CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Prepare for College, Life and Eternity!

A Foundation of Prayer and Discernment

Preface to The Story of Cambridge

We recognize that the future of Cambridge Christian School cannot be discerned solely through human wisdom, experience, or strategic thinking. If we are to faithfully pursue God's calling for this ministry, we must first seek Him. Proverbs 15:22 guided us to seek wise advisers to discern our direction. We began a set of Comprehensive Planning Team (CPT) meetings in the Spring of 2026 in prayer—not merely as a formality, but as an intentional invitation for God to make us aware of His presence, to align our hearts with His purposes, and to guide our conversations and decisions.

We acknowledge our dependence on the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus promised would be our Helper and Advocate, leading us into truth. We asked for the humility to listen, the wisdom to discern, and the courage to follow His leading—even when that direction might challenge our own assumptions or expectations. **We also recognized that the Holy Spirit who guides us individually is the same Spirit who unites us as one body.** Our planning team brought different experiences, perspectives, and convictions to the table. Yet, as we sought the LORD together, we discovered something greater than agreement: a growing unity of heart, purpose, and direction.

There is something profoundly encouraging when the same Holy Spirit stirs similar convictions in different hearts. What emerges is not merely human consensus or negotiation, but the possibility of a shared recognition of God's leading. We believe such unity, prayerfully tested against the truth of Scripture, can help reveal the direction God is calling us to pursue.

We believe that the same Holy Spirit who guided our conversations must continue to guide our decisions, our leadership, and the daily ministry of this school. Prayer and dependence on Him are not confined to the planning process; they are essential to fulfilling the mission entrusted to us.

> **The Story of Cambridge is more than the product of strategic planning. It is an expression of our desire to seek the Father's will, follow Jesus Christ, and remain attentive, united, and obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit.**
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> *"There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call." — Ephesians 4:4 (ESV)*
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> *"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words." — Romans 8:26 (ESV)*

Several recent CCS improvements can be traced back to the CPT meetings, giving us clear direction and a way of thinking more comprehensively. Consider: could God use you in this season to move CCS forward?

THE STORY OF CAMBRIDGE - DEVELOPMENT MESSAGE WHITE PAPER

I. OUR PURPOSE

The mission of Cambridge Christian School is to glorify God in all that we do—by discipling students and partnering with families to share the message of Jesus Christ and the Truth of Scripture; by demonstrating excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts; by developing strength of character; and by serving the local and global community.

We exist not merely to educate, but to form. We are disciples training disciples.

II. OUR VISION

We seek to develop fearless defenders of the faith in partnership with parents and the Bible-believing church—so that generations will know God, obey His Word, and serve Him with conviction, humility, and courage.

Our vision is not limited to academic outcomes. It is generational. It is eternal.

III. THE CAMBRIDGE DISTINCTIVE

At Cambridge Christian School, discipleship is not an addition to education—it is our foundation. This resembles our Core Values:

- Christ-like Character
- Church Connected
- Parent Partnership
- Educational Excellence
- Service Before Self
- Biblical Worldview

We disciple students into a deep and authentic relationship with Jesus Christ so that Biblical Truth is not only taught, but practiced daily through genuine relationships and a consistently Christ-centered culture.

We unite with families and partner with local churches, recognizing that formation is strongest when school, home, and church are aligned. Together, we steward the formative years with an eternal-first vision, investing early because the return is both immediate and lasting.

We define leadership differently. Leadership is not about position, but posture. Our students learn to lead by serving and learn to influence by reflecting the character of Christ.

Academics, athletics, and the arts are not separate silos. They form one integrated pathway of whole-student development. At Cambridge, each student has access to each discipline.

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We measure success not merely by college acceptance letters, but by who our students become – graduates rooted in faith, prepared academically, equipped through discipleship, and committed to serving and leading with enduring purpose.

More concisely, observe the sequence and continuous cycle from calling to outcomes below:

A. Disciples Training Disciples (Identity & Calling)
- Deep, authentic, Christ-centered relationships
- Stewarding formative years with eternal-first vision

B. Partnership (Alignment)
- United with families and churches
- Lancer for Life community

C. Whole-Student Formation (Method)
- Integrated, accessible academics, athletics & arts
- Success measured by who students become

D. Character & Leadership (Outcome)
- Jesus-style leadership
- Community-minded, purpose-driven



IV. THE PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

CCS uses the metaphor of a portrait to reflect the qualities desired in each student graduating from our school. CCS is far from alone in painting this portrait. In fact, the primary painters are the parents, and when parents fully pursue a Kingdom Education, the church has also contributed to the final portrait. Still, the school has provided a palette and a canvas to assist the parents in their role. We pray that every CCS student will exemplify the qualities in the portrait described below. Our goal is that every student graduating from CCS could be described as a:

Christ-Follower | Creative Problem Solver
Collaborator | Servant Leader

Christ-follower - Matthew 16:24

CCS is an outreach Christian school. In other words, in our admissions process, we do not require any profession of faith in Christ from either prospective parents or students.
Therefore, we enroll families from all walks of life, and people choose CCS for a host of reasons. Still, our prayer is that every graduate would experience and be able to articulate this saving faith. This is our top priority because the value of the remaining portrait descriptors has a ceiling without the purpose and balance found in a relationship with Christ.

Creative Problem Solver - Proverbs 14:15

We do not view our students merely as consumers; they are creators. CCS graduates are neither solely recipients nor deliverers of information. Rather, they are solutions-oriented, innovative thinkers that embrace the process of identifying and solving problems. They know that this process often requires them to step outside of the box. They know the importance of investigating Scripture on their own and owning their own faith. They are known for the questions they ask.

Collaborator - 1 Corinthians 12:20-25

American society is now a global society. Our graduates will encounter a global economy and culture. They are equipped to engage this culture and, when necessary, confront it. They will have experienced authentic, interpersonal relationships on the CCS campus with both adults and peers. They know the importance of working with others to solve a problem or complete a task. They value teamwork, and they have experienced coming together to pool resources to accomplish an objective.

Servant Leader - Mark 10:42-45

In a society of selfies, CCS graduates put others first. They have been provided opportunities to be trained as Jesus-style leaders – those who lead by first serving. Lancers can be evangelizers, mentors, disciples, and servant- leaders all while still on the CCS campus. Compassion is practically applied by students both on campus and for others in our community and on the mission field world-wide. As a result, CCS graduates are encouraging, selfless leaders as they embark on the college and life experience.

This portrait is not aspirational marketing language. It is the outcome of intentional discipleship.

V. OUR HISTORY: A LEGACY OF FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP

Cambridge Christian School was born in 1964 out of conviction — the conviction that Christian education matters and that children should be formed in both truth and love from their earliest years.
What began as a small kindergarten ministry on a church campus has grown into a thriving PreK–12 institution serving more than 1,000 students in the heart of Tampa.

But our growth has never been accidental.

At pivotal moments in our history, faithful leaders chose courage over comfort. When additional space was needed, land was given. When excellence required investment, families sacrificed. When enrollment surged, our community responded.

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Between 2019 and 2025, Cambridge experienced one of the most significant seasons of expansion in its history. Enrollment grew from 700 to more than 1,000 students. A new high school was built to expand capacity by another 200 students.

And yet, our story is not defined by buildings or budgets.

It is defined by changed lives.

Generations of families have been shaped here. Alumni now return as parents, faculty and staff. Students who encountered the Gospel on this campus now serve as leaders in universities, churches, businesses, hospitals, the courtroom and beyond.

VI. WHY THIS MATTERS NOW

Across Tampa Bay and the nation, so many schools founded by churches over the past century no longer bear a clear Christian identity. Institutions that once proclaimed Biblical Truth have gradually drifted — shaped more by cultural pressure than by spiritual conviction.
That drift does not happen overnight. It happens slowly. Quietly. Incrementally.

Cambridge Christian exists to ensure that does not happen here.

We believe Christian education is not a nostalgic tradition — it is a present necessity. In a culture increasingly skeptical of Biblical authority, the formative years are not neutral ground. They are decisive ground.

Each week, over 1,000 students walk our campus. Some arrive from deeply rooted Christian homes. Others arrive with little or no faith experience. And year after year, we witness the transforming power of intentional discipleship.

Students encounter the Gospel.
Families begin attending church.
Faith conversations begin at dinner tables.
Three generations are shaped by one child's formation.

These are not isolated stories. They are woven into the fabric of Cambridge life.

The impact does not stop at graduation.

Our students carry their formation into neighborhoods, universities, workplaces, churches, and civic leadership. The ripple extends far beyond our campus. A thousand students influence tens of thousands of lives.

The years we steward are spiritually strategic. Research consistently shows that over 90% of individuals who will come to faith in their lifetime do so before leaving high school. Those are the exact years entrusted to Cambridge Christian School.

We are not shaping resumes. We are shaping convictions.

We are not merely preparing students for college. We are preparing them for a courageous life.

Before they know their vocational calling, we help them understand an eternal calling.

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We believe children trained daily in the knowledge and love of God are far more likely to remain rooted in Truth when cultural winds shift. That kind of formation does not happen accidentally. It requires intentionality, alignment between school and home, and environments designed for discipleship.

That is why this matters.

This is not simply about maintaining enrollment or expanding facilities. It is about preserving a clear, uncompromising, Christ-centered witness for the next generation.

It is about ensuring that when culture shifts, Cambridge remains rooted.

It is about stewarding years that echo into eternity.

And it is why we envision a God-sized investment in Christ-centered primary and secondary education — not for institutional prestige, but for Kingdom impact.

VIII. WHAT WE ARE WORKING TOWARD

Because of this conviction, our plans for campus development are driven primarily not by facilities, but by formation.

The buildings we steward exist to serve a deeper purpose: shaping the lives of students during the most formative years of their lives.

For that reason, the Cambridge leadership team and Board of Trustees undertook a strategic planning process involving students, faculty, administrators, parents, alumni, pastors, and community leaders. The result was **ROOTED: Cambridge Christian School's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan**.

This plan identifies **five strategic priorities** that guide the next season of our mission. These priorities clarify where we must invest our energy, leadership, and resources in order to remain deeply rooted in Christ while expanding our impact for future generations.

The priorities focus first on **people, formation, and mission** — and only then on the spaces that support that work.

1. Deepen Christ-Centered Character

At the heart of the ROOTED plan is the continued strengthening of spiritual formation across the entire Cambridge community. This includes expanding discipleship opportunities for students, strengthening partnerships with local churches, equipping parents with Biblical resources, and fostering servant leadership throughout campus life.

Initiatives include strengthening Chapel programming, expanding spiritual emphasis impact, encouraging staff-led Bible studies, developing new avenues for student leadership and service, and deepening unity between school, home, and church.

2. Heighten Academic Excellence

Cambridge seeks to prepare students to think deeply, solve complex problems, and pursue truth with intellectual integrity.

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The strategic plan expands STEM and innovation initiatives, enhances college and career guidance beginning in middle school, strengthens curriculum mapping with integrated Biblical worldview instruction, and equips faculty to use emerging technologies responsibly and effectively.

These efforts ensure that Cambridge graduates are not only academically prepared, but intellectually equipped to engage an ever-changing culture with wisdom and conviction.

3. Cultivate Whole-Student Formation Through Arts & Athletics

At Cambridge, the arts and athletics are not extracurricular—they are essential contexts for formation.

These disciplines shape creativity, discipline, confidence, teamwork, and resilience. Whether on the stage or the field, students are developed not only in skill, but in character and identity.

The ROOTED plan calls for expanded opportunities in music, theater, visual arts, and athletics—paired with improved technical support, enhanced facilities, and increased visibility of student achievement across all programs.

This includes strengthening fine arts programming and performance environments, developing on-campus athletic facilities, expanding strength and conditioning programs, and creating more intentional pathways for students to grow in both artistic expression and athletic competition.

Equally important, these environments are designed for discipleship. Coaches, directors, and mentors play a critical role in shaping students through daily interaction—modeling Christ-like leadership, reinforcing Biblical truth, and cultivating a mindset of service, humility, and perseverance.

These investments affirm that creativity and competition are both part of God's design—and when rightly ordered, they become powerful tools for whole-student formation.

4. Secure the Mission for the Future – Institutional Strength

For Cambridge to remain faithful to its mission for generations, the institution itself must be strong, stable, and forward-thinking.

The strategic plan includes strengthening faculty development, expanding alumni engagement, clarifying the CCS value proposition, improving financial stewardship, and refining the long-term campus master plan.

Institutional strength ensures that the mission we steward today will remain vibrant long into the future.

A PHASED COMPREHENSIVE VISION FOR CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

Our campus must reflect our mission.

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We are pursuing a prayerfully sequenced, multi-phase campus vision guided by stewardship and long-term discernment.

Step I: THE PAST FIVE YEARS – WHAT GOD HAS DONE: $25m in 5 years

Enrollment grew over 40% from 700 to more than 1,000 students and the CCS family responded with incredible generosity giving over **$13 million to fuel the mission, with total investment in program and facilities improvements nearing $25 million.**

- Increased **faculty compensation** to the most competitive level in school history, attracting a talented pool of educators.
- Provided $1.9 million in **tuition assistance**, extending the reach of Kingdom education to families who desire Christ-centered formation for their children but would not otherwise have access.
- Expand **STEM and academic programming**, meeting the needs of 21st century education and careers.
- Strengthened **fine arts** infrastructure by hiring a deeper bench of dedicated & talented creative leaders.
- Strengthened **athletics** infrastructure with a higher level of competitive coaches and long-term program planning.
- **High School Building –** this state of the art, $17million, 47,000 SF facility opened in 2025 and created space for 200 more students on our campus, providing space to heighten academic and fine arts excellence with dedicated STEM makerspace, indoor and outdoor gathering spaces, science labs and fine arts spaces, along with 21st century classrooms. Lancer Loft is a co-working, collaborative space used for anything from study halls to breakout groups to Bible studies and creative sessions. Located at the southern end of campus, the new building overlooks our future athletic field space.
- **Middle School Relocation - [complete] -** the former high school facilities have been updated and adapted to middle school use. Completed during the summer of 2025, our very own maintenance and facilities teams worked resolutely alongside numerous vendors to accomplish this value engineered, high impact project. The additional space has given middle schoolers their own home in our academic core, a major facility improvement from the mix of spaces that housed a growing middle school population over the past two decades. The direct impact on focused learning was immediately realized – so important for the pivotal middle school years!

Step II: THE NEXT FIVE YEARS - GOD IS BIGGER THAN US

Maximizing impact for generations of students, the next five years can secure our Christ-centered mission for decades, bringing true Eternal Return on Investment (EROI) into sharp focus for thousands more fearless Christian leaders.

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- **COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING**

To align with our planning methodology, the Development office assists and oversees all school-related generosity whether gift-in-kind, planned giving, capital campaign pledges, cash donation, appreciated assets or Donor Advised Funds. This comprehensive approach is the most effective approach in modern non-profits, netting higher annual income and less fundraising stress on generous donors and various departments within the school. Our professionals have more time to dedicate to their core competencies resulting in an acceleration toward excellence in Academics, Athletics and the Arts.

- **SPIRITUAL & CAMPUS UNITY**

Chapel Renovation – **$800k - $2.1m in 2 phases; Phase 1, 90% complete Summer 2026**
During our feasibility study in Fall 2025, we entered a season of intentional listening — to the Lord and to our Cambridge family. In meeting after meeting, one message rose clearly above the rest: 'The Chapel is the heartbeat of CCS. Keep the Chapel.'

The Chapel is not simply a room. It is where our students gather to worship, where Truth is proclaimed, and where unity is restored under Christ.

With the right support, we plan to update this reverent space in phases beginning Summer 2026, with major interior work in Summer 2027. The project is scalable from simple aesthetics to a full addition of major technologies that would make this a true dual-purpose space to serve our spiritual and fine arts programs for decades to come.

Cambridge Campus Connector, "Lancer Way"– **$650k - completed Summer 2026**
Lancer Way unifies campus infrastructure and prepares for future athletic facilities. This brick-lined pedestrian-focused pathway will unite the north and south campuses for the first time in history.

As Lancer Way unites the campus physically, the Chapel renovation strengthens the spiritual center that connects our hearts.

- **LOWER SCHOOL SOLUTION**

Investment in the formative years strengthens early discipleship and expands access for families seeking Kingdom education. Like the high school, our master plan includes larger, modern spaces that propel a 21st century first class education.

- **ON-CAMPUS ATHLETIC FACILITIES**

Expanding athletic facilities strengthens discipleship through sport and enhances unified campus life.

- **STRATEGIC PROPERTY ACQUISITION (Opportunity-Based); 1 acquired October, 2026!**

Evaluating southern and western adjacent properties will fulfill our plan to create a pedestrian-focused, university-style campus with perimeter parking and a walkable academic

core. Our new Love Your Neighbor focus has already opened doors that once seemed impossible. Acquiring 2.4-2.8 acres of additional property will accommodate the parking and infrastructure to maximize our mission

- **CULTURE OF GENEROSITY AND PROGRAM EXCELLENCE**

Our Tuition assistance, Lancer Fund initiatives and Rooted Strategic Plan goals are all borne out of a Jesus-led heart of generosity and Christ-centered servant leadership.

OUR 2026 CAMPUS MASTER PLAN - IN PROGRESS NOW - ENABLES CAMBRIDGE TO MOVE AS FAST AS PEOPLE PRAY, THINK AND MAKE GIVING DECISIONS!

Step III: LONG-TERM VISION

Our Campus Master Plan is being revised and adjusted to meet our growing, life-changing mission. Originally designed to accommodate fewer students, our consistent enrollment demand has prompted us to plan for capacity of 1,200+ students. That requires improving our campus model and envisioning campus life and impact 20-50 years out. Elements of the improved plan include:

- **STUDENT UNION.**
  Adjacent to the Spiritual Core of campus life – The Chapel – this student life center houses an all-division eatery, Bible history center, technology support, and school-wide administrative offices – all housed under one roof for the first time ever.

- **GYM 2.0.**
  Our plan - and our population - call for more gym space. Solutions include building a new separate gym or doubling the size of the current location to accommodate campus-wide events, community interaction, tournament play and more.

Cambridge Christian School exists for more than education. We exist to shape lives during the most formative years. For over sixty years, God has used this ministry to disciple students, strengthen families, and influence communities far beyond our campus. As culture shifts and the need for Christ-centered formation grows, the mission of Cambridge becomes even more urgent. Our calling is clear: to remain deeply rooted in Christ while preparing the next generation to live with courage, conviction, and purpose. The vision outlined in these pages is not simply about buildings or programs—it is about extending the reach of Kingdom education so that more students can encounter Truth, develop character, and become leaders who influence the world for Christ. By God's grace and through the faithful partnership of our community,

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Cambridge will continue discipling students who will, in turn, disciple others for generations to come.

We are disciples training disciples—and the story of Cambridge is still being written.

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