

Recipe for Leaving a Legacy

by Joe Haas, Ed.D.



While browsing through the April 2013 edition of the *Our State* magazine recently, I was interested to read the comments of the editor, Elizabeth Hudson. Perhaps what caught my eye was the editor's reminiscing of her time as a kindergarten student in 1975 at Fayetteville Street Christian School in Asheboro, an NCCSA member school. Hudson went on to write that she had rediscovered a cookbook she made as an FSCS student and that the pages created mental images and memories of that time in her life. Although there were no pictures in the recipe book, she said that she could easily "see" those people whose names were included. She thought of the school dietician, "Aunt Mattie," with her smiling face and heavy white apron. Her mind wandered to thoughts about assistant pastor "Big A" (Adrian Pugh), whom she and other young students ran to every morning and hugged his legs. She remembered how his big, booming voice made the students feel comforted and safe. The article continued with glowing comments about her kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Carrie Branning, who had assigned the cookbook project. The editor surmised that perhaps

Mrs. Branning's goal was less about the creation of a recipe book and more about the importance of building a foundation that her students could later remember and appreciate.

When Hudson turned to the page with her own mother's recipe, her mind instantly recalled the struggles of her young mother who worked hard to be good wife and mother. No doubt there were many personal sacrifices made to enroll her child in a Christian school. The editor remembered that her mother did not think she had a suitable recipe for her daughter to submit, so her friend gave her one. Hudson's mother immediately went to the store, purchased the ingredients, and made the recipe for supper that very evening, finding that she could duplicate it successfully. That recipe became a favorite for Hudson's dad. Even though this was the editor's personal story, it reminded me that if we follow the recipe – what others have done before us – we can often have the same results.

As I finished the article, my mind recalled some of my own teachers who made an impression on me as a young student. I thought of their kindness, their compassion, and their patience. I also thought of those teachers who insisted that I do my best, required my full attention and best behavior, and doled out admonishment whenever it was warranted – all for my own good. I thought of the many Sunday school teachers and church workers who had invested their lives to help me grow in Christ. I thought of my own parents and their love and sacrifices to make sure my siblings and I grew up with Biblical values, instruction, and a godly foundation that would guide us through life.

I thought of the many individuals that God used to help mold my life. It was as a young man that I made some of life's most important decisions – the vocation He wanted for me, the Christian mate He chose for me, and the places He wanted me to serve. I thought of how my wife and I had been determined to pass on these same godly values and Biblical training to our own four children. Now it is time for the next generation! It is our prayer that our children will do the same for our grandchildren as they train them for God. It is a cycle that we want to be repeated again and again!

Do you have a recipe for leaving a legacy? What are you doing to give *your* students the right ingredients they need to build their lives upon? Christian educators must impart excellent academics, but they must be ever mindful of the lasting impact they will have long after their students leave their classrooms. What will your students recall when they think back to the times in your class or while under your influence? Just as Elizabeth Hudson found a cookbook from her kindergarten class some forty years later and began to think about those adults who touched her life, what will your students recall about your influence upon them? Why not determine now to follow the right recipe and include the correct ingredients in your classroom so that you can leave a legacy for God's glory! May we all be diligently aware of this great responsibility AND privilege!

If you would like to read the above-mentioned article from *Our State* magazine, click this [link](#).

Psalm 103:17-18: "But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."

Psalm 78:5-6: "For he established a testimony ... which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:"

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

School Voucher Bill Survives House Education Committee Vote

RALEIGH — A bill that would authorize tax dollars to be used for private school vouchers cleared its first hurdle on May 28 by passing the House Education Committee in a 27-21 [vote](#). It now moves to the House Appropriations Committee.

[House Bill 944](#), the Opportunity Scholarship Act, would provide vouchers up to \$4,200 to students attending nonpublic schools, with \$50 million shifted from the state's education budget to the program over the next two years. Fifty percent of the grants always would go to students receiving free and reduced lunches. The State Education Assistance Authority would administer the opportunity scholarships, which also would be available to children in foster care and newly-adopted children.

The measure touched off a firestorm among committee Democrats opposed to school competition. Supporters of the measure said it offered students an opportunity to leave public schools that were not a good fit for them. "This money will diminish what we can do. ... And it ultimately will dismantle public schools, and that's really the underlying motive here," Rep. Alma Adams, D-Guilford, said during the Education Committee debate.

"This is a very bad bill. Even if parents have this opportunity that we're talking about, they can make that choice, if they don't have the dollars in their pocket to put with that [grant] to make the difference, that child will not have an opportunity. We need to be honest and up front about that," Adams said.

Rep. Rob Bryan, R-Mecklenburg, a bill sponsor, dismissed that notion. "When you look at the Florida program which we're very similarly modeled after, not only is it not the folks at the high-income level exercising on it, it tends to be the poorest of the poor exercising," Bryan said.

The average family income of voucher recipients in Florida is \$24,000 a year. The scholarship grant there ranges from \$4,100 to \$4,300, Bryan said, while average tuition at private schools where those voucher recipients attend is about \$5,600.

Yet even as it has grown from about 10,000 students to about 60,000 this year, the Florida program "has not decimated public education," Bryan said. "Many of these [private] schools are missionally focused and they desire to have kids to be able to exercise these scholarships to attend these schools," Bryan said. "What you often see is parents can do volunteer hours or do other things to make up the difference [in tuition], or schools just accept these as scholarships in full to get the students there," Bryan said. For many parents whose children have faltered in traditional public schools, the voucher program "is exactly what they need."

Rep. Charles Graham, D-Robeson, opposed the bill, warning of "the damage and, I think, the harm" it will cause to public schools. "It takes away from rural counties ... from the good things that are happening in my county" and in public education in general, he said. He asked Bryan what qualifications private school teachers must have. "These private schools are not held to the same standards," Graham said. Bryan said private schools establish their own guidelines, and teaching standards may even be higher, an answer that displeased Graham.

Adams criticized the bill for not including background checks on private school personnel and said private schools often exclude difficult students. "Public schools are charged with educating all children, and we're 48th in public school funding right now," Adams said.

Rep. Jeff Collins, R-Nash, countered the complaint about cherry picking students by recalling his 12 years teaching at a church-affiliated, private Christian school and his experience in helping to found a non-denominational Christian school in Rocky Mount. "I'm a little bit discombobulated" about that contention, Collins said. The Christian schools where he worked frequently accepted students who "were kicked out of public schools for behavior problems" and had no other options, he said. The educational vouchers "certainly could work in my county of Nash," he said. "Opponents of House Bill 944 opted for the 'kitchen sink' approach to the debate. In the end, however, their wildly creative fear mongering did little to sway the opinion of

the majority of the committee," said Terry Stoops, director of research and education studies at the John Locke Foundation.

"Despite the fact that the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that vouchers are constitutional, opponents of House Bill 944 insisted that the legislation violated the separation of church and state," Stoops said. "This was one of many instances of opponents playing fast and loose with the facts in an attempt to sway undecided Republicans to their camp." While he believes the bill "still has a long way to go," Stoops said the outcome of the Education Committee vote "means that the chances of passage increased dramatically. Today's committee vote signals to the Republican majorities in the House and Senate that there is adequate support for the voucher bill."


Darrell Allison, president of Parents for Educational Freedom in North Carolina, a school choice advocacy organization, hailed the committee approval of the bill. "This measure is not a 'voucher scheme' with no accountability, nor is it taking money from traditional public schools, nor will these funds disappear into a 'black hole,'" Allison said. "The Opportunity Scholarship Act is a chance for hundreds of thousands of low-income children in North Carolina who struggle to read, write, and solve math problems at grade level to receive the quality education they need through an accountable and transparent program," he said.

"This is responsible legislation with a number of safeguards, including a financial audit, annual national standardized testing for scholarship students, and reporting requirements to the legislature for participating private schools," Allison said.

Dan E. Way (@danway_carolina) is an associate editor of Carolina Journal.

***An email from Dr. Haas was sent to each NCCSA administrator on May 30 explaining the latest news about this bill.*

2013 NCCSA Summer Staff Development Seminar



NCCSA Summer Staff Development

TRAPPED IN TIME
TEACHING WITH URGENCY AND PURPOSE

Dr. Phil Johnson

July 22-23, 2013
Woodland Baptist Christian School
Winston-Salem, NC

July 24-25, 2013
Faith Christian Academy
Goldsboro, NC

CEUs: 1.2 NCCSA Official CEUs
Cost: \$50 Early Bird Discount - \$55 after May 17
(price includes refreshments during breaks)

LOGGING INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST www.nccsa.org

Looking for educational training opportunities this summer? On July 22-25, the NCCSA will host the 2013 NCCSA Staff Development Seminar. This year, Dr. Phil Johnson will be speaking on the topic of ***Trapped in Time: Teaching with Urgency and Purpose***. The seminar will be held in two locations: Woodland Baptist Christian School on Monday/Tuesday, July 22-23, and Faith Christian Academy (Goldsboro) on Wednesday/Thursday, July 24-25.

Again this summer, there will be sessions especially for administrators in Goldsboro at Faith Christian Academy on Wednesday and Thursday, July 24-25. The administrator seminar will be given at the same time and location as Dr. Johnson's seminar and will be configured for administration. Dr. Glen Schultz will be speaking on the topic of **Kingdom Education for the 21st Century. Administrators, please do not miss this opportunity.**

Please remember that for NCCSA-certified teachers, 25% of all renewal work must be from NCCSA events such as this summer seminar. If you are in need of CEUs, we encourage you to attend the 2013 Staff Development Seminar.

[Register online for the staff or administrator seminar here.](#)

Feedback from previous NCCSA staff development seminars:

"Dr. Phil Johnson challenged my thinking. I came for the CEUs, but I received so much more."

"Dr. Glen Schultz's seminar brought to light so many truths that have been overlooked in Christian schools. Amazing! Life-altering!"

2013 NCCSA Educators' Convention

The 2013 NCCSA Educators' Convention will take place on September 26-27, 2013, at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, N.C. The convention theme will be "Rekindling the Passion for Educating Students."

You will not want to miss this year's convention. Workshops are being finalized and confirmed, and we anticipate a wonderful convention with the 2013 Workshop Team that has been assembled. We look forward to seeing you in Greensboro for a wonderful time of instruction and fellowship! [Download the convention flyer and view the tentative convention schedule here.](#)

Registration information will be available in August.

September 26-27, 2013
Koury Convention Center



2013 NCCSA Educators' Convention

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the **PASSION**
for Educating Students

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Kenny Baldwin
Pastor of Greensboro Baptist Church
Bellevue, Crossroads, VA

Mark Rasmussen
VP of West Coast Baptist College
Lancaster, CA

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Study Finds Advantages for Students in Faith-Based Schools

Students in religious schools enjoy a significant academic advantage over their counterparts in traditional public schools and charter schools, according to findings from a meta-analysis of 90 studies on the effects of schools conducted by William Jeynes, senior fellow at the Witherspoon Institute in Princeton, New Jersey, and a professor at California State University, Long Beach. The study was published in issue 3 of volume 87 of the *Peabody Journal of Education*.

“The results indicate that attending private religious schools is associated with the highest level of academic achievement among the three school types, even when sophisticated controls are used to adjust for socioeconomic status,” according to the report.

“I was quite surprised that students from charter schools did no better than their counterparts in traditional public schools,” wrote Jeynes in an email message to CAPE. At the start of the study, he was expecting to see higher levels of performance from charters.

“To the extent that neither traditional public schools nor charter schools are succeeding on a broad scale, it appears that the best hope for American education is religious private schools,” said Jeynes. “Not only are they considerably more economically efficient, but their students obtain better results.” He said the nation should “rethink its strategy of espousing charter schools and overlooking the benefits of faith-based education.”

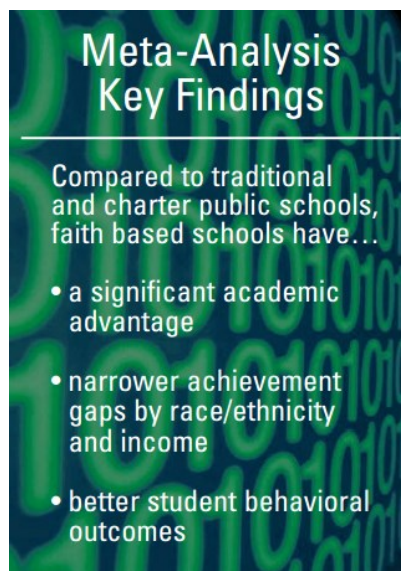
Time for Choice

One of the paper’s conclusions is that it may be time to extend school choice to include the private sector. Jeynes told CAPE that because religious schools are so much more efficient than public schools, “states would save money by implementing programs that pay for children to attend

these schools instead of more expensive public ones.” He said the meta-analysis “calls into question the current trajectory of school choice that emphasizes only public school choice, without due diligence in pursuing the inclusion of private religious schools.”

Results

A meta-analysis looks at studies in a specific field and, employing sophisticated statistical techniques, identifies the effect size of each study and then calculates an overall average effect size for the set of studies.



Examining results from all 90 studies, Jeynes found that the average standardized test score for religious school students is .29 of a standard deviation higher than that for traditional public school (TPS) students, while the average score for charter school students is only .01 of a standard deviation higher. Converting the effect sizes into percentiles, the average standardized test score for students in faith-based schools is 11 percentile points higher than that for TPS students, while charter school students score essentially the same as their TPS counterparts.

In his communication with CAPE, Jeynes summarized the advantage this way: “Students who attend religious schools

score at an academic level about 12 months ahead of their counterparts.”

Jeynes also looked at only those studies employing “sophisticated controls” in their analyses (e.g., controls relating to socioeconomic status, race, and gender) and still found a positive effect size of .14 standard deviations for religious schools. For charter schools, the effect is negative (-.03). Jeynes told CAPE that even with the controls, the private school academic advantage is about seven months.

Another key finding in the study is that the achievement gap, as measured both by ethnicity/race and socioeconomic status, is roughly 25 percent narrower in faith-based schools than in public schools, a fact that should capture the attention of policy makers who have been wrestling with this vexing problem for years. As the report puts it, “Americans should rejoice” that the gap is being bridged, regardless of where it’s being bridged.

Although academic performance was a key focus in the report, the study also examined student behavior and found an even larger advantage, or effect size, for religious schools. As Jeynes told CAPE, “Students who attend religious schools have fewer behavioral problems than their counterparts, even when adjusting for socioeconomic status, race, and gender.” That translates into fewer gangs, less drugs, and greater racial harmony in religious schools than in public schools.

Why are students more successful in religious schools? Jeynes believes that such schools “have higher expectations of students and encourage them to take hard courses,” adding that religious schools subscribe to the notion that “students are often capable of achieving more than they realize.”

This article appeared in the May 2013, Number 385 issue of the Cape Outlook.

ATHLETIC NEWS

Congratulations to all the spring athletic tournament winners, and thanks to the tournament hosts for a job well done. Special thanks also to Bob LaTour, NCCSA State Athletic Commissioner; Brian Trull, NCCSA Tournament Coordinator; and assistant commissioners Jeff Woosley (AA) and Bryan Harwood (A) for all their hard work.

[Results of the 2013 Softball/Baseball/Girls' Soccer Tournaments are located here.](#)

[Results of the 2013 Golf Tournament are located here.](#)

AACS Youth Legislative Training Conference

The NCCSA State Office has received official confirmation from the AACS Washington office announcing the NCCSA scholarship winners for the AACS Youth Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., on July 9-13, 2013.

Congratulations to Luke Ball and Tanner Hayden from Wilmington Christian Academy!

Many students have called this conference an “opportunity of a lifetime.” The conference goal is to impress upon each student the need to be involved in the political process – whether by voting, praying, participating, or running for office.

If your school did not submit a student application for this year’s conference, please plan to do so next year. Make every opportunity available to your students because you never know which opportunities might positively impact them for a lifetime.



FINE ARTS NEWS



The NCCSA is proud of all the students and schools that represented North Carolina at the recent **AACS National Fine Arts Competition**. The NCCSA National Fine Arts Team was made up of nineteen schools, and North Carolina came in third place overall out of all the state associations represented at the competition.

[The results of the AACS National Fine Arts Competition are located here.](#)

2013 NCCSA Elementary Fine Arts

Eastern Region - Stefan Bryant, Coordinator

The Eastern Region Elementary Fine Arts Festival was held on April 25-26 at Greenville Christian Academy. Over 800 students from 18 different schools competed during the two days.

We appreciate all the wonderful work by Greenville Christian Academy in hosting this year's Festival. Thank you to the many school faculty and staff members who prepared students for the Festival. Training students to serve the Lord in the area of Fine Arts is an investment that will benefit a child for many years to come. We look forward to even greater participation in next year's Festival as we strive to see more students developing their abilities in service to the Lord.

Central Region - Starlet Jones, Coordinator

The Central Region met at Gospel Light Christian School for the 2013 Elementary Fine Arts Competition. It was a blessing to see the sweet spirit among the schools: Alamance, Calvary, Cedar Forest, Fayetteville St., Gospel Light, Mt. Calvary (Archdale), Oak Level, Rockwell, Roxboro, Shining Light (Greensboro), Tabernacle (Monroe), Union Grove, Vandalia, and Woodland.

There were 250 entries and approximately 350 students who participated throughout the festival. Judges commented that the level of competition was much higher this year, and they were excited to see the students' dedication to doing their best for the Lord.

Our schools, students, coordinators, and judges exhibited a kind and godly spirit at the 2013 competition. Congratulations on a job well done!

Western Region - Cathy Newlin, Coordinator

Congratulations to all of the Western Region student participants for a job well done! The judges commented that the students performed well and had shown improvement. It is wonderful to see our Christian schools leading students to develop God-given talents so they will be able to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in the years to come.

The purpose of the competition should not be just to win a trophy but should be to motivate students to do their best. As they push themselves to do well in competition, students can acquire a taste for excellence and begin to understand what it means to give God their very best.

The eastern, central, and western competition results are located [here](#).



NCCSA UPDATE

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Articles pertaining to education may be submitted to NCCSA, P.O. Box 231, Goldsboro, NC 27533. The staff reserves the right to correct grammar and spelling, clarify and modify content, adapt to style, and adjust to fit available space.



News of Interest

- ⇒ The 2013-2014 NCCSA Membership Re-enrollment Information will be sent to each NCCSA school on August 20.
- ⇒ The 2013-2014 Athletic Membership Re-enrollment Information will be sent to each NCCSA school on August 15.
- ⇒ The 2013 NCCSA Educators' Convention Registration will be sent to each NCCSA school on August 25.



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Spotlight on Bethel Christian Academy—Spruce Pine

Nestled on the outskirts of Spruce Pine, North Carolina, is Bethel Missionary Baptist Church. When God brought Dr. Darrin Waldroup and his wife Mrs. Jeanna to serve the Lord as the senior pastor, He had already placed a burden in their hearts for a Christian school. God had been orchestrating the events for what would become Bethel Christian Academy years in advance. Robin Austin, daughter of Bethel's former pastor and an educator and coach who went home to be with the Lord in 1998, had been so committed to a Christian school that she had gone door-to-door soliciting funds. The Robin Austin Memorial Center houses a full gymnasium surrounded by classrooms and became the home of Bethel Christian Academy in January 2013.

Bethel Christian Academy was founded upon the truth that God created us, loved us so much that He gave His only begotten Son, Jesus, to redeem us from our sins, and gave us His Holy Word for instruc-

tion. Students in grades K4 through twelfth from all over Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey counties receive instruction for daily life through the study and memorization of the King James Bible, daily prayer, Bible study, and weekly chapel services.

With God's Word as the foundation for all learning, BCA believes individuals can flourish. Superior academics are supported by this foundation and offer students the opportunity to excel in the marketplace, higher education, or as contributing members of society. Teachers are a vital component of this learning process, and the position of teacher demands excellence and a calling from God. Interaction with teachers is maximized at all grade levels where every effort is made to nurture Christian character. Trained educators evaluate academic growth and measure success using many of the Common Core State Standards, the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, and other forms of assessment, with their primary resource being the A Beka Book curriculum.

Bethel Christian Academy has much to thank God for, but there is still much to be accomplished, and more He will do. Bethel Christian Academy looks forward to meeting the demands of a growing student population in the surrounding area. Exploration is ongoing into the potential for dual-enrollment with the local community college located less than a mile away, as well as the possibility for online courses. Both of these opportunities will enable students to take maximum course loads while earning college credits prior to high school graduation.

Bethel Christian Academy enthusiastically approaches its first graduation ceremony in December 2013 and looks forward to many more in the future. It is impossible to measure in human terms the eternal value of Bethel Christian Academy and its desire to provide instruction based on the Word of God, but the school faculty and staff anticipate much community excitement as God continues to grow and bless the good work He has begun.