

August 6, 2009

Dear Parents of Prospective Freshmen,

Greetings from Parkview Christian Academy! Given the growth of Kendall County over the past number of years and an expressed need for a quality Christian high school in this area, we will be adding a freshman class to Parkview Christian Academy for the 2009-2010 school year!

### **A New Approach to High School**

Cost and space constraints prevent us from opening a traditional high school, but a model already exists that incorporates parts of the traditional method, cyber courses, and a homeschool approach. Equipped with laptops, our freshman students would have the benefits of a directed study program, a wide variety of electives for their co-curricular classes, personalized interaction with those teaching and overseeing their classes, and unique opportunities to develop leadership skills.

### **Directed Study Program**

The core classes would include math, science, English, history, and Bible. We would also incorporate *specials* classes—art, band, music, P.E., foreign language, and chapel. Classes will be taught using a variety of methods: these will include a combination of cyber courses, video/DVD courses, self-directed courses on computer (PDF files), instruction on CDs, and traditional textbooks. The school's curriculum may be supplemented by correspondence courses, additional cyber courses, summer school, dual credit, and/or independent study if desired. Drawing from faculty experienced in cyber education, homeschool, and traditional teaching, *Parkview Christian High School* will establish high academic standards while providing a flexible directed study program that focuses on leadership development.

### **Electives**

Possibilities for electives or co-curricular activities include foreign language, keyboarding, fine arts, computer, life skills, shop (wood, auto), drama, video production, photography, bookkeeping, marketing, anthropology, tennis, bowling, printing, agriculture, aviation ground school—we will utilize community programs, organizational programs like Wycliffe's *Jungle Jump Off*, and draw from the skills and knowledge of parents and other interested people.

### **Personalized Interaction and Leadership**

Students will formulate a study program at the beginning of the school year that balances the structure of a traditional class with the flexibility of a homeschool plan. The staffing of the high school would initially be shared by our existing staff and qualified parent volunteers. In addition to the necessary space and supervision of the students, the school will provide accountability to track the student's progress and necessary instruction. We will move quickly to be officially accredited by ACSI. By adding just one grade at a time, our tuition and fees would be considerably less than that of a traditional Christian high school. As the high school grows, courses will be adjusted to the appropriate grade level. Students will be taught leadership skills and be given opportunities to put them into practice. Parents must have reasonable expectations of the school and do what they can to help.

### **Who is this for?**

Not all students flourish in a classroom with less structure; nor do all students excel in a traditional setting. The *Parkview Christian High School* student should be self-motivated and able to work somewhat independently. We will begin our freshman year for 2009-2010. The cost for the first year's tuition and fees is \$4,900. If this program is what you are looking for, please call or send me an email. I would love to hear from you! Homeschool families may enroll for just the core courses of Biology, Algebra I (or Geometry), and Literature/Composition for a reduced cost.

In His Service,

Jim Apker, Head of School  
japker@ParkviewChristian.net

### **School responsibilities:**

- Help students develop an academic plan (this will have to be done collectively by teachers, principal, parents, and students)
- Develop lesson plans for classes (this will be shared by the teacher responsible for the class)
- Oversee student work on a regular basis—grading, assessments, etc. (same as above)
- Provide help in subject matters through teaching or personal instruction (same as above)
- Provide course books and curricula
- Provide opportunities for co-curricular activities (primarily parent volunteers...it will depend on the subject)
- Provide opportunities to participate in specials such as art, music, band, drama, chapel
- Provide adequate technology (use of a laptop or desktop, internet connectivity and filters, phone and fax availability)
- Provide adequate school facilities (we will either provide a classroom or have them move between a couple of locations within the school); they will also have use of the gymnasium, library, public library, and art room
- Keep records of grades, attendance, finances, etc.
- Provide a diploma upon graduation and transcripts of grades
- Provide standardized testing and information on how to pursue collegiate opportunities
- Provide liability insurance while in the building

**Courses offered:**

<b>Course</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
<b>Mathematics</b>			
Algebra I	Freshman	Traditional/Self-directed	<i>Saxon</i> or other
*Geometry	Fresh/Soph	Traditional/Self-directed	<i>Bob Jones</i> or other
*Algebra II	Sophomore	Traditional/Self-directed	<i>Saxon</i> or other
<b>Science</b>			
Biological Science	Freshman	Online or Traditional**	<i>Sevenstar Academy</i> or other
*Physical Science	Sophomore	Online or Traditional**	<i>Sevenstar Academy</i> or other
<b>Language Arts</b>			
English I	Freshman	Traditional—PCA staff	
*English II	Sophomore	Traditional**	
<b>History</b>			
U.S. History	Fresh/Soph	CD/Tapes	<i>The American Way</i>
<b>Bible</b>			
Bible 9	Freshman	Traditional/Self-directed	<i>Summit</i> or In-house
*Bible 10-12	Soph/Jr/Sr	Traditional/Self-directed	<i>Summit</i> or In-house
<b>Foreign Language</b>			
Spanish I	Freshman	Traditional or Online	Rosetta Stone?
*French, German, etc.	All grades	CD/Specialized	Wide variety of options
<b>Specials</b>			
Mentoring/Leadership	All grades	Specialized	Assigned a teacher-mentor
P.E.	All grades	Traditional or Specialized	Wide variety of options....
*Music/Band	Fresh/Soph	Traditional	Mrs. Meneses or other
*Art (drawing, sculpting)	All grades	Traditional/Self-directed	Mr. Boley or other
<b>Electives</b>			
*Spanish I-III	All grades	Online—Rosetta Stone	
*Technology	All grades	Computer	<i>K to 12</i> or other
*Photography/Videography	All grades	Specialized	
*Business	All grades	Specialized	
*Pre-Aviation	All grades	Traditional—Mr. Apker	
*Forestry and Nature	All grades	Silver Springs State Park	
*Yearbook	All grades	Specialized—PCA staff	
*Worship Team	All grades	Specialized—Mr. Apker	
*Drama	All grades	Specialized—PCA staff	
*Foods	All grades	Specialized (not Mr. Apker)	

\*Course that may be offered if there are enough students interested to justify it.

\*\*Course that may be taught by a homeschool parent (in the fashion of The Learning Vine)

Additional notes:

1. All courses may have an advanced placement element added to allow for “honors” credit.
2. Certain courses may be taken for dual credit through Waubensee Community College. The student needs to be at least 16 years of age
3. The electives offered will be determined by student interest and availability of someone to organize and/or oversee the activity.
4. Other academic courses (higher level?) may be made available by qualified people (homeschool parents, school parents, Parkview staff) if there is enough interest.