



Girls' Varsity Volleyball
working together with focus in recent win over North Cross.

THE NEWSLETTER OF
 NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

QUID NOVI

OCTOBER 11, 2021
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SCHOOL OF RHETORIC RETURNS TO WASHINGTON

by Scott McCurley, Academic Dean

For more than 20 years, the School of Rhetoric has traveled to our nation's capital in the fall semester. Until COVID, of course. At the start of last school year, travel plans were set aside as most everything we would want to do and see was closed to us. Happily, things have improved, and we reinstated this tradition. On September 30th, the students and faculty of the SoR boarded three chartered buses for DC, returning on the evening of October 1st.

This tradition captures social, cultural and academic objectives. To be clear, this is very much a 'retreat' for the SoR. Students and teachers have an extended time away together, bonding over shared travel, food, and significant historical sites. We have opportunity to interact in a relaxed environment,

learning and experiencing together. Each grade has a distinct itinerary; thus, as students move through their tenure in the SoR, they visit new sites each year. By the time they graduate they have seen nearly all the highlights of our nation's capital. Here is a sampling of our regular stops:

- Library of Congress
- U.S. History Museum
- A walking tour of the major monuments from the Washington to the Jefferson
- The National Cathedral and the Basilica
- National Gallery of Art
- Holocaust Museum
- The Bible Museum
- Arlington National Cemetery

So much of what we see and hear in these

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WHAT'S NEW?

- ▶ *October is Open House Month*
- ▶ *Weekly Tours Thursday and Friday 9:15 AM*
- ▶ *Serving Students Grades PreK-12*
- ▶ *Reserve Your Spot Today!*

www.newcovenantsschools.org



THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE.

H O N O R A R I A

MEET THE NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Each year, 8th grade students study leadership skills in the fall semester to prepare them to lead Middle School students in service projects and fun activities. Some choose to run for the 8th Grade Council, a group which exists for the purpose of building the culture of the Middle School. This year's Council members were elected on **October 5** and will begin meeting to plan projects and activities soon.

As part of the election process, each candidate gave a short speech with ideas for fun and service. Here are our new Council Members for the 2021-22 school year, along with some of their ideas.



Charlotte Morse will listen to the ideas of all students and brainstorm new plans for fun on half-days and special days.



Stone Haibach plans to offer a football themed dress day and to conduct food drives, all while adding fun and free dress days.



Olivia Hostetler would like to hear new ideas from everyone while building on our Middle School traditions. She'd like to bring back our Mascot.



Ryleigh Taylor wants to build school spirit by creating incentives for students to support our athletic teams at games and by organizing Reading Buddies for Middle and Grammar School students.



Judah Deyo will collaborate with others to plan Olympic-style competitions for each grade. He supports our

participation in Empty Bowls and Heavenly Hats and suggests that we add library days for grades 5-8.



Gia Barlow will plan ways for students to get involved with the elderly. For fun, she suggests a PJ/Croc Day and an EPIC MS party. Vote for Barlow, the voice of tomorrow!



Alicia Kenny suggests a variety of competitions for half-days: cookie baking, cleanest room or trash pickup. She would like to add a game day for Halloween.



Wyatt Renalds wants to lead new events that we have never done before and to add an element of competition to fun activities and service projects.

FIRST ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT AT BOLD BRANCH FARM



On Friday and Saturday, **October 8-9** about twenty-five dads from New Covenant gathered at Bold Branch Farm in Bedford County for the first of what could become an annual tradition. It was an idea that was imagined by **Dayna Renalds**, our Development Director, and was quickly confirmed by a few dads at the Back-to-School Picnic in August. A small planning committee was assembled, a sign-up sheet was devised, and the roster quickly filled. Men brought tents, hammocks, and even a large camper, to create a circle around a large fire pit for an afternoon and evening of cornhole, fishing, skeet shooting and conversation. **Headmaster Heaton** shared some remarks after dinner and led in Morning Prayer on Saturday. A good time was had by all. Friendly competition took place with **Mike Sharrett** winning the "Introduction Game," and **Ben Hinson** winning the skeet shooting competition.



E T C E T E R A

EVERYONE

WINTER SPORTS REGISTRATION

If your student in grades 5-12 will be playing a winter sport (basketball or swim), remember to sign them up as soon as possible and no later than **November 1**. You can sign up here: <https://www.newcovenantschools.org/athletic-sign-up-form/>

END OF QUARTER

Tomorrow is the end of the 1st quarter with our **customary noon dismissal**. Report cards will be emailed to parents on **Friday, October 22**.

LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found bins are purged at the end of each quarter. **TODAY** is the last day to check the bins for lost items. All unclaimed items will be donated to the school store and/or a local charity.

FALL BREAK

There will be no school and the office will be closed for our fall break this **Friday, October 15 - Monday, October 18**. Students return on **Tuesday, October 19**.

PICTURE RETAKES

TSS Photography will return next **Thursday, October 21** for picture retakes. If your student will need his/her picture retaken, please send an email to **Naomi Hostetler** at nhostetler@newcovenantschools.org to have your student placed on the retake list. If your student was absent on the original picture day, they will automatically be placed on the retake list.

AFTER-SCHOOL CARE CLARIFICATION

After-School Care for 7th and 8th graders is provided on a fee basis for occasions when a parent is not able to pick up a student at 3pm. 7th and 8th graders must

sign in at 3pm with After-School Care in the Grammar School Commons and charges apply. On some days each week, a staff member may be available to take 7th and 8th graders from the Commons to the library to provide a quieter environment for study. **7th and 8th graders remaining after school must be supervised in an organized after-school activity such as a sports team or signed in with After-School Care.**

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

There will be no school on **Monday, November 1**. We will hold parent/teacher conferences that day from 12:30-6:00pm. A link will be emailed to you on **October 19** for you to sign up for a conference with your child's teacher(s).

LUNCH ORDERING

Lunch ordering is open and ends this **Friday, October 15**. Please order promptly as the deadline is the beginning of Fall Break. Those who ordered milk at the beginning of the year will be charged for the second quarter in mid-October. The cost is \$30 and will be charged to your Prepay Lunch Account.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

If you are interested in hearing about how the VA 529 savings plan and the New Covenant Schools Scholarship Foundation can positively effect your 2021 tax return, join us for breakfast **Wednesday, October 13 at 7:45 am**. Reserve your spot here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084bafab2ca3f58-newcovenant7>

THE STORY OF NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

You're invited to join us for dinner on **Thursday, October 14 at 6:00pm** to watch the story of our school in short video. **Headmaster Heaton** will also be sharing the strategic goals for the future

years. RSVP to **Dayna Renalds** drenalds@newcovenantschools.org.

MIDDLE & GRAMMAR

CELL PHONE POLICY

Please be reminded that students in Grammar School and Middle School are not permitted to bring cell phones to school – not even to be kept in their lockers or gym bags. Furthermore, any electronic device capable of connecting to the internet or communicating with any other electronic device is not permitted. Thank you for helping your students be mindful of this policy.

SCHOOL OF RHETORIC

SOR POETRY RECITAL

You are invited to come to the School of Rhetoric Poetry Recital which will be held next **Thursday, October 21 at 7pm**.

SOR FALL FESTIVAL

The School of Rhetoric will be having a Fall Festival next **Saturday, October 23**. Be on the lookout for more information via email.

COLLEGE COFFEEHOUSE

All juniors and seniors are welcome to attend the College Coffeehouse this coming **Wednesday at 12:30pm** in the Grammar School Commons. **Roger Burke**, admissions counselor from James Madison University, will provide helpful insight into the general college search and application processes as well as the unique distinctions of the JMU community. Please RSVP to **Mrs. Hester** at shester@newcovenantschools.org if you would like to attend.

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wonderful locations allows us to put ‘flesh on the bone’ to what the students are learning in the classroom. Much, of course, centers on U.S. history, and this is a wonderful connection to that particular course, but if we take the monument walk as an example, much more is there. Questions naturally arise such as “What is the purpose of a monument?” and “How does this monument propose to memorialize this person or event?” and “What values are we venerating?” bringing to the forefront the rhetoric of how we remember and how we might be shaped by a given monument. The Holocaust Museum makes vivid the horrors of what fallen humanity is capable of, while the Bible Museum

and the churches bring to focus God’s promises and his call on our lives to live for the true, the good and the beautiful.

Since the excursion is an overnight event, the evening typically includes a musical performance at the Kennedy Center. This year that remained closed to us, but we were able to secure historical tours for the hours after dinner. Some of us were led on a walking tour through the story of Lincoln’s last night when he was assassinated at Ford’s theater. Others were regaled with stories of scandal and intrigue on a similar walk at the White House. It was a beautiful night to walk under the lights of DC and our guides proved to be wonderful storytellers. We might have just landed on a

new tradition!

The Washington, DC trip is just one of many extraordinary opportunities in a student’s career at New Covenant. Few schools make this kind of field trip even once during high school. Given that we live so close, however, and given that our curriculum explores so much of what is offered in our nation’s capital, it will remain a hallmark of the experience in the School of Rhetoric.

For a short video montage of the trip, visit this link: <https://www.facebook.com/newcovenantschools/videos/431444598551084>.



FUNDRAISING REPORT			
	GOAL	PREVIOUSLY	THIS WEEK
Annual Fund	\$80,000	\$0	\$6,626
General Scholarship	\$10,000	\$0	\$1,554
Foundation	\$200,000	Pledged \$142,000 Received \$0	\$142,000 \$13,882
Permanent Things Campaign— Stage I and II	\$1,000,000	\$0	Chapel \$582,200 Classrooms \$151,280 TOTAL \$733,480

Please consider New Covenant Schools in your giving. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent that the law provides. Donations may be given through cash, check, stock transfers, or IRA distributions. Contact **Dayna Renalds** in the Development Office for more information.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- CLASS OF 2022 • Dr. Tim Brophy
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- 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