



GEARING

UP

FOR

Junior High

A Guide for Parents



CASCADE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

WELCOME TO CCS JUNIOR HIGH!

*This is an exciting and transforming
season in your student's life!*

At Cascade Christian Junior High, we understand the changes young adolescents experience and have created a safe, positive, and relevant Christian environment for them to navigate these changes with support from an understanding, caring, and committed faculty and staff. We love junior high students and believe their best educational experiences will come through a school culture guided by high expectations, positive relationships, and high standards for achievement. Relevant classes, advisories, chapels, and activities have been designed to meet students' academic, social, physical, and spiritual needs so all students can reach their God-given potential as they prepare for high school and beyond. We are excited for your student to be a part of our exceptional junior high!

By His grace,



Jennifer Walling
Junior High Principal

JUNIOR HIGH

Whether the two words make you feel excited or nervous, you are keenly aware of the significance these years bring. As your children head toward the middle grades, they have already entered a season of remarkable growth and change. And as a parent, you know the time is now to establish strong foundations for high school, college, and life beyond. That's why choosing the best junior high program is so important to you. Your students' learning environment undoubtedly impacts who they will become.

This packet was created to help parents intentionally choose an environment that provides a safe, positive culture for meaningful development—academically, spiritually, socially, and emotionally. We aim to guide Christian parents toward a school that boldly proclaims the truths of God, placing a primary focus on Jesus and His work, and that provides a biblical worldview as the foundation for all curriculum.



PREPARING FOR SUCCESS *in Junior High*

Moving from elementary school to junior high is a big change for students and families. The following tips can help you prepare for the transition and make the most of these ever-important years.

IMPLEMENT STRONG STUDY HABITS

With increasingly challenging coursework on the horizon, now is the time to establish habits for success. Keep backpacks and binders neat and organized, set up a home study area, and consider a routine that will foster strong academic performance.

TRY NEW ACTIVITIES

Encourage students to step outside their comfort zone and try a variety of new activities in junior high. This will help uncover talents and passions that can be developed throughout high school, college, and life beyond.

WIDEN SOCIAL CIRCLES

Junior high is a time of profound social change. Students should form friendships outside of a small circle and focus on building meaningful relationships with like-minded peers. Choosing friends wisely will pay off for years to come.

ENCOURAGE SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Outside of regular school activities, provide opportunities for your student to get involved (or continue involvement) in a local church, pursue missions opportunities (locally or globally) as a family, and talk to your student about his or her personal walk with God.

MAKE A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

Junior high is the prime time to set goals for the future. Start talking about colleges of interest, career opportunities, and steps that need to be taken to reach these goals. Encourage your student to consider pursuing advanced courses, leadership opportunities, or internships/job shadowing as your student plans for the high school experience.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Students spend the largest portion of their waking hours at school. Choosing the right school to partner with you is critical. Look for invested teachers, a philosophy that aligns with your family's values, and strong outcomes demonstrated by former students.

HOW CASCADE CHRISTIAN *Is Different*



INVESTED TEACHERS

Your student will be known and valued by the teachers at Cascade Christian. Our junior high teachers are deeply invested in their students' lives and passionate about seeing them succeed. What's more, they are highly qualified experts in their subject areas. All of our teachers have undergraduate degrees and teaching credentials or similar credentials that qualify them for their area of instruction.



PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

Our STEM integrations allow students to expand their skills in the important subject areas of science, technology, engineering, and math. Engaging hands-on activities take place in science classes, electives, and clubs.



ANNUAL RETREAT

A yearly retreat each September fosters a strong sense of community within the junior high. The retreat helps students develop positive relationships that promote belonging and identity. These relationship connections continue to grow all year through the advisory program.



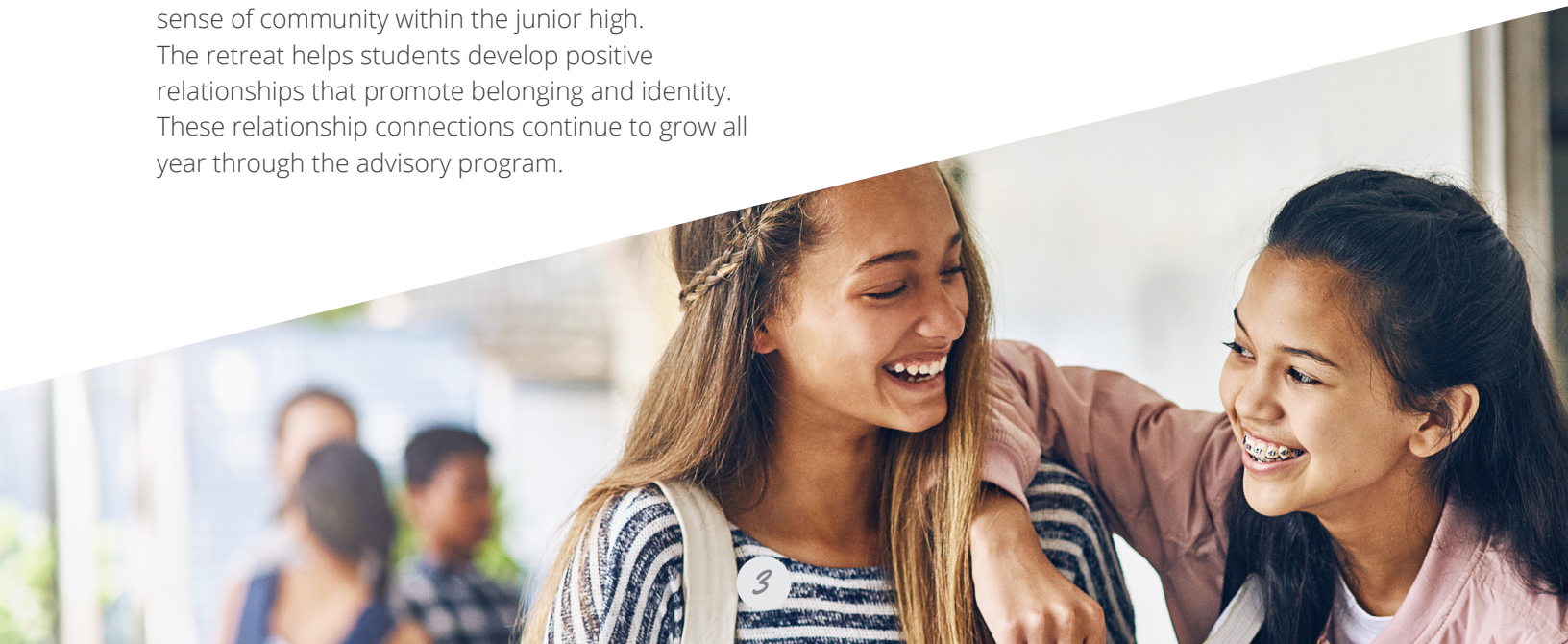
STUDENT SERVICES

Cascade Christian Schools strives to provide an excellent and highly personalized educational experience for students of varying learning abilities. Our goal is to know students most excellently—including their areas of gifting and need—so that they reach their God-given potential. Our priority is to serve the whole child and ensure a place of belonging.



SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Discerning the world's culture, our teachers equip students to address specific challenges from a biblical worldview. Regular discipleship opportunities, weekly chapels, daily Bible classes, and an IMPACT Term prepare students to serve God while they demonstrate spiritual leadership. We take this role of guiding students in their faith very seriously and consider it our greatest joy!





ATHLETICS PROGRAMS

We offer a full range of athletics opportunities for students, with twelve junior high teams in nine different sports. These teams allow students to develop their passions, create healthy habits, and be a part of a rewarding community. Dedicated coaches work to develop student athletes' physical skills along with the athletes' personal and spiritual growth.



ADVISORY GROUPS

Junior high students each have a personal advisor who tracks them and their progress in all areas. Differentiation is possible through students' individual guidance and interaction with their advisor. Advisory groups promote positive relationships, help students grow in character, and provide meaningful training in relevant issues facing teens.



THE ARTS

Exploring the arts allows students to discover and develop talent in music, theatre, or visual arts, which could lead to joyful, lifelong expression and a means to glorify God. All junior high students participate in a yearlong creative arts class and have performance opportunities throughout the year.



LEADERSHIP TRAINING

At CCS, leadership training is based on the core belief that every person is created in the image of God and, therefore, possesses a unique set of leadership qualities. In other words, EVERY person is a leader, and CCS will assist and guide students in their journey to discover and apply their own unique gifts through specific leadership curriculum, training, and opportunities to be servant-leaders.










THE COUGAR **HONOR CODE**

All junior high students sign the Cougar Honor Code to commit that they will honor God, honor others, and honor themselves.

Junior high students are expected to:

-  *Treat everyone with dignity and respect*
-  *Be ready to learn*
-  *Be prepared to lead*
-  *Project a positive image that distinctly stands out from the secular world*
-  *Be clean and well groomed, and dress modestly and tastefully*

A photograph of several students in a computer lab. In the foreground, a young boy with blonde hair and freckles is smiling at the camera. Behind him, other students are visible, some looking at computer monitors. A large blue brushstroke graphic is overlaid on the image, containing the word 'ACADEMICS' in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

ACADEMICS

In junior high, students continue to build strong foundations across core subject areas while diving into electives that further develop their individual passions.

SEVENTH GRADE

- Math (*Pre-Algebra, Algebra Prep, Algebra 1*)
- Science (*Earth and Space Science*)
- History (*WA State History, Geography*)
- English
- Bible & Leadership
- Quarterly Electives (*Digital Technology required to complete in either 7th or 8th grade*)
- Yearlong Cultural and Creative Arts Elective

QUICK FACTS

- Hours: 7:45 a.m.-2:45 p.m.
- Seven class periods/day
- Elective courses every day; one course per quarter
- Chapel on Wednesdays
- Advisory group meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays

EIGHTH GRADE

- Math (*Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, Geometry*)
- Science (*Life Science*)
- History (*U.S. History, Honors History*)
- English and Honors English
- Bible & Leadership
- Quarterly Electives (*Digital Technology required to complete in either 7th or 8th grade, Healthy Life Skills required in 8th grade*)
- Yearlong Cultural and Creative Arts Elective

A graphic for 'JUNIOR HIGH ELECTIVES' featuring a stylized rocket ship icon in the background. The text 'JUNIOR HIGH' is in a smaller font above 'ELECTIVES', which is in a larger, bold font.

JUNIOR HIGH ELECTIVES

Junior High Electives and Clubs vary each year, but may include the following:

- STEM (*Science & Technology, Applied Engineering*)
- Robotics
- Coding
- Theatre
- Physical Education
- Digital Technology
- Strings Ensemble
- Jazz Band
- Vocal Ensemble
- Student Leadership Team
- Intro to ASL
- Intro to Spanish
- Career & Finance
- Family Life
- Healthy Life Skills
- Academic Success
- Journalism Writing



ATHLETICS

Not only do sports allow students to compete, but they provide a platform for leading by example, demonstrating sportsmanship, and honoring Christ.

Girls

CROSS COUNTRY

BASKETBALL

VOLLEYBALL

FASTPITCH SOFTBALL

SOCCER

TRACK & FIELD

CHEER

Boys

CROSS COUNTRY

WRESTLING

FOOTBALL

BASEBALL

SOCCER

TRACK & FIELD

BASKETBALL

School Spirit

A strong sense of Cougar pride is developed during annual spirit-building activities, which include:

- Pep Assemblies
- Spirit Week
- Holiday Parties
- Talent Show
- Honor Roll Assemblies
- 7th and 8th Grade Class Events
- Weekly and Monthly Awards



STUDENT ACTIVITIES & Opportunities



CULTURAL & CREATIVE ARTS

Students have numerous opportunities throughout the year to glorify God through creative expression. These include:

- Foreign Language
- Music Classes & Concerts
- Theatre Productions
- Community Functions & Festivals
- Digital Art Class
- Visual Arts Class

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Students demonstrate personal leadership and Christian service through a variety of activities each year, including:

- Spiritual Emphasis Week
- Class and School Leadership Roles
- IMPACT Term Service Project
- Student Leadership Team



TRIPS

Junior high students expand their horizons and enjoy building connections through the following travel opportunities:

- CONNECT Retreat
- 8th Grade Washington, D.C., Trip



Take the NEXT STEP

Schedule your visit to Cascade Christian Schools.

It would be our privilege to partner with you during the wonderful—and challenging—junior high years of your child's life. As students develop and discover how they will make a positive impact on the world, they can depend on everyone at Cascade Christian for guidance. We care about educating the whole child, so they will be prepared for all that comes next! It is our great joy to “develop discerning leaders” in a culture where everyone is known and valued.



Private Tours:

Come in and meet our campus enrollment manager and receive a private tour of the campus, classrooms, and activity spaces.



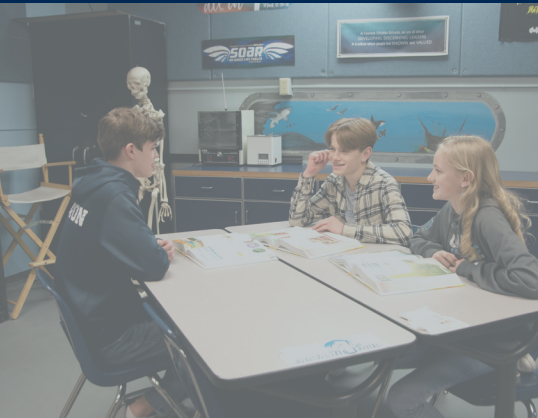
Shadow Days:

Have your child paired with a current junior high student who will help your child experience all that Cascade Christian Schools has to offer.



Cascade Christian Schools admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletics and other school-administered programs.

To glorify God by providing an excellent
Christ-centered education dedicated to developing
discerning leaders who are spiritually, personally,
and academically prepared to impact their world



CASCADE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

(253) 841-1776 | CascadeChristian.org