

PRINCE Leadership MONTHLY

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First Time Parent

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In January of 2016, my husband and I welcomed a precious baby boy into the world. Leading up to his birth, we prayed constantly, read every childcare book, watched every parenting series, and received advice (some wanted, some unwanted) from everyone in our lives. When the doctor told us we could take him home from the hospital, we both glanced at each other with the same look of worry and unease. We still felt so unprepared to take this small human home. We knew that every decision we made for him over the next 18 years would help shape him into the person he would ultimately become.

Fast forward four years, we are getting ready to enroll that sweet little boy in PreK for the first time. As parents, we have the responsibility of choosing the school that he will spend over 8 hours a day for the next 14 years. For the first time since being the admissions director, I am seeing the perspective of our new families who are deciding to invest in their child's education by enrolling them at Prince. Here are some of the items prospective families look at when considering our school:

ACADEMICS. Academically, our students excel when they graduate from Prince. They score well on standardized testing and get accepted to great colleges and universities. They get to participate in wonderful elective courses beginning in PreK such as computers, Spanish, art, music, and physical education. From our youngest learners to our seniors, you can find them doing hands-on science labs that fuel their love for learning. They take engaging field trips that allow them to see their studies in action. Prince strives to make learning effective, engaging, and fun for all students. Additionally, the majority of our faculty not only hold advanced degrees, they genuinely care for the students they teach. They pray with their students. They share their testimonies and help shape their students into the adults they will become.

CO-CURRICULAR. It would be hard to find another private school the size of Prince that not only offers as many co-curricular programs but one that has students performing at such high levels. Many of our athletic teams routinely compete at the state level, and this year our fine arts department placed second in the state

at the One-Act Play Competition. In addition to their individual successes, the collaboration between these two departments is impressive. It is common to see students run from band rehearsal over to athletic practice; our students have the unique opportunity to participate in fine arts and athletics simultaneously. More importantly, they are led by teachers and coaches who love the Lord and believe in ministering to children through co-curricular programs.

HIGHER PURPOSE. While our successes in academics and co-curricular programs are great reasons to choose Prince, the school's true mission is to help students with their eternal path after leaving this life. The degrees and trophies will all one day become dust, but the investment spiritually made into these children is what will last. By choosing Prince to educate your child, this allows your child to receive a competitive education built upon God's Word that will lay the foundation needed to be successful in the secular world while holding close the Biblical truths that have been instilled in them. We are focused on their eternal life, not just the next 50 years.

As first-time parents, my husband and I feel completely at ease enrolling our little boy at Prince. If I did not work for the school, I can say with complete honesty that Prince Avenue would still be my first choice in schooling options. I am confident that Prince will not only give my son the tools necessary to be successful in this world, but the Christian teachings that are such an integral part of our home will also be at the center of his education. Private education is an investment; however, our children are one of our greatest rewards so in turn, should they not also be our most significant investment?

If you have any questions about your family reenrollment, enrolling new students at Prince Avenue Christian School, or if you would like us to contact any prospective families who may be interested in making an eternal investment through their child's education, please contact me at vcarter@princeave.org.

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