



JANUARY 6, 2020  
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MAJORIS

# QUID NOVI

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

Graduates gathered last year at the Alumni reception for a group picture.

## HOMECOMING WELCOMES BACK ALUMNI

There will be no better way to have fun this Thursday and Friday than to be at the Workman Field House as the Gryphons play their annual Homecoming matches. Basketball is the name of the game. The women's teams will play Thursday night, followed by the men's teams on Friday. The Lady Gryphons will host Chatham Hall and the men will face Eastern Mennonite. We will roll out the welcome mat for former students and alumni, and we're counting on you to pack the gym to cheer them on! This year we're marking the 15-year anniversary

of the class of 2004. This was the first class to spend their senior year in what was then the "new school." Phase one of our campus development had just been completed, and the school population stood at 275. Mrs. Patterson's oldest son was a senior that year, one of just seven members of the class. You may not remember this, but LSU won the national championship that year, a feat they would like to repeat next week.

This year also marks the 10-year anniversary of the class of 2009. When their senior year

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## What's New?

Students in all grades will enjoy a school-wide Spirit Day on Friday, January 10. Students may wear jeans (no rips and tears), and any New Covenant spirit item. That would include any clothing with NCS logos, T-shirts from New Covenant events, or spirit wear purchased from the online store. Of course, topsiders or sneakers will be fine for the day as well. Faculty and staff are encouraged to participate.

## SPIRIT DAY

THINK.

LEARN.

LOVE.

LIVE.

# H O N O R A R I A

## NEW LATIN INSTRUCTOR JOINS THE FACULTY

As students left school for Christmas vacation and the conclusion of the first term, New Covenant was busily rearranging the Middle School faculty. As we announced earlier, **Miss Eldridge** heads for South Korea this year to teach English, but also to *learn* Korean.

We had long intended to replace her Latin duties in grades 5-7 with **Mrs. Baker**, whom we all know and love. That was the plan, until **Mrs. Olenik** announced that she was expecting a new baby this spring! Mrs. Olenik will be taking maternity leave starting April 1 and will not return until next fall.

All of this moving around prompted us to reconsider our options. After much consideration we decided not to send Mrs. Baker to cover Latin; rather, we are going to put her in the middle school classes currently taught by Mrs. Olenik. That left our Latin classes unstaffed, so we went to work finding

a long-term replacement for that position.

I am pleased to announce that we have invited **Dr. Marcel Widzisz** (pronounced WID sis) to join our faculty, and he started today! Dr. "W" is a distinguished scholar. His undergraduate degree was from Southern Illinois University where he triple-majored in philosophy, classics, and French. He went on to the University of Texas where he earned both the MA in Greek Literature and the PhD in Classics. He is a published scholar and has taught many years at the collegiate level including Rice University and St. John's (Annapolis).

He comes to us from Holy Cross School which, as you know, announced its closure at the end of the spring term. His passion is to teach language and literature to younger students "before it's too late!"

By all reports he will be loved by our



Renee & Marcel Widzisz

students and a resource to our school. We have high confidence in Dr. Widzisz, and believe that our middle school students will be well-cared for by him and all of our talented faculty. Dr. W and his wife, Renee, also bring two boys to New Covenant, **Julian** (grade 4) and **Owen** (grade 8). They are excited at the prospect of becoming Gryphons, and I hope you and your students will warmly welcome this new family.

| Support New Covenant | Goal      | YTD       |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Annual Fund          | \$150,000 | \$44,765  |
| General Scholarship  | \$10,000  | \$5,608   |
| The New Covenant     | Pledged   | Rec'd     |
| Foundation           | \$231,300 | \$175,743 |
| Restricted Gifts     | n/a       |           |

Thank you to those who have given to our school. We are grateful for your generosity. Donations continue to be received in the development office through cash, check, stock transfers, or qualified IRA distributions.

Contact Dayna Renalds to make your gift.

[drenalds@newcovenanschools.org](mailto:drenalds@newcovenanschools.org)

THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE. **GIVE.**



Friday February 21, 2020

Art Gallery opens at 5:00 pm

Science Challenge at 5:30 pm

Awards at 6:30 pm



# E T C E T E R A

## EVERYONE

**SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED** on **Monday, January 20**, for Martin Luther King Day.

**REPORT CARDS** for the second quarter will be issued this **Friday, January 10**.

**WHEN WEATHER AFFECTS** school you should have the New Covenant's **WEATHER HOTLINE** number in your cell phones: 847-5707.

All information regarding schoolwide closings or delays related to weather will be communicated via this number as well as on ABC News 13/TV and their online closings list.

A decision to close or delay school will be made by the Headmaster by 6:00 am. If you are unable to get to school because of unplowed roads, your child's absence will be excused. Please note that our families and faculty are spread out over several counties; therefore, our decision to delay or cancel may be based on conditions very different from those you see outside your own home.

## CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT

We simplified the enrollment process last year. You signed a Continuous Enrollment Contract which was the last contract that you will have to sign while your child is a student at New Covenant. **YOU WILL NOT BE ASKED TO REENROLL FOR NEXT YEAR.** Your student will be automatically enrolled each year until graduation or until you tell us otherwise. **The opt-out deadline for enrollment for 2020-21 school year is February 1, 2020.** The Continuous Enrollment Fee of \$150 will be charged to your account on that date if you do not opt out. Please contact **Linda Hackenbracht** in the business office if your plans for next school year have changed and you need a Withdrawal Form.

## TUITION ASSISTANCE (TAP)

Tuition Assistance (TAP) is open at [www.factsmgmt.com/aid](http://www.factsmgmt.com/aid). The deadline to apply is January 31, 2020; however,

awards are being made on a first-come, first-serve basis until available funds are depleted. It is very important that you apply ASAP because funds are limited.

## SOR

**THE NCS COTILLION** for the School of Rhetoric is only a couple of weeks away on **January 25th!** If your student is still looking for a dress/suit/accessories be sure to visit our Facebook page. Simply search for NCS Used Uniform Online Swap/Yard Sale and ask to be added to the group.

**SENIOR PARENTS** It's time to submit pictures for your Celebration ads and the Senior Slideshow. Full Page Ads are \$200 and Half Page Ads are \$150. You may submit 2-3 pictures for the half page size and 5-7 pictures for the full page size. 10 pictures are recommended for the slideshow. An email was sent to all Senior Parents with this info and an online signup form. If you did not receive it, please contact Andrea Loy at [aloy@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:aloy@newcovenantschools.org). The deadline to submit content is **January 31**. No ads will be accepted after this date.

## STUDENT CHRISTMAS PARTIES!



# IF YOU'RE GOING...

## HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

Admission to sporting events is always free!

### Thursday, January 9

JV girls vs. Chatham Hall 4:30 p.m.

V women vs. Chatham Hall 6:00 p.m.

### Friday, January 10

JV boys vs. Eastern Mennonite 5:30 p.m.

V mens vs. Eastern Mennonite 7:00 p.m.

**Alumni Reception** – Friday, January 10 – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in library. Alumni, parents of alums, and faculty/staff are invited to drop in and get reacquainted. An informal meeting with Mr. McCurley will be held during this time to discuss the formation of an alumni association.

Class of 2004 – 15 year anniversary

Class of 2009 – 10 year anniversary

Class of 2014 – 5 year anniversary



## GRYPHON STRONG

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began the school had grown to 330 students and had just completed the Phase II addition which now houses the grammar school. Mrs. Sweeney (Bradley), Mrs. Mayberry (Nicole) and Mr. Trittupoe (Seth) each had a graduate in that class! They went off to college as the recession dominated our news, but in-state college tuition was only about \$6,585! Meanwhile, our current seniors were sitting in the first grade with Mrs. Sweeney as their teacher. The class of 2014 will be celebrating its 5-year anniversary this week, with seventeen alums. When they started their senior year, the school had grown to 415 students, and the Workman Field House had just been completed along with a pod of new classrooms for

the School of Rhetoric. Mrs. Mayberry (Katie), Mrs. Hindman (Jack) and board member, Bob Price (Wesley) had graduates that year, while our current seniors had moved up to sixth grade! Many people at New Covenant and elsewhere were taking the ice bucket challenge (remember that?). We hope that you'll join us in celebrating these milestones in our community. Members of these classes and all other alums, former students, parents and faculty are invited to an alumni reception that will take place on the Friday evening at 5:30 – 7:00 pm in the library. Mr. McCurley will be on hand to discuss the school's plans for advancing a stronger Alumni Association.

## QUID NOVI

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CLASS OF 2020 • Kristin Hampton • Darryl Whitesell • Ann McLean • Wenbren Coleman • CLASS OF 2021 • Mike Lovell • Kristin Durand • CLASS OF 2022 • Dr. Tim Brophy • Bob Price • Leslie Moeller • Dan Vollmer • Amy Bonebright  
EX OFFICIO  
Rev'd John Heaton  
Rev'd Rodney Longmire

### OUR MISSION

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.