

Damascus Christian School

ChalkMarks

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Home of the Eagles



CARPE AETERNITAS ~ Seize Eternity

Damascus Christian School – in tight economic times, is it worth it?

“Is tuition at DCS worth it right now? As we watch the stock market stagger along and our economy tighten, is this an extra we can really afford? Is there that much difference between what DCS teaches and my local public school? Thousands of students go through the public school system and they seem to come out okay. Is it worth it?”

Good questions. Pertinent questions. Relevant questions. Is it worth it? We would respond by saying, “It depends.” It depends upon what your goals and expectations are for your child and the school he/she attends. It depends upon your worldview or how you see the world, culture, society, and their interaction to and with one another.

In a thought-provoking piece by Chuck Colson entitled, “Training the Soul” (*BreakPoint*, 11/17/08, prison_fellowship@informz.net), Mr. Colson tells about a new school, Chesterton Academy, which was started out of concern “... that kids today are not being taught to think in (public) school, and instead are having their minds filled with moral relativism. They’re being deprived of the intellectual and moral knowledge that would help them develop into fully rounded, mature, thinking, citizens.” Mr. Colson goes on to say, “...something special is going on here. This is the kind of education that our students so desperately need - one that seeks to develop both their body of knowledge and their moral intelligence, and to strengthen their bonds with their family and their society, instead of treating them as isolated and self-serving units.”

Chuck Colson expands this thought further, “...two essential ingredients of a good education are the cultivation of knowledge and the cultivation of character. These are the elements that so many of our mainstream schools are now missing

– and the elements that educated and thinking Christians are uniquely equipped to provide.” He then quotes a statement by John DeJak, “We believe that there is a larger truth, which every other truth relates to – and that truth is God...For us, education is not just about job training, but about seeking the truth and training the soul.”

To that, we would share a hearty “Amen!” That is what Damascus Christian School is all about – assisting Christian parents in the Biblical training of their children spiritually, academically (intellectually), socially, emotionally, and physically, to help prepare them to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ... We are committed to communicating God’s Truth in a variety of ways, kindergarten through high school. If you are simply looking for a bigger variety of electives, more bells and whistles, buildings that look like schools, and more students, perhaps Damascus Christian School is not the school for you. But if you are looking for assistance in the training of your children in an environment where character and knowledge are cultivated, this is a great place.

In these tough (and probably tougher) economic days, what might this mean? Most likely, a re-thinking and re-ordering of

financial priorities. Most will have to look at how they spend their money and make some difficult decisions. Cut back or eliminate those lattes. Ouch! Be willing to drive the older car a few more years rather than upgrade as often as we used to. Scale back on the costly vacations and look for less expensive alternatives. Be smarter about how we spend our grocery dollars (can you say coupons? Check out the numerous blogs related to this that help you save literally hundreds of dollars a month!

www.moneysavingmom.com; www.frugalisfab.blogspot.com; www.frugallivingonline.blogspot.com; www.making-dough.blogspot.com. There are tons more). In light of our declining economy and national moral free-fall, we need to carefully and thoughtfully consider what our priorities are and how to rearrange our finances to accurately reflect those. We highly recommend Dave Ramsey’s approach to financial freedom (www.DaveRamsey.com; listen M-F, 1190 KEX radio, 7-10 PM; or watch Dave on the Fox Business Channel). If we can assist in any way, please let us know.



DCHS sophomore wins national title!

A shout of “Congratulations!” goes out to DCHS sophomore, **Isaiah A.**, for a job well done. October 1-4, Isaiah and his family were in Bakersfield, California, for this year’s International Novice Tour U.S Championship Waterski and Wakeboard meet. Isaiah, who has been waterskiing and wakeboarding since he was six on his family’s lake, Tug Lake in Vancouver, placed first in the Open Slalom division this year. Congratulations!

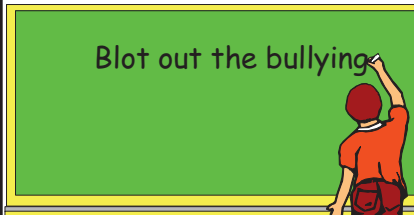


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Red Cross Blood Drive exceeds goal

Thanks to the hard work of **Ginny Nevin** and the availability of **blood donors**, the latest DCC/DCS Red Cross Blood drive on November 10th, netted thirty-one units of blood, one over the goal of thirty. Thank you for your willingness to roll up your sleeves and give!



A bully is defined as a *person who hurts, frightens, or tyrannizes over those who are smaller or weaker*. Bullying is the bully in action, seeking to *hurt, frighten, or tyrannize over*

those who are smaller or weaker. We are pleased to report that the general bullying that has gone on in the past is greatly reduced this school year. That is not to say that it never happens nor may not happen again. With our increased awareness of and attention to the problem, we hear far fewer reports of those types of incidents. If your child is the victim of a bullying situation, please encourage them to talk with you or a school official so that we may deal with the problem in a timely manner.

Scrip winner going shopping!

Last week's *Scrip* winner was **Mrs. Barbara Rutherford**, one of our educational therapists. How did she qualify to win? Easy! She simply purchased *Scrip* the previous week. She will now enjoy preparing for Thanksgiving with her \$30 Fred Meyer gift card.



Spring Dessert - professional comedy and student art - together!

Who says silly comedy and serious art don't go together?! We are out to prove that both can delightfully co-exist in the same venue at an evening of laughter and awe. Saturday, March 14, 2009, DCS is sponsoring a spring dessert



featuring well-known and hilarious Christian comedian **Tim Hawkins** plus a great variety of presentations of our students fine art work. This is a limited-seating event that you will not want to miss. Begin to make a list of those you would like to invite.

Laugh yourself silly! Observe in amazement what your kids have done with their creativity and talent. Mark the date - Saturday, March 14th.



Barnes & Noble Bookfair

Clackamas Town Center
 This Saturday
 Nov. 22 - All day
 Come support DCS

