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MAJORIS

# QUID NOVI

Kindergarteners and preschoolers were filled with excitement as they took the bus to the Salvation Army for Hands & Hearts, 2019.

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

## A FIT TO BE MADE NOT A TROPHY TO BE HAD

by Stacey Hester, Director of Guidance

*T*he recent unfolding of scandalous conduct on the college admissions front is saddening. It is not entirely shocking, however. Americans place enormous weight and value on the “admit decision” to the right college.

But what if that prestigious college is in fact the wrong college for a student? Parents and students routinely consult national ratings or departmental reputations which, of course, have a proper place. Other shoppers filter colleges through the lens of perceived prestige, which can prove detrimental to a student’s overall success and satisfaction in college.

At New Covenant we take this to heart,

encouraging the “right fit” over “honor/shame.” After all, a college choice is a fit to be made, not a trophy to be had.

Parents should be assured that the process for helping New Covenant students determine their next steps is well underway in their eighth grade year. It is more visible and intensely felt during junior year when college visits and in-house College Coffeehouses expose students to the ins and outs of colleges admissions. This is an intentional process with the goal of nurturing students in accordance with their respective stages of development and interests.

Dr. Denise Pope, education professor and

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## What’s New?

## THE CLASSICAL LEARNING TEST COMES TO NEW COVENANT

Today’s QUID NOVI edition highlights the college selection experience. This process usually involves registering for SAT or ACT exams which are used by many colleges and universities as one piece of the admissions process. Over the years these tests have drifted in step with declining standards and, unfortunately, they have been subject to abuse by those who would game the system. In 2015 a new test, the Classical Learning Test, was developed to provide alternative standardized testing rooted in tradition and using modern technology. The CLT offers students from diverse educational backgrounds an exceptional opportunity to demonstrate their academic formation. The CLT is the most accurate and rigorous measure of reasoning, education, and academic formation. It features passages from great works across a variety of disciplines and cultures. Students take the exam online in just two hours and receive same-day results. Headmaster Heaton is on the board of the CLT and the CLT-10 test will be offered to sophomores at New Covenant for the first time this Thursday. More than 150 colleges and universities already accept the CLT as an alternative to the SAT/ACT exams.

Think.

Learn.

Love.

Live.

# H O N O R A R I A



## LACROSSE WARRIORS

**Robert and John Sorenson** (5th & 3rd) were notified that they were selected for the Warrior All-America lacrosse team for their age division.

Eleven distinct lacrosse regions seek out the most talented 2021-2027 graduates to compete in a national tournament.

Robert was chosen for Team South and John made the Warrior All-America national team comprised of 88 players throughout the country. These two Gryphons will participate in the Warrior All-America Games at the University of Massachusetts from July 22-24.

## HANDS & HEARTS - WHAT WE DID

Last Wednesday was nearly a perfect day. It was a splendid spring day in Lynchburg with temperatures in the high sixties and clear blue skies. Birds chirped in trees over green grass. Armies of students young and old fanned out across the city to serve in the annual Hands & Hearts project. Here's a look at what they accomplished.

**SALVATION ARMY** Students organized clothing and food donations, a job which tends to accumulate over the months due to short staffing in the organization. They deep cleaned thoroughly in the main buildings and painted an upstairs living area. A separate crew refreshed the landscaping along the street and other areas, while another demolished an old shed. Another team built a much needed shelving unit and a group of middle school boys pressure washed the entire front walk.

**THE ARC** Students mulched the entire front landscape and picked up trash and raked leaves. They washed windows, deep cleaned all the hallways, and the kitchen. A high school crew assembled several picnic tables and benches and was on site until 4 pm to get the job finished.

**RUSH HOMES** Students created several bulletin boards, painted two murals on the wall, planted a garden, cleared debris and landscaped at two

homes. They also refurbished an old church pew to be used for seating in the lobby.

**WATERMARKS CAMP** Our eighth grade went north to Watermarks Camp, a destination routinely used for our middle school retreat. One way we give back is by providing a team in the spring to offer services in remulching vast common areas. In addition students planted new trees on the property. Many hands make this task easy, and the camp administration really appreciates it!

**HOLLOWAY HOME** Finally, we sent a small contingent of students to the home of **Mrs. Kirk Holloway**. Her children, **Lauren and Luke**, were students at New Covenant for many years and dear friends of our community. Sadly, Kirk passed away this year from a brain tumor, so our team arrived for a spring clean-up to do jobs that the family could not manage. We cleaned the yard, trimmed bushes, and restained the deck.

Thanks to volunteers working hand in hand with staff, the whole project was well-organized, efficient, and very productive. **With the highest participation ever, our sponsors helped us raise \$45,857.**



# E T C E T E R A

## EVERYONE

**SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION** New Covenant offers a selection of camps and programs this summer. To register, go to our school's website under MY NCS. Note: **Grade levels refer to the grade to which the student is rising.**

**TIME TO UPDATE RENWEB/FACTS** for 2019-2020 school year. The administration and staff for New Covenant Schools are looking ahead and making plans for our next school year. You should have received an e-mail asking you to log on to your Renweb account and update / complete your child's information for 2019-20. The process is quick and allows us to begin forming classes for next year. Please take the time to get this completed no later than **Monday, April 15.**

**POST PLACEMENT MEETING** To finish the admissions process, new families should make plans to attend the Post Placement Meeting on **Tuesday, April 16, at 7:00 pm** in the Chapel at New Covenant. Meet members of our staff and learn important details you will need for the first day of the 2019-20 school year.

**EASTER BREAK** this year begins **Thursday, April 18** with a **11:30 dismissal** thru **Monday, April 22.** Students return Tuesday, April 23.

**LUNCH** The deadline is Friday, April 19 which is during Easter Break. Contact Debbie Williamson, [dwilliamson@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:dwilliamson@newcovenantschools.org) if you have any questions.

**PANACHE DVDS AVAILABLE** Video copies of this season's Panache productions, *Sense and Sensibility* and

*Peter and the Starcatcher*, are now available for \$10 in the office. You may place your order by emailing Robin Layne at [rlayne@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:rlayne@newcovenantschools.org). She will bill your FACTS account for the purchase. If you prefer to pay with cash or check, please stop by the lobby desk for assistance.

**SPRING YARDWORK?** Need help? The MEN'S VARSITY SOCCER TEAM is seeking donations in exchange for volunteering their time between March 16 and April 27. Contact Coach **Tyler Bullock** at 434-660-8838 to discuss details.

**IT IS NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK!** "First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate." ([www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org))

To celebrate our library this year, Grammar School students will be invited to create a "favorite books" window display. We will have library scavenger hunts for Middle School students, and School of Rhetoric students will participate in Poem in Your Pocket Day. As a special treat we have invited faculty and staff to come and read their favorite childhood picture book to our Grammar School students. We'll round the week off with a prize drawing for each school.

**2019-20 MASTER CALENDAR** can be viewed or downloaded from our NCS website under MY NCS. <https://www.newcovenantschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/2019-Master-Calendar-web.pdf>



### Varsity Womens Soccer

NCS	0	SWVHS	3
NCS	4	FCA	2

### JV Womens Soccer

NCS	1	FCA	3
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### MS Girls Soccer Soccer

NCS	1	SWVHS	3
NCS	1	LHS	3
NCS	0	FC	4

### Varsity Mens Tennis

NCS	1	E Menn	8
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### JR Gryphon Lacrosse

NCS	7	Forest Youth	6
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### Middle School Lacrosse

NCS	9	Forest Youth	2
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### Varsity Track

Girls 1st place at track meet over VES & Banner Christian

Boys 4th place – behind VES, Hargrave Military and Banner Christian



NCS TRACK SEASON OFF WITH A BANG

The New Covenant Track & Field team opened its season this past Friday at the VES Invitational. The Women’s Team competed against Banner Christian School and VES while the Boys Team competed against Banner Christian School, Hargrave Military Academy, and VES.

On the women’s side New Covenant took first place, winning the entire meet with a score of 100 points. **Brie Olson** took first place in both the 100 meter and 200 meter dash. Not only did she take first in these events, but she also qualified for the state Track & Field Meet. She also competed in the 4x100 Relay Team, in the shot put, and discus. **Emilee Newsome** took first place in both the shot put and discus

while **Bailey Foster** took second place in the shot put. Both Emilee and Bailey qualified for the State Meet in the shot



put with Emilee throwing a distance of 29 feet 9 inches and Bailey throwing a distance of 26 feet 9 inches. **Charity**

**Simon** took first place in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1 minute and 9.19 seconds and is just 1 second off the state qualifying time.

In the Men’s competition, **David Kline** finished fourth in the 100 meter dash with a time of 12.19 seconds and is .009 seconds from the state qualifying time. **Thaddaeus Heaton** finished fourth in the 200-meter dash and qualified for state meet with a time of 24.72 seconds.

Overall, all of our athletes competed well for the first meet of the season.

The next meet is scheduled for **Saturday, April 20th** at Heritage High School.

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co-founder of Challenge Success, proposes a common-sense approach to the college search and experience. In her recent Wall Street Journal article, *The Right Way to Choose a College\** she encourages students to investigate institutional offerings – internships, mentorships, long-term projects, and interest groups on campus - and then engage in these offerings. Not surprisingly, students who engage in healthy interests are happier and report higher rates of overall satisfaction and success than those who strive for more arbitrary, ill-chosen goals like status.

Admissions decisions are a moving target and contingent on several factors that are particular to each school and often opaque. Students who focus on these factors have statistically been shown to be disappointed. On the other hand, students who are able to identify their strengths, interests, and proclivities

and employ them, gain a sense of what it is they want to do with their lives.

At New Covenant we remind students that man’s chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. The youngest students at New Covenant know this catechism by heart. They can recite it, and some can even explain its application. When absorbed, this truth is freeing, allowing us to explore His world without fear as it transcends college campuses and occupations.

Our seniors are in the latter stage of the college decision process. By May 1, most of them will have signed the dotted line with their respective institutions. It’s a big step. As we think of them, let’s pray that they will go forth with joy as they engage the world and continue to discover God’s good plan for their lives.

*\*This article is available in our library should you want to read more.*

QUID NOVI

BOARD OF DIRECTOR

- Class of 2019 • Amy Bonebright • Christine Kennedy • Chuck Shaughnessy • Class of 2020
- Wenbren Coleman • Lisa DeJarnette • Kristin Hampton • Dr. Ann McLean • Darryl Whitesell • Class of 2021 • Mike Lovell • Kristin Durand

EX OFFICIO

- Rev’d John Heaton
- Rev’d Rodney Longmire

MISSION STATEMENT

New Covenant Schools is an educational community serving families of Central Virginia, providing an exceptional education in a classical curriculum within the framework of historic Christianity, furnishing the student with the tools of education and the inspiration to be a life-long learner.

Stay Fit! Program

One student.....	\$80
Family Membership.....	\$125
Personal Training Session	
One participant.....	\$25 pr/hr
Two participants.....	\$20 pr/hr each
Three participants.....	\$18 pr/hr each

