

SUMMIT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Building A **LEGACY**



STRATEGIC PLAN

FROM THE DESK OF

JUSTIN THROUPE, HEAD OF SCHOOL

Summit Christian Academy was founded in 1996 as a ministry of Peninsula Community Chapel. We are grateful for the Lord's provision, guidance, and wisdom since our founding. As we near our 30th anniversary, we remain committed to our mission and vision. We've entered into a season in which 2nd generation students are at Summit, former SCA parents are now grandparents who delight in their grandchildren at school events, and alumni have returned to serve. As such, it is now time to dream about the legacy Summit will leave over the next 30 years.

This strategic plan, entitled "Building A Legacy", will inform and guide our goals over the next five years as we continue to dream and plan for future generations. We invite you to dream, pray, and trust the Lord alongside us as He builds a legacy at Summit! For a more fulsome copy of the strategic plan, visit scaschools.org/strategic-plan.html.

Soli Deo Gloria.



Justin Throupe
Head of School

The **vision** of Summit Christian Academy is to prepare students academically, socially, and spiritually, equipping them to discern truth, articulate their faith, and serve others for the glory of Jesus Christ.

The **mission** of Summit Christian Academy is to partner with parents to educate and disciple young men and women through a Christian and classical education.

The **virtues** of Summit Christian Academy are fortitude, temperance, justice, prudence, faith, hope, and love.



WHAT IS CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION?

FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (ACCS)

Classical Christian education (CCE) is a time-tested educational system which establishes a biblical worldview (called Paideia), incorporates methods based on natural phases of child development, cultivates the seven Christian virtues, trains students in reasoning through the Trivium (Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric), and engages children in “the great conversation” through the historical Great Books.

FROM THE SOCIETY FOR CLASSICAL LEARNING (SCL)

Classical Christian education aims to cultivate virtue and wisdom in students so that they will live for the glory of God, flourishing as human beings and loving both God and neighbor. It pursues these goals through an ordered exploration of the True, the Good, and the Beautiful that is grounded in the liberal arts tradition and that forms students’ affections and the habits of lifelong learning.

FROM THE CIRCE INSTITUTE

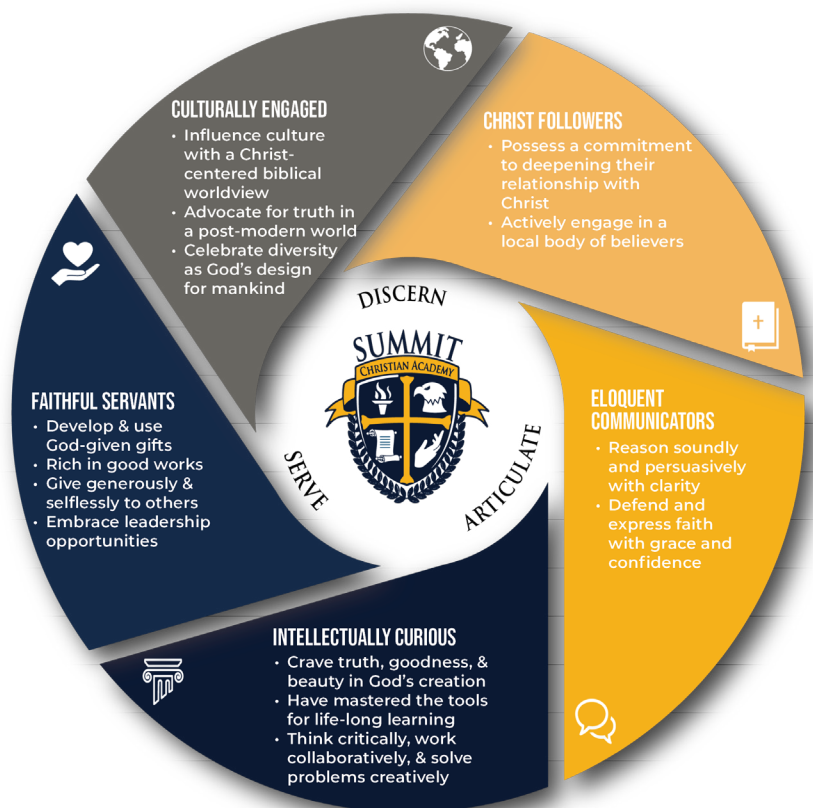
The purpose of classical education is to cultivate virtue and wisdom. The classical Christian does not ask, “What can I do with this learning?” but “What will this learning do to me?” The ultimate end of classical Christian education is to enable the student (disciple) to better know, glorify, and enjoy God.

CHRISTIAN PAIDEIA

THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION

For the ancient Greeks, education was rooted in the concept of Paideia. **Paideia** is the process of establishing our children in the traditions of a society with the hope of forming and maintaining a strong, flourishing culture. As Christians we are told to “train up a child in the way he should go” so that when he is old, he “will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6). Our Christian community flourishes when our children are brought up in the truth of scripture. **This is Christian Paideia.** Christian Paideia calls for students who are virtuous; which means **habitually** choosing what is **good, true, and beautiful**. Biblical-centered virtue means we are ordering our affections (the things that we love) in a way that glorifies God while pointing ourselves and those in our community to the gospel.

Summit Christian Academy seeks to engage in the spread of Christian Paideia by preparing students academically, socially, and spiritually, equipping them to discern truth, articulate their faith, and serve others for the glory of Jesus Christ. Through the goals of our strategic plan we partner with parents to pursue this endeavor. We believe that an education at Summit Christian Academy results in **flourishing human beings** as outlined in our Portrait of a Graduate. By God’s grace, the men and women who graduate from Summit will be **culturally engaged Christ-followers** who are **eloquent communicators, intellectually curious, and faithful servants**.



GOAL 1

CULTIVATING FLOURISHING HUMAN BEINGS (ACADEMICALLY)

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

Students who are rooted and grounded in God's truth, goodness, and beauty are prepared to engage the mind to grow in wisdom. "To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity; to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth— Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance," (Proverbs 1:2-5). Summit is committed to encouraging the pursuit of wisdom in our students and will maintain academic rigor through a classical Christian education.

EXAMPLES OF STRATEGIES

- Develop a professional development plan for all employees to include comprehensive and individualized plans
- Demonstrate faculty implementation of best practices and classical methodology in daily instructions as evidenced by formal and informal evaluations



GOAL 2

CULTIVATING FLOURISHING HUMAN BEINGS (SOCIAL & SPIRITUAL)

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

Like Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, we want Summit students to be like none other found in the kingdom (Daniel 1). These men's affections were ordered rightly, enabling them to have the faith and fortitude to stand up against the sinful edicts of the king when everyone around them followed the culture of the day. With the goal to instill these virtues in our students, they will engage in activities, coursework, and relationships to promote their growth as Christ-followers.

EXAMPLES OF STRATEGIES

- Establish a culture where godly habits and virtues are evident
- Cultivate a heart of service in our students where they seek to regularly serve one another, the school, and the greater community
- Expose students to local and global missions through chapel programs, grade-level requirements, special speakers, and mission opportunities



GOAL 3

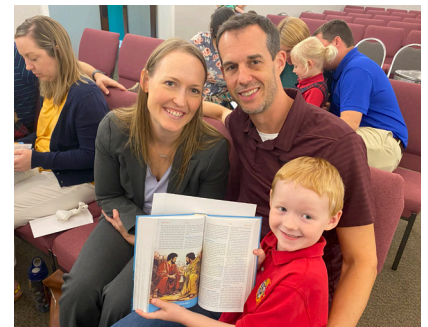
NURTURE RELATIONSHIPS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

Going it alone is not good. Whether displayed in the relationships between Adam and Eve, Moses and Aaron, or Jesus and his disciples, it is clear God designed us to be in community and to support one another. “You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone” (Exodus 18:18). Summit’s vision is counter-cultural and a heavy task. The strength of Summit will come through strong partnerships with parents, other invested parties, and community members.

EXAMPLES OF STRATEGIES

- Provide opportunities for parents and other stakeholders to develop relationships within the school community
- Provide opportunities for parents and other stakeholders to become involved in the classical learning process.



GOAL 4

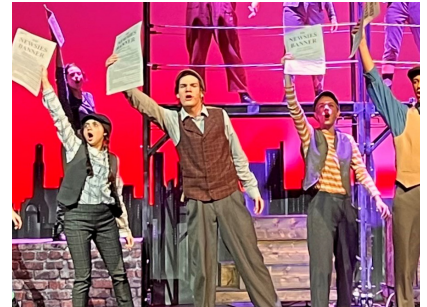
ESTABLISH A VISION & PLAN FOR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

“The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, to declare that the Lord is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him” (Psalm 92:12-15). Summit is approaching 30 years of partnering with parents to educate and disciple students through a Christian and classical education. Summit’s desire is not just to grow in age and size, but to flourish as a school. Prudence tells us this is done through retention, investing in safe and secure facilities, growing our co-curricular offerings, and increasing the size of our student body.

EXAMPLES OF STRATEGIES

- Provide co-curricular activities that will attract and engage students with a variety of interests
- Establish a plan to expand fine arts opportunities for students (staffing, scheduling, equipment, strings, etc.)
- Develop, improve, and sustain adequate facilities
- Establish safe and aesthetically pleasing campuses and facilities



GOAL 5

FOSTER A KINGDOM-FOCUSED CULTURE OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

Summit's ability to educate and disciple students in Christian Paideia hinges on the excellence of our faculty and staff. Therefore, we must hire, train, and retain the very finest. Summit desires a community that reflects the early Christian church. We invest in faculty and staff who are of one heart and one mind (Acts 4:32-35) in the pursuit of our vision.

EXAMPLES OF STRATEGIES

- Continue to increase teachers' compensation to achieve target of 80% of YCSD
- Create a culture of classical, Christian excellence
- Adopt ACCS teacher certification requirements



