



MOTHER LODE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

Dear MLCS Families,

August Newsletter 2025

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year at Mother Lode Christian! We are honored to serve you in the strength and wisdom of the LORD as we educate and disciple the next generation of God's children. We are also exceedingly grateful for all that the LORD has helped us to accomplish this summer to meet the needs of our incoming students with excellence. Here is just a peek at the "new and improved" MLCS:

Classroom Remodels: "Why didn't it look this way when I was in the class last year?!" exclaimed a cougar who happened to stop by and noticed the changes in her third-grade room. Both our second and third grade classrooms got professional makeovers with new carpeting, paint, technology, and some cabinetry. Second grade teacher Mrs. Warfield and her husband, Brett, in a labor of love, poured about 100 additional hours into the room. What a blessing!



New Concrete Stairs: The terribly dilapidated, chunky stairs that led from the sidewalk out to the playground have been replaced with beautiful concrete stairs that should last until Jesus comes. Thank you to Petrey Construction for their awesome work!



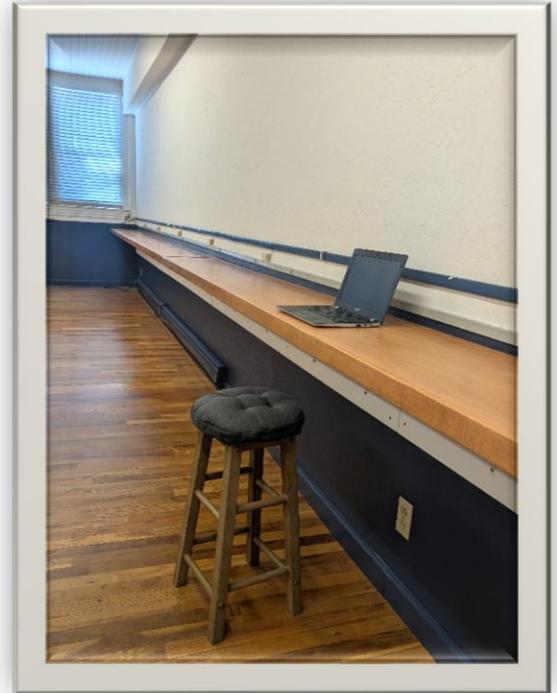
Middle School Lunch Area: Say good-bye to the bark and hello to a smooth, beautiful concrete patio for our middle school cougars. This spacious area will host four high-quality thermoplastic coated, royal blue picnic tables, and will soon be equipped with a water bottle filling station and shade sails for comfort on sunny days. The cost of the new patio was covered by a local donor who wanted to bless MLCS. ❤️



Preschool Bathroom & Mural: The 1st grade cougars who ran in the Jog-a-thon back when they were in preschool won't get to use the new preschool bathroom, but they can celebrate its completion. We were able to remodel a portion of the old COVID "sick room" into a two-stall bathroom so that the preschoolers can freely use a designated exterior bathroom. Current state laws mandate that no K-8 child may be present in a bathroom if a preschooler is using it, which meant that preschool teachers had to carefully monitor every time a preschooler used the K-8 bathrooms. The new bathroom will benefit everyone.

Mrs. Crystal Wolf, our amazing preschool director, is also a mural painter extraordinaire!

Computer Lab or Conversion: All I can say is “WOW!” Our techy wizard and master of all things artistic, Mrs. Natalie Gray, shared her vision of a beautiful, updated computer lab with far less cords, far more space to spread out, and a variety of workspaces to maximize concentration and versatility. With a little ingenuity from Donnie and his awesome local contacts, we went from hundreds of cords sprouting from the walls and a mishmash of tables and chairs to smooth, locally milled counter tops with incoming cushion covered barstools. The old desktop computers have been traded out for chrome books, and there is even space for a potential casual sitting area at the back. It will be a few more weeks before it is fully set up, but it will be easy to maintain and inviting to classes who come to do computer work, small groups who work on the annual yearbook, and individual students who need to catch up on studies at the after-school Top-It-Off program. (P.S.: If you have furniture that might work well for the casual sitting area, please see Natalie.)



Drum Roll, Please! Announcing the new band teacher...the one...the only...gifted by God as an educator, children’s ministry leader, and a musician...**Sarah Banks!** I always tell people that God is the best H.R. manager around, and He certainly sent us a top-notch person to take on the mighty task of inspiring our 4th-8th graders to be excellent musicians. Sarah is a highly accomplished teacher who also happens to have a minor in music with a background in competitive marching band. So, hold-on tight, cougars. You’re in for a ride!

A Match Made in Heaven: Two years ago, **Nicole Siudzinski** stopped by my office to let me know that if there ever happened to be an opening for a teacher in the ELA (English Language Arts) intervention position, she would LOVE to have it. When Mrs. Knowles let me know last Spring that she needed to step away from the ELA position to help take care of her aging father-in-law, I remembered Nicole’s words. The Bible says in Psalm 37:4: “Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart,” and that’s what He did for Mrs. Siudzinski. Not only does Nicole come to us with a great love for young cougars, she comes with a sharp mind for effective implementation of curriculum and a fierce determination to help each child succeed. A match made in Heaven!



Meet the Teachers...and our Cougar Mascot! All students (Preschool through 8th grade) are welcome to stop in anytime from 9:00-11:00 am on Tuesday, August 19th, to get acquainted with their teachers, find their desks, see where backpacks get stored, explore the classroom, and enjoy getting to see old friends. Don’t forget to stop by the admin building if you need help signing up with GroupMe, need to pay tuition, or just want to say hello to the staff. Many thanks to our PTF for hosting the event with cookies and cold drinks...and a *swagbag* full of goodies for each family who stops by!

As summer vacation dwindles down and the school year starts up we want to welcome everyone for what will be an amazing year! We are thankful for the staff, students, and families that make up the MLCS community--we are so blessed to be a part of the body of Christ!

As many of you already know, Justin Myers--after faithfully fulfilling his second term on The Board--has stepped down. We are so grateful for his service and leadership over these past 6 years, where he has been a constant source of wisdom and encouragement. Please join us as we wish him well in this next chapter.

Board meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the MLCS Chapel and begin at 4:30pm. If you are unable to attend but are interested in reviewing the meeting minutes, they can be found on the MLCS website at <https://motherlodechristian.com> under the About Tab, MLCS Board. Additionally, the search for future Board members is still underway; if you, or someone you know, is interested in joining the Board, please email us at mlcsboard@motherlodechristian.com.

We are looking forward to wonderful school year!

Sincerely,
The MLCS Board



Opening Chapel in the Gym: Save that breakfast out with your hubby or that tea-time with other moms until after the traditional opening Chapel ceremony on the first day of school. We'll introduce the staff, worship, and pray before heading off to our classrooms for the day.

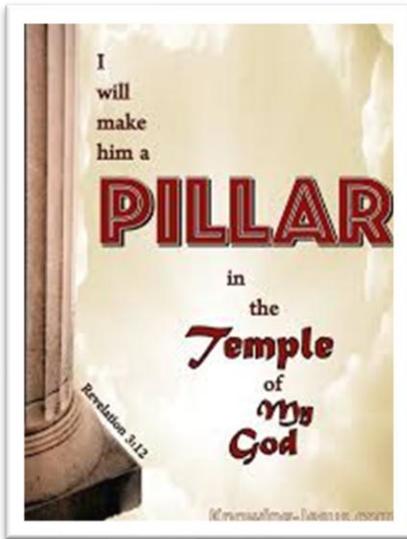
K-8 Back-to-School Night: Educating and discipling a child works best when the adults in a child's life are playing on the same page. Back-to-School Night is key to ensuring that parents and teachers have strong communication and common procedures and expectations for student growth. This year, we will run all K-8 sessions on the same evening, Thursday, August 28th, from 6:00-7:30 as follows:

- 6:00-6:25: Classroom Presentations
- 6:30-7:00: Whole School Overview in the Chapel
- 7:05-7:30: Classroom Presentations (Repeated)

Please note that these sessions are geared specifically for the parents. If you are not able to arrange for childcare that evening, please keep your child(ren) with you at all times.

Prayers Continue!: Our faithful Moms in Prayer group has continued to lift up the needs of our campus and families all throughout the summer. As the school year begins, feel free to send your requests to

Momsinprayer@motherlodechristian.com. They would be honored to lift up your needs before the Lord. All are welcome to join them in the Chapel for prayer on Monday mornings right after school starts.



Thank you for helping to make Mother Lode Christian School a pillar in the community, as we continue to work together to build up the children in the wisdom, knowledge, strength, and love of the LORD. May God bless us mightily in the coming year.

*Joyfully,
Stephanie Torok*

Aug. 19th: “Meet the Teacher” from 9:00-11:00

Aug. 20th: 1st Day of School with CHAPEL in the GYM at 8:15.

Aug. 28th: Back-to-School Night for K-8 from 6:00-7:30 pm.

Sept. 1st: No School. Memorial Day.

Sept. 18th & 19th: Picture Day

****NOTE: Back-to-School Dance coming in September as well. Thank you, PTF!**