We are careful to study the best evidence-based instructional methods, and we are systematic in employing them. At the same time, we have a unique student population and we love to apply tested methods in novel effective ways.

*We love truth and going deeper...* We love God's truth, we love God's Word, and we love the exploration of God's truth in its many paths. So, we study the Bible, *and* we develop skills in scientific discovery. We are people of truth, we are active seekers of truth.

*We love grace...* John 1 describes Jesus' glory as being full of truth and full of grace simultaneously. That is a great way of describing holiness. The more we understand God's grace, the more our souls are quieted. We have access to all the richness of life in God simply because He chose to make it available through Jesus.

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**This is our Basketball Team Logo.  
Pretty great, isn't it?**

We went through a process to decide the name our teams would bear. We thought about many names, getting ideas from parents, students, teachers and Board. In the end, motivated by Ephesians 6:13, we decided to call ourselves the Warriors.

The more we live with that name, the more we like it. We train our students to stand: academically, as leaders in their community, and as lights in the world. Warriors stand!

That cupola in the logo is from the old Park Place Methodist Church where our school was located for many years.

*Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.*

*Ephesians 6:13 NIV*



## **A Generous Educational Justice...** **Don Robison, Development Director**

In 1990 Chuck Swindoll published *The Grace Awakening* and that book recognized something that God was then doing in the church in the United States. After decades of losing the wonder and meaning of *grace* (though, thankfully, it was never completely lost), the Holy Spirit awakened us to the magnificence of it. We did, in fact, experience a Grace Awakening.

Grace... Amazing. Unlimited. Powerful. Life-giving. Generous. Beyond Price. Unfathomable in its magnitude!

In my own life, that was a precious awakening.

### **Awakening to a Generous Justice...**

If we once lost the fullness of the meaning of grace, I wonder if in our own day there is a growing awakening to justice as God intended it in passages like Micah 6:8? That passage may be familiar:

“And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”  
Micah 6:8b NIV

The Hebrew word for justice in that passage is *mishpat*. It is a fascinating concept, not exactly analogous to our contemporary idea of justice. It literally means to ‘behave towards someone in accordance with their due.’ With criminal behavior, the idea is similar to our concept of retributive justice and punishment.

But... and here is where it gets interesting to me... most of the time we see the word, *mishpat*, in the Old Testament, it is referring to people like widows, orphans and strangers in the land. Here the idea is that people who are created in the image of a magnificent God have inherent dignity and value. When they are defenseless or weak, their “due” is that we act to bring them up into the place of dignity for which they were created. Tim Keller calls this a “generous justice” (Keller, 2010).

At Park Place School, we traffic in this *mishpat*, this *generous justice*, this *dignity strengthening*. Our mission is to strengthen students academically, spiritually, and as leaders in their community. We get to do this! Is that cool, or what?

## How important is this *generous justice*?

What a great question! There is a lot of swirl in our society about this question, isn't there?

To answer, let's refer to two familiar passages. We will return to that Micah 6:8 passage in a moment, but let's first consider the passage in James about faith and works:

But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works... faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?

James 2:18-22 NIV

Notice that James does not say that works lead to salvation. They don't. But, he says, faith without works is "dead." Our works serve as an evidence and a perfecter of our faith. We are not saved by them, but our faith is proven by them. Does that make sense?

Now, reconsider the Micah 6:8 passage we referenced earlier, it starts with a question: "What does the Lord require of you?" The question sets up the magnitude of the answer. The question could be translated: "What are the minimal requirements for your life?" The answer does not describe something that we should do once in a while, but rather a life-defining pattern of behavior and heart.

**What does the Lord require of us in our lives?** He requires that our lives be marked by a pattern of justice (*mishpat*), mercy, and humbly walking with Him. This is no passing thought, it is not a valuable piece of advice, or a one-time action. No, by using the words "...what does the Lord require of you, but..." this passage is saying that our lives should be characterized by this pattern. Is my life described by such a pattern? Is yours? It is the Lord's requirement. It is challenging, isn't it?

The Micah 6:8 passage is about requirements for living life, it is *not* about salvation.

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus alone. Walking in justice does not save us, but walking in justice is a sign that we have been saved. Once we are redeemed, our behavior should be characterized by justice and mercy.

This isn't a social gospel, and this isn't a salvation by works approach. This is living a redeemed life focused on God's Kingdom, justice as he defines it, and mercy.



## **A generous justice in education?**

So how does this *generous justice idea* apply to education?

When we look at our students, we see unlimited potential. We see strength that needs honing. We see the image of a magnificent God.

Our students don't need charity, they don't need for us to prepare the road ahead of them so that there will not be challenges... Of course, there will be challenges!

They need to develop the strength to walk the road before them.

At Park Place School we aren't about changing the road to make it easier, we are about strengthening our students to walk the tough road that is before them. We prepare the student *not* the road.

Our students have the basic ability to achieve, they need to be challenged and prepared to meet the obstacles with which they will wrestle.

Our students need what every student needs: a quality education. Given that, our students will thrive. They will see and experience the evils and challenges before them, and they will stand strong.

Therefore, in working with this group of students with their unique needs, we are exercising the *generous justice* that God requires of all of us in Micah 6:8 and James 2. We are doing what is right in the sight of the Lord!

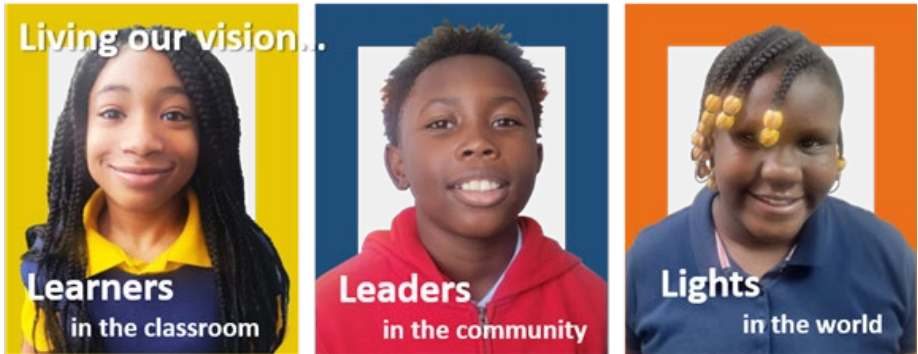
**"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."**

**Micah 6:8b NIV**

## How We Do it...

### Our Strategies and Approaches

In this section we will lay out our big strategies and approaches. We will describe how we go about strengthening our students spiritually, academically, and as lights in the world.



### Vision Element: Learners in the Classroom

**By this we mean** that we are committed to strengthening our students as learners engaged in core academic instruction, who use the classroom and community as thoughtful learning spaces. The effects of strong academic performance are broad, leading to financial well-being, and physical health! And, our world is waiting for our learners to come into their own, to be people who can effectively express their ideas, thoughts and prayers through speaking and writing, and who operate effectively in the sciences and in math.

#### Learners in the Classroom Overarching Goals

- **Attain Grade-Level Proficiency.** Our first learner goal is to improve every child's academic strength over time so that they perform at grade-level for their grade.
- **Progress at Student's Best Pace.** Our second learner goal after a child attains grade-level is that they advance at their best pace. Often, this translates to a child continuing to advance in his or her skills at a pace faster than national averages.
- **Above Grade Level by Grade 8.** By Grade 8, our goal is that most of our students are academically performing above their grade-level.

## Learners in the Classroom Key Strategies

- **Carefully Track Progress and Provide Feedback.** We carefully monitor each student's progress using the NWEA Map Test. This nationally recognized adaptive test provides an accurate snapshot of a student's current academic performance and growth levels in four areas: reading, language, math, and science. We give the assessments in the Fall, Winter, and Spring of each academic year and closely attend to each student's progress, and provide individualized support and feedback for growth.
- **Keep Class Sizes Small.** Each class has up to 16 students, which allows for individualized attention for each child.
- **Teacher Development.** We ensure our teachers receive effective guidance and training that is aligned with the curricular and instructional needs based on student performance.
- **Collaborative Planning.** We carefully align the curriculum, instruction, and assessments based on performance.
- **Learning by Experience.** We provide varied experiential learning options. Last year our students went flying in a small plane (which most of the teachers have not done!), and they visited many sites of interest in Hampton Roads. (see Djonko-Moore, Leonard, & Holifield, 2017 for the value of experiential learning.)
- **A Warm Christian Learning Community that Empowers Our Children.** Most importantly, we do all this in a singularly warm and welcoming classroom environment that is positive and encourages students to say, "I matter." Together, teachers and students make meaning as a significant part of effective learning (see Twiner, Littleton, Coffin, & Whitelock, 2014). Visit us and see for yourself!



## How are we doing developing *Learners in the Classroom*?

We conduct NWEA Testing three times a year: in the Fall, Winter and Spring. This is a nationally standardized test for the subjects of Math, Reading, and Language. We use these scores at the individual student level to monitor learning, and also at the class and school level.

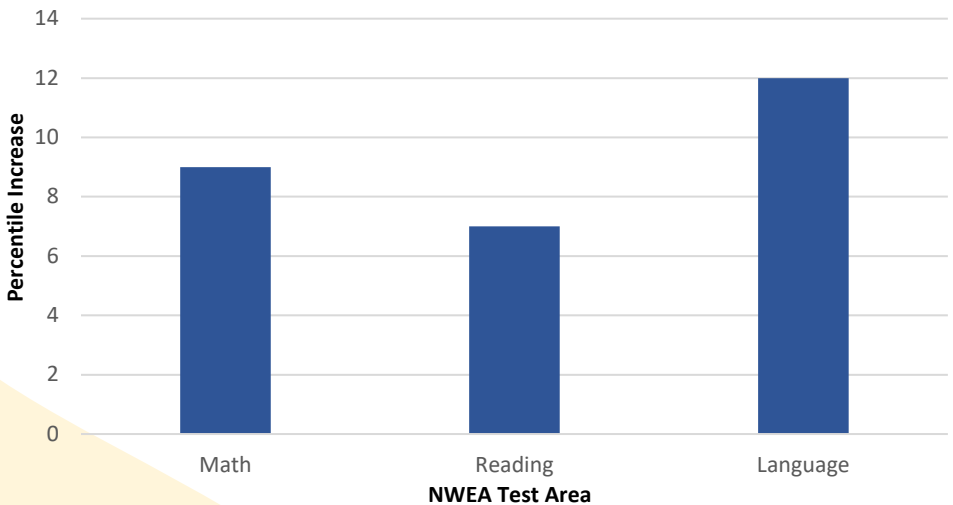
Here is the quick summary: *We are doing great!*

The graph below describes the average percentile *increase* for each grade against the national norm for the one-year period from Winter of 2022 to Winter of 2023. That means, this graph shows how our students *in each class* are improving against all the other students in their grades across the nation.

If our students were to maintain this type of performance, across their entire academic career at Park Place School, you could predict that their test performance would increase by as much as 40 percentile points from 3rd to 8th grade. And that is exactly what we've seen! See the next page for details on our 8<sup>th</sup> grade student performance.

Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students scored in the 62<sup>nd</sup> percentile (on average) in Reading and the 64<sup>th</sup> percentile (on average) in Language. Several of those students began their careers in the 20<sup>th</sup> percentile for these subjects. The math increases were not as dramatic, but still showed a median increase of 7 percentile points across all grades year-to-year.

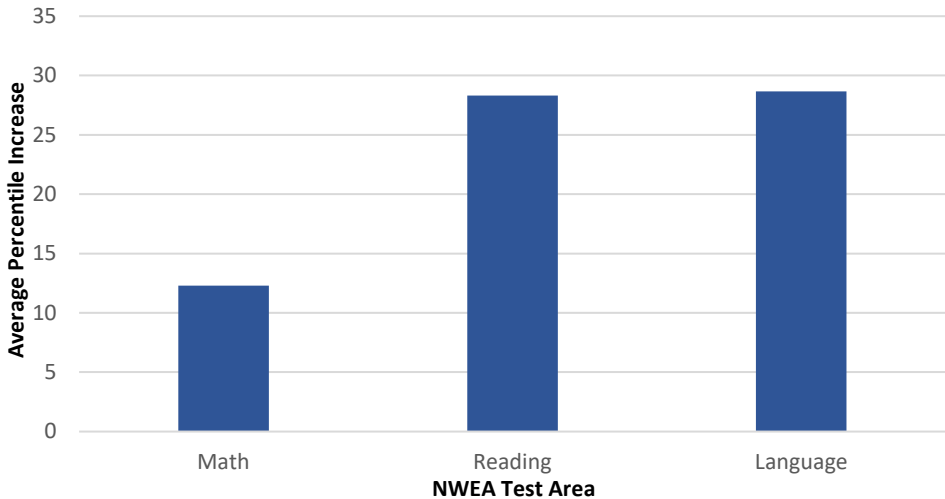
PPS Academic Area Increase Over 1 Year  
Winter 2021-2022 School Year vs. Winter 2022-2023 School Year



## Another way to view our academic performance...

Another way to look at this same exemplary academic performance is to analyze the performance of our 8th grade students over time. The graph below pictures their average percentile growth over the two years from Winter of their 6th Grade year through Winter of their 8<sup>th</sup> Grade year.

**Average Percentile Gain 6th - 8th Grade**  
Current 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Academic Growth (Winter 2021 – Winter 2023)



**What does this graph mean?** It means that as measured against national norms (that is, measuring against our students’ peers across the nation), our students improved almost 30 percentile points in two years in Reading and Language, and over 12 percentile points in Math. **These are extraordinary gains!**





## Vision Element: Leaders in the Community

**By this we mean** our students will grow in wisdom and stature, and they will bring wisdom and experience to their community's challenges. First, they will do it by learning and becoming competent to speak and write effectively, they will become proficient in the sciences and in math. This is needed in assessing and articulating community challenges. Then, they will learn to follow, participate on a team, and then act as effective servant leaders.

### Leaders in the Community Overarching Goals

- **Students will Demonstrate Servant Leadership.** Students will learn that leadership is really being an excellent follower and team player, that it is essentially relational. They learn different leadership styles and when they are appropriate. They learn that Christian leadership is following Jesus in such a way that others may, too.
- **Students will Serve.** The most essential element of leadership is a heart of service. This idea that there is a person who possesses all the attributes of a great leader from early childhood has been discredited. A leader--one who serves the community--is humble and works hard. A leader puts her interests behind those of the others in serving them.
- **Students will be Good Followers.** Most of the Leadership literature emphasizes the truth that leaders must be effective followers. Consider this: which could a team do without? The answer is, a team of self-motivated followers can continue to perform without a leader, but it is not true that a team with an excellent leader and poor followers will excel.
- **Students will 'See' the Community.** To step into a community's needs, an individual needs to be able to 'see' the community both personally (by listening to people around them) and statistically (by looking at publicly available data). We teach our students to see their community.
- **Students will Maintain Healthy Relationships.** Leadership is essentially relationship (Kouzes & Posner, 2007). Our students will experience warm community and instruction in building and maintaining healthy relationships.

## Leaders in the Community Key Strategies

- **Formal Instruction.** Since you cannot do what you do not 'know' to do, students receive formal classroom instruction.
- **We Use Like-Respected Role Models.** We bring in role models who are already leaders in the community, and allow the students to interact with them freely. The more the students can relate to the model as being like them, the more powerful the interaction. (Pleiss & Feldhusen, 1995; Lockwood, Jordan, & Kunda, 2002)
- **Scenario-Based Cases.** We use scenarios and serious games to put students in situations that force choice. These experiences are great, but students don't learn from experience alone, they learn from experience plus targeted feedback and reflection.
- **We Get Students Out of the Classroom to Serve.** We give students the opportunity to serve people in their community a few times a year, and we give them an opportunity in later years to plan their service and impact.



### Exposing our students to great role models.

One of our key strategies is to have our students engage with great role models. For example, Ronnie and Janet MacAdoo have a long association with our school and love spending time with our students.



## **How are we doing developing *Leaders in the Community?***

Our students have actively participated in planning and leading in our weekly chapels, and in our development of our school's core values. They are also engaged in a Community Garden—a grant project led by our Tanya Barnes—which will serve both to beautify the school and serve as a teaching environment.

This next year, we plan to work in the Bolling Brook community (our new neighbors) and with the Dream Center of Hampton Roads. We are excited about these opportunities and our students witnessing the process of working with community leaders to articulate their needs, then working with them to meet them.

We see our students and graduates leading in various contexts. Recent graduates have been leaders in their church choirs and in local school bodies. As we've mentioned we are connecting with graduates who are currently working in diverse leadership contexts: a physical therapist, a high school basketball coach, and others.



## Vision Element: Lights in the World

**By this we mean** our students will represent Christ well to a world that is desperately in need, they will learn how to be Jesus' followers. They will shine. You don't have to look far to see the neediness of our world, of our communities. Our vision is that our students will be Christ-followers, people who follow hard after Jesus with the goal of becoming more like Him.

### Lights in the World Overarching Goals

- **Our Students will Love God.** The first goal is easy to articulate: it is our deepest desire that our students come to know and love Jesus as their Savior.
- **Our Students will Love People.** The second greatest command, said Jesus, is to love the people God made. "How can you love God, who you cannot see, when you don't love your neighbor, who you can?" (1 John 4:20) Part of this will be how students love each other. We already have a special community, our hope is that this deepens.
- **Our Students will be Disciples.** The third goal is that our students follow Jesus to be like Him... He calls these people who obey His commands, disciples.
- **Our Students will Live a Contagious Faith.** People will see that our students are different, and long to be like them. Our students will effectively touch their world for good.



## Lights in the World Key Strategies

- **We use the Orange Curriculum** that focuses on the interdependence of family, church and school in healthy spiritual formation.
- **Students will see Christ-likeness modeled in their teachers.** We catch the faith as much as we are taught it. Our teachers provide winsome and loving models for our students to emulate.
- **Our teaching and learning will be Biblically integrated,** emphasizing the principle that all truth is God's truth.
- **Students will be mentored in 1-to-1 contexts whenever possible.** We call this life-on-life mentoring.
- **Students will learn to love people well.** Loving people well involves being about their interests, about their best. It involves humility and strength. Our students will follow the example of Christ in learning to listen to others and love them well.
- **Students will exercise cultural humility.** Our students will learn through instruction and example to be culturally humble. Our students will learn to conduct themselves in such a way that when people leave them, those people will say to themselves, "I was respected, I was seen, and I was heard."
- **Students will study the Bible.** God's Word is living and provides everything we need for life. The Psalm says it this way: "The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple" (Psalm 19:7). Our students will study the Bible from a devotional point of view.
- **Students will serve others...** Jesus exemplified service to others. Our students will have opportunities in class and in the community to serve people. They will learn to place the interests of the other ahead of their own interests in the context of service.

## How are we doing developing *Lights in the World*?

We are pleased to report that over a third of our students committed their lives to Jesus Christ this year. Isn't that amazing? In late November Pastor Ronnie MacAdoo and his wife, Janet (of *One-Died-4-All Basketball* and *Trinity Church*), spoke at our Wednesday Chapel and our students were stirred. Many of our older students came forward, but a few of our younger students did, as well. We've also had several students respond to God's call during the course of our weekly Chapel programs.

We are incredibly excited about this, and we stop to thank God for moving in our midst. Our goal, though, is to make disciples, not just converts. So while we are thankful for the huge work God is doing here, we realize there is much work ahead.

We are doing several things to deepen our students as disciples. We use the *Orange Curriculum* that focuses on the interdependence of family, church and school in healthy spiritual formation. We are also arranging 1-on-1 relationships between students and volunteers so that spiritual growth can occur in relational and authentic ways.

Many of our graduates are out making a difference in the world. From Physical Therapists to High School Basketball coaches, our graduates are making a difference in the Norfolk community.



## Our Core Values

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**We love God**

God is love. We love because He first loved us. We desire to do everything out of our love for God (Deuteronomy 6:5, 1 John 4:7-19, Matthew 22:37).

**We love the people God made**

Jesus commanded us to love the people He made. In fact, loving people is part of how God tells us to love Him (Matthew 22: 39, 1 John 4:11-21).

**We are sent**

We equip and mobilize our community to love and obey Christ, and make disciples of all people groups (Matthew 28:18-20, John 20:21, Isaiah 52:7).

**The Bible**

The Bible is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right (2 Timothy 3:16-17, John 17:17, Psalm 12:6, Matthew 4:4).

**We are Image Bearers!**

Every human soul bears the image of Almighty God. Every individual has unbounded value and dignity because each was created in His image. This fundamental dignity and immense value are the basis for just behavior (Genesis 1:26-27, Micah 6:8, Amos 5:24).

**We do biblical justice**

To be just is to make things as they should be. It is treating others as they should be treated *given they are image-bearers of a magnificent God*. We are committed to biblical justice by standing with, advocating for, and defending the dignity of others (Micah 6:8, Amos 5:24).

**We are disciples**

A disciple follows Christ, obeys His Word, and makes disciples of others (Matthew 28:18-20).

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*Continued next page...*



## **Our Core Values** *Continued from previous page...*

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**Our actions are characterized by the fruit of the Spirit**

The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).

**We are truth-seekers, we are investigators**

We are truth seekers, holding a worldview in which the Bible is the source of truth. This Biblical worldview is the lens through which we view all learning. Biblical principles are integrated into all aspects of academic pursuit. We must filter all of life, learning, and reasoning through the lens of Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

**We partner with parents and families**

We actively partner with parents and families because we see their involvement as critical to student success. Parents and teachers should impress upon students biblical principles (Proverbs 22:6, Exodus 20:12, Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

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## **Our Beliefs**

**Our Board, Parents and Teachers have been wrestling with these things and have developed these core beliefs.**

**There is one God eternally existing in three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit** (Genesis 1:26, Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14).

**The Bible is God-breathed** and is our best tool for training people how to live, it is without error (2 Timothy 3:16).

**Jesus Christ died**, shedding his blood **for our sins**, and was **raised** from the dead. **This was God’s provision for our salvation** (John 3:16, Romans 3:25).

**Jesus will return visibly and bodily** with power and great glory (1 Corinthians 15:52, Rev 22:12, 1 Thessalonians 5:2, Titus 2:13, Acts 1:11).

Mankind is by nature and practice a **sinner separated from God** and can become God’s child **only by faith in Jesus Christ** (John 1:12-14, John 14:6, Acts 4:12).

Those who are **born into God’s family have eternal life**, and those who are not in God’s family remain in spiritual death and will be separated from God forever in hell (Romans 10:9, Romans 5:8-9, Revelation 20:15).

The Holy Spirit lives in and empowers the believer to **fulfill the mission of Christ, walk in purity, and submit to the will of God** (Acts 1:8, John 15:26, Galatians 5:16-17, Matthew 28:18-20, Revelation 7:9).

All believers are **united** in the Body of Christ and are each **given gifts to build up the Body** (1 Peter 3:8, Col 3:14, Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, Colossians 2:2, John 17:22, Philippians 2:1).

Parents and teachers should **impress upon students biblical principles** (Proverbs 22:6, Exodus 20:12, Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

Jesus’ two great commands are that we **love God with everything in us (heart, soul, mind, and strength)**, and that we **love our neighbor as we love ourselves**. We should be known by our love (Matthew 22:37-40, 1 John 4:7-12).

# Your Response...

How do you respond to all this?

May we suggest? *Prayerfully.*

We believe this is God's school. We have seen Him bless in so many ways. If we are listening to Him, then we believe He will supply our needs.

## There are several ways to give or volunteer:

1. Track our website's prayer and volunteer requests.
2. You can go online to our website and donate there.
3. You can drop a note to the school and enclose a check. Our address is:  
Park Place School  
107 Seekel St.  
Norfolk, VA 23505
4. Call us at 757-624-3473.
5. Send an email to Don Robison at [drobison@parkplaceschool.org](mailto:drobison@parkplaceschool.org) and tell him what you would like to do.

**Thank you for your support of Park Place School! We are excited about what our Lord is doing here. God bless you!**

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# PARK PLACE SCHOOL

SCHOOL UNIQUE



## Dreams...

We have some big dreams for our school, would you pray with us about these things? Here are some dreams we would love to see become realities:

- **Our students leading and planning their own community outreach.** We are looking forward to the day when our students will pray over this community and then plan and execute concrete actions aimed at making a sustainable difference in our city. **Please pray with us that our students would grow into devoted disciples burdened for their community.**
- **Owning our building.** Moving to our current location and outfitting it stretched us... a lot! We would love to provide some geo-stability to our families and faculty. We love our current facility and would like to own it. We don't know how it would be accomplished: perhaps we would co-own it, perhaps we would own it outright. **Please pray with us that the Lord would give us this place!**
- **Stretching to include Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade.** We start in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, and that has worked for us, but we believe we could make a greater difference if students started with us earlier. **Pray that the Lord would give us a vision and resources to start in the earlier years.**
- **Providing adjacent gym and play spaces.** The biggest weakness of our current location is the lack of adjacent gym and outdoor play spaces. There are many potential solutions for this challenge. **Pray that the Lord would give us wisdom in providing great gym outdoor spaces for our students.**
- **Appropriately stewarding our faculty.** We have been gifted with an amazing faculty. We would like to provide for them financially, with great health insurance, and with strong educational benefits. **Pray with us as we wrestle with how to do these things.**
- **Fielding sports teams for boys and girls.** We had a phenomenal experience this year fielding our first basketball team for boys. From the first minute of the first game it was patently obvious that this was a good thing: parents and students were screaming in support of our team. In that one minute, I think we grew significantly closer as a community. We would like to be able to field teams in a few sports. **Pray that the Lord would lead in this, that we would proceed at His pace.**

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**PARK PLACE SCHOOL**



SPRING 2023



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