



Sixth-graders take in a day of Colonial American history at Williamsburg.

QUID NOVI

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THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS



NEW COVENANT WELCOMES NEW FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS *by John Heaton, Headmaster*

As the school year closes New Covenant will bid goodbye to **Beth Mayberry**, who has served for 16 years as the school nurse and the Administrative Assistant to the School of Rhetoric. Truth be told Mrs. Mayberry has been running the front office for years, first with **Kathy Mosher** (retired 2020) and now with **Andrea Adams**, our current Office Manager. Mrs. Mayberry, a registered nurse, kept New Covenant’s clinic running smoothly and professionally, taking care of all the routine student health needs—and a few serious ones over the years. Her role in helping

the administration develop its COVID plan for this past year was key to keeping our school open for in-person instruction, and for keeping our students safe. Her relationship with the local public health department and her timely advice and wisdom served our children well during the difficulties of the past year. Her professionalism, hard work, and sense of humor will be missed. Mrs. Mayberry will retire to spend more time caring for aging parents and enjoying her grandchildren.

As she retires, several changes will take place in the office. **Teresa Angell**, RN, will increase her

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WHAT’S NEW?

This Friday morning New Covenant will hold its annual Passing the Torch Ceremony. Members of the senior class, holding the hands of our kindergarten students—the classes of 2021 and 2033—will march together to the familiar strains of Pomp and Circumstance. During the ceremony the seniors will present a small token to the kindergartners, a postcard with the Gryphon on it and the phrase “Be Strong, Be Wise, Be a Gryphon”—along with a blue lollipop, of course! The ceremony finishes with the senior class “passing the torch” by lighting their candles and passing the flame to the unlit candles held by our juniors. Parents of our senior, junior, and kindergarten classes are invited to attend the ceremony to be held in Moomaw Gym at 8:15am.



PASSING THE TORCH CEREMONY

THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE.

GRATIA

NEW COVENANT ALUMNAE EXCEL IN TEACHING

As the school year winds to a close the school wishes to express its thanks to two alumnae who have distinguished themselves in teaching this semester. Last January, due to an abrupt opening in the SoR, two of our very own graduates shouldered the entire high school Latin program. They worked hard to maintain student experience in the high school and they surpassed all expectations.

Rebecca Pickard ('16) and **McKay Perry** ('16) joined us as first-year teachers, which alone is exceedingly difficult, but stepping in mid-year made the transition even moreso. They have proven themselves to be immensely talented, imminently flexible and irrepressibly energetic. We knew they were up for the task. Both young ladies entered New Covenant in kindergarten, and made the most of what a classical, Christian curriculum offered. We wish to recognize their efforts and thank them.

Ms. Pickard holds a BA degree in English from Liberty University, and is currently employed at the Lynchburg Museum and Point of Honor as a researcher in local history and as a tour guide. She

also works as a tutor in math and Latin, as well as a freelance editor and writer. One of her upcoming writing projects is a dramatic script for the Old City Cemetery tours this autumn. As she is still on the sub list and staying in town, we may yet see more of her around the school!

Ms. Perry, who finished her Bachelor of Music in spring of 2020 from Belmont University in Nashville, TN in Classical Violin Performance, will begin a master's degree in Music History in the fall of 2021 at UMass, Amherst. In addition to completing a masters there, she will be assistant teaching a class called "Livley Arts," which focuses on challenging students to take an interdisciplinary look at the music, the visual arts, and theater. We wish her all the best in her future studies.



*Rebecca Pickard (top)
and McKay Perry*



CLASS OF 2021 WELCOMES LESLIE MOELLER TO GRADUATION

Graduation ceremonies for the class of 2021 will be held on **Saturday, May 29 at 2 pm** in the Moomaw Center on campus. The class will welcome **Leslie Moeller**, a member of New Covenant's board of directors, who will bring the address. Mrs. Moeller has been involved in classical, Christian education for 19 years. She was instrumental in founding a classical, Christian school in Boerne, TX, serving as a faculty member, a board

member and as the early Head of School. She is a native of Virginia, but has spent much of her career in Texas. When she moved back to Virginia several years ago, she became the Head of Upper School at The Covenant School in Charlottesville. She is extensively involved in the wider community of classical, Christian schools, having served on the Board of the Society for Classical Learning for 13 of the past 15 years, and is now the current Chair. She consults with classical, Christian schools across the nation, and leads the Board Chair Cohort, which is

designed to develop leadership for board chairs in classical, Christian schools (New Covenant is a participant in this program!). This summer she will be teaching in the Gordon College Masters in Educational Leadership program, in which two of our faculty members are enrolled. Mrs. Moeller studied English Literature and Economics at the University of Virginia and earned the Juris Doctor at Boston College. She and her husband of 34 years have three children, ages 26, 23 and 14, and live on a small farm in Louisa County, Virginia.

E T C E T E R A

EVERYONE

ABSENCES

Don't forget to call (434-847-8313) or email (ncsoffice@newcovenantschools.org) the front desk when your student is sick or has an unplanned absence. This allows us to communicate with your student's teachers and the school nurse.

MASTER CALENDAR

The Master Calendar for the 2021-2022 school year can be viewed on our website by clicking the My NCS tab and scrolling down the page. <https://www.newcovenantschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2021-2022-New-Covenant-Schools-Master-Calendar.pdf>

SCHOOL OF RHETORIC

SOR SPRING CONCERT

The SoR will hold their spring concert next **Monday, May 17 at 7pm** in the Moomaw

Gym. You are welcome to come hear the SoR band, chorus and strings as they present a variety of musical selections.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

The spring athletic awards ceremony will be held on **Wednesday, May 19 at 12:40pm**. The event will be livestreamed for parents who wish to view.

SENIOR NOTES

The last day of school for seniors is next **Wednesday, May 19**. Seniors should plan on returning to campus on **Wednesday, May 26th at 12:00pm** to join the rest of the SoR for a picnic lunch at Pat's Pavillion, followed by book return, locker clean-out and End-of-Year Awards.

SOR REMINDERS

Underclassmen will have classes all day on **Tuesday & Wednesday, May 25 & 26**. There will be a picnic lunch provided on **Wednesday, May 26** followed by last day locker clean-out and End-of-Year Awards.

SPRING DANCE

The spring dance will be held outside in front of the Fieldhouse on **Wednesday, May 26 from 7-10pm**. The rain date for this event is **Thursday, May 27**. For more details please read the email from **Mr. McCurley** sent to the SoR on Friday.

SENIOR COOKOUT AND BONFIRE

The last day of class for seniors (Class of 2021) is **Wednesday, May 19**. The entire senior class, their parents, and the SoR faculty are invited to join the Headmaster and his wife, Heidi, at Bold Branch Farm in Bedford County for a bonfire and cookout. Camping overnight is welcome as the bonfire—a large debris pile—will burn all night and into the next day. A variety of meats and sides will be provided, including BBQ beef ribs, smoked venison, and gallons of iced tea. Guests are welcome to arrive as early as **4pm** and the fire will be lit around **6pm**. RSVP to heaton@newcovenantschools.org.

2021 SUMMER CAMPS

DRAMA CAMP

Rising 6-12th-graders are invited to our summer drama camp, Annie Jr., led by **Brooke Spencer** and **Kelli Johnson**. The camp will be held **July 12-16** from **5:30-8:30pm** as well as all day on **July 17** with the performance that evening. Auditions will be held at date to be announced prior to camp. The price is \$225.

STAYFIT CAMP

Our annual Stayfit Camp will run from **June 21-July 30**; Monday – Thursday each week (no weeks off) from **9-11am** for rising 1st-7th-graders, and from **11:30am-1pm** for rising 8th-12th-graders. The price is \$130 for an individual student or \$250 for a family.

AMERICAN GIRL DOLL CAMP

Rising 2nd-5th-grade girls, join us **June 14-18** from **9-2pm** for our annual American Girl Doll Camp! Inspired by the Courtney Moore doll from the 1980s, we will take a look at the 80s through crafts, food and dance. The price for this camp is \$200. If you have any questions please contact **Kelli Johnson** at kjohnson@newcovenantschools.org.

STRINGS CAMP

Rising 5th-8th-graders are invited to join a strings camp which will run **June 21-25** from **9am -12pm**. **Joe Nigro** and **Teresa Angell** will lead this camp to build your students' skills as they play Disney, Suzuki and "Christmas in June" music. The price is \$125 for the week. Please contact **Joe Nigro** at 434-238-2322 with any questions.

The deadline to sign up is Monday, May 24. Camps will be billed to your FACTS account.

To sign up for any of these summer camps, visit our website at www.newcovenantschools.org and click My NCS.



| FUNDRAISING REPORT | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | GOAL | LAST WEEK | | THIS WEEK |
| Annual Fund | \$30,000 | \$73,931 | | \$73,931 |
| General Scholarship | \$10,000 | \$15,994 | | \$15,994 |
| Foundation | \$200,000 | Pledged | \$469,000 | \$476,500 |
| | | Received | \$423,537 | \$423,537 |
| Hands&Hearts | \$40,000 | | | \$49,760 |

Thank you to all who have generously given to New Covenant Schools. Donations are always accepted through cash, check, stock transfers, IRA distributions, or gifts-in-kind. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent that the law provides. Contact **Dayna Renalds** in the Development Office for more information.

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clinic hours, continuing to supervise the clinic with **Nancy Freerksen**, LPN. **Tiffany Fulcher** (Hayden-K) has been hired to succeed Mrs. Mayberry in her administrative duties. She began training last week, and will be fully up to speed by fall.

Many of our middle school students will be delighted to know that **Katie Eldridge** will return to New Covenant to teach Latin in the School of Rhetoric. Miss Eldridge taught Latin in the middle school for many years before taking a couple of years off to teach English in Korea. Her goal was to learn to speak another language while living abroad. The School of Rhetoric will also welcome **Anya Ballanger** to teach history and rhetoric. Mrs. Ballanger, a native of California, was classically educated through high school before attending Liberty University, where she earned the

BS in Interdisciplinary Studies, focusing on history and physical sciences, and the MA in History. She not only understands our curriculum, but she greatly desires to teach in a classical, Christian school. She brings depth and competence to our SoR Faculty.

As we move into our 31st year of operation, the school will also add support to the Development Office in the area of Alumni Affairs. We are pleased to announce that **Katie Sakai** will join the staff working as an assistant to **Dayna Renalds**. Katie is also a native of California, and was classically educated through high school. She earned the BS in Communications from Liberty University with a minor in theater arts, and will join our staff to support our efforts in strengthening the school community with current and former students. With more than 300 graduates across the

country, she will help ensure that they stay connected to New Covenant and find meaningful ways to remain engaged with their *alma mater*. In addition to managing alumni affairs, Miss Sakai will also manage social media for the school, and will likely teach rhetoric in the high school.

QUID NOVI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CLASS OF 2021 • Mike Lovell • Kristin Durand • CLASS OF 2022 • Dr. Tim Brophy • Bob Price • Leslie Moeller • Dan Vollmer • Amy Bonebright • Class of 2023 • Kristin Hampton • Darryl Whitesell • Nancy Hall • Sam Mizener • Tom Rogers • Anne Scruggs

EX OFFICIO
 Rev'd John Heaton

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 lifelong learner.

NEW COVENANT schools



CONGRATULATIONS

Eighth-grade student **Jenna Ng** was presented an award for her entry in the annual essay contest through the Daughters of the American Revolution. Jenna's essay on the *Mayflower* moved from the local to district level in competition and was presented to students as the winner at the state level today. DAR awards have been established to foster among school children a greater appreciation of the qualities of American citizenship. Congratulations to Jenna on a job well done.