



The Blueprint

Special Edition:

Re-enrollment

Cornerstone Academy
www.cornerstone.st
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The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. Proverbs 8:10

Dear Parents,

Cornerstone is kicking off re-enrollment for its eleventh year with this special edition of the Blueprint. With the 2010-2011 school year we will be offering more electives, more athletic programs, an enhanced tuition payment program and a new structure for part-time or dual-enrolled students. Even as we make these changes, we will strengthen our emphasis on the character development of each student. We will remember that our responsibility is to assist parents with the aim of helping their daughters and sons to be the very best they can be. May God support all of us in our endeavors which are in His name alone.

The new offerings for 2010-2011 are a direct response to what we, the administration, heard from you, our parents. While we were challenged with the physical relocation of Cornerstone to Heritage Park, we were also reorganizing ourselves to be more responsive to parents and to move in the directions that met the needs and desires of as many of you as possible.

As a beginning, we are expanding electives and activities, offering Woodworking and Extreme Challenge - a strenuous calisthenics class for those students who are seeking physical development. For next year, academically, we are anticipating the addition of a culture elective in which Gainesville area Christians who began life in non-Christian cultures teach our students first hand about the uniqueness of their home cultures and their conversion to Christianity. We are also working to expand our foreign language offerings. In the athletic arena we are planning a developmental golf team, an equestrian team, and we are seeking sponsors for a 6X6 tackle football team.

These offerings are in the pipeline now, and we are considering several more. Our goal is to broaden Cornerstone to encompass as many areas for growth as possible.

Please read on to learn more about other additions and changes and, as always, feel completely free to ask questions and to let us know your views on our efforts to walk in the light that the Lord provides. God bless.

~Doug Lawson, Headmaster

Food For Thought

Did You Know . . .

- Every Cornerstone graduate who has applied has received a Bright Futures Scholarship.
- A Cornerstone student can earn up to 34 hours of college credit while still at Cornerstone.
- Two students from last year's graduating class earned 44 college credit hours between them.
- The acceptance rate for Cornerstone students who applied to UF last year was 100%.

Former Student Returned to Cornerstone

This year's graduating class, like its predecessors, is unique in many ways. This class has a student who left Cornerstone several years ago, and has since returned. This student left for various reasons, but returned because he found at Cornerstone things that do not and cannot exist in public schools.

Cornerstone's small class size and opportunities to participate in virtually every program offered are unique to a school our size. What is greater, however, are the relationships that develop between students, and between students and teachers. These relationships are strong because each is grounded in caring and respect that is unique to what we are: Christians.

Tuition and Fee Schedule: 2010-2011

FEES					+ Annual Tuition
Grade Levels	New Student Enrollment	Existing Student Re-Enrollment	+ Activity	+ Materials	
K4	\$150	\$100/Student Up to \$200/family	\$100	\$125	\$4,300
K5-6th	\$150	\$100/Student Up to \$200/family	\$125	\$200	\$4,300
7th - 11th	\$150	\$100/Student Up to \$200/family	\$125	\$325	\$4,500
12th	\$150	\$100/Student Up to \$200/family	\$225	\$325	\$4,500

The only change for 2010-2011 will be a \$15/month or \$150/year tuition increase to cover the cost of utilities at Heritage Park. This cost is now being covered by lease payments from North Gainesville Baptist Church. The Church is scheduled to move to their new location this spring.

New This Year

More Choices in Electives

Because of the broad interest many of our students have in physical skills, we added a class in woodworking. Teacher Eric Smith, whose longstanding hobby is wood working, will be teaching safe tool use and basic wood working skills to five students this spring. Each will be making personal projects. In addition, the class will build tables for our patio area and exercise equipment for our Extreme Challenge class. In the Extreme Challenge class, thirteen young men will take on rigorous calisthenics. This class will be taught by Cornerstone graduate, Patrick Zerr.

New Clubs at Cornerstone

Cornerstone adopted a very old practice this year when we implemented Houses. All secondary students were assigned to Houses late last year. This year Houses have held athletic contests, academic competitions, and rankings for backpack placement. Houses foster a sense of belonging within one's own House while offering spirited competition between the Houses.

New this year is the Charity Knitting Club which is centered around giving to charity. Students are learning to knit and, in turn, give their project to those in need. This winter, they gave 6 scarves and 2 hats to the homeless community.

Returning after a year sabbatical is Youth Alive where students share their faith and pray .

Cornerstone Athletics

SIX MAN TACKLE FOOTBALL



New for Cornerstone next year, but not new to the Gainesville area, will be Six-Man or 6X6 tackle football. This new sport will require some sponsors, but enthusiasm is high for engaging in THE sport in Florida. Unlike the eleven man version, 6X6 is passing/speed that exploits the talents found in smaller schools. The Athletic Department will be providing more information about the league in which we will be participating, the travel schedule, and costs.

GOLF ANYONE?



One of our Cornerstone parents and former member of the UF Gator Golf Team, Brent Ransom, has stepped forward to initiate a golf program for Cornerstone. While we may have some unrecognized golfing skills among our students, Coach Ransom is prepared to start with a developmental program that will grow into another competitive group for Cornerstone. Coach Ransom feels a special calling to use the sport he loves as a means to reach into the lives of our students to communicate his love for Jesus Christ and for the game of golf.

NEW POLICY FOR OTHER THAN FULL-TIME STUDENTS

Starting in 2010-2011 students not enrolled who wish to participate in extra-curricular activities at Cornerstone should use the following process:

- Contact our Guidance Department which will determine that no FHSAA restrictions are violated. (Cornerstone is in a two-year cycle for FHSAA membership.)
- Enroll for a minimum of two courses at Cornerstone. Any fees or tuition charges will be on a sliding scale.
- Gain agreement of the coach or sponsor
- Those other than full-time students currently participating in varsity sports (2009-2010 school year) are not affected by this change.

WHAT ARE MY REAL OPTIONS?

Many Cornerstone parents have to grapple with a student who wants to leave Cornerstone to participate in athletic programs Cornerstone cannot offer or programs that are more competitive. Before venturing, parents should investigate what their student's true options are.

For instance, many students are not aware that the public school they would attend is not what they may choose, but is determined by the district in which they live. Additionally, competitive programs at large schools can be very selective because they have a large student population from which to choose. Finally, FHSAA places several restrictions on participation based on a number of factors. Before making a decision, contact the Guidance Department and get the facts.

Important News for Parents

Essential Secondary Parent Meeting

Thursday, February 4th

7:00 PM

In the Sanctuary

Join us as we discuss re-enrollment, new “other than full time student policy”, upcoming electives, and other anticipated opportunities for the 2010 – 2011 school year.

Cornerstone Open House

Invite your Friends to see why Gainesville Today called Cornerstone Academy “The Best School You’ve Never Heard Of” at our:

Open House

(for potential/new families)

Monday, February 1st

7:00 pm

New Options for Tuition Payments

Cornerstone Academy will begin utilizing Smart Tuition, a tuition management system, next school year. Smart Tuition offers our families a variety of payment method options including automatic debit, credit cards, online payments, phoned-in payments, mailed monthly invoices, etc. Customer Service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Each family will have a secure online account to check on amounts due and make payments from the convenience of their own home. Additional details and enrollment forms will be forthcoming soon.

And Now a Word From a Student

(Mack Wyatt attended CA from 3rd—9th Grades before leaving to Gainesville High School. He returned this year for this Senior year. He wanted an opportunity to share his thoughts on returning and why CA is special.)

I was at the Class of 2009’s Cornerstone Academy graduation sitting in my row watching that incredible group of young men and women not only cross the stage but corporately speak about what Cornerstone meant to them and I felt a sense that I was missing out on something pretty great! Later on that evening, I remember “tweeting” that Cornerstone Academy’s graduation was awesome! It was professional yet so personal.

Along with graduation, Cornerstone Academy has this sense of uniqueness that makes it the school it is today. The teachers truly care for each individual student. The athletic programs allow kids to play whatever sport they are interested in and the goals set are for the team and not the individual. The small class sizes definitely help, but also there is a sense that students are all here for the same purpose and that is to seek God and His will for their lives. This cannot be found anywhere else, trust me I have looked.

The feeling of being “just another kid” at Gainesville High School hit during my junior year. Due to a few circumstances, I felt called to finish my high school education at Cornerstone. I am thankful for the opportunity to graduate alongside this great Senior class, in front of a committed administration, and parents and friends that really care about me as a person. Thank you Cornerstone Academy; I am back with my “Family”!

Sincerely,

Mack Wyatt

Class of 2010